



PWYLLGOR DATBLYGU STRATEGOL A CHYFLENWI GWEITHREDOL STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATIONAL DELIVERY COMMITTEE

DYDDIAD Y CYFARFOD: DATE OF MEETING:	25 August 2022
TEITL YR ADRODDIAD: TITLE OF REPORT:	2021/22 Influenza Vaccine Programme Year End Position
CYFARWYDDWR ARWEINIOL: LEAD DIRECTOR:	Jo McCarthy, Deputy Director of Public Health
SWYDDOG ADRODD: REPORTING OFFICER:	Conrad Hancock, Interim Service Delivery Manager V&I Llyr Lloyd, Senior Public Health Practitioner V&I

Pwrpas yr Adroddiad (dewiswch fel yn addas)

Purpose of the Report (select as appropriate)

Er Sicrwydd/For Assurance

ADRODDIAD SCAA SBAR REPORT

Sefyllfa / Situation

This report provides the Strategic Development and Operational Delivery Committee (SDODC) with an update on the Influenza vaccine uptake within Hywel Dda University Health Board (HDdUHB) during 2021/22.

The Committee is asked to receive the 2021-22 end of year position for the Influenza Vaccine programme and to take assurance from the contents of this paper, which provides an update on the uptake of the Influenza vaccine for the population through the delivery model between GP Surgeries, Community Pharmacies, Health Board (HB) Hospital In-reach, Peer Vaccinators, Occupational Health Team, School Nurse Services.

The 2021/22 target from Welsh Government (WG) is to immunise at least between 60% and 80% of the HDdUHB population, as outlined below:

Eligible Group	2021-22 ambition
65 years and over	80%
6 months to 49 years at risk	75%
Pregnant	90%
50 to 64 years (not in a clinical risk group)	60%
Children aged 2 or 3 years	75%
Primary school aged children	80%
Children in school years 7 to 11	75%
NHS Wales Healthcare workers (direct patient/ client contact)	80%
Social care workers (direct patient/client contact)	80%

Cefndir / Background

The principles of the HB's Health and Wellbeing Framework continued to be encompassed in the delivery plans in terms of recognising the need to shift the culture around vaccination, building on the lessons learnt from the previous Flu campaigns and the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme.

The HDdUHB Seasonal Influenza Improvement Plan for 2021-22 embraced the principles of the HB's Health and Wellbeing Framework in recognising the need to shift the culture around vaccination towards an asset-based approach. The core themes for the 2021/22 Flu programme were:

- Focusing on health as an asset, utilising the national programme 'Vaccination Saves Lives' branding. By using positive messages around protecting ourselves and others in collaboration with the COVID-19 Vaccine Programme.
- Ensuring a joined-up approach throughout the season, engaging early with stakeholders, aligning the HB staff campaign with the core public health Flu campaign, and working as a unified multidisciplinary team, both to plan before the season and to troubleshoot during it.
- Ensuring that sufficient attention is directed at the risk groups that WG has prioritised for 2021-22 in line with the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) COVID-19 priority groups, which were:
 - Children aged two or three years on 31 August 2021
 - Children in primary school from reception class to Year 6 (inclusive)
 - Children in secondary school Year 7 to Year 11 (inclusive)
 - People aged 50 years and older
 - People aged between six months and less than 50 years in clinical risk groups. This has been extended to include those aged 16 years on 31 August 2021 who are morbidly obese, in line with guidance on the COVID-19 vaccination programme.
 - Pregnant women
 - Carers
 - People with a learning disability
 - All adults resident in Welsh prisons
 - Healthcare workers (including healthcare students) with direct patient contact
 - Staff in nursing homes and care homes with regular client contact
 - Staff providing domiciliary care.

Changes in demand for Flu vaccination were observed in 2020/21, and many more people were eligible for vaccination including all adults aged over 50 years and household members of anyone extremely vulnerable (those who had been advised to shield during the COVID-19 outbreak).

Capitalising on the lessons learnt from the COVID-19 Vaccination programme and building on the population's enthusiasm for the programme and the use of social media platforms, the following principles were followed:

- Maintained consistency across the vaccine programmes. The HB has brought all of the vaccine programmes under the Vaccination Saves Lives (VSL) branding.
- Capitalised on the interest and demand for COVID-19 vaccines - anecdotally it is recognised that people lost interest in receiving their Flu vaccine as soon as a COVID-19 vaccine became

available, therefore bringing Flu in line with the VSL branding helped to reinforce that a Flu vaccine is equally as important as a COVID-19 vaccine.

