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1st June 2015

Email:

Dear

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI/15/05/09.

You requested the following information:

I am interested in how ambulance services are helping their staff to receive influenza immunisations, which is an important aspect for both staff and patient wellbeing.

I looked at the following PHE document and have the following questions:

Seasonal influenza vaccine uptake amongst frontline healthcare workers (HCWs) in England February survey 2014/15 <https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/sy...>

1) Are the figures in the PHE report for your Ambulance Service and shown below correct?

**PHE Report
% Vaccine uptake
Feb 15- 55.8%
Jan 14 – 48.6%
Difference 7.2%**

2) The number of flu doses given increased by 221 from 2013/14 to 2014/15, and the % vaccinated increased from 49% to 56%, which is one of the highest rates amongst services.

Do you have a report or information to show how the service was able to improve its uptake in 2014/15?

3) The average % vaccine uptake for ambulance services is substantially lower than for hospitals. Are there reasons for this? What is the South East Coast Ambulance Service planning to do for the 2015/16 winter vaccine uptake, and does it have a target for 2015/16?

I am attaching our Infection Control Lead's report for last year's Flu Vaccination Programme which answers all the questions you have raised.

I hope you find this information helpful.

If, for whatever reason you are unhappy with our response, you are entitled to pursue any dissatisfaction through South East Coast Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust's (SECAMB) Internal Review Procedure at:

South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust
40-42 Friars Walk
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 2XW
Email: complaints@secamb.nhs.uk

Should you remain unhappy with the outcome of any such internal review, you may request a decision from the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

If I can be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me, quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Coordinator
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust