

Governance: Flu Vaccination and Flu Response groups feed into the BNSSG System Flu Planning group, which escalates to Bronze Command.

Report for: any relevant internal/external committees.

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Influenza and ILI - South West Summary

- In PHE South West, from the beginning of the season (starting week 40, 28 September 2020) there were 149 acute respiratory outbreaks reported.
- Reports of influenza A (0 vs 3) was lower in week 40 compared to the previous week. Reports of influenza B and RSV (0 vs 0) were the same in week 40 compared to the previous week.
- The influenza-like illness (ILI) consultation rate in week 41 in the South West (1.7 per 100,000) was similar to the previous week (1.6) and the rate in England (3.2 per 100,000) was similar to the previous week (2.8).
- The influenza-like illness (ILI) consultation rate did not increase in any local authority in week 41.

Risks (scoring 12 and above)

- 1) A second COVID-19 peak and/or local lock down will impact on staffing levels and patient ability to be vaccinated and so will affect the flu campaign delivery.
- 2) Flu outbreak pathways - due to the care home support LES being replaced with the Care Home DES, there will be a gap in the system in relation to antiviral assessment and prescribing from 1st October.
- 3) Patients who do not take up the offer of a flu vaccination may impact on system wide pressures if there is a high prevalence of circulating flu.
- 4) System lab capacity may not be able to meet the demands of processing COVID-19 PCR swabs and Flu Swabs should care settings have suspected outbreaks of COVID-19 & Flu.
- 5) An increase in COVID-19 cases may mean patients will be less willing to come into practice to have an influenza vaccine, affecting uptake rates.
- 6) If the IPC Cell is stood down, appropriate IPC advice will not be available to support local outbreaks.
- 7) If schools close as a result of COVID-19 cases, this will result in workforce issues with staff being required to look after their children and potentially delay the school vaccination programme.

Assurances

- 1) Monitor national guidance and surveillance and ensure good system working at PCN level and with providers so that there is good resilience.
- 2) Practices have been consulted on who would be best placed to deliver the service. A community provider model has been agreed & pathways are being reviewed.
- 3) Strong communication campaign, targeted appropriately at cohorts where uptake is not high, & weekly monitoring to flag where uptake is an issue.
- 4) Single swab to be used for testing for COVID-19, Flu and other respiratory infections.
- 5) Clear system wide communications planned to encourage flu vaccination uptake and to assure public of mitigations in place to reduce their risk
- 6) IPC cell working on system wide strategy
- 7) School vaccination clinics continue to take place & Sirona will update on any school closures.

Stock and Availability

- Vaccine deliveries are being phased over September, October and November 2020
- Information on how GP Practices can access central supplies has now been published in the DHSC flu stock guidance for GPs. Information for community pharmacies and secondary care trusts is expected shortly.
- The majority of this additional stock will arrive from November onwards and GP practices will be able to access this only once their own local stocks are depleted.
- The MHRA has granted a dispensation to allow movement of vaccines locally between practices and other NHS provider organisations
- Stock is available for GP practices to order from 4 different suppliers, across different products. This is to mitigate the risks if there were a delivery issue or issue with the manufacture of a product.
- Practices should only order vaccines for approved cohorts highlighted in the national flu letters.
- Vaccines should not be ordered for 50-64 year olds who do not fall within another at-risk eligible cohort.
- Practices will be required to sign two self-certification declaration: 1) to manufacturers before they can access stock, and 2) to NHS Business Services Authority (acting on behalf of NHSEI) at the end of the season as part of the post-payment verification process.
- The sum total of all a practice's orders should not exceed 10% of their total registered patient list.
- Stock will not be able to be returned to the manufacturers.
- Practices will be provided DHSC vaccines free of charge but can claim an item of service charge once the vaccine has been administered.
- See *Accessing government-secured flu vaccines guidance* [here](#)