- Ensured the branding is consistent and simple for the public to understand and know why they need to be up to date with both vaccines in order to protect themselves and their families.
- The VSL branding has been used widely throughout the COVID-19 vaccine rollout. People recognise and trust it, and this trust was utilised to promote the uptake of other vaccine programmes.

Asesiad / Assessment

2021-22 saw the Flu campaign largely dictated by the contours of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Innovative delivery models will ensure the **availability** of vaccine and vaccinators, the **accessibility** of settings and **reassurance** to the public that the programme will be delivered in safe environments whether in GP Surgeries or Community Pharmacies for the population we service and in the Pop Up Clinics / on Ward Areas for our staff.
- Vaccinations were given in socially distanced settings with additional measures in place for infection prevention and control. This impacted on the choice of clinic locations, increased the length of time between appointments, and impacted upon the potential for opportunistic vaccinations and drop-in sessions.
- The HB was prepared for changes in public attitudes, with the potential for increased public demand for Flu vaccination accompanying possible anxiety regarding attending vaccination appointments.

Many assets derived from previous seasons and lessons learned from the COVID-19 Immunisation Programme will be fed into this challenging and fluid scenario – not least, strong partnerships, innovation and adaptability. The HB's commitment to the principles of the Health and Wellbeing Framework - shifting the culture, adopting an asset-based approach and building on what works - has not diminished. The following information identifies the overall assessment for 2021/22 Flu season:

Summary by Health Board and Local Authority (28 April 2022)

		Children 2 to 3 years		
		Denominator	Immunised	Uptake (%)
Hywel Dda UHB	Carmarthenshire	3,511	1,722	49.0
	Ceredigion	1,434	729	50.8
	Pembrokeshire	2,234	928	41.5
	HD Total	7,179	3,379	47.1
Wales	Wales	64,832	30,853	47.6
Variance from Welsh Ave				-0.5

		Clinical Risk 6 Months to 74 Years		
		Denominator	Immunised	Uptake (%)
Hywel Dda UHB	Carmarthenshire	25,379	11,886	46.8
	Ceredigion	11,014	5,481	49.8
	Pembrokeshire	16,674	7,835	47.0
	HD Total	53,067	25,202	47.5
Wales	Wales	446,772	215,332	48.2
Variance from Welsh Ave				-0.7

		65 Years and Older		
		Denominator	Immunised	Uptake (%)
Hywel Dda UHB	Carmarthenshire	43,510	33,681	77.4
	Ceredigion	23,702	17,199	72.6
	Pembrokeshire	31,412	23,967	76.3
	HD Total	98,624	74,847	75.9
Wales	Wales	687,339	535,876	78.0
Variance from Welsh Ave				-2.1

HD Breakdown by patient group	Hywel Dda UHB			Welsh Average (%)	Variance
Category	Cohort	Immunised	Uptake (%)		
2 year olds (all)	3,504	1,640	46.8	47.0	-0.2
3 Year olds (all)	3,675	1,739	47.3	48.2	-0.9
Clinical risk Under 65 Years	53,067	25,202	47.5	48.2	-0.7
Chronic asplenic disease (under 65 Years)	1,470	678	46.1	46.2	-0.1
Chronic diabetes disease (under 65 Years)	10,701	6,423	60.0	61.2	-1.2
Chronic heart disease (under 65 Years)	9,010	4,569	50.7	51.3	-0.6
Chronic immuno disease (under 65 Years)	3,141	1,893	60.3	60.4	-0.1
Chronic kidney disease (under 65 Years)	1,699	993	58.4	58.6	-0.2
Chronic liver disease (under 65 Years)	1,350	663	49.1	47.6	1.5
Chronic stroke_neuro disease (under 65 Years)	4,820	2,412	50.0	51.7	-1.7
Chronic respiratory patients (under 65 Years)	23,410	11,221	47.9	48.9	-1.0
Chronic Mobese disease (under 65 Years)	10,088	4,360	43.2	43.1	0.1
50 to 64 Years	87,553	36,157	41.3	42.4	-1.1
65 Years and Older	98,624	74,847	75.9	78.0	-2.1
50 to 64 Years - No Risk	60,821	19,321	31.8	33.7	-1.9
Clinical risk Under 50 Years	26,335	8,976	34.1	36.0	-1.9

Category	Hywel Dda UHB			Welsh Average (%)	Variance
	Cohort	Immunised	Uptake (%)		
Patients Under 65 Years with asthma	20,994	9,844	46.9	47.9	-1.0
Patients Under 65 Years with COPD	2,455	1,504	61.3	61.7	-0.4
Patients Under 65 Years with non-asthma disease	3,615	2,139	59.2	59.7	-0.5

Source: Vaccine Preventable Disease Programme Influenza Surveillance, Public Health Wales (PHW)

Hywel Dda Health Board staff.

