Giving it a shot!!!
Vaccination by EMS Personnel

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Boston EMS, Police and Fire
Overview

- Boston experienced significant illness from Spring 2009 H1N1
- Training of all BEMS paramedics for flu vaccination
- State approval
Percent of Emergency Department Visits for Influenza-like Illness 2009 vs. prior years

ED Visits for Influenza-like Illness

Narrow ILI / All Visits

Prior Years

2009
Prior BEMS Experience

- 2004
- Two Mass Clinics for Hep A; exposures from food workers
- Larger one with over 1000 people vaccinated in 1.5 days
2. Typical Clinic Functions and Flow

- 5 core components
- 2 supporting functions
- Logistics section

- 1. Triage / Entryway Greeters
- 2. Registration
- 3. Queue Management
- 4. Treatment
- 5. Discharge

Logistics Section: Supply Coordinators, Runners, Vaccine Drawers, Facilities Unit, etc.

October 2009
Training

- Taught by BEMS MD staff
- 84 trained as vaccinator in 2 weeks
- Also open to employees at have medic license but work at the EMT level for BEMS
Logistic and Clinic Operations

- BEMS personnel who were not qualified to take vaccinator training
- Trained on Logistic and Clinic Operations for Mass Vaccination
- Queue management
- Set up
The Paperwork

October 2009
Treatment Station
End result

- Health Center bases clinics vaccinated approximately 29,000
- Estimated 1/3rd by BEMS
- And vaccination continues
Good will benefit....

- Our Community Health Center H1N1 clinic took place yesterday from 8:00am thru 7:00pm. In the midst of my panic seeing so many patients arriving, I looked up and these 3 guys in brown were here. They immediately took off for the immunization rooms and got to work. —Clinic RN

- They showed the most professional behavior and concern for the 780 immunizations we accomplished yesterday. They were just as patient with the beginning of the line as the end at 7:00pm.—CR Health Center

- I have been running the flu clinics and I must say that your staff has been the best thing to happen to me. With all the headaches involved in organizing and running these clinics, the EMTs have been the clinch people! Whether it was giving shots to children without tears, prefilling hundreds of syringes or managing a potentially unruly crowd they have been outstanding. Thank you all!—Health Center RN Manager
Thank You