Worcester Public School
Flu Clinics

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Population of Focus
25,415

Worcester Public Schools student enrollment 2018-2019

Students in Public School (youths age ~4-18+) are a key population for healthcare focus

“Healthy students are better learners, and academic achievement bears a lifetime of benefits for health.”

- personal, community, societal health
- understanding of physical, mental and social health
- promoting healthy eating and physical activity
- understanding nutrition and environment

https://www.cdc.gov/healthyschools/about.htm
Many social/structural factors influence the health of the student population

- Family Health
- Food and water security
- Insurance coverage
- Parental/guardian involvement in medical management
- Neighborhood safety
- Physical activity
- Access to healthcare services
- Education

https://www.apta.org/PTinMotion/2019/7/Feature/SocialDeterminants/
Clinical needs and common exposures affecting students...

**Medical:**
- Asthma
- Contraception/STI/pregnancy
- Mental and behavioral health
- Acne and skin disorder
- Chronic illnesses - obesity, diabetes
- Disorders of puberty
- Menstrual disorders
- Substance abuse

**Social:**
- E-cigarettes and vaping
- Peer pressures
- Bullying
- Image/body insecurities
- Alcohol and drug use
- Unsafe driving

https://www.umassmemorialhealthcare.org/umass-memorial-medical-center/services-treatments/childrens-medical-center/services-we-provide/adolescent-medicine
https://www. uhhospitals.org/-/media/Images/Science-and-Compassion-Blog/UTR/utr-s18-4-big-myths-about-asthma.jpg
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https://s4.reutersmedia.net/resources/r/?m=02&d=20191014&t=2&i=1440781237&r=LYNXMPEF9D19S&w=1280
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[Resources and links provided for further information and support.]
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[Links to various resources related to health and social issues]
Influenza & Pneumonia Deaths per 100k

By sex in 2017

Over time

Students in Public School (youths age ~4-18+)

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends that **all children ages 6 months and older are vaccinated for influenza** for the 2019-2020 season, preferably by the end of October, with either the flu shot or the nasal spray vaccine.
Health Advocacy
School-Based Health Centers (SBHC) promote health, resilience and academic success

Edward M Kennedy Community Health Center

- Licensed health centers staffed by interdisciplinary team of medical and mental health professionals
- 11,000 children served
- Improve access and quality care for youth particularly in hard-to-reach and underserved populations
- Medical examinations, nutrition education, immunizations, behavioral health services, sports medicine, treatment for acute and chronic illnesses

- Require a signed parental consent form
- Do NOT replace school nurses; NPs and PAs collaborate with school staff

https://www.kennedychc.org/services/school-based-health-centers
Boys and Girls Club of Worcester increases access to sports and recreation, nightly meals, college prep, and employment programs

- Annual membership = $10-$25
- Free meals served to approximately 300 members five days a week in Kid’s Café.
- 100% of the Club’s Classes of 2016, 2017, and 2018 graduated high school and were accepted to college
- 80% of the Club’s teens complete job readiness programs and apply for either Club or outside jobs/internships

Interprofessional Teams of Care
Nurses, Pharmacists, Therapists, Administrators

Interprofessional Team:

1. Nurses: RNs, NPs
2. Pharmacists
3. Therapists
4. Administrators
5. Physicians
6. Educators
7. Social Workers
8. PTA

- Level of involvement is variable and includes injections for children, paperwork review, child soothing and comforting techniques, etc.
- Most people serve multiple roles
- Collaboration between team members:
  - Administrators: need healthy students in order to best serve education
  - Nurses: serve clinical/medical needs
  - Therapists: focus on social and psychological factors
Nurses, Pharmacists, Therapists, Administrators

How/Where is care provided for the population members?

- **Nurses**: schools, SBHCs, medical centers
- **Pharmacists**: Local pharmacies
- **Therapists**: schools, medical centers
- **Administrators**: schools
- **Physicians**: medical centers
- **Educators**: schools
- **Social Workers**: schools, medical centers

Strengths and limitations of the team:

- Allow a student to be served holistically
- Everyone has a different area of expertise
- Many moving parts, so sometimes hard to communicate
- Potential conflicts of interest
Future Team Interactions

• As future clinicians, we will be working in teams to deliver multidisciplinary care to our patients
• Everyone has different strengths and areas of expertise
• It is important to consult other providers and to know who to consult and when to do so

https://micmrc.org/topics/patient-centered-medical-home-and-team-based-care
Service/Experiential Learning
Flu Clinics for Worcester Public Schools

Activities Included:

- Checking consent forms to assess eligibility
- Overseeing an interprofessional team at 24 clinics
- Administering over 1500 vaccinations as of 10/31/2019 (just 4 days of clinics)
- Child soothing and distracting
- Educating students about the importance of health (and herd immunity!)

Ben Maxner setting up the South High School Flu Clinic!
Needs Addressed:

- **Overall health** of the Worcester community
  - Increase herd immunity

- **Access** to vaccinations:
  - Done in the schools during the actual school day
  - Parents do not need to be present
  - Consent forms printed in 6 different languages
  - No insurance needed

- **Statistics:**
  - Immunization rates before and after the flu clinics
  - Population that is under-insured

- **Inspire** children of lower income backgrounds to learn about careers in healthcare
  - Demographics of medical community does not match that of the population it serves

- **Collaboration** amongst the many affiliated medical centers and colleges in the area:
  - MCPHS
  - QCC Nursing
  - UMass
  - Fitchburg State

[Link to article](http://nymag.com/strategist/article/best-kids-doctor-kits-amazon.html)
~1750

Vaccines administered in the first week

with

~1200

Consents for Week 2

Number of Students Vaccinated at WPS School Flu Vaccination Clinics (2015-18):
What We Learned:

- Worcester is a HUGE city
- Rich diversity of the Worcester population
- Many language barriers
- Large underserved community
  - Requires many moving parts to engage families in the flu clinics
- Vast differences amongst different age groups
- Great differences amongst the numerous WPS
Acknowledgements
Thank you!

Worcester Public Schools Nursing Administration (Dr. Debra McGovern, Catherine Perry, Diane Cowes, Kristin McFarland)

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Central Community Branch YMCA

Boys and Girls’ Club of Worcester YouthConnect (Judi Kirk)

Worcester State University (Dr. Lori Dawson)

Worcester Addresses Childhood Trauma (ACTs) (Amy Ebbeson)
Questions?
(Presentation Guidelines)

- Peer and community learning session with 10-minute oral presentations that

  • Use data to describe and characterize the population that was the focus of the team’s work.
  
  • Share key points gleaned from experience in community.
  
  • Discuss lessons learned through interprofessional exposure and service activity.
  
  • Explain actual and potential advocacy strategies relevant to improving a population’s health, highlighting roles and responsibilities for various actors/sectors doing this work.
Suggestions

fix numbers