

Trust Board Public and Confidential meeting – 27 October 2020

LPT Flu Immunisation Programme 2020 /2021 action plan update

Purpose of the report

The purpose of the report is to outline the Trust Flu vaccination plan to achieve the national flu immunisation programme for 2020/2021. The Trust action plan supplements the NHSE/I regional and LLR STP/ICS flu plans that outline scope and ambitions of the national flu vaccination programme. The plan also incorporates PHE frontline healthcare worker (FHCW) flu vaccination five key components of developing an effective flu vaccination programme.

Analysis of the issue

In light of the risk of flu and Covid-19 co-circulating this winter, the national flu immunisation programme is absolutely essential to protect vulnerable people and support resilience of the health and care system.

There are a number of key issues for consideration driven by changes to the national programme, addition of the Covid-19 pandemic programme, the context of delivering a programme in a pandemic and evaluation of previous flu programmes and uptake. The key issues are outlined below;

- National expansion of the flu programme to include additional eligible groups, including household members of those shielding for example. An increased system wide and local delivery model to achieve maximum uptake.
- Vaccine supply; LPT have a total of 4,000 quadrivalent (QIV) flu vaccines ordered, with 100 doses of the over 65 vaccine. Delivery is staged over a 4 week period. Stock is being preserved initially to ensure clinic delivery is maintained, leaving minimal amount of vaccine for flexible local peer vaccination. It is anticipated that further national pandemic stock will be made available early November 2020.
- The national flu programme outlines the importance of increasing flu vaccination levels for those who are living in the most deprived areas and from BAME communities, to ensure equitable uptake and help protect those who are more at risk if they are to get Covid-19 and flu.
- All FHCWs should receive a vaccination, with a 100% offer.
- The vaccines available are not vegetarian or vegan based.

- Committed Leadership and Culture; vaccine hesitancy and quality improvement to support increased uptake

Proposal

Proposals for the board to consider include;

1. The Trust high level action plan for the national flu immunisation programme

The plan (Appendix 1) has been developed to align and supplement the NHSE/I and LLR STP/ICS Flu Plans that outline scope and ambitions of the National Flu Programme and incorporates best practice principles developed based on five key components of developing an effective flu vaccination programme. The action plan was reviewed at the Senior Executive Board on 18 September 2020 and at the Quality Assurance Committee on 29 September 2020.

2. The Trust communication plan for the flu immunisation programme.

The purpose of the communications plan (Appendix 2) is to facilitate engagement with the flu campaign and to support the increase uptake of the vaccine across LPT, through positive messaging and providing updates and frequently asked questions. The flu vaccination programme will be supported with a major new public facing marketing campaign to encourage take up amongst eligible groups for the free flu vaccine, due to launch in October 2020.

3. PHE frontline healthcare worker (FHCW) Best Practice Checklist

NHS Trusts should complete a self-assessment against a best practice checklist which has been developed based on five key components of developing an effective flu vaccination programme. The completed checklist should be published in public board papers at the start of the flu season. See Appendix 3.

4. Committed Leadership

LPT Flu & Covid-19 Pandemic Vaccination Group had its inaugural meeting on 8 October 2020 chaired by Anne Scott as executive lead for flu. The group will meet fortnightly aligned to the LLR programme board. Two cells will report to the group; workforce and patient cells. The workforce group will focus on staff vaccination and the patient cell will bring together school vaccination, housebound and household member vaccination. A Covid-19 pandemic cell will be established in line with the LLR and regional plan.

5. Quality Improvement

Quality improvement is at the heart of this programme this year and the aim to increase the uptake of staff in receiving a flu vaccination from 60% in 2019/2020 to 100%. Taking forward

what was learned has been pivotal to developing the proposed planned interventions which will build on last year's progress in increasing vaccination uptake. A further area proposed is to introduce 'enhanced health behaviour change communication skills' to support peer vaccinators to engage in shared decision making collaborative conversations. In particular with those who are ambivalent about having vaccinations with the aim of building trust in the flu vaccination programme during the current Covid-19 pandemic.

The objective is to improve on what is understood about 'vaccination hesitancy' by developing 'Conversations to build trust in the flu vaccination' (WHO, 2017) and is informed by research and systematic reviews into previous vaccination programmes.

Decision required

The board is asked to give its approval to;

- The Trust flu immunisation action plan and communications plan
- The completed best practice checklist

Governance table

For Board and Board Committees:		
Paper sponsored by:	Anne Scott, Interim Executive Director of Nursing, AHPs	
Paper authored by:	Emma Wallis, Associate Director of Nursing and Professional Practice Contributions by; Deanne Rennie Lyn Williams,	
Date submitted:	7.10.2020	
State which Board Committee or other forum within the Trust's governance structure, if any, have previously considered the report/this issue and the date of the relevant meeting(s):	SEB – 18.9.20 QAC – 29/9/20	
If considered elsewhere, state the level of assurance gained by the Board Committee or other forum i.e. assured/ partially assured / not assured:	Assured, noting the risk in regard to vaccine supply.	
State whether this is a 'one off' report or, if not, when an update report will be provided for the purposes of corporate Agenda planning	Monthly update reports to be provided to the Quality Forum.	
STEP up to GREAT strategic alignment*:	High Standards	✓
	Transformation	
	Environments	
	Patient Involvement	
	Well Governed	✓
	Single Patient Record	
	Equality, Leadership, Culture	✓
	Access to Services	
	Trust wide Quality Improvement	✓
Organisational Risk Register considerations:	List risk number and title of risk	Number 49. Staff Flu Vaccination
Is the decision required consistent with LPT's risk appetite:	Yes	
False and misleading information (FOMI) considerations:	None identified	
Positive confirmation that the content does not risk the safety of patients or the public	Yes	
Equality considerations:	It is essential to increase flu vaccination levels for those who are living in the most deprived areas and from BAME communities. 100% to FHCWs	