Case Study

Healthy Communities Institute

Improving community vaccination rates while saving hospitalization costs.

The Determinants of Health

There are four key determinants that make up an individual’s health: genetics, medical care, lifestyle and health behaviors, and physical and social environment. Out of the total ecology of personal health, lifestyle and the physical and social environment of a patient are responsible for over half of the determinants of health status. Not only will focusing on the underlying social determinants of health have a major impact on individual patients but also the collective ecosystem of population health.

The Challenge

A hospital client in Honolulu, Hawaii wanted to improve pneumonia vaccination rates. The Department of Health and Human Services set a vaccination rate goal for pneumonia at 90%, but many communities still miss the mark. The pneumonia vaccination rate in Honolulu County, Hawaii is 68%, far below the national goal. Furthermore, the vaccination rate for Filipinos is at a low of just 51%. The total cost estimate for hospitalizations related to this low vaccination rate is approximately $7.1 million per year.

The Solution

Pneumonia is the leading cause of vaccine preventable illnesses and death in the United States. However with the pneumococcal vaccine, prevention is much more attainable.

Local hospitals assessed geographic hospitalization data using our Hot Spot solution and identified specific neighborhoods with the highest bacterial pneumonia hospitalization rates and the largest Filipino populations.

Using this data, a plan to increase vaccination rates among Filipinos can be developed, targeting community benefit activities to include pneumonia vaccinations and increasing efforts and reminders for the targeted communities.

The Results

Our client identified cost avoidance opportunities up to $10,500 per hospitalized case. A combined provider and community vaccination strategy can be used to effectively improve vaccination rates by providing availability and encouragement to drive patient adherence.

Honolulu County, Hawaii can avoid potential hospitalization costs of up to $3.8 million per year if the 90% vaccination target goal is met.

Population health management is the future of quality care in the healthcare system. Conduent® Community Health Solutions will help you achieve your financial and clinical outcomes goals while creating healthier communities.

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