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## IEI Nurse Speakers' Bureau

IEI Nurse Speakers have several presentations available to meet the educational needs of nurses and health care providers. Each presentation takes about 90 minutes, and is based on one or more core components of immunization: immunization overview, immunology/vaccinology, communication strategies, administration techniques and influenza.

They are free of charge and our Nurse Speakers provide resources and refreshments for your group.

All nurses and health care providers benefit from an increased knowledge of immunizations whether you are directly involved with immunizing or not. All of us, by the very nature of our roles, are looked towards to provide information whether it is to our clients, to our communities or to our families.

To book an education session for your group or to see what events are scheduled in and around your area, please visit our website at [www.immunizationeducation.ca](http://www.immunizationeducation.ca) or contact us at 1-866-434-6877



[www.immunizationeducation.ca](http://www.immunizationeducation.ca)

Immunization Education Initiative



Immunization  
Education  
Initiative

## Mission Statement

"The Immunization Education Initiative (IEI) is a national group of nurses partnering with other Immunization supporters, who educate about the importance of immunization to enhance the health of Canadians."

**IEI Steering Committee – 2008**

## History and Progress

Immunization programs in Canada are delivered by a variety of health care providers; nurse practitioners, pediatricians, general practitioners and nurses. Although physicians have numerous opportunities to access immunization education, programs directed to nurse-immunizers are limited. This is especially true for office-based and rural nurses. Nurses also have different education needs compared to physicians, and different issues to be addressed.

In 2003 a group of nurses involved in immunization programs from across the country was brought together by the Public Health Education group from Wyeth Pharmaceuticals. The goal was to create an immunization education program for nurses by nurses. They identified potential advisory board members, created a needs assessment tool and mapped out a timeline for project completion.

Wyeth agreed to fund the project via an unrestricted educational grant.

Within six months, the advisory board wrote a series of four articles related to different aspects of immunizations. The articles were published in the Canadian Nurse magazine and were well received. The board then focused on creating an education curriculum comprised of four modules in PowerPoint format: Immunization Overview, Immunology/Vaccinology, Communication Strategies and Administration Techniques. The newest addition is the Influenza module.

In August 2005, the IEI Speakers' Bureau was formed. Forty nurses from across the country were convened in Toronto for education workshops based on the four teaching modules and coaching in various skills. These participants then returned to their communities to schedule immunization education sessions for local nursing groups. Presently, 10-15 sessions are completed monthly, nationwide, and this number is steadily increasing.

The education sessions are offered to an average of 200 nurses across Canada each month. The response has been very favorable. The module approach allows sessions to be tailored to the individual nursing group and to the time available for the teaching session.

[www.immunizationeducation.ca](http://www.immunizationeducation.ca)

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