

Vaccination of healthcare workers against seasonal influenza



Annual vaccination against seasonal influenza (“flu”) strains is an important way of reducing the chances of a healthcare workers passing on the virus to vulnerable patients in their care.

Each year, the Department of Health Victoria provides vaccine free of charge to healthcare workers. Victoria has been a leader in collection and collation of information regarding the numbers and percentages of health care workers who take up the offer of vaccination. In Victoria this information has been collected since 2005.

Vaccination rates have improved significantly over the years, and the Department now sets targets for hospitals to reach. The current target for 2020 is that 84% of staff should be vaccinated.

Results from this surveillance are passed to the Victorian Agency for Health Information (VAHI) at the Victorian Department of Health who publish results for Victorian public hospitals.

The latest results are available at vahi.vic.gov.au/quality-and-safety/infection-prevention-and-control

More detail and data from previous years have been published in VICNISS annual reports available at vicniss.org.au/resources/annual-reports/