

Flu Vaccine Chore or Challenge?

Dr Louise Doherty
Immunisation Conference
11th May 2016

Probe as independent

six die in

home for

elderly

■ Mystery respiratory illness blamed

■ Deaths occurred over past 10 days



James Reilly: briefed

Eilish O'Regan and Stephen Maguire

HEALTH chiefs last night began a major investigation into a "cluster" of six deaths at a private nursing home over the past 10 days.

A mystery respiratory illness, possibly a virulent strain of flu, is being blamed for the deaths at Nazareth House in Bunrana, Co Donegal.

Emergency measures are being taken amid fears that the virus could spread further. All the deaths took place

between March 22 and yesterday, sparking alarm among staff and local GPs.

It is understood that some of the remaining 38 patients are now also showing signs of respiratory problems.

Last night, experts from the patient watchdog HIQA travelled to the nursing home to begin a thorough investigation.

Five of the six patient deaths at the 33-bedroom home happened in "a cluster" over the past five days, the Health Service Executive (HSE) said last night.

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Irish Independent NEWS 11

Wednesday 4 April 2012

NURSING HOME DEATHS

Reduced to silence

ple with their grief



Short illness: The funeral of Margaret McGuire

Community is in 'deep shock'

FLU

COULD

CLAIM

MORE

LIVES

HSE doc warns of other victims



INFECTION ALERT: Nazareth House in Fahan

EXPERTS fear the killer flu that claimed the lives of six elderly people in a nursing home will cause more deaths.

Health Service Executive (HSE) says the deaths are linked to a "cluster" of six deaths in the past five days.

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Flu to blame

for death of

six patients

HSE ALERT 'TOO LATE'

Shocked relatives and community mourn the

FLU: MORE

COULD DIE

Experts warn that outbreak is serious risk to vulnerable residents

BY SEAN MURPHY and CATHAL LOUGHNAN

INFLUENZA claimed the lives of six elderly people who died in a private nursing home — and experts last night warned: "There could be more fatalities. It is very serious."

Dr Peter White, chief of the director of public health for the HSE in the North West, last night told The Star: "There could be more fatalities. Clearly when there is an outbreak of influenza in a nursing home, there is a high fatality rate. It is very serious."

Several other residents at Nazareth House in Fahan and Bunrana, Co Donegal, are suffering with respiratory symptoms similar to the conditions who died, health chiefs said.

Peter McLaughlin, Fine Gael councillor in Bunrana, said people in the area were concerned about the welfare of residents in Nazareth House.

"There's no information coming from the house to the people, to the family members of patients who are in there," said Dr



HEARTACHE: Star reporter Catriona Loughran outside Nazareth House Nursing Home in Fahan, Co Donegal, where six elderly residents have died after flu outbreak and (inset) "wake" sign at the religious order's home

control of

outbreak

urged

FIONA GARTLAND

home

horror

'BUG' KILLS OAPs

IN JUST 12 DAYS



HEALTH chiefs launched a probe last night after six pensioners died in just 12 days at a private nursing home.

All visits to the Nazareth House in Fahan, Co Donegal, have been cancelled due to a suspected respiratory bug.

Six believed some of the remaining 38 patients are showing signs of the mystery illness.

The OAPs passed away between March 22 and yesterday, the last one dying in the last 24 hours, a number of

