



## **Results of seasonal influenza immunisation programme (2015-16 programme) in Derby city**

### **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 Derby city influenza vaccination uptake for the over 65's was 72.9%, above the England average for 15/16. However, the 75% target for over 65's was not achieved.
- 1.2 The uptake for pregnant women which has fallen to 39.7% from last year and is 2.6% below the national average.
- 1.3 Derby city achieved uptake above the national level across the healthy children's flu programme. This was particularly pleasing in the 2 year old cohort, where an improvement in uptake of over 1% was observed from 2014-15. The uptake in 4 year olds is consistently lower, however, although above the national.
- 1.4 A successful schools based programme was delivered for the first time by CityCare across Derby city. A slightly lower uptake (50.4%) was observed for the Year 1 cohort compared with the national average, but this is still above the national minimum standard of 40%.
- 1.5 Proposed actions for 2016/17 include:
  - To increase influenza uptake rates amongst patients aged under 65 in clinical risk groups to meet 55% national target.
  - To consider maternity trust based delivery of influenza vaccination programme for pregnant women in order to increase influenza uptake rate to achieve national 55% standard for 2016/17.
  - To increase influenza uptake rates amongst eligible children aged 4-year-old to meet the minimum 40% national target.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 To receive and note the update on the seasonal influenza immunisation programme of 2015/16.
- 2.2 To support the proposed actions to improve the programme in 2016/17.

## REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 People with underlying health conditions, such as diabetes, chronic liver/ renal/ heart/ respiratory/ neurological diseases or immunosuppression are all at particular risk of becoming very unwell from flu and flu-related illness. For example, a patient with diabetes is at least six times more likely than the general population to die as a result of flu emphasising the importance of vaccination in all these groups.<sup>3</sup>
- 3.2 Pregnant women are particularly vulnerable to severe complications of flu. All pregnant women should be offered the flu vaccination including those who become pregnant during the flu season. Flu is the most frequent single cause of death in pregnancy.<sup>3</sup>
- 3.3 Vaccinating children each year means that not only are they protected but there should be reduced transmission across all age groups, lessening levels of flu overall and reducing the burden of flu across the population.<sup>3</sup>

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### Introduction

- 4.1 This paper describes the performance of the seasonal flu immunisation programme in Derby City which falls under NHS England North Midlands footprint. The paper outlines the strategies implemented to improve quality and performance and plans for the next programme.

### Commissioning Arrangements and Responsibilities

- 5.1 NHS England is responsible for commissioning all of the national immunisation programmes. Details of the national commissioning arrangements for immunisation programmes are described in Public Health Commissioning in the NHS 2015-2016<sup>1</sup> and Public Health Commissioning in the NHS 2016-2017<sup>2</sup>

### Background

- 6.1 The purpose of the traditional seasonal influenza immunisation programme for England is to offer protection to those who are most at risk of serious illness or death should they develop influenza.
- 6.2 We are aware that concern has been expressed in the past about the lack of effectiveness of the flu vaccine. Provisional data show that in 2015/16 the vaccine was well matched to the circulating strains.

### National review of the 15-16 seasonal flu programme

- 7.1 The Annual Flu Report<sup>3</sup> for 15-16 highlights the following:
- 7.2 Moderate levels of influenza were seen in the community in the UK in 2015 to 2016, similar to those seen elsewhere in Europe.
- 7.3 A strain of Influenza A "(H1N1) pdm09" was the predominant circulating virus for the majority of the season and the vaccine was well matched.
- 7.4 The impact was seen mainly in younger adults.
- 7.5 Peak admissions to hospital and ICU were higher than seen in the previous few seasons, but lower than the last season when this strain dominated in 2010 to 2011.
- 7.6 Overall, excess deaths from all-causes were significantly lower than last season, but some excess was seen in younger adults.
- 7.7 In 2015/16 more flu vaccinations than ever were administered by healthcare workers as the programme successfully extended to 3 million children between the ages of 2 and 6 years.
- 7.8 Percentage levels of vaccine uptake decreased across individual patient groups, and for healthcare workers, when compared to the previous year.

### **Review of the 15-16 flu programme in Derby City**

- 8.1 Derby city uptake for the over 65's was above the England average for 15/16, as it was in 14/15. However, the 75% target for over 65's was not achieved. Feedback from providers has been that a smaller footfall of patients presented for their vaccination this year, which falls in line with the national view due to a lack of confidence in the match of the vaccine from media communication at the end of last year's programme.
- 8.2 Most disappointing is the uptake for pregnant women which has fallen 2.3% from last year and is 2.6% below the national average. The Screening and Immunisation Team (SIT) has consistently tried to engage Derby Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust to deliver the seasonal flu programme via their midwifery services but the commissioning intent has not, as yet, been accepted. This has been largely due to midwife capacity. Recent progress has been made in that the Trust is again considering the proposals and it is hoped that delivery may be possible for the 17/18 programme, if not 16/17.
- 8.3 Flu training was offered to all community midwives across Derbyshire (city and county) but was only accepted by Chesterfield Royal Hospitals Foundation Trust, which does deliver maternal influenza immunisation.

- 8.4 Derby City achieved uptake above the national level across the healthy children's flu programme. This was particularly pleasing in the 2 year old cohort, where an improvement in uptake of over 1% was observed from 2014-15. The uptake in 4 year olds is consistently lower, however, although above the national. Although evidence shows that GP practices called in their cohort of children for their vaccinations, few actually presented. Many parents fed back that they would have preferred their children to have been vaccinated in school, especially if they had other siblings in school, as this would have been easier.
- 8.5 A successful schools based programme was delivered for the first time by CityCare across Derby City. A slightly lower uptake was observed for the Year 1 cohort but we hope to address this by working closely with the Local Authority to help with school engagement and also with communities who are adverse to the flu programme such as the local Muslim community due to the porcine content in the flu nasal spray.
- 8.6 Pharmacies were commissioned at a national level this year to provide the seasonal flu vaccination to those eligible over the age of 18 years. We are still waiting for national data but locally we know that over 19,000 vaccines were administered via pharmacies. Evidence is showing that most of these vaccines were given to people who had not accessed the seasonal flu programme before.

