

# Supporting Vaccine Decisions Through Shared Clinical Decision-Making

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# Disclosure

No financial relationships to disclose.

# SANFORD HEALTH



**57** medical centers\*  
• 35 owned and leased  
• 22 managed affiliates



**292** clinic locations\*  
• 228 owned and leased  
• 60 managed affiliates



**147** senior living locations\*



**\$11.5 billion** in annual revenue



**423,659** Sanford Health Plan and Security Health Plan members



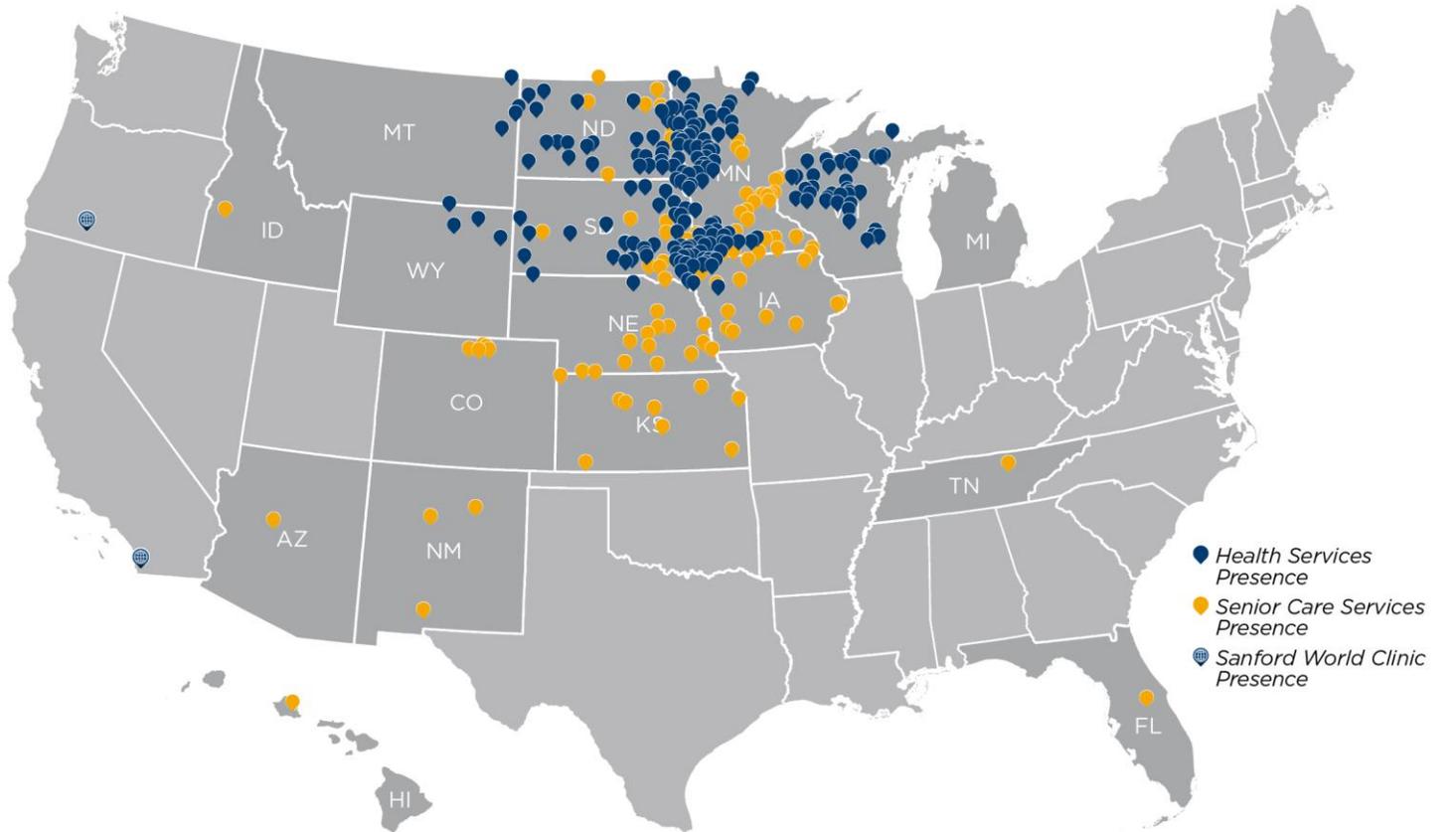
**2,257** physicians, **1,812** advanced practice providers and **10,164** registered nurses delivering care in more than **80** specialty areas