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IN 12

DAYS

AT CARE HOME

Double probe after killer virus strikes

CLUSTER: Six residents have died at Nazareth House in Co Donegal

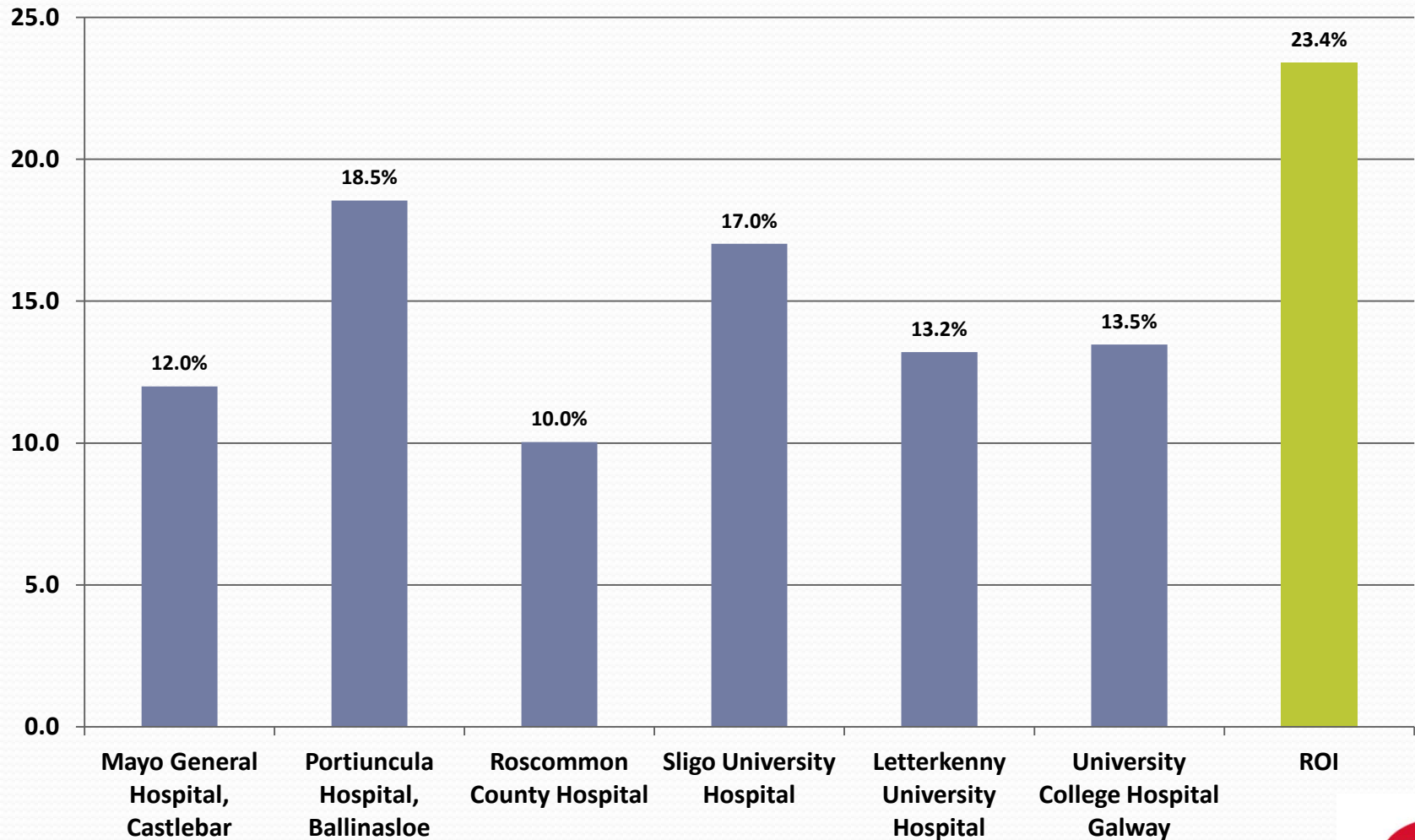
Vaccine in the elderly

- In healthy adults aged less than 65 years the vaccine efficacy of a well matched vaccine is 70%-90%.
- Protective efficacy is lower in the elderly with an effectiveness estimated at 30-40% among the frail elderly
- Vaccine is 50%–60% effective in preventing hospitalisation
- 80% effective in preventing death.

Staff Flu Vaccine Uptake by CHO Hospital

Season	CHO	Number of Participating Hospitals*	Number of Eligible Hospital HCWs	Number of Vaccinated Hospital HCWs	% Vaccinated
2015-2016	1	3	2,848	427	15.0
2015-2016	2	4	5,816	795	13.7
2015-2016	3	6	3,939	637	16.2
2015-2016	4	5	6,640.82	975	14.7
2015-2016	5	6	6,298	802	12.7
2015-2016	6	5	4,367.56	1,567	35.9
2015-2016	7	6	11,143.14	3,540	31.8
2015-2016	8	5	5,158	869	16.8
2015-2016	9	8	11,836	3,990	33.7
2015-2016	Ireland	48	58,046.52	13,602	23.4

