

Respondent



30

Shilpa Gowda



88:49

Time to complete



1. Please provide your name, position title, and contact information. *

Dr. Shilpa Gowda; Director, Occupational Employee Health; desk phone number: 504-507-7897; VA email: shilpa.gowda@va.gov

2. Is this submission an idea for a Promising Practice or existing Promising Practice? *

☒ Idea for a Promising Practice

☐ Existing Promising Practice

3. What is the name of your Promising Practice? *

Video Messages from Occupational Employee Health

4. What type of Veterans does this practice serve? *

☐ Rural

☐ Urban

☒ Both

5. How does this practice promote vaccine acceptance? *

Personalized message from credible, well-respected, high-performing source. Occupational Employee Health was the backbone of the hospital's COVID-19 pandemic response, allowing healthcare workers to safely perform their duties. We are also the ones that employees come to for all concerns related to COVID, including testing, questions about vaccines, reporting side effects, etc. We have public health training and experience.

6. What are the specific steps you took, or would take, to implement your practice and the timeline/timeframe for each? *

1) Recruiting OEH Professionals to partake - 1 week 2) Development of the script - 1 week 3) Film videos - 1 week 4) Edit videos - 1.5 weeks

7. What departments are involved in implementing your practice? *

Occupational Employee Health, Public Relations

8. What are the costs associated with your practice? *

Minimal; only slight time away from other work for employees involved; Public Relations staff time for recording and editing

9. What primary metric data is tracked and collected to determine your practice's success? *

Increase in vaccination rate among veteran and civilian employees; as well as veteran patients

10. What are the potential risks or barriers of implementing your practice and the proposed mitigations? *

The ideas that employee vaccination is already good - no need for improvement- so why get employee health involved at all in increasing vaccination rates, or that emails already sent are just as efficacious. I've proposed this idea to our local Pandemic Clinical Advisory

Workgroup, which was supportive, as well as Public Relations staff (i.e., Phil Walls), who fielded these concerns.