Provision of Flu and Pneumovax Vaccinations for Patients with COPD

The Problem

The Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) guidelines outline strategies for disease management, which include the provision of Pneumovax vaccination, as well as annual flu shots to prevent lower respiratory tract infections.

Aim/Goal

To ensure that patients with COPD seen in the Ambulatory Pulmonary Clinic receive annual flu shots and that Pneumovax vaccination is received or discussed.

The Team

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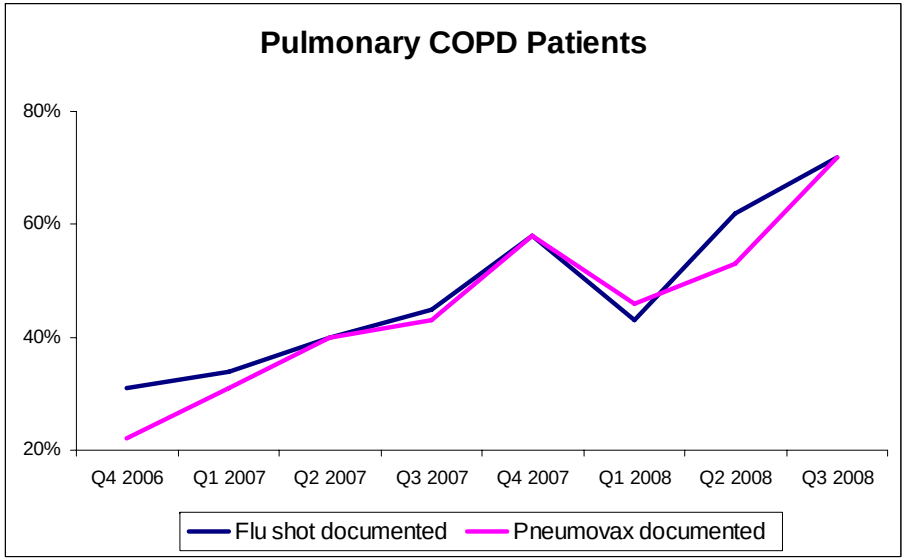
The Interventions

- Pulmonary Division faculty and the Medicine QI Team reviewed current literature and developed QI metrics for patients with COPD.
- Patients were identified through ICD-based billing databases and data were obtained from review of the electronic medical records (i.e. the WebOMR progress notes, letters, sheets, and profile page).
- The Division's performance was monitored and presented in regular faculty meetings.
- Quarterly confidential individual scorecards gave each clinician feedback regarding their performance as compared to that of the entire Division's faculty.

The Results

Flu vaccination rates (within the past 12 months from the day of the review) have increased from 31% in Q4 2006 to 72% in Q3 2008. Pneumovax vaccination rate (received or discussed) have increased from 22% in Q4 2006 to 72% in Q3 2008.



Next Steps

Continue to monitor these QI measures and provide feedback and encouragement to the Pulmonary faculty with the goal of reaching at least 90% flu and Pneumovax vaccination rate for patients with COPD in 2009.

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