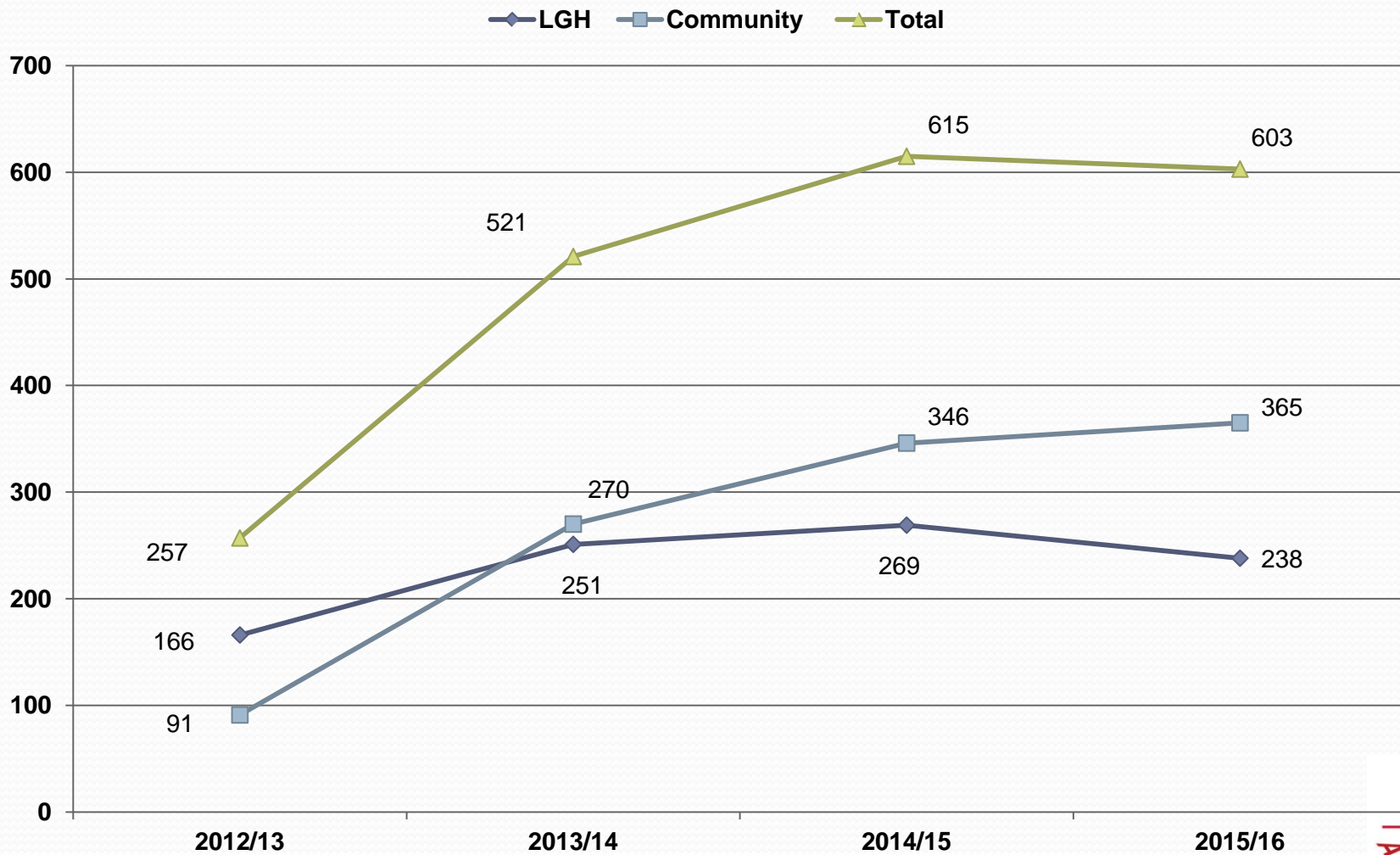
Staff Flu Vaccine Uptake in Saolta Hospitals



Staff Flu Vaccine Uptake in LTCF by CHO

Season	CHO	Number of Participating LTCFs*	Number of Eligible LTCF HCWs	Number of Vaccinated LTCF HCWs	% Vaccinated
2015-2016	1	16	872	167	19.2
2015-2016	2	10	762	167	21.9
2015-2016	3	2	172	53	30.8
2015-2016	4	21	1,521.64	378	24.8
2015-2016	5	3	496	99	20.0
2015-2016	6	5	741	210	28.3
2015-2016	7	8	1,793	434	24.2
2015-2016	8	12	1062	230	21.7
2015-2016	9	10	1341	513	38.3

HSE – Donegal Staff Flu Vaccine Uptake Seasonal Overview



“Nobody tells me what to do”

“It is a basic human right to
decide for myself”

“If it is so important why isn't it
compulsory?”

