2015-2016 Indian Health Service (IHS) Influenza Plan

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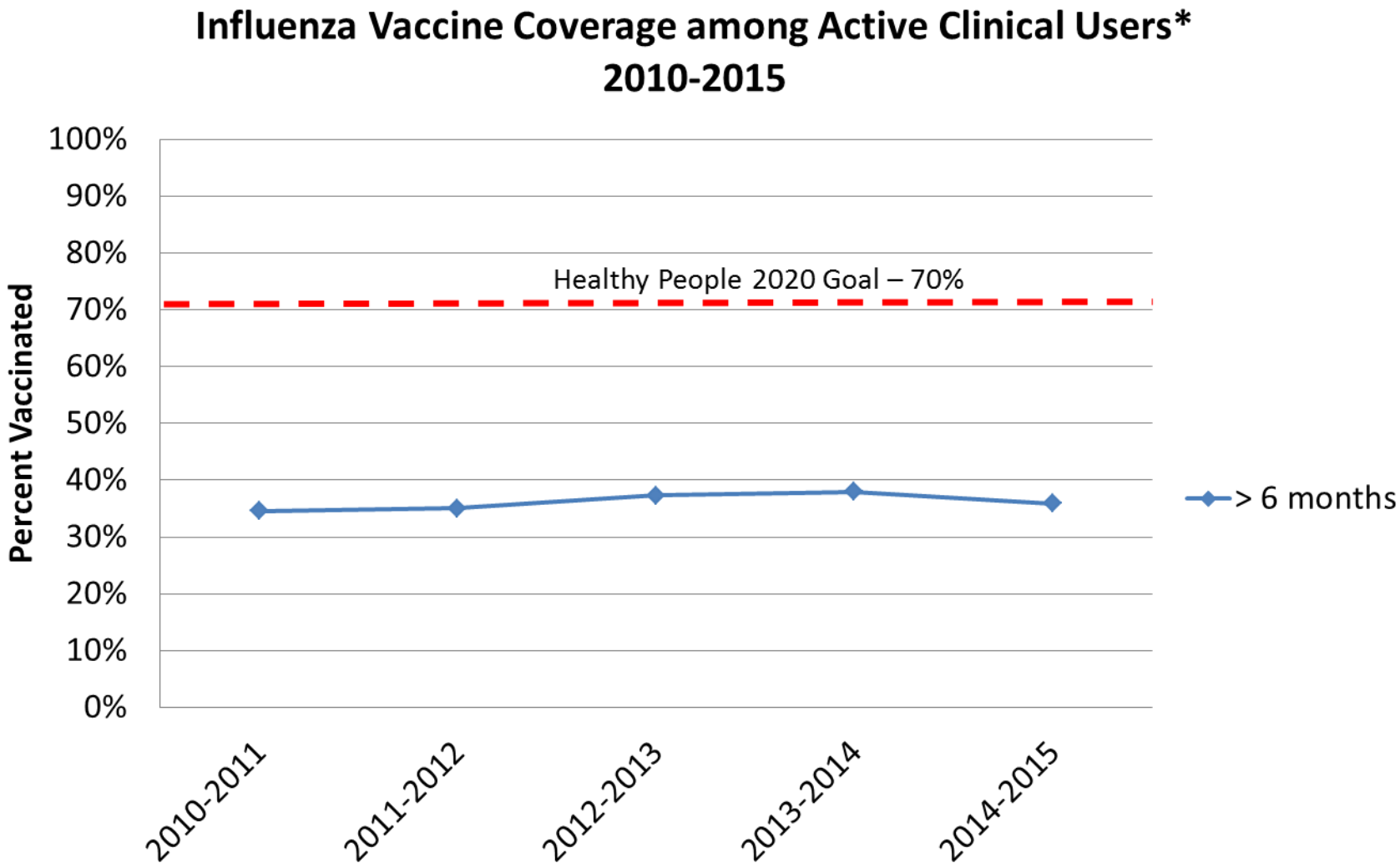
Background

- The American Indian and Alaska Native population is at high risk for influenza-related morbidity and mortality
  - During 2009 H1N1 pandemic, AI/AN people 4 times more likely to die from influenza-related illness
  - Influenza and Pneumonia one of the top ten leading causes of death for AI/AN people
- Influenza vaccination is the best prevention strategy
  - Recommended for everyone 6 months and older
- Healthy People 2020 Influenza Vaccine Coverage goals
  - 70% among children 6 months – 17 years
  - 70% among adults 18 years and older
  - 90% among healthcare personnel
- IHS influenza vaccine coverage is suboptimal



