



Professional Enrichment Course

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Office of Medical Education

PEC Registrar – Denise Downs d downs@pitt.edu 412-648-8749

Calling the Shots – A Guide to Vaccines

Enrollment Period:	Spring 2022
Course Dates:	2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 2/28 (5:30-6:30PM)
Student Max:	10
Class Year:	MS1, MS2
Course Director:	John Williams, MD Glenn Rapsinski, MD glenn.rapsinski2@chp.edu
Student Coordinators:	Jorna Sojati jos233@pitt.edu Nagashreyaa Nagajothi nan71@pitt.edu Anthony Lentscher anl127@pitt.edu
Location:	Scaife Hall 422 A/B
Registration:	Via Amp Up during PEC enrollment period
Course Description:	This course will take students on an in-depth exploration of vaccines from the perspectives of community leaders, physicians, policymakers, and researchers. Through four sessions, students will have the opportunity to learn more about vaccine initiatives at UPMC and within Pittsburgh communities, explore ways to navigate vaccine hesitancy in a clinical setting, be introduced to vaccine development and policy, and become familiar with innovative vaccine research happening at the University of Pittsburgh. At the end of this course, students will be equipped with the knowledge to better explain and advocate for vaccines, whether in a clinical encounter, community setting, or even to their vaccine-hesitant friends and family!
Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introduce students to various ways they can improve vaccine equity in their communities2. Help students both articulate the fallacies behind common vaccine misconceptions and understand how to address patients who are unwilling to vaccinate themselves or their children3. Educate students on the development of vaccines and policies surrounding vaccine access and administration4. Expose students to a variety of vaccine education research projects which are currently conducted by different faculty at the university

Pre-Requisites:	None
Requirements:	Attend all sessions and contribute to class discussions
Texts:	None

Session I – Course Intro/Talk with Community Vaccine Collaborative

Session I will involve an introduction to the course material. Additionally, a member of the community vaccine collaborative will discuss the ways that medical professionals can get involved with the community to promote vaccine equity. The CVC is heavily involved with community outreach and works to dispel common misconceptions surrounding vaccines and increase access to vaccines in underserved communities. Many members are physicians who are passionate about vaccine equity.

Session II – Navigating Vaccine Hesitancy: Lessons from Pediatrics

Session II will involve pediatric and adult infectious disease doctors from UPMC facilitating a discussion about reducing vaccine hesitancy among adult populations, parents, and children. Students will have the opportunity to talk to the physician about how he or she addresses anti-vaccine patients and advocates for their or their child’s health.

Session III – Intro to Vaccine Policy & Development

Session III is divided into two components to help students get a holistic and comprehensive view of the ways vaccines are developed and administered to communities. The first half-hour will be a session with a pharmaceutical/industry representative on how vaccines are developed. The second half-hour will be a discussion with a public health expert on vaccine policy at a local and national level.

Session IV – Vaccine Research Day

Session IV will involve faculty from various Pitt schools presenting their vaccine research. Students will have the opportunity to learn about the vaccine research happening at Pitt, as well as remain updated about current scientific developments regarding vaccination.