

# 6 Steps to Adapt to Shifting Immunization Recommendations

This resource offers a comprehensive framework for healthcare organizations to quickly adapt to new immunization recommendations supporting quality metrics, patient safety, and operational efficiency.

## 1 RESEARCH

- Utilize a multidisciplinary approach that involves pharmacy, operations, clinical directors, and purchasing
- Track vaccines in pre-clinical through Phase 3 trials
- Have regular pipeline discussions with medical science liaisons every 6 weeks

## 2 REVIEW

- Use a four-pronged review approach: patient safety, financial stewardship, complexity, and clinical review
- Present information to stakeholders for review using [S.B.A.R.](#) (Situation, Background, Assessment, Repeat-Back Recommendations and Requests) format

## 3 SOURCING

- Negotiate vaccine contracts prior to Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) votes to secure best pricing, prevent delays, and establish strong vendor relationships

## 4 EDUCATION

- Use multiple modes of education, such as:
  - Newsletters, formulary reviews, coding tip sheets, and webinars for providers
  - Pharmacist on-call support, in-services, and mandatory annual competencies for clinical staff
  - Electronic health record (EHR) messaging, social media, and shared decision-making tools for patients

## 5 GO-LIVE

- Time implementation to occur within 72 hours of ACIP vote, when possible
- Plan with key stakeholders before go-live to ensure:
  - Standing orders are implemented
  - Order sets are updated
  - EHR is configured to provide alerts and support pre-visit planning
  - Vaccine labels are created
  - Pathways for administering and adjudicating Medicare Part D vaccines in clinic, if applicable, are in place

## 6 FOLLOW-UP

- Analyze claims and reimbursement data
  - Review claims data to identify trends in reimbursement rates and discrepancies and adjust operational strategies
  - Engage with billing and finance teams to ensure timely updates on reimbursement policies and contract negotiations based on claims performance
- Gather feedback from all stakeholders to foster buy-in and facilitate continuous improvement