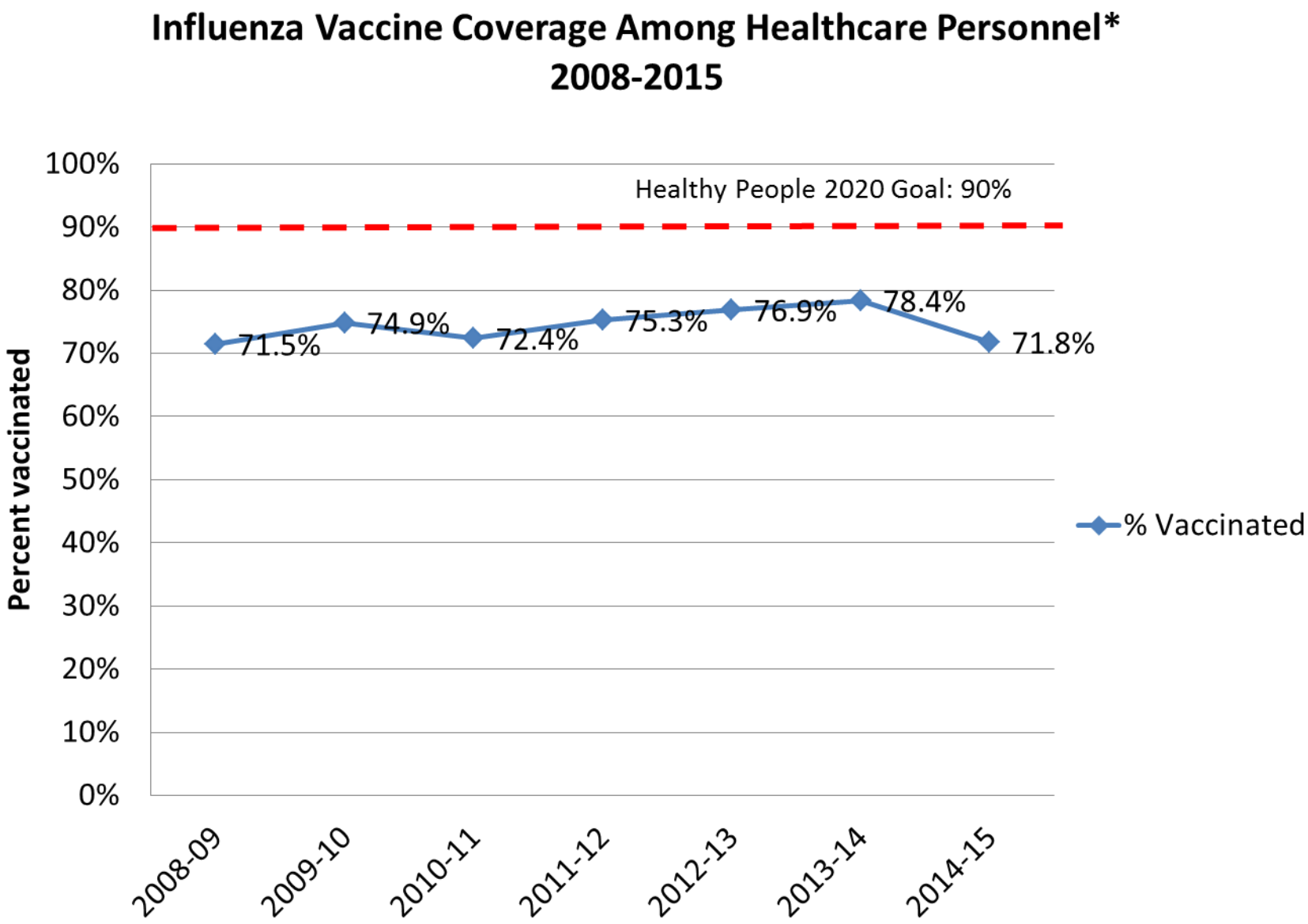
*Active Clinical Users: Patients with at least 2 visits in the last 3 years, one of which must be to a primary care clinic.

