



RIZE Monthly

A newsletter for **Rise to Immunize™**, AMGA Foundation's national campaign aimed at improving routine adult immunization rates



February 2023 Edition

February is [American Heart Month](#), which provides health professionals an additional opportunity to raise awareness of heart disease and encourage a heart-healthy lifestyle. American Heart Month is an especially relevant observance in the United States, as heart disease continues to be the leading cause of death for American adults, accounting for [one in five deaths](#).

Flu vaccination is extremely important for those [living with heart disease](#), as they account for nearly half of adults hospitalized with the flu. Additionally, a recent study found that one in eight patients had sudden heart complications after being hospitalized for influenza.¹ By receiving an annual flu vaccination, patients are reducing their risk for pneumonia, bronchitis, lung failure, heart attack, and even death. Further research shows that **heart attack risk is six times greater than normal during a bout of the flu.**² It's vital that all patients receive a flu vaccine to protect themselves from these risks, and it's critical for those with heart disease.

American Heart Month is a great time to strongly encourage your patients—particularly those with heart disease—to receive their flu vaccination if they haven't yet this year! We offer a variety of materials on the [Patient Resources](#) webpage to communicate with patients about the risks associated with heart disease and flu.

As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact RiseToImmunize@amga.org.

Best,
- The RIZE Team

Webinar Preview

"Setting Up Your Clinic for Success: A Patient Safety Program"



The February webinar will feature Jeanette Holtmeyer, RN, MSN, CIC, director of quality and safety for East Community clinics, and Cynthia Hernandez, RHIA, senior patient safety specialist of Mercy Clinic East Communities in the St. Louis region. Jeanette and Cynthia work to improve population health, infection prevention, and safety in the ambulatory clinic setting at their organization. Mercy Clinic East Communities has developed a robust vaccine safety program over the past 11 years to educate, train, and support coworkers. The main objective is to decrease errors and increase patient safety throughout their clinics. Mercy East community has the most clinic locations in the nation.

[Join us](#) on February 16 to learn about Mercy's vaccine safety program and how to set up your clinic for success from Jeanette and Cynthia.



Upcoming Dates

Feb. 16 – Monthly campaign webinar: “Setting Up Your Clinic for Success: Patient Safety Program” at 2 pm ET ([Register](#))

Mar. 16 – “Vaccine Equity: Putting Strategies into Practice” at 2 pm ET ([Register](#))

Mar. 28–31 – AMGA’s 2023 Annual Conference in Chicago ([Learn More](#))



Campaign Spotlight

Join the RIZE team for breakfast at AMGA’s Annual Conference next month! We will be hosting the “RIZE Meet & Greet Breakfast” on Mar. 30. The breakfast is a great way to meet and network with your fellow campaign participants. This breakfast is hosted by Pfizer, Inc. to encourage peer-to-peer learning and is only open to representatives from medical groups and health systems enrolled in RIZE. **Those who attend will receive a free RIZE-branded power bank for your portable charging needs.** Take the time to fuel up with breakfast and power up with your new power bank before another great day at the annual conference! Breakfast will begin at 6:45 am CT in the Randolph 1AB room at the Hyatt Regency Chicago – we hope to see you there.



Resource of the Month

This month’s resource, from our [Campaign Toolkit](#), is our clinical support campaign plank: [build infrastructure for ample vaccine supply and safe distribution](#).

This plank offers steps for setting up an effective immunization program with adequate supplies and up-to-date protocols for safe handling, storage, and distribution. You may find this campaign plank particularly relevant as your organization considers influenza vaccine prebooking, which typically occurs between January and March. You’ll find a variety of tools from AMGA member groups, campaign partners, and government organizations that can be adapted and adopted for use at your organization.



AMGA Foundation - Rise to Immunize™ Campaign

One Prince Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703.838.0033 | Fax: 703.548.1890
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