LET’S TALK ABOUT VACCINES!

DISCUSSING VACCINATION WITH PATIENTS LIVING WITH CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES

December 2023

RECOMMENDED VACCINES*:
- Influenza
- Pneumococcal
- COVID-19

ROUTINE BOOSTER VACCINE:
- Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis (Tdap)

PHARMACISTS CAN HIGHLIGHT THE FOLLOWING MESSAGES TO PATIENTS:

- Individuals with cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) are at higher risk of severe complications and death from vaccine-preventable illnesses.

- Vaccine-preventable diseases may lead to damage of the heart and thromboembolisms, leading to disease progression.

- Non-vaccination increases the risk of developing secondary infections that may lead to permanent heart damage.

INFLUENZA VACCINATION

- Flu can trigger a heart attack or stroke: in the few days following flu infection, the risk of a heart attack in adults is 10 times higher, and the risk of stroke is eight times higher. Influenza vaccination can reduce this risk by 15–45%.

- Influenza can cause other severe complications like pneumonia, chronic condition worsening or general functional decline.

- People with heart disease are far more likely to suffer from severe influenza that can lead to severe complications, hospitalisations and deaths.

OTHER VACCINES

- Around 30% of patients admitted to hospital with pneumococcal disease will experience a major adverse cardiovascular event, including new or worsening heart failure, new or worsening arrhythmia, or myocardial infarction.

- People with CVDs are at an increased risk of developing a severe form of COVID-19 which could result in death.

- All adolescents and adults should receive a Tdap vaccine booster every 10 years after completing the primary vaccination schedule in childhood.

* Check nationally or locally applicable vaccination guidelines and recommendations and adapt advice accordingly.

FOR THESE REASONS, PEOPLE WITH CVDs SHOULD GET VACCINATED AGAINST INFLUENZA, PNEUMOCOCCAL

Supported by an unrestricted grant from Sanofi

For the bibliography and additional information, check the FIP vaccination microsite:
www.fip.org/letstalkaboutvaccines