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Bobcat Comics

Title

Are Older LGBT Adults Falling Behind on Vaccinations?

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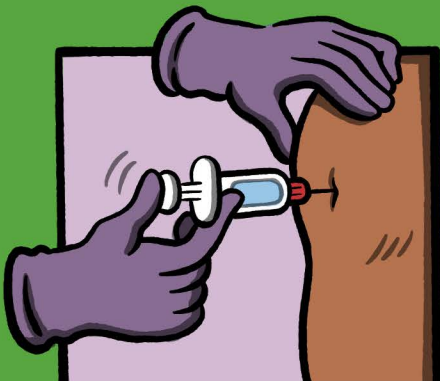
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DRAWINGS: MATTEO FARINELLA

ARE OLDER LGBT ADULTS FALLING BEHIND ON VACCINATIONS?

We looked at how uptake of flu, shingles, and pneumonia vaccines varies by sexual orientation and gender identity,

Using data from 136,528 adults aged 50+ and 74,779 adults aged 65+ across 32 US states, we found 3 main trends:



while also considering other factors like income, education, and race.

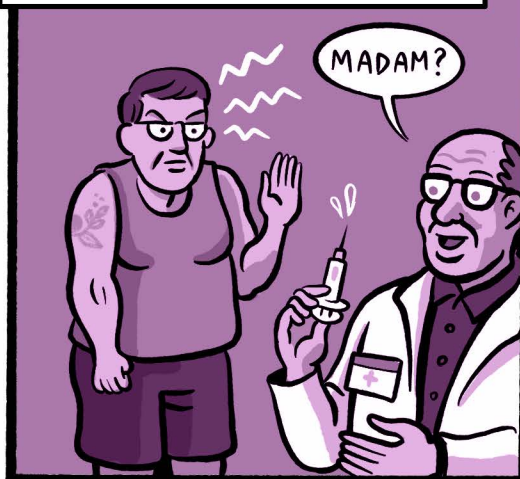


This is likely due to a complex mix of factors:

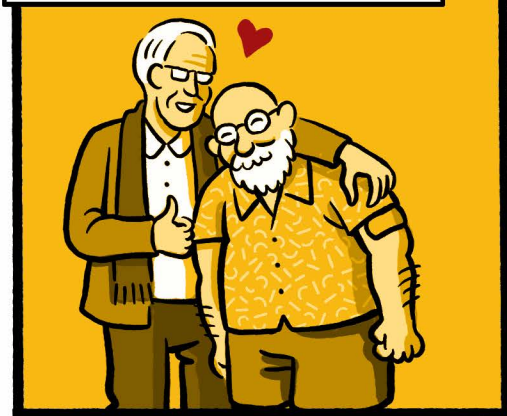
Some older LGBT adults face challenges accessing and receiving culturally competent healthcare which limits opportunities for vaccination.



Different groups of LGBT older adults face unique experiences of stigma and discrimination which can affect vaccination behaviors.



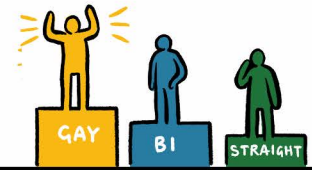
Vaccine promotion should target older bisexual women and transgender people, as they are more likely to miss vaccines, increasing their risk for certain diseases.



1 Transgender older adults have the lowest overall vaccination rates (19%-48%) of any sexual orientation or gender identity group.



2 Gay men are 1.6-1.9x more likely to get vaccinated against flu and shingles than straight men.



3 Bisexual women have lower vaccination rates compared to both straight and lesbian women.

