

Date: 08/10/2015

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST FOI/012426 – Flu vaccination

I am interested in the level of staff flu vaccination in the Trust, as this is an important factor in the welfare of staff and patients during the winter. I believe the direct effects of a flu infection can be serious, and the indirect effects through the absence of staff can be equally severe for patients.

Can the Trust please consider the following questions:

What is the job title of the Trust lead for the flu vaccination programme? – Occupational Health Specialist, Nurse Manager-Staff Health and Wellbeing Service

The Dudley Group FT was reported by the PHE to have vaccinated 39.7% of direct care staff in 2014/15. Is this figure accurate –YES

and were there particular reasons for this seemingly low immunisation rate? -The Trust does not hold this information.

Please supply a copy of the most recent flu plan for 2015/16 - Please find attached

Do staff receive a free chocolate bar or something similar after receiving the flu vaccine? - No. We had shopping vouchers as part of a draw.

I am interested to know if the staff sickness rates increase during the winter months when flu is prevalent, although I realise that for instance in 2014/15 there was a significant mismatch of the vaccine and the actual flu virus.

Could I please have a monthly listing of staff sickness from April 2013 to July 2015 for all Trust staff. If possible, are the monthly number of sick days available, or alternatively please supply whatever measure is generally used for staff sickness - Response to this was sent on the 25.09.15 (please find re attached).