



Seasonal Flu Vaccination Report 2014 / 15

This year the seasonal flu vaccination programme was led by the Infection Control Lead (ICL) with support from Medical Directorate, Operational and the Communication Team staff across the Trust. The main difference from previous years was to create a more locally focused programme and utilise local staff to perform the vaccinations rather than holding flu clinics that have in the past not captured sufficient numbers of staff due to the time of day and locations that some of the clinics were scheduled for.

Training was also an issue in previous years, but following the creation of a PowerPoint (PP) presentation and approved sign off by the Medical Director we were able to use the PP to train more staff remotely, which saved on running training days for the majority of flu vaccinators. The ICL did however run four training / awareness sessions following requests for local CTL's and paramedics to be trained at Chichester, Tongham, Paddock Wood and Ashford. He also provided a number of individual sessions for some alternative duties staff that had been asked by their local manager to help with the flu vaccinations. Unfortunately not all areas of the Trust were as pro-active in taking up the offer of training as others and this reflects in the vaccine take up take figures presented in Appendix 1.

As in previous years posters, leaflets, stickers and educational materials were sent out to all areas of the Trust as well as weekly bulletin, Intranet articles and Twitter posts which were regularly sent out to inform staff that the flu vaccination programme had commenced and how they could access a vaccine. Five new fridges were also purchased and although there was a delay in getting these to some locations due to a period of unforeseen absence for the ICL in November / December, they are all now in situ and will be very beneficial for next years programme.

The ICL developed a new system of recording up take figures and asked that each team leader completed a simple spreadsheet (Appendix 2) which could be uploaded on the newly created SharePoint section for flu vaccination programme 2014/2015 as and when vaccinations were administered. The vaccination forms were also changed slightly and were water marked with staff roles so that we could report frontline healthcare workers to the Department of Health's (DoH) IMMFORM data base, which is a mandatory requirement for all NHS Trusts. The spreadsheets had limited compliance this year, but with lessons learnt we hope to improve this system of reporting for next year. The ICL ended this year's programme by asking for all completed vaccination forms to be returned to him so that a true record could be produced by manually counting the forms.

The DoH percentage target for frontline healthcare workers to be vaccinated for flu is 75% and this year SECAmb obtained its best total to date of 55.8% in comparison to last year's total of 48.6% an increase of 7.2%. Appendix 3 shows other ambulance trust figures for this year.

With lessons learnt and some modifying of this year's programme we hope to improve on uptake for the 2015 / 2016 season even further and get somewhere near to the 75% target. The main points to discuss from this year are the encouraging percentage figures at Make Ready Centres compared to ODA's with single station locations. The low take up in some ODA's was in part due to the ICL's absence and late arrival of fridges and vaccines to certain stations; Brighton, Eastbourne and neighbouring stations were the worst affected by this issue.

Appendix 1

Flu Vaccine Uptake by ODA, EOC and Support Staff:

Locations / Roles	Total Staff (as per staff list / 09-03-2015)	Number of Staff Vaccinated
North Kent ODA	237	141 (59%)
Thanet MRC	169	103 (61%)
Ashford MRC	121	78 (64%)
Paddock Wood MRC	156	138 (88%)
Hastings MRC	172	103 (60%)
Brighton ODA	304	45 (15%)
West Sussex ODA	218	130 (59%)
Guildford ODA	161	105 (65%)
Redhill ODA	246	89 (36%)
Chertsey ODA	150	33 (22%)
Coxheath EOC	138	78 (56%)
Lewes EOC	139	87 (63%)
Banstead EOC	132	86 (65%)
PTS Staff	398	114 (28%)
Ashford 111	143	63 (44%)
Dual Role	32	25 (78%)
Frontline Healthcare Staff	2916	1626 (55.8%)
Support Staff	344	208 (60%)
Total SECamb Staff	3260	1834 (58.4%)

Appendix 2

Location / Team	Name	Had Flu Vaccine	Needs Flu Vaccine	Declined Flu Vaccine - Please give reason why

Appendix 3

Trust	Figures for 2014 / 2015	Figures for 2013 / 2014
SECamb	55.8%	48.6%
East Midlands	49.3%	41.8%
East of England	41.6%	26.7%
London	44%	47%
North East	34.6%	29.9%
North West	56.1%	41.2%
South Central	37.7%	38.5%
South Western	44%	66.4%
West Midlands	34.4%	31.3%
Yorkshire	47.4%	47.1%