**536** scientific staff with **1,500** clinical trials/studies



**55,160** employees

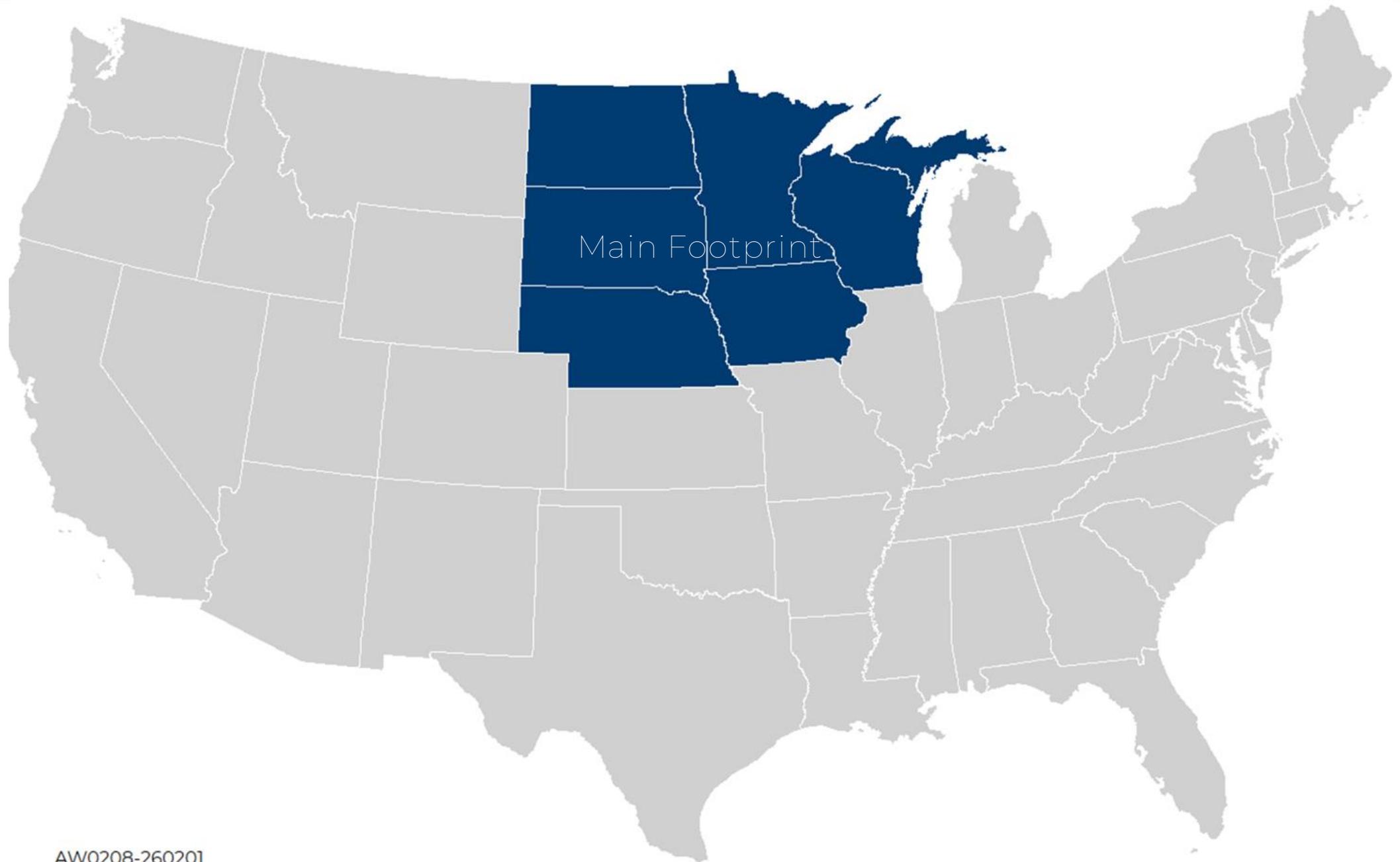


● Health Services Presence  
● Senior Care Services Presence  
● Sanford World Clinic Presence



As of November 1, 2025. Approved by Data Governance Committee.  
\* Locations include where Sanford offers health care services, management support or partnerships to advance rural care delivery.





# Nursing Protocol Orders (Standing Orders)

- Nursing protocol orders are standardized, evidence-based written protocols that let nurses perform specific clinical actions when specific criteria are met.
- They remove the need for an individual provider order by clearly defining who is eligible and exactly what actions the nurse may take.
- Protocols are approved by a licensed prescriber and ensure nurses work within defined boundaries rather than making independent clinical decisions.
- Key benefits include:
  - Faster, more timely patient care
  - Improved access and workflow efficiency
  - Enhanced patient safety
  - Standardized, consistent care
  - Support for higher immunization rates and public health goals
  - Reduced provider workload



# Scope of Practice Considerations



## Scope of Practice

Determined by each individual state.



## State Exception

All states allow for RNs, LPNs, and MAs to administer vaccines per protocol excluding:

MAIII in ND cannot:

- Execute a protocol order
- Conduct medication calculation or draw up medications from a multi-dose vial



## Delegation Requirements

There are rules and regulations regarding LPNs and MAs needing delegation by the RN or provider.

- Sanford immunization protocols are developed by an RN and approved by the Enterprise Immunization Committee and the Clinical Practice Committee.



## Patient Education

Another Consideration → Providing patient education

- Vaccine Information Statement (VIS)

RN: Registered Nurse  
LPN: Licensed Practical Nurse  
MA III: Medication Assistant in North Dakota  
MA: Medical Assistant

# Protocols with Shared Clinical Decision-Making (SCDM)

Meningococcal B vaccination for adolescents and young adults aged 16–23 years

Hepatitis B vaccination for adults aged 60 years and older with risk conditions

Human papillomavirus vaccination for adults aged 27–45 years

PCV20 or PCV21 for adults aged 65 years and older who have completed the recommended vaccine series with both PCV13 (at any age) and PPSV23 (administered at age  $\geq 65$  years)

Additional doses of COVID-19 vaccination for people who are moderately or severely immunocompromised

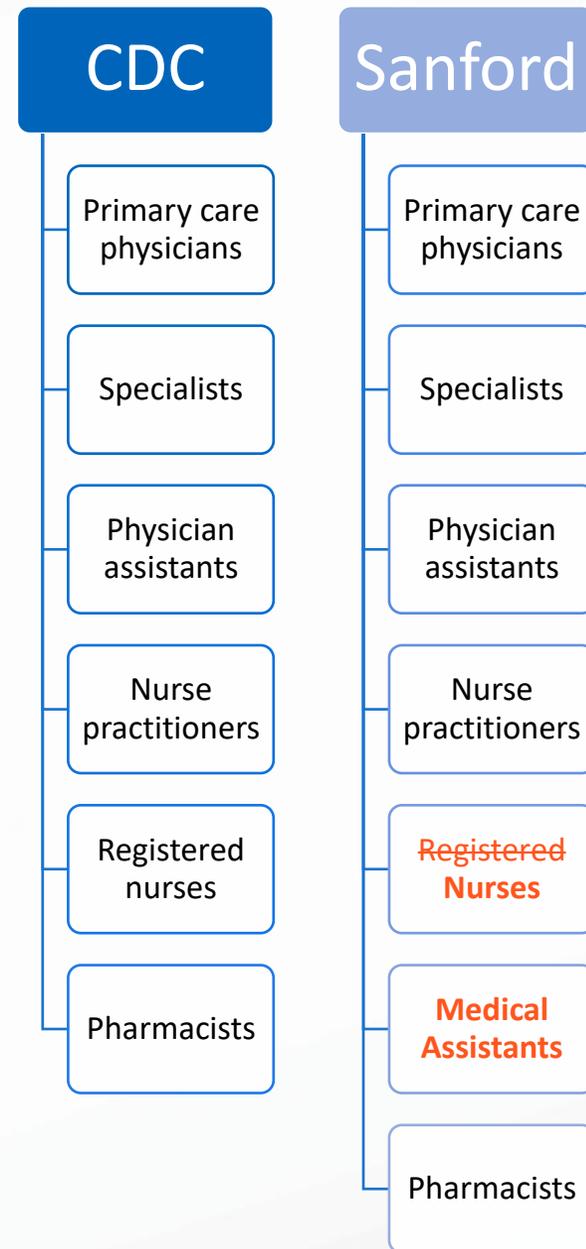


# Knowledge Check

Which of the following is currently recommended under shared clinical decision-making?

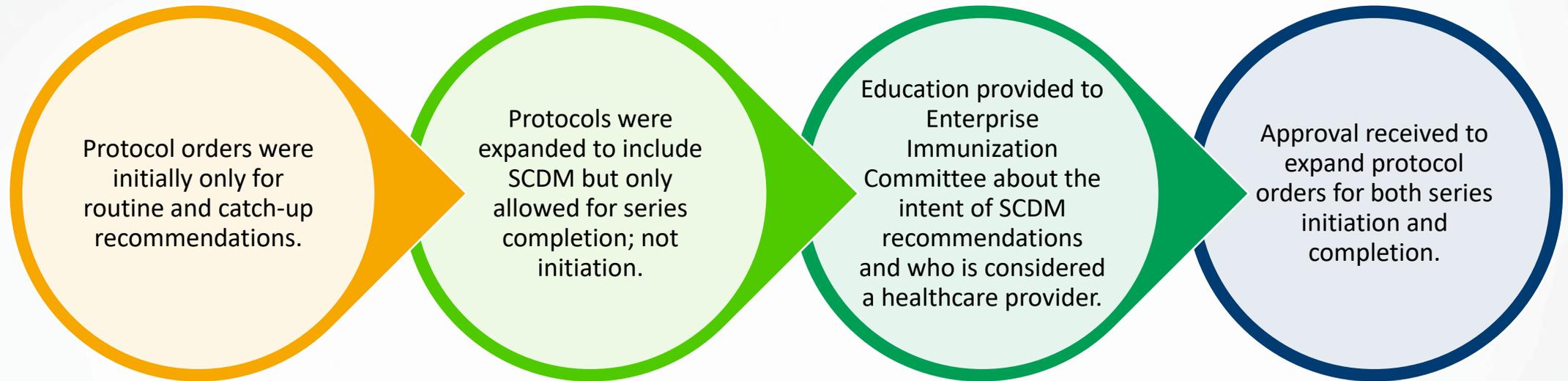
- A. Meningococcal B for individuals 16 to 23 years old
- B. Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine for infants
- C. HPV vaccine for individuals 11 to 18 years old
- D. MMR vaccine for children 1 to 6 years old

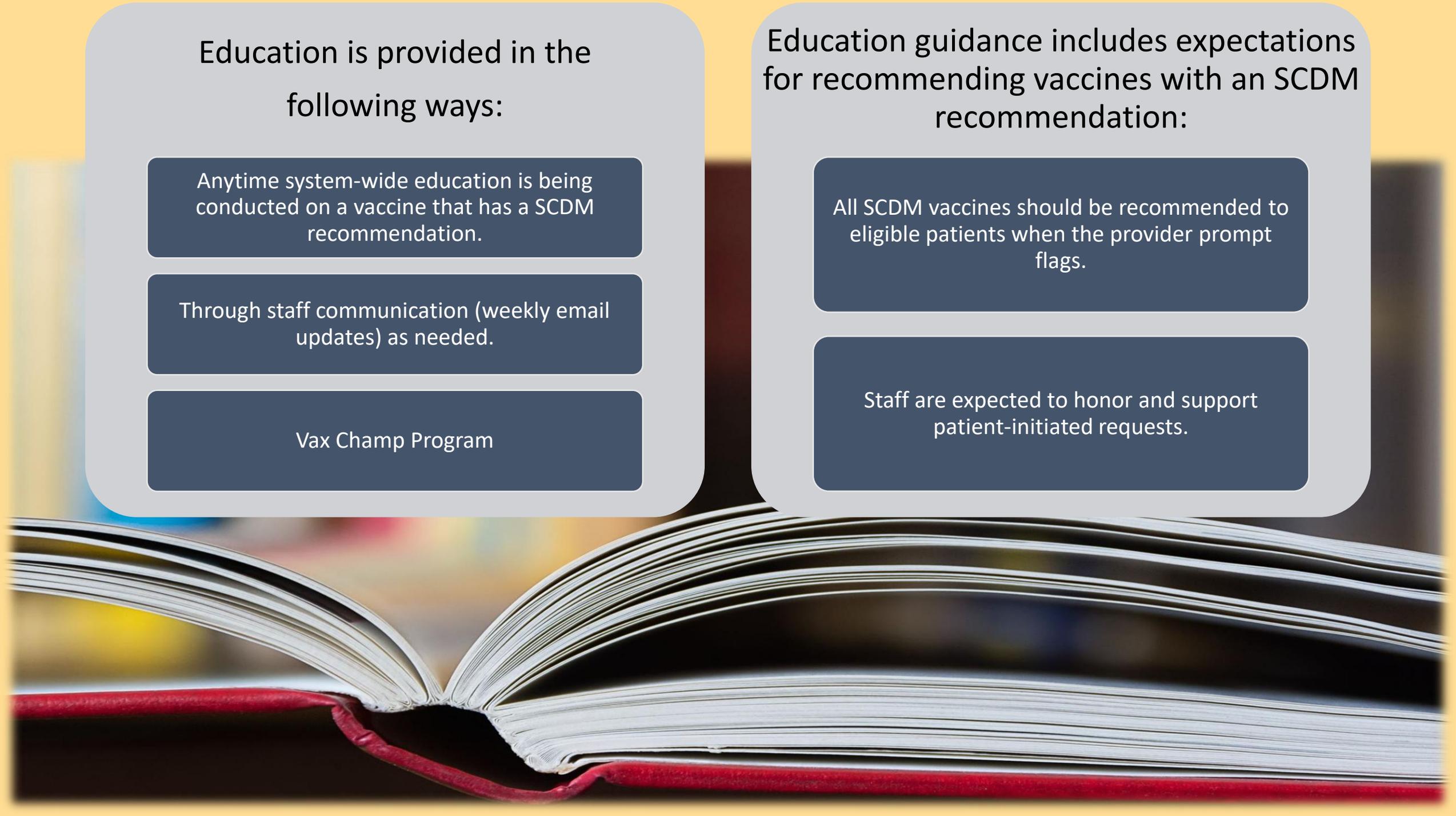
Healthcare Provider (HCP):  
Anyone who provides or  
administers vaccines



LPN's can educate from printed materials (e.g., VIS)

# Progression of SCDM at Sanford





Education is provided in the following ways:

Anytime system-wide education is being conducted on a vaccine that has a SCDM recommendation.

Through staff communication (weekly email updates) as needed.

Vax Champ Program

Education guidance includes expectations for recommending vaccines with an SCDM recommendation:

All SCDM vaccines should be recommended to eligible patients when the provider prompt flags.

Staff are expected to honor and support patient-initiated requests.

# Electronic Health Record (EHR): Out of Sight – Out of Mind

Sanford's EHR provider prompt is called health maintenance.

## SCDM recommendations flagging at Sanford

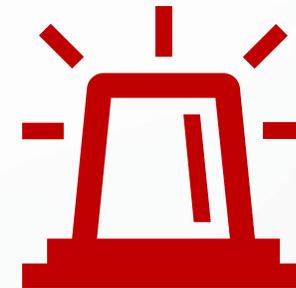
- HPV for 27–45-year-olds
- Meningococcal B for 16–23-year-olds
- Hepatitis B for high-risk adults 60 years and older

## SCDM recommendations not flagging at Sanford

- Additional doses of COVID-19 vaccine for immunocompromised individuals
- Pneumo for adults 65 years and older who previously received PCV13 at any age and PPSV23 on or after age 65.

HPV Vaccine (1 - 3-dose SCDM series)

Never done



# Documentation Requirements & Considerations



- Documentation of SCDM is no different than any other vaccine.
- Document informed decision making (risk vs. benefit)
- Document patient refusal
- Required Documentation:
  - Vaccine name, manufacturer, and formulation
  - Lot number and expiration date
  - Dose, route, and site of administration
  - Date of administration
  - Name and address, and title of the person administering the vaccine
  - Edition date of the VIS
  - Date the VIS was given
  - Screening questionnaire
  - State immunization program eligibility

# Challenges



- Lack of knowledge and awareness about:
  - Why SCDM recommendations are made
  - How to apply them to practice
  - Who is considered a “healthcare provider”
  - Differences between routine, catch-up, and SCDM recommendations

# References

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2. CDC. Vaccination Records. Vaccines & Immunizations. Published November 8, 2024. Accessed February 11, 2026. <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/imz-best-practices/vaccination-records.html>
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4. Holt D. Standing Orders: What They Mean for Healthcare Businesses and Why They. Holt Law. Published October 21, 2024. Accessed February 16, 2026. <https://djholtlaw.com/standing-orders-what-they-mean-for-healthcare-businesses-and-why-they-matter/>