

Trust Board Meeting in Public: Wednesday 08 September 2021

TB2021.75

**Title: Healthcare Worker Flu Vaccination Self-Assessment
2021-2022**

Status: For Information
History: Integrated Assurance Committee

Board Lead: Chief Medical Officer and Chief Nursing Officer
Confidential: No
Key Purpose: Assurance

Executive Summary

1. The vaccination of healthcare workers against seasonal flu is a key action of the OUH winter plan to help protect patients, staff and their families. In 2020/21, 78.7% of OUH frontline staff were vaccinated. It is the ambition of NHS England and Improvement that 85%% of frontline Healthcare workers will take up the offer of flu vaccination in 2021/2022 programme and 100% of those eligible offered; OUH shares this ambition.

National Flu immunisation programme

2. In July 2021, NHS England and Improvement wrote to all Trusts with regard to the national COVID-19 and seasonal Flu immunisation programmes. To support this process and the measurement of HCW uptake, all NHS trusts were asked to confirm their single frontline healthcare worker denominator, including substantive and non-substantive staff, students and volunteers, for both COVID-19 and flu vaccinations before the end of August. As set out in the COVID-19 Vaccination Autumn/Winter (Phase 3) planning letter, the JCVI have advised that 'early evidence on the concomitant administration of COVID-19 and flu vaccines used in the UK supports the delivery of both vaccines where appropriate.
3. In August 2021, a second communication was issued setting out the new groups for flu vaccination in the autumn programme and the preparatory actions required for commissioners and providers of the vaccine. All trusts have been advised to ensure that all flu vaccination events are captured on the same point of care systems which are in use for COVID-19 vaccination recording (generally the National Immunisation and Vaccination System [NIVS] National Immunisation Management Service [NIMS]).
4. Building on good practice from previous flu seasons and to reflect the need to achieve maximum coverage this year, all Hospital Trusts have been asked to offer vaccinations to pregnant women attending maternity appointments and to those clinically at-risk eligible patients attending in- and out-patient appointment (chronic Renal and Hepatology patients).

OUH Flu Immunisation Programme

5. NHS Trusts have been asked to complete a self-assessment against a best practice checklist which has been based on five key components of developing an effective flu vaccination programme and to publish this self-assessment in public board papers at the start of the flu season.
6. The OUH staff flu vaccination programme aims to commence on Monday 27th September 2021 – subject to vaccine delivery. The first six weeks of the programme have been ring-fenced for frontline staff only.
7. As the rates of Covid-19 are now starting to rise again, the staff flu vaccination programme will be more important than ever in helping to protect vulnerable people

and maintain resilience. Due to social distancing requirements in relation to Covid-19, necessary changes have been made to the programme. The programme will focus on local delivery within work areas by peer-to-peer vaccinators with additional support from the corporate team for those frontline areas without vaccinators and there will be no drop in-clinics.

8. COVID-19 booster vaccinations will be offered once the JCVI recommendations have been confirmed.
9. The self-assessment has been completed and is attached as Appendix 1.

Recommendations

10. The Trust Board is asked to:
 - receive this paper for information.

Healthcare Worker Flu Vaccination Self-Assessment 2021-2022

Appendix 1 Healthcare worker flu vaccination best practice management checklist

A	Committed leadership	Trust self- assessment
A1	Board record commitment to achieving the ambition of vaccinating all frontline healthcare workers	Board agreement scheduled for September 2021 – Lead Chief Medical Officer supported by Chief Nursing Officer
A2	Trust has ordered and provided a quadrivalent (QIV) flu vaccine for healthcare workers	Completed and first delivery expected on site by 24/09/2021
A3	Board receive an evaluation of the flu programme 2020/21, including data, successes, challenges and lessons learnt	2020/21 Flu programme evaluated via questionnaire and internal review. Findings shared with Flu Taskforce in July 2021 and used to support decision making for 2021/22 Flu programme. Trust Board members received evaluation in September 2021.
A4	Agree on a board champion for flu campaign	Chief Medical officer supported by Chief Nursing Officer

A5	All board members receive flu vaccination and publicise this	Programme to commence w/c 27/09/2021 if vaccine delivery allows and Board members will be vaccinated within a timely period
A6	Flu team formed with representatives from all directorates, staff groups and trade union representatives	Core Flu Taskforce have been meeting since July 2021 and are in liaison with wider 'Winter Vaccination' team. Plans to be shared with divisional and trade union colleagues.
A7	Flu team to meet regularly from September 2021	Winter Vaccination Team (operational task and finish group) scheduled to meet weekly throughout the programme. Core Flu Taskforce to meet monthly.
B	Communications plan	
B1	Rationale for the flu vaccination programme and facts to be published – sponsored by senior clinical leaders and trades unions	Communications plan is currently being updated and the Winter Vaccination Team/Flu Taskforce will have oversight and respond to any changes throughout the programmes.
B2	Drop-in clinics and mobile vaccination schedule to be published electronically, on social media and on paper	Due to ongoing social distancing requirements in relation to Covid-19, this year's programme will primarily focus on local delivery within work areas by peer-to-peer vaccinators with addition support from the corporate Winter Vaccinations team for those frontline areas without vaccinators. The COHWB will support with drop-in clinics – details regarding access to be regularly communicated in a timely manner utilising various communication methods

B3	Board and senior managers having their vaccinations to be publicised	Under guidance from the CMO
B4	Flu vaccination programme and access to vaccination on induction programmes	Offered via New Starter clinics via Centre for Occupational Health & Wellbeing
B5	Programme to be publicised on screensavers, posters and social media	Reference Communication plan. OUH using a combination of national and locally designed posters/banners
B6	Weekly feedback on percentage uptake for directorates, teams and professional groups	Vaccinators will be utilising NIVS for recording vaccinations this year and reporting via ImmForm - data will be compiled from the statistics utilising this system and HR data
C	Flexible accessibility	
C1	Peer vaccinators, ideally at least one in each clinical area to be identified, trained, released to vaccinate and empowered	Aiming for 2 vaccinators per clinical area and the training programme has been developed with the My Learning Hub team. Increased offers of peer-to-peer vaccinators across the Trust to achieve this, include pharmacists (renal), radiographers, ODP's and doctors

C2	Schedule for easy access drop-in clinics agreed	Due to current social distancing requirements in relation to Covid-19, this year's programme will focus on local delivery within work areas by peer-to-peer vaccinators with additional support from the corporate Winter vaccination Team for those frontline areas without vaccinators. Plans are being considered to enable highly vulnerable staff to have timely access to vaccination
C3	Schedule for 24-hour mobile vaccinations to be agreed	Peer to Peer vaccinators to provide cover according to 24 shift patterns. Twilight and early morning drop-in clinics being arranged.