

To: SHA Immunisation Leads
PCT Immunisation Co-ordinators

Gateway Reference Number: 16696

30 September 2011

Dear Colleague

The mandatory collection of data on the vaccination of frontline healthcare workers against influenza during the 2011/12 influenza season (ROCR/OR/0270/000MAND)

Under the Review of Central Returns licence ROCR/OR/0270/000MAND, all Trusts (including primary care, acute, mental health, ambulance, care and foundation trusts) are responsible for the central return of data on the uptake of influenza vaccine in frontline healthcare workers during the 2011/12 influenza season. It remains the responsibility of SHAs to check and validate the data provided.

PCT commissioners should have planned and accounted for all frontline staff in their local flu plans. However, given the ongoing reorganisation of primary care we are writing to clarify that PCTs should:

- provide data on the vaccination of frontline healthcare staff working in primary care on behalf of the PCT, i.e. in organisations commissioned by the PCT;
- provide data on the uptake of influenza vaccine in the same frontline primary care staff groups as they provided in previous years.

With the role of commissioning separating from the provision of services within PCTs, some of the organisations providing primary care may be providing that care on behalf of more than one PCT. This poses a real risk of the double counting of these staff in the survey. We ask that every effort is made at PCT and SHA level to avoid this double counting.

A comprehensive user guide about the HCW Flu vaccination uptake survey will be available shortly on the DH website, and queries can be raised at the following email address: HCWvac@hpa.org.uk.

Your Sincerely

Influenza Vaccine Uptake Monitoring Team