According to Occupational Health records, during the 2021/22 season, 6880 staff received vaccination, which is an increase of 220+ on previous year.

Hywel Dda UHB are the only health board/trust in Wales to see an increase, with every other HB observing a drop in numbers vaccinated from end of season data last year. One of the interventions which the team believes contributed to this rise was a reminder letter to the home address of all those unvaccinated after first phase, highlighting how they can access the vaccine, including locations and times of upcoming vaccination clinics. The letter also included a reminder to notify of vaccines received elsewhere.

Another successful outcome was the QR code and notification form on the HB intranet page. This information was circulated on Global Message and the QR code was included on pop-up banners and posters across all HB sites. This increased the accessibility of the vaccine clinic to staff who do not access digital systems in their working day.

The number of peer vaccinators significantly dropped this year with less than 75 signing up to deliver the vaccine. Each peer vaccinator was required to complete the e-learning, then link with the local Occupational Health team to complete competency assessment, sign patient group direction (PGD) and access vaccines. This year peer vaccinators delivered a 32% share of overall vaccines given in comparison to last year when they delivered 57%. Peer Vaccinators are ideally placed to share facts, dispel misconceptions, improve accessibility to vaccine, and help support colleagues to get their vaccination.

There is a discrepancy of almost 1000 between numbers recorded as given on COHORT, and the submitted data for PHW. This is due to bank staff (and locums), students, those employed on external contracts, agency or shared services not being included in the COHORT figures.

Hywel Dda Staff excluding Bank, Honorary and Locum Contracts - 2021/22

Staff Group	Headcount	Number Vaccinated	% Vaccinated
<i>Front Line Staff</i>			
Add Prof Scientific and Technic	361	219	61
Add Clinical Services	2,430	1,238	51
Allied Health Professionals	722	433	60
Medical and Dental	630	346	55
Nursing and Midwifery Registered	3,276	1,763	54
Sub Total - Front Line Staff	7,419	3,999	54
<i>Support Services</i>			
Administrative & Clerical Staff	2,153	1,303	61
Estates and Ancillary	1,091	511	47
Healthcare Scientists	196	103	53
Sub Total - Support Services	3,440	1,917	56
Grand Total	10,859	5,916	54

Source: Occupational Health Department

As previously identified, in 2020/21 the winter uptake of Influenza vaccination was the highest ever recorded in Wales, which helped to protect public health and to reduce pressure on health and social services. With greater freedom for individuals in 2021/22 the uptake has reduced, but the HB in collaboration with Public Health Wales provided consistent messaging that both COVID and flu vaccines are equally important to keep themselves and the wider population safe.

Vaccination for the following groups were delivered by a variety of health care professionals in order to maximise vaccine uptake; however, we have detailed below some primary delivery models for information:

Health Board School Nurses / Vaccination and Immunisation Teams / Mass Vaccination Centre (MVC) Staff

- Children in primary school from reception class to Year 6 (inclusive)

- Children in secondary school Year 7 to Year 11 (inclusive)
- People aged 50 years and older (age on 31 March 2022) who are an inpatient or housebound
- Acute and Community site Inpatients
- Health Board and some Welsh Ambulance NHS Trust staff

GP and Community Pharmacies

- Children aged two or three years on 31 August 2022
- People aged 50 years and older (age on 31 March 2022)
- People aged between six months and less than 50 years in clinical risk groups, in line with COVID-19 vaccination programme guidance
- Carers
- Staff providing domiciliary care.
- Staff in nursing homes and care homes with regular client contact
- Pregnant women
- People with a learning disability

To support these primary delivery arms, an Influenza project group was re-established in July 2021, prior to the publication of the Welsh Health Circular, to start the planning process. These meetings continued on a regular basis, with the delivery programme plan driving the agenda.