The great enemy of the truth is very often not the lie...deliberate, contrived and dishonest, but the myth, persistent, persuasive and unrealistic. Belief in myths allows the comfort of opinion without the discomfort of thought

John F. Kennedy





**But I don't get
the flu.....**

Actually...

One serosurvey* showed **23% of HCW** had serologic evidence of influenza virus infection during a single influenza season

...the majority had mild illness or subclinical infection



*Elder G, et al. *BMJ*. 1996;313:1241-2.

Kuster SP et al 2011. *PLoS ONE* 6(10):e26239. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0026239



Influenza Vaccination Beliefs & Attitudes

Statement	Ever Vaccinated	Never Vaccinated	P value
I am healthy, I don't need the 'flu vaccine	19%	66%	p<0.000
Getting the 'flu vaccine is a good way to protect against catching 'flu	64%	25%	p<0.000
I have concerns about the side effects of the vaccine	35%	65%	p<0.000
Due to the nature of my work I am at increased risk of getting 'flu	81%	51%	p<0.000
Getting the 'flu vaccination not only protects you but also the elderly you care for	78%	52%	p<0.000
I am at risk of catching the 'flu	86%	66%	p<0.000
The 'flu vaccine causes the 'flu	15%	26%	p<0.000
My doctor does not recommend the 'flu vaccine	6%	12%	p<0.000

Very good uptake

All of the 'below' plus:
Setting flu vaccine uptake as a KPI
Introducing peer vaccination programmes

50%+

Good uptake

Encouragement of engagement by teams and directorates by feeding back their uptake figures in 'real-time' during the campaign, using a traffic light colour coding system to reflect performance (utilising the psychology of team work and competition). Individual letter from CEO to all staff.

<50%

Good Uptake

More frequent mobile clinics in peak and off-peak times (e.g. weekends and nights), more concerted educational efforts with engagement from Microbiology team and emphasis on role of vaccine in outbreaks, use of screen savers and SMS in promotion

<40%

Poor Uptake

Mobile clinics, educational presentations to clinical and management groups / meetings, features in hospital newsletter, incentives such as chocolate bars, questionnaires with raffle prizes etc (utilising the psychology of 'reward').

<30%

Very Poor Uptake

Low key campaign without targeted mobile clinics and minimal promotion and management leadership

<20%



Improve Influenza Immunisation

- Make it attractive
 - Convenient and comfortable (site and time)
 - Incentives and rewards (raffles, spot prizes, chocolates)
 - Inter-departmental/team competition – uptake by units published
 - Identify key person on each unit/ward/team
 - responsible for encouraging vaccination, vaccinating
- Make it accessible
 - Multiple opportunities (during day/night, week, month)
 - Continuous programme October-March
 - Avoid “missed opportunities”
 - offer immunisation during any contact
 - Bring vaccine to staff
 - mobile teams, multiple sites, target group gatherings, team meetings
 - Throughout work day (and night)



Rates with Different Interventions

Factor	Vaccination rate in Programmes with	Vaccination rate in Programmes without
Weekend provision of vaccine	58.8%	43.9%
Train-the-trainer programs	59.5%	46.5%
Report of vaccination rates to administrators	57.2%	48.1%
Letter sent to employees emphasizing the importance of vaccination	59.3%	47%
Any form of visible leadership support	57.9%	36.9%
Required declination	56.9%	55%

Talbot TR, Dellit TH, Hebden J, Sama D, Cuny J. Factors associated with increased healthcare worker influenza vaccination rates: results from a national survey of university hospitals and medical centers. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol.* 31(5):456-62, 2010 May