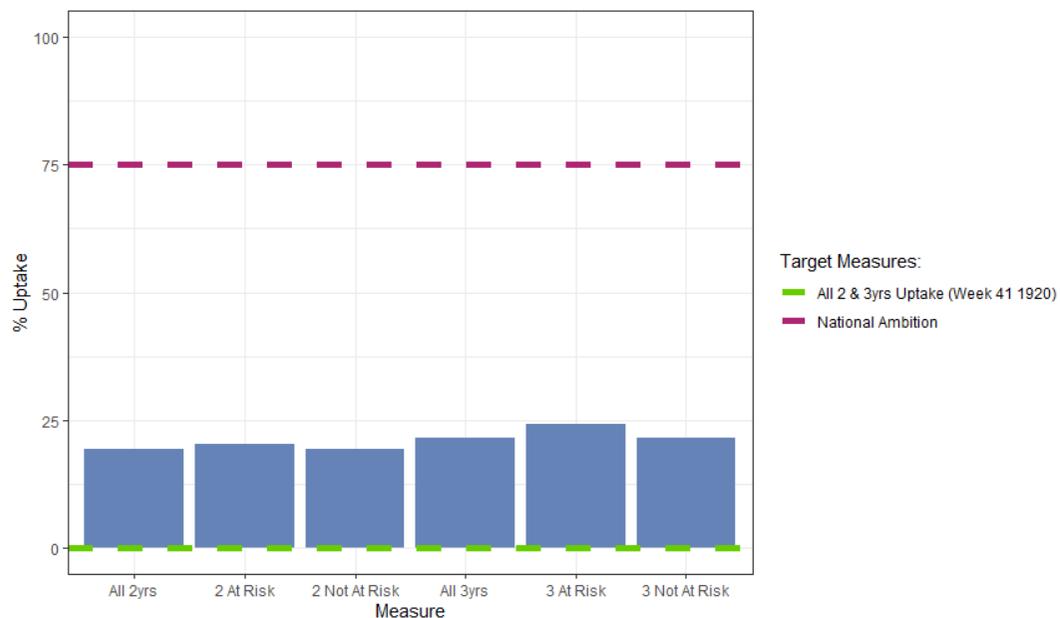
Vaccination data and updates

- Local primary care vaccination updates will be shared weekly using a local data flow.
- There is collaborative working between the CCG BI team, OneCare and the PHE Screening and Immunisation team to provide system flu vaccine uptake updates.
- Vaccination data is also available through the PHE Immform website

FLU VACCINATION UPTAKE DATA

Uptake in the 2 to 3yr group

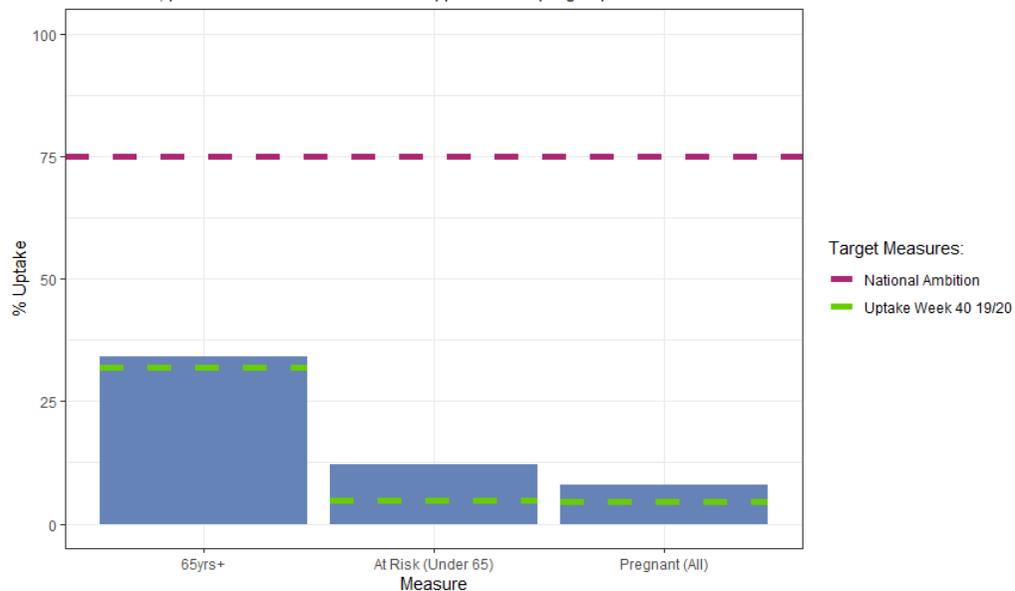
As Week 40



- The data relates to week 40 (28th September 2020) and will be subject to change.
- The maternity data may have a higher uptake than shown as delays are frequently experienced in the data going onto the EMIS and Immform system
- Practices are not required to extract data on a weekly basis. However, weekly extraction rates from Immform remain above 80% and almost 95% of practices contributing YTD.

