Closing the Gap Between Primary and Specialty Care - A Crucial Intervention to Boost Vaccination Rates for Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Patients at ECU Health

Chikeluba V Okafor, Dr. William Wooten MD

**BACKGROUND**

- The aim of this project is to identify, address and reduce the barriers to influenza vaccination rates among cystic fibrosis patients at ECU Pediatric Specialty clinic.

- Although integrated care is key in this clinic, health insurance restrictions prevents most patients from receiving vaccinations at this clinic, resulting in potential gaps in healthcare delivery.

- Following an interview with the parents of a CF patient to gain valuable insight into their healthcare experience, various areas of improvements were identified.

- By boosting vaccination rates, CF patients may receive the necessary protection that they need against influenza and mitigate any further respiratory complications.

**THE PROBLEM**

**CONSEQUENCES OF LOW INFLUENZA VACCINATION RATES**

- Increased respiratory infections
- Increased transmission rates
- Increased health cost
- Increased hospitalizations

**PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS**

- Effective communication between providers
- Increased Accessibility
- Schedule flexibility
- Vaccination reminders and awareness

**CAUSE AND EFFECT**

**Fishbone Diagram**

**CAUSES**

- Communication gap between providers
- Lack of Awareness
- Low Vaccination rates
- Barriers to Accessibility
- Vaccine safety concerns

**EFFECT**

**REFERENCES**

- Created with BioRender.com
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation 2022 CF Registry report [https://www.cff.org/medical-professionals/patient-registry](https://www.cff.org/medical-professionals/patient-registry)