#### **Initiatives for the 16/17 Seasonal Flu Programme**

- 9.1 Flu planning meetings will be chaired and convened by the SIT to bring providers and stakeholders together to plan for the forthcoming flu season.
- 9.2 A local flu plan will be shared with providers and stakeholders and they will be asked to contribute to achieving actions and targets.
- 9.3 Flu uptake data will be reviewed on a monthly basis at GP level and CCGs will be notified of any poor performing practices and asked to take action. SIT will provide support and guidance.
- 9.4 A 'best practice' guide is being developed by the SIT to assist GP practices with their flu programme organisation.
- 9.5 The SIT will continue to work with midwifery Trusts to support them with the flu programme, including training. In relation to delivery of maternal influenza immunisation, a joint initiative between the LA and SIT to encourage Derby Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust to undertake the programme has led to a business case being prepared by the Lead Midwife for consideration by the Trust.
- 9.6 The SIT will continue to support the local flu training programmes.
- 9.7 The Children's School Age Immunisation programme will be extended to children in school year 3 (6 and 7 year old) and the SIT will continue to commission, support and monitor this programme.

- 9.8 The SIT will continue to working closely with Derby City Local Authority and the CCG to develop communication initiatives to be shared locally to try to increase uptake. Derby LA has, and will be, been particularly involved with the School Aged Immunisation Service to develop strategies to increase uptake in schools and communities where concerns regarding porcine gelatine affected uptake.
- 9.9 The national flu plan<sup>3</sup> highlights what Local Authorities can do to help with the flu programme;
- 9.10 **Local authorities**, through their DsPH, have responsibility for:
- providing appropriate advocacy with key stakeholders and challenge to local arrangements to ensure access to flu vaccination and to improve its uptake by eligible populations
  - providing leadership, together with local resilience partners to respond appropriately to local incidents and outbreaks of flu infection.
- 9.11 **Local authorities** can also assist by:
- promoting uptake of flu vaccination among eligible groups, for example older people in residential or nursing care, either directly or through local providers
  - promoting uptake of flu vaccination among those staff providing care for people in residential or nursing care, either directly or through local providers.

## Conclusion

- 10.1 The latest flu season highlights the importance of flu vaccination, particularly for eligible children, but also for healthcare workers and adults in-at risk groups, including people aged 65 and over, pregnant women and those with health conditions. The extension of the programme to children, when rolled out, provides protection for both children themselves and by reducing spread the general population so it's important that parents take up the offer of this free, painless nasal spray vaccine when offered to eligible children from Autumn 2016 through GPs and schools. Not only will it help protect their children, it will also help protect family members and others in the local community who could be more vulnerable to the effects of this unpredictable virus.
- 10.2 Partnership work needs to continue and develop with the Local Authority and CCGs to promote flu vaccines in Derby City.
- 10.3 In 2015/16 more flu vaccinations than ever were administered by healthcare workers as the programme successfully extended to 3 million children between the ages of 2 and 6 years. However, percentage levels of vaccine uptake decreased across individual patient groups, and for healthcare workers, when compared to the previous year. It's important that in 2016 we reverse this decline, both to protect our families and communities, but also reduce the impact of the virus on our health services at a time of year we need them the most<sup>3</sup>.

## References

1. Public Health Commissioning in the NHS 2015-16  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-health-commissioning-in-the-nhs-2015-to-2016>
2. Public Health Commissioning in the NHS 2016-17  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-health-commissioning-in-the-nhs-2016-to-2017>
3. Annual Flu Report 15-16  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/annual-flu-reports>

This report has been approved by the following officers:

<b>Legal officer</b> <b>Financial officer</b> <b>Human Resources officer</b> <b>Estates/Property officer</b> <b>Service Director(s)</b> <b>Other(s)</b>	
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<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial and Value for Money**

- 1.1 No direct implications for Derby City Council

**Legal**

- 2.1 None

**Personnel**

- 3.1 None

**IT**

- 4.1 None

**Equalities Impact**

- 5.1 None

**Health and Safety**

- 6.1 None

**Environmental Sustainability**

- 7.1 None

**Property and Asset Management**

- 8.1 None

**Risk Management**

- 9.1 No direct implications for Derby City Council

**Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

- 10.1 None

## Appendix 2

## Summary of seasonal flu uptake – 2015/16

## Seasonal Flu Uptake Data 2015/16

LA	65 Years and over	Under 65 (at risk only)	Pregnant Women	All age 2 years	All age 3 years	All age 4 years
Derby City	72.9	42.1	39.7	42.7	42.5	32.0
England Average	71.0	45.1	42.3	35.4	37.7	30.0

Data source: Annual Flu Report 15/16

## Seasonal Flu Uptake Data 2014/15

LA	65 Years and over	Under 65 (at risk only)	Pregnant Women	All age 2 years	All age 3 years	All age 4 years
Derby City	74.1	47.5	42.0	41.6	48.0	35.4
England Average	72.7	50.3	44.1	38.5	41.3	32.9

Data source: Annual Flu Report 14/15

## Appendix 2

## 5-7 Years Childhood Flu Programme in Schools 2015/16

Area	Cohort Y1 (5-6years)	Cohort Y2 (6-7 years)
Derby City	50.4	52.8
Derbyshire	60.0	61.4
England Average	54.4	52.9

Data source: Annual Flu Report 15/16 Note: national standard 40-60%