

National Vaccine Advisory Committee Immunization Equity Subcommittee (IES)

Update for NVAC Meeting February 13-14, 2020

Melody Butler and Melissa Martinez, IES Co-Chairs

February 13, 2020

Subcommittee Members

Co-Chairs:

- Melody Butler
- Melissa Martinez

Office of Infectious Disease and HIV/AIDS Policy:

- Tommy Acciani (Co-Lead)
- Ann Aikin (Co-Lead and Acting DFO)
- Ilka Chavez (Advisor)

NVAC Public Members:

- Bob Hopkins
- Len Friedland
- Mary Ann Jackson
- Geeta Swamy

NVAC Liaison Members:

- Kelli Goode (APhA)
- Troy Knigton (VA)

NVAC Ex-Officio Members:

- Justin Mills (AHRQ)
- Ram Koppaka (CDC)
- Cindy Weinbaum (CDC)
- Mary Beth Hance (CMS)
- Judith Steinberg (HRSA)
- Jeffrey McCollum (IHS)
- Nathalie El Omeiri (PAHO)

Equity Experts:

- Alan Hinman (Center for Vaccine Equity)
- Alana Knudson (Walsh Center)

Immunization Equity Charge

The Assistant Secretary for Health, Admiral Brett Giroir, charged the committee on June 4, 2019 with writing a report and the subcommittee should:

- Review and summarize the complex and interrelated factors that contribute to vaccination disparities such as access, affordability, awareness, acceptance, and activation
- Deliver a set of system-wide recommendations for overcoming drivers of immunization disparities and reducing gaps in coverage that will provide the foundation for development of a collaborative immunization equity strategy.
Report findings for a vote during the **September 2020 meeting**.

Read the complete charge at <https://www.hhs.gov/vaccines/nvac/working-groups/equity/index.html>

IES Presentations/Meetings – as of 2/11/2020

- Reviewed previous NVAC recommendations related to reducing disparities (*Ann Aikin*)
- Examined the literature on immunization equity (*Melissa Martinez*)
- Learned about immunization disparities in adults, adolescents, and children and the VFC program (*Megan C. Lindley, Tanja Walker, Cindy Weinbaum*)
- Discussed vaccine hesitancy and confidence (*Glen Nowak and Paula Frew*)
- Reviewed the principals of health literacy and discussed how it related to inequities (*Melissa G. French*)
- Considered provider vaccine hesitancy (*Barbara Pahud*) and provider financial issues (*Angela Shen*)

IES Presentations/Meetings – as of 2/11/2020, Cont.

- Assessed rural disparities (*Paul Moore*) and the role of pharmacists (*Mitch Rothholz*)
- Assessed the role of IISs and identifying populations at risk (*Rebecca Coyle and Miriam Muscoplat*)
- Learned about ethnic/racial disparities including Hispanic, Black, American Indian, and Alaskan Native populations and what has worked previously to reduce disparities in these populations (*Elena Rios, Sonja Hutchins, and Jillian Doss-Walker*)
- Reviewed Medicare vs Medicaid and state policies, and Medicaid data on pregnant woman (*Jeff Kelman, Mary Beth Hance, and Charleigh Granade*)
- Learned about maternal immunization disparities and ACOG programs (*Laura Riley*)
- Covered financial issues from insurance companies (*Chris Regal*) and funding from the 317 Coalition (*Amy Pisani*)

Future Directions and Report Timeline

- One last information gathering meeting – **Cultural Competency 2/24**
- Start to discuss recommendations after reviewing all meetings to date – **March and April 2020**
- Draft language of recommendations – **May and June 2020**
- Present language for recommendations at June NVAC Meeting – **June 9-10, 2020**
- Submit draft report for public comment – **June 2020**
- Submit draft report to PHR – **July 2020**
- Incorporate feedback from public comment and PHR and revise draft report – **August 2020**
- Finalize draft report for vote for Sept NVAC Meeting – **September 23-24, 2020**

Committee Discussion

Please ask for ideas from the committee about other topics or speakers we should include in this work.