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Lessons Learned from Common Vaccination Errors

A record number of Americans heeded the advice to get 2020-2021 influenza (flu) vaccinations and the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) saw a corresponding increase in flu vaccine-related errors.¹ Subsequently, ECRI Institute prepared a Vaccination Safety guidance document for ambulatory care utilizing administration error information from the ISMP, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention², National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, and Vaccines for Children program.³ Takeaways gleaned from the most recent flu vaccination campaign and through error reviews performed by patient safety organizations may prepare your practice for the risks of the monumental COVID-19 vaccination campaign.

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[1] MICA members and practices can download the ISMP's report, [Learning from Influenza Vaccine Errors to Prepare for COVID-19 Vaccination Campaigns](#), at no additional cost, by logging in to the MICA website, clicking on "Order Risk Management Products," scrolling down to "Other Products" and then to [COVID-19 Vaccinations Learning from Flu Vaccine Errors](#), and clicking on "Free Download."

[2] See Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2019). [Vaccines Storage and Handling Toolkit | CDC](#). The Toolkit is updated for 2021 with COVID-19 clinical and technical information on vaccine storage and handling best practices; vaccine labels; staffing and training; policies and procedures; worksheets and logs; and manufacturer-specific information. The American Academy of Pediatrics offers a comprehensive, clinical [Immunization Training Guide and Practice Procedure Manual](#).

[3] MICA members and practices can download ECRI's Ambulatory Care Risk Management Vaccination Safety Guidance, at no additional cost, by logging in to the MICA website, clicking on "Order Risk Management Products," scrolling down to "Other Products" and then to [COVID-19 Vaccinations Learning from Flu Vaccine Errors](#), and clicking on "Free Download."

Do you have an idea for a subject we should address in a future Hot Topic? We want to hear from our insureds about content they consider important. Please call or e-mail Jeanne Varner Powell, Senior Legal Risk Management Consultant, at 602.808.2252 or jvarnerpowell@mica-insurance.com.

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