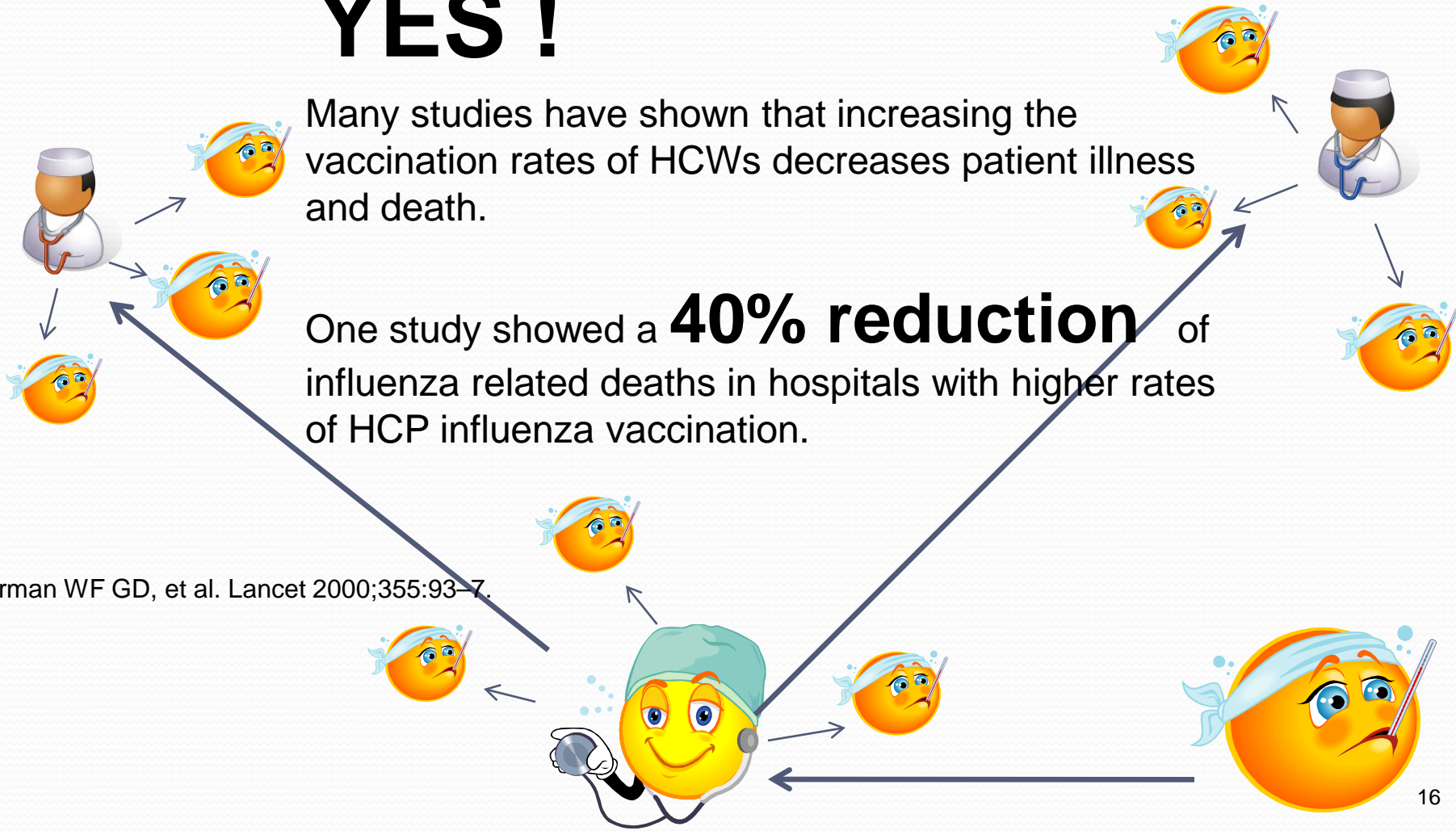
Does Vaccinating Health Care Workers (HCWs) Really Help?

YES !

Many studies have shown that increasing the vaccination rates of HCWs decreases patient illness and death.

One study showed a **40% reduction** of influenza related deaths in hospitals with higher rates of HCP influenza vaccination.

Carman WF GD, et al. Lancet 2000;355:93-7.



What did we do?

- Convened multidisciplinary group
- Meet all year round and plan campaign well in advance
- Have a graphic designer as part of group
- Engage with senior management and staff
- Recruited flu champions
- Teaser campaign
- Launch-with local footballers





What did we learn?

- Senior management support is vital-small amount of