In summary, the HB:

- Progressed the continued support for GP Practices, Community Pharmacies and additional resources to ensure the priority groups, as directed by the JCVI, receive their Flu vaccine and where the timeline dictates, the COVID-19 Booster.
- Continued to prioritise increased uptake among children in order to reduce transmission of Influenza in the community and therefore offer indirect protection to older adults and other vulnerable groups.
- Worked with colleagues across Wales to develop communication and information material for 50-64 year-olds, ensuring that this new cohort are aware both of their new eligibility for Flu vaccination, and of the health benefits of being vaccinated.
- Continued to work with team leads and peer vaccinators to identify and train additional champions across Hywel Dda, promoting online 'Flu-2' training to minimise face-to-face training needs.
- Requested Executive-level enhanced support for staff flu vaccinations, including letters from Directors of Nursing, Quality and Patient Experience, Public Health, Therapies and Health Science and the Medical Director to encourage staff vaccination and support the peer vaccinator model.
- 2021-22 was another extremely challenging season for the schools programme, with the competing pressure of the COVID-19 vaccine programme and the potential expansion of the programme to secondary school-aged children.
- In the 2021/22 season, Occupational Health provided monthly reports for directorate leads on staff uptake at ward and department level. These were disseminated by directorate leads to ward and department managers to enable positive action in areas of low uptake. Due to redeployment and movement of staff during COVID-19, ward-level data monitoring has been challenging.
- The Public Health Team will produce regular uptake reports and analysis, using data from the Vaccine Preventable Disease Tubulars Programme (VPDP) team within PHW, together with local and national campaign and surveillance updates. These reports will be provided to

Practice Managers, Practice Flu Leads and Cluster Leads on a weekly basis. These comprehensive documents provided tailored information at a practice, cluster, county and HB level, alongside comparators with other Health Boards and the Wales average.

- HDdUHB representatives participated in regular National Influenza Action Group (NIAG) teleconferences and reported back actions and emerging issues to local partners.

The 2022/23 combined flu and COVID-19 delivery plan will be presented to Board on 29th September 2022.

Argymhelliad / Recommendation

The Committee is asked to take assurance from the contents of the update on the delivery of the 2021/22 Influenza Vaccine Programme Delivery Programme.

Amcanion: (rhaid cwblhau) Objectives: (must be completed)	
Committee ToR Reference: Cyfeirnod Cylch Gorchwyl y Pwyllgor:	2.2 Provide assurance to the Board that the planning cycle is being taken forward and implemented in accordance with University Health Board and Welsh Government requirements, guidance and timescales
Cyfeirnod Cofrestr Risg Datix a Sgôr Cyfredol: Datix Risk Register Reference and Score:	Not Applicable
Safon(au) Gofal ac Iechyd: Health and Care Standard(s):	1.1 Health Promotion, Protection and Improvement 2.4 Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and Decontamination
Amcanion Strategol y BIP: UHB Strategic Objectives:	2. Working together to be the best we can be
Amcanion Cynllunio Planning Objectives	4S Improvement in Population Health
Amcanion Llesiant BIP: UHB Well-being Objectives: Hyperlink to HDdUHB Well-being Objectives Annual Report 2018-2019	4. Improve Population Health through prevention and early intervention, supporting people to live happy and healthy lives

Gwybodaeth Ychwanegol: Further Information:

Ar sail tystiolaeth: Evidence Base:	Public Health Wales (PHW), Primary Care and Midwifery data.
Rhestr Termau: Glossary of Terms:	Explanation of terms is included in the report.
Partïon / Pwyllgorau â ymgynhorwyd ymlaen llaw y Pwyllgor Datblygu Strategol a Chyflenwi Gweithredol: Parties / Committees consulted prior to Strategic Development and Operational Delivery Committee:	JCVI – Joint Committee for Vaccination and Immunisations

Effaith: (rhaid cwblhau) Impact: (must be completed)	
Ariannol / Gwerth am Arian: Financial / Service:	Not Applicable
Ansawdd / Gofal Claf: Quality / Patient Care:	It is important that there are effective plans in place for the 2021-22 Flu season, not only to improve overall respiratory health in the population of Hywel Dda but also to protect those at risk, prevent ill-health and minimise further impact on NHS and social care services
Gweithlu: Workforce:	As for Quality/ Patient Care impact.
Risg: Risk:	Risks are detailed in the report
Cyfreithiol: Legal:	Not Applicable
Enw Da: Reputational:	Not Applicable
Gyfrinachedd: Privacy:	Not Applicable
Cydraddoldeb: Equality:	Not Applicable