Realizing the value of adult flu vaccination: a rapid review of adults considered clinically at-risk from complications of flu

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Impact on NHS of Flu

857,996 GP consultations pa attributable to flu (consultations in the unvaccinated adults aged 50-64 years almost twice that of those vaccinated) = 115k hours of GP appointments or 2,859 weeks!

Avg 28,516 hospitalizations pa (6,162 were 18-64 age group)
Approx. 830 Deaths pa (15-64 age group)

Our analysis found that the mean length of stay (LoS) between 2012/13 to 2017/18 was 8.3 days in hospital

Significant link between uptake and admissions and vaccine efficacy and admissions
Approaches to our Rapid Review (~4 months)

+ Evidence review inc. published papers and policy reports (UK only)
+ Statistical analysis and re-analysis of published recent Flu statistics
+ National survey of GP Practices (via PMA)
+ Two local Case-Studies (in Manchester and East of England)
+ Discussions with 21 relevant policy-makers and opinion leaders from NHS
Who needs and who gets ‘flu vaccination (18-64 ‘at risk’ age group)?

Figure 4: Change in the number of patients on practice registries and change in the number of patients vaccinated, England, 2017/18 to 2018/19

Note: PHE data does not break down the 18-64 age group so we have chosen on the nearest publicly available data. We use the same labelling as PHE.
The UEA GP survey (via PMA media campaign)

- Improve the supply chain to ensure vaccines are available
- Better planning at national, regional and practice level to provide a comprehensive and cohesive flu vaccination campaign - Flu Champions
- Focus on Gtr Manchester and East of England
- Increase patient understanding and trust of flu vaccinations
- Increase use of pharmacies

Focus on Gtr Manchester and East of England
**Variation within regions**

**Figure 24:** Uptake of flu vaccine by those at risk, <65, LA, 2018/19

Source: HEC analysis of PHE data. Seasonal influenza vaccine uptake amongst GP patients in England. Final and of season monthly data for 1 September 2018 to 28 February 2019 by Local Authority (2018) and PHE Centre
What works??

Mrs Bloggs, The Humbleyard Practice are running an over 65’s FLU VACCINATION CLINIC on Tuesday 1st October 9am-3pm.

At Hethersett Village Hall NR9 3JJ.

See our website for details. Text DECLINE to 0780000199 if you do not want this vaccination

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+The vast majority (over 80%) of flu vaccination for those at-risk is delivered in general practice.
NICE guidance (NG103)

August 2018 set out a number of recommendations to increase uptake of flu vaccination, including for those at-risk.

NICE recommendations include:
- Taking a multi-component approach
- Raising awareness in health care staff
- Raising awareness in eligible groups
- Offering vaccination whenever the opportunity arises
- Sending invitations from a practitioner they know and reminders (txts, letters, emails, calls etc).
- Inclusion of prompts in patient records (some limitations)
- Auditing, monitoring and feedback
- +++ campaigns and media etc.
Conclusion

+ Those at-risk aged 16-64 have the highest proportion of patients declining in comparison to all groups offered flu vaccination (circa. 900,000 people at-risk declined/refused)
+ Some of the key ‘at risk’ groups have very low uptake
+ Response and planning at practice level is still variable and well under the ideal target for flu
+ Good practice needs sharing and supporting with more clarity
+ Patient attitudes and supply-chain issues hamper initiatives but should not be seen as a ‘get out of jail card’ just require more work!
THANK YOU!

A big ‘thankyou’ to all those who worked with us to gain these new insights

Not the end of the road just the start.. Next year and the year after .. Watch this space!