

Seasonal influenza immunization rates among health-care workers

July 19 2010

Campaigns to increase seasonal influenza vaccination rates amongst health care workers in Canada that include a combination of interventions had the greatest effect on increasing vaccine coverage, according to a study published in *CMAJ* (Canadian Medical Association Journal).

Seasonal influenza immunization rates among health care workers in Canada remain below 50%, yet it is recommended that all health care workers (at least 90%) should be immunized to protect against the [flu virus](#).

Combined education/promotion and improved access to vaccines resulted in higher increases in vaccination rates amongst long-term care home workers. In one hospital campaign in which staff completed a mandatory electronic form to decline vaccination, immunization coverage increased to 55% compared to the previous nine years where rates ranged from 21% to 38%. When unvaccinated personnel were required to wear masks, rates increased to 52% from 33%.

"This review revealed gaps in the literature about the appropriate components to use to increase influenza immunization among [health care personnel](#)," writes Dr. Larry Chambers, Elisabeth Bruyère Research Institute, Ottawa, with coauthors.

The study, a systematic review of 12 studies, did not look at pandemic influenza programs.

The authors conclude that more studies with multiple campaign components are needed to assess the most appropriate [influenza](#) vaccination programs.

More information: www.cmaj.ca/cgi/doi/10.1503/cmaj.091304

Provided by Canadian Medical Association Journal

Citation: Seasonal influenza immunization rates among health-care workers (2010, July 19)
retrieved 1 February 2023 from
<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2010-07-seasonal-influenza-immunization-health-care-workers.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.