Source: RPMS Quarterly Immunization Report data as of March 31st, 2015

Influenza Vaccine Coverage among patients by IHS Area, 2014-2015*

	Children 6 months – 17 years			Adults 18 years and older		
Area	Active Clinical Population* 2014-2015	# Vaccinated 2014-2015	% Vaccinated 2014-2015	Active Clinical Population* 2014-2015	# Vaccinated 2014-2015	% Vaccinated 2014-2015
Alaska	12705	3573	28.1%	25206	7465	29.6%
Albuquerque	15018	5874	39.1%	41230	16241	39.4%
Bemidji	10861	2927	26.9%	23379	6687	28.6%
Billings	16536	6053	36.6%	33711	12411	36.8%
California	16164	3135	19.4%	34421	7864	22.8%
Great Plains	29594	11059	37.4%	59529	19489	32.7%
Nashville	6055	1805	29.8%	12921	2974	23.0%
Navajo	51116	23811	46.6%	123131	54012	43.9%
Oklahoma	33306	10857	32.6%	96602	36162	37.4%
Phoenix	27746	8992	32.4%	52631	18470	35.1%
Portland	14482	4724	32.6%	32169	10480	32.6%
Tucson	4609	1966	42.7%	9414	4117	43.7%
National	238192	84776	35.6%	544344	196372	36.1%

*Source: RPMS Quarterly Immunization Report data as of March 31st, 2015



*Healthcare personnel defined as all employees, contractors, volunteers and students working in IHS healthcare facilities.

Source: RPMS Quarterly Immunization Report data as of March 31st, 2015

IHS Influenza Plan for 2015-2016

Goals:

- **Reduce influenza-related morbidity and mortality among AI/AN patient populations served by IHS, Tribal, and Urban healthcare facilities by:**
  - Increasing influenza vaccine coverage among the IHS Active Clinical User population to achieve the Healthy People 2020 goal of 70% coverage in all age groups.

- **Reduce influenza-related morbidity and mortality among Healthcare Personnel (HCP) and nosocomial influenza transmission in health facilities serving AI/AN patients by:**
  - Increasing influenza vaccine coverage among HCP to achieve the Healthy People 2020 goal of 90% coverage among HCP.

Plan Components

- **Training and Dissemination of Best Practices**
- **Monitoring and Feedback**
- **Community Outreach**
- **Policy**

Training and Dissemination of Best Practices

- **Influenza Webinars**
  - August 26th
    - Best Practices for Increasing Influenza Vaccination
  - Sept. 1st – Influenza 101 for Public Health Nurses*
  - Sept. 9th and 15th– Influenza 101 for CHRs*
  - Sept 23rd – IHS Influenza Kick Off*
  - Oct 15th – Healthcare Personnel Influenza Vaccination Policy *
  - Monthly Influenza Updates –
    - 3rd Wednesday of every month, 2-3 PM EDT
    - Beginning October

* CEUs available

Monitoring and Feedback

- IHS Influenza Awareness System (IIAS)
  - Collects data from individual RPMS databases daily to monitor influenza-like illness (ILI) and influenza vaccine coverage
  - Weekly reports available
    - Area and "Facility" – ILI and VACCINE COVERAGE
    - www.ihs.gov/flu

- RPMS Influenza Vaccine Coverage Reports
  - All ages report in the Immunization Package

- CRS (GPRA) Report
  - New GPRA Influenza Performance Measure
    - Influenza vaccine coverage 6 months – 17 years
    - Influenza vaccine coverage 18+

Monitoring and Feedback, cont.

- Area Influenza Vaccine Coverage Report
  - Data source: IIAS
- Influenza Vaccine Coverage among Healthcare Personnel
  - Data source: National Immunization Reporting System (NIRS)
  - HCP coverage as of Dec. 31st and March 31st
- IHS Director's Award
  - Formal recognition of all Areas achieving 90% among HCP
  - Formal recognition of :
    - 2 IHS Areas with highest patient influenza vaccine coverage
    - 2 IHS Areas with most improved patient influenza vaccine coverage

Community Outreach

- In partnership with the Great Plains Tribal Epidemiology Center and HHS Region 7
  - Develop and distribute flu video PSA through GoodHealth TV
  - Distribute radio flu PSAs to tribal radio stations

- IHS Website – Influenza resources
  - Update IHS Flu webpage to include influenza resources (www.ihs.gov/flu)

Policy

- **FY 2016 Agency Performance Elements and Cascades -** "Critical Element #5: Results Driven", include cascading performance element language to include the development of an Area-level flu plan to increase patient and HCP influenza vaccine coverage (see below).
  - "**GPRA and Influenza Immunization Plan.** Achieves and/or maintains all national FY 2015 GPRA targets… Develop an Area plan to increase influenza vaccine coverage among patients and healthcare personnel in FY 2016 and make progress towards achieving Healthy People 2020 goal of 70% influenza vaccine coverage among children and adults, and 90% coverage among healthcare personnel by 2020.. . .

Policy, cont.

- Mandatory influenza vaccination policy for healthcare personnel
  - Requires all personnel working in an IHS healthcare facility to receive an annual influenza vaccination
  - Special General Memorandum (SGM) currently under agency review
  - Pending labor negotiations