

“10 Steps to Implementing Standing Orders for Immunization in Your Practice Setting” now available

IAC Express

IAC's standing orders workshops are completed, but you can still benefit by reviewing [10 Steps to Implementing Standing Orders for Immunization in Your Practice Setting](#). This six-page “cookbook” about how to implement standing orders has been presented in 22 workshops across the U.S. over the past nine months. It provides step-by-step guidance about developing and implementing standing orders in your practice.

Standing orders are written protocols approved by a physician or other authorized practitioner that allow qualified healthcare professionals (who are eligible to do so under state law, such as registered nurses or pharmacists) to assess the need for and administer vaccine to patients meeting certain criteria, such as age or underlying medical condition. The qualified healthcare professionals must also be eligible by state law to administer certain medications, such as epinephrine, under standing orders should a medical emergency (rare event) occur.

Having standing orders in place **streamlines your practice workflow** by eliminating the need to obtain an individual physician's order to vaccinate each patient. Standing orders carried out by nurses or other qualified healthcare professionals are the most consistently effective means for increasing vaccination rates and reducing missed opportunities for vaccination, **improving the quality of care for patients**.

Standing orders are **straightforward to use**. The challenge is to integrate them into the practice setting so they can be used to their full potential. This process requires some preparation up front to assure that everyone in the practice understands both the reasons why standing orders are being implemented and how their roles contribute to successful implementation of them. The new resource from IAC includes suggested steps to help you work through this process.