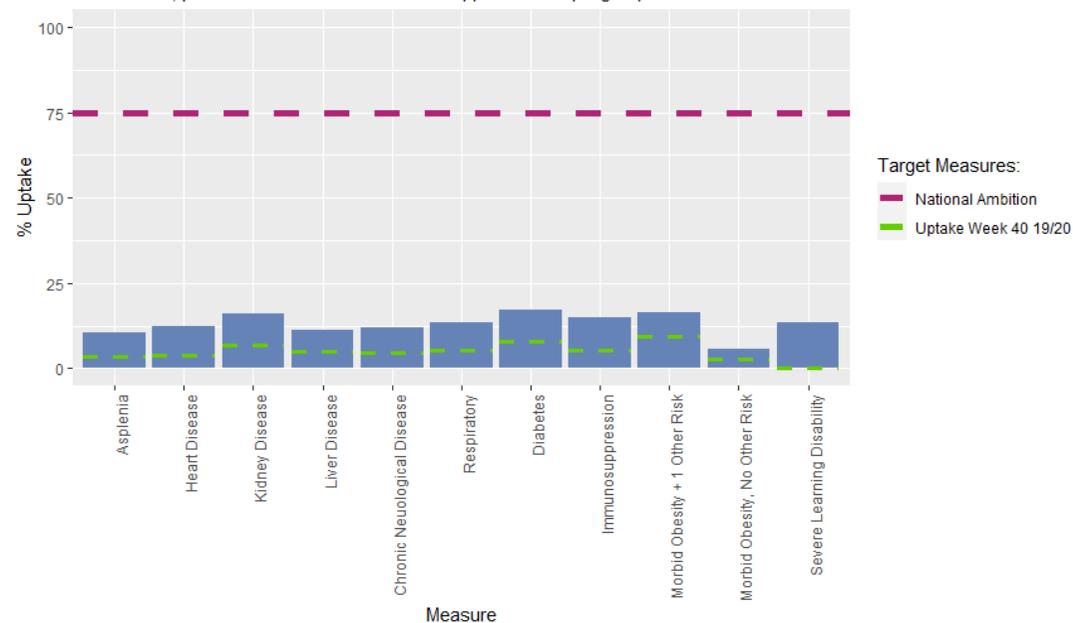
Uptake 65yrs+, All Pregnant Women and All At Risk (Under 65)

As Week 40, please note some individuals will appear in multiple groups



All at Risk Groups, Under 65yrs Only

As Week 40, please note some individuals will appear in multiple groups



COMMUNITY PHARMACY PLANS

- Most pharmacies are offering the Flu vaccination this year
- Uptake is exceeding previous years' in the first 3 weeks compared to the same period last year
- Increases seen in at-risk groups, especially diabetes
- Due to the high demand and the phased deliveries some patients may have to wait for their appointments

COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

- System-wide working to support national and local communications
- Targeted communications to support the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) population including multilingual animations and myth-busting flu videos working with local doctors and a community pharmacist
- Media press releases including work with Radio Ujima
- Work with local sports clubs such as Bristol Bears to share the Flu vaccination message: 'Take One for the Team'
- Flu postcard door drop planned for areas of high deprivation in BNSSG

GP PRACTICE FLU PLANS

- Most practices are delivering Flu clinics onsite
- Off-site examples include Gloucester Cricket Club, marquees and village halls
- Demand for vaccination has been high across the board
- Care home residents have been prioritised
- A number of staff have liaised with the LMC regarding vaccinator training to increase the number of eligible vaccinators

HEALTH INEQUALITIES

- Working with the Bristol Muslim Strategic Leadership Group in ICE Locality to increase uptake.
- Population health management tool and data set being explored to determine whether it can support the prioritisation of patients for flu vaccination
- SMS messaging pilot planned with some GP practices in ICE locality to support vaccine uptake working with the insights team at UWE
- System working to support and increase the vaccine uptake in the homeless population.

STAFF VACCINATION PLANS & UPTAKE RATES

UHBW

- Offered vaccinations to all staff and are aiming for 90% uptake of FHCW and 100% uptake of FHCW in higher risk areas
- Expect to achieve their 90% uptake by February 2021
- w/c 05 October: **1008** staff vaccinated (974 FHCW and 34 non-FHCW)

NBT

- 100% offer of vaccines to staff and are aiming to vaccinate more than 85%
- Expect to achieve their 85% ambition by December 2020
- Uptake figures to be confirmed

SIRONA

- Sirona will primarily deliver flu vaccinations to its staff by using the “peer vaccinator” model via a number of settings e.g. clinic bases
- Aiming to achieve a 100% offer rate amongst frontline clinical staff for the 2020/21 campaign.
- The majority of staff expected to be vaccinated during October and November and anticipate that approximately 50% staff will have been vaccinated by the end of November.
- During December, mop-up clinics will be held as well as sessions in teams to target areas with lower uptake rates.
- Sirona are using the FluTrack system to support their flu campaign
- Sirona have a FHCW uptake rate of 32% as of 19.10.20

CCG

- CCG staff who wish to be vaccinated have two options: via a community pharmacy based flu voucher scheme or via Flu vaccination clinics supported by Sirona
- The Sirona vaccination clinics are all around the BNSSG area so are easily accessible for staff working from home and the FluTrack system is being used to manage appointment bookings.
- 86 staff members have been sent a Flu voucher
- 170 staff opted for the clinics (as of 19.10.20)

AWP

- Peer vaccinator model is being used
- Voucher scheme also available for those working on the periphery of the trust and those working from home
- 4,600 flu vaccines ordered with delivery staggered between September and November
- Reward scheme incentive being considered
- Uptake figures to be confirmed

Local Authorities & Social Care

- All frontline local authority staff have been offered a Flu vaccination via a range of routes depending on the local authority e.g. reimbursement of vaccination received through local pharmacy or specific clinics.
- BNSSG Local Authorities have written a joint letter to managers of independent sector care homes to highlight the importance of health and social care staff having an influenza vaccination and how to administer this.
- The BNSSG system delivered winter resilience training to promote Flu vaccination uptake within the care home setting