

Having Conversations about Vaccines: Part 4 – Following up with More Resources

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Welcome to the final part of our four-part series on having vaccine conversations. In this final edition, we'll share key takeaways and additional resources to support ongoing, meaningful dialogue about vaccines.

Key Takeaways

- **Vaccines are essential** for protecting individuals, especially long-term care residents, from severe outcomes caused by respiratory viruses.
- **Long-term care patients** are among those most vulnerable to serious illness, hospitalization, or death from respiratory viruses (RSV, COVID-19, and influenza) due to their age and underlying health conditions.
- **Vaccine conversations should be ongoing** rather than a one-time discussion. Consistent dialogue helps address concerns and reinforce understanding.
- **Trust is fundamental** for successful vaccine conversations. [Building a foundation of trust](#) with staff, residents, and families makes these discussions more productive and impactful.
- **Conversations around vaccination can be challenging** when faced with resistance, burnout, and misinformation. Recognize these barriers and remain patient.
- **Expect setbacks**, such as relapses in motivation or shifting opinions. Persistence and practice in these conversations will ultimately be rewarding.
- **Applying these approaches benefits broader staff relationships** and outcomes by building trust, improving communication, and reducing burnout.
- **Supportive resources** are available to help facilitate effective vaccine conversations, including the guides provided throughout this series.

Key Resources

- **AHCA/NCAL Building Trust in LTC Course:** This course equips leaders with trust-building skills and strategies to help strengthen relationships with staff.
- **#GetVaccinated:** The AHCA/NCAL #GetVaccinated campaign website offers information on vaccines, resources to encourage vaccine uptake, and guidance on addressing misinformation.

- **CDC Vaccine Information Statements (VIS):** VIS provides key information on each vaccine's benefits, risks, and post-vaccination care. These statements can help educate residents and staff about the value of vaccination.
- **Viral Respiratory Pathogens Toolkit:** A comprehensive CDC toolkit offering resources for understanding and managing respiratory viruses in long-term care settings.
- **Risk Less. Do More:** This campaign provides resources to address vaccine hesitancy and misinformation, empowering staff and residents to make informed choices.

Thank you for joining us on this journey. We hope the tools and strategies in [this series](#) empower you to build trust, tackle challenges, and protect the health of those in your care.

Remember, these conversations are not only about vaccines—they're about creating a safer, more resilient community for residents, staff, and families alike. With continued patience, empathy, and open communication, we can foster meaningful change and strengthen our collective commitment to quality care.