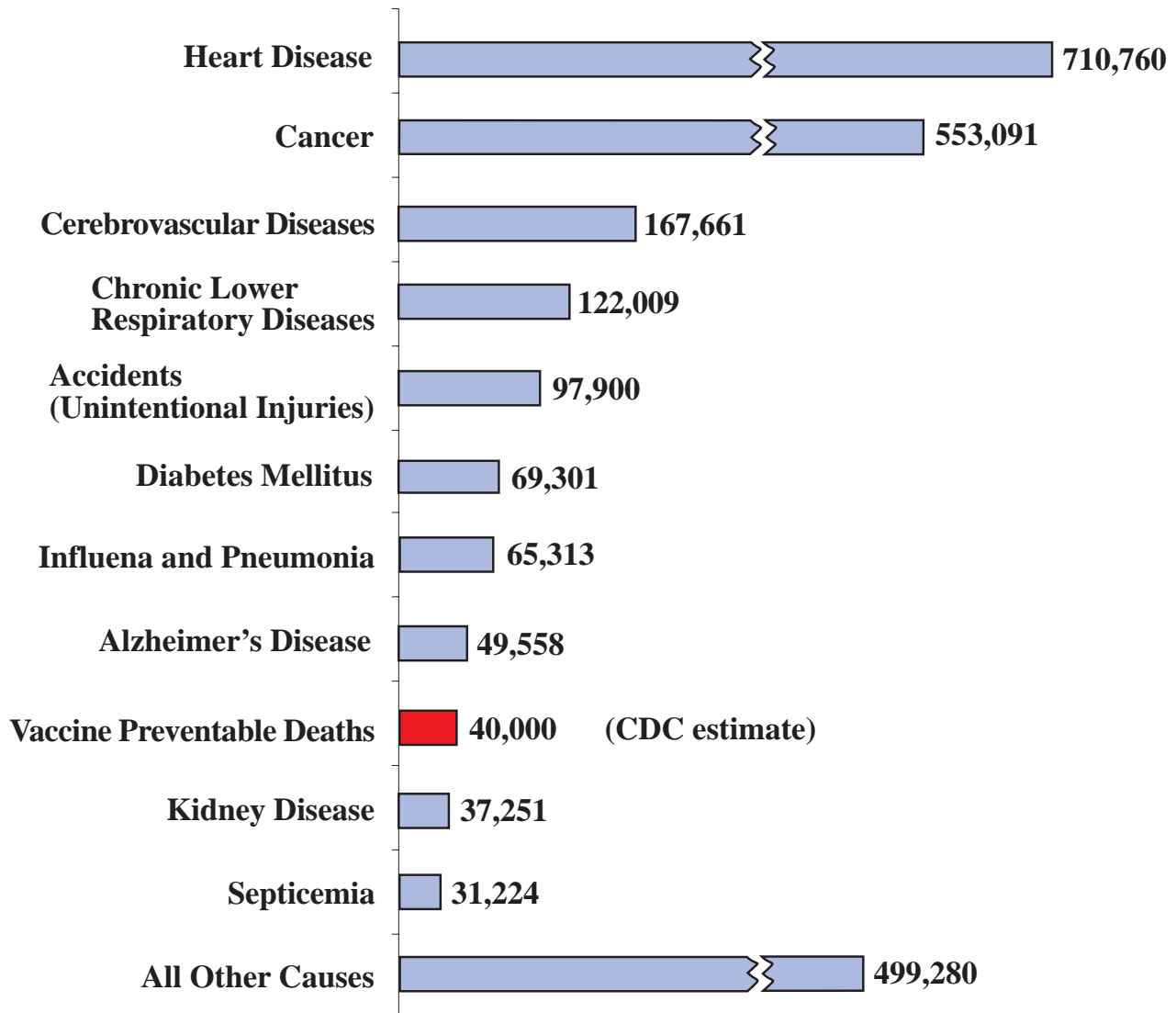


The Facts About... Vaccines

Vaccine Preventable Deaths Among Leading Causes of Death, 2000



Source: United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Deaths: Final Data for 2000"

Each year, approximately 40,000 Americans die of diseases that could have been prevented by routine adult vaccines, according to the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Immunization is encouraged for potentially deadly diseases such as influenza, pneumonia, hepatitis, and tetanus.

The Facts About... Vaccines



What are the costs associated with vaccines?

“The burden of vaccine-preventable diseases in adults in the United States is staggering, as is the cost to society, which exceeds \$10 billion each year,” according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Influenza vaccination can reduce both health-care costs and productivity losses associated with the influenza illness. One study estimated costs of \$60 to \$4,000 per illness averted among healthy persons aged 18-64 years. For Hepatitis B vaccine, the estimated cost per year of life saved is \$164 to prevent perinatal HBV infection, \$1,522 for infant vaccination, and \$3,730 for adolescent vaccination.



What are some vaccines available?

The Vaccine	Recommended for
Influenza 1-shot annually	Anyone who wants to avoid getting influenza; all adults age 50 and older
Pneumoccal 1-time shot	Adults age 65 older; anyone with chronic diseases
Hepatitis B at least 3 doses	Adolescents ages 11-19
Hepatitis A at least 2 doses	Travelers to high-risk areas
Tetanus Booster every 10 years	Everyone
Measles-mumps-rubella At least 2 doses	Adults born after 1957 who were never immunized or infected
Chicken pox 2 doses	Anyone who hasn't had chicken pox
Lyme disease 3 doses	Anyone who frequently spends time in tick-infested habitat

Source: United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



Some useful sites for more information about vaccines

- [World Health Organization - Vaccines, Immunization, Biologicals](#)
- [National Vaccine Information Center](#)
- [Immune.org - Immunization Action Coalition](#)