

# Moving Needles Project Newsletter



## ! PROJECT UPDATES: **WHAT'S NEW WITH MOVING NEEDLES**

The second cohort of the Moving Needles quality improvement pilot completed their projects, including data collection. Participating skilled nursing and assisted living facilities implemented standard operating procedures, such as checking vaccine history in the immunization information system and using a multi-vaccine consent form on admission. Several facilities began using a calendar to offer vaccines throughout the year. Making vaccination processes and tasks a part of staff job descriptions helped spread out workload and ensure continuity of efforts in case one person was out or left.

Facility leadership support is also crucial to improving both resident and staff immunization rates. Administrators, medical directors, and directors of nursing each play a role in supporting changes and building trust with frontline

staff. These relationships are key to providing credible education and addressing vaccine hesitancy. See the **Tips & Tidbits** section for more information.

Additional results and success strategies from the second pilot year will be shared as the final data is analyzed.

For more information about the project, and for available resources, see the [Moving Needles website](#).

We congratulate past project participant Statesman Health and Rehabilitation Center in Levittown, PA for receiving an American Health Care Association (AHCA) Silver Quality Award in part for their work on improving vaccination rates!

## PILOT FACILITY SPOTLIGHT

### Avalon – Franciscan Post-Acute Care Center

- Type of Facility: Skilled Nursing
- Number of Beds: 71
- Total Number of Employees: 128
- Location: Merced, California



“Franciscan was able to increase vaccination percentages among both residents and staff for COVID, pneumonia, and the flu using incentives and prizes that we would not have been able to do without the help of Moving Needles! We were able to hold several vaccinations clinics and saw an increased enthusiasm for clinics by making the events fun and offering rewards for vaccines. The group and one-to-one meetings with the Moving Needles staff helped us to come up with more innovative methods to encourage staff and residents to receive the vaccines.” - Paramjot Dola, Infection Preventionist

At left: Franciscan’s Medical Director Dr. John Paik Tesch (left) and Paramjot Dola



## Do You Know Your Recommended Vaccines?

Pneumococcal disease is a bacterial infection caused by *Streptococcus pneumoniae*. It can cause infections such as pneumonia, meningitis, and bacteremia (bloodstream infection), among others. Although anyone can get pneumococcal disease, certain people – including elderly and immunocompromised adults – are at increased risk of serious disease, hospitalization, and death.

The CDC recommends all adults 65 years or older receive a pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) dose. During CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) meeting in June 2024, they unanimously recommended the option of the latest vaccine, PCV21, which covers 81% of pneumococcal serotypes commonly found in adults.

For more information about the pneumococcal vaccine and who should receive it see [CDC pneumococcal vaccine recommendations](#).

## Featured Resource

### Multi-Vaccine Consent Form



PALTmed

#### DESCRIPTION

PALTmed developed this admission consent form as a template for common vaccine in long-term care.

#### WHY IT’S IMPORTANT

Tracking and updating vaccine consent can be a barrier to for providers and recipients, particularly for facility residents who cannot consent themselves. A multi-vaccine consent form provides a record of consent for residents to receive the listed vaccinations during their stay, based on the latest national guidelines and the resident’s eligibility.

#### HOW TO ACCESS

[Multi-Vaccine Consent Form](#)

# TIPS & TIDBITS

We continue to highlight the role of chain leaders in supporting facilities’ vaccination QI efforts. Building on this topic from our last newsletter, following are additional actions chain leaders can take to demonstrate and further vaccination education and action:

- **Providing Operational and Problem-Solving Support:** Understand the barriers that are arising and use their influence and access to dispel them. Assisting in this problem-solving can improve processes and build trust within the facility and among staff.
- **Developing Standardized Guidance and Processes:** Leaders can advocate and implement solutions that can be applied across multiple facilities. An example of this is a multi-vaccine consent form (see the “Featured Resource” below)
- **Building Facilities’ Understanding of How to Use Data to Guide and Inform Efforts:** Chain leaders can educate staff on how to use data to help with vaccination efforts, including goal setting, regular review of vaccination data, and discussion of successes and challenges.



## LEARN MORE

For more information about the project or to subscribe to this newsletter, visit our website, scan the QR code, or contact [movingneedles@paltc.org](mailto:movingneedles@paltc.org)

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