Preparing for Influenza

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Type: Acute Care Hospital

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**IDENTIFICATION:**
- To administer the H1N1 Influenza Vaccine to employees (health care workers one of the priority groups under CDC guidelines) reporting to the DVC
- To get staff vaccinate against influenza to promote patient safety
- Awareness of external situation
- Constant contact with DHMH and the Baltimore City Health Department
- Spring outbreak of H1N1
- Data since 2004-2005 showing the number of employees that have been vaccinated

**PROCESS:**
- Influenza task force created consisted of people from all areas and fields of the hospital
- Identified family members that qualified as crucial to be vaccinated
- Communication with DHMH and City Health Department
- Explored existing mechanism to provide vaccine to staff and family

**SOLUTION:**
- Education outreach
- Need to target high traffic/volume areas
- Get staff vaccinated
- Family members of staff vaccinated
- Poster program throughout the hospital
- Purchase of 77 respiratory etiquette stations that were deployed throughout the hospital in lobbies, waiting rooms, etc…
- 5 Immunization clinics were held, 1 seasonal, 4 H1N1
- Continuing education, seasonal influenza vaccination, annual seasonal influenza clinic
OUTCOMES:

- Breakdown of seasonal and H1N1 clinics, patient vaccination numbers
- Decrease overall in the number of staff call outs due to illness
- Show increase in number of total staff vaccinated.