



COMMUNITY PHARMACY FOUNDATION
COMPLETED GRANT SYNOPSIS

Native American Immunization Project

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Objective

- 1) Provide disease prevention in an under served minority population leads to increased patient loyalty to community pharmacists
- 2) Expand the ongoing 159 patient study involving stricter blood glucose controls and stricter blood pressure monitoring
- 3) Increase our patient services to more than just dispensing medications
- 4) Demonstrate to the Native Americans that a health care professional from outside of the community can be trusted as a health care ally
- 5) Provide flu immunization to this population to decrease morbidity as a result of a lack of access to healthcare for common illnesses that are preventable

Results

We immunized 43 senior citizen Native Americans in November 2005. As of January 2006, there was not one case of flu amongst them. Again we visited in April on 4/11/06, taking blood sugars and blood pressures. They were all healthy (no flu). In January, we also talked briefly about the differences between flu and colds. We wanted patients to know the difference. It has taken a tremendous amount of time for them to trust me. They are beginning to recognize me as a pharmacist. For the first 2 years they thought I was a nurse. I keep a written log of all their blood sugars and blood pressures so I can look back and see if there is any progress.

Conclusion

If I am finally recognized as the pharmacist who helps out monthly then they at least know we do more than count and pour and will hold their dispensing pharmacists more accountable. Hopefully I have taught them pharmacists are knowledgeable and approachable healthcare professionals. So, I will continue this project once monthly. Who is to say that this may not someday be looked back upon with favor by the Tribunal Council who makes healthcare decisions about the best place to put healthcare dollars?

For further information and/or materials on this grant, please visit
www.CommunityPharmacyFoundation.org and submit your inquiry through **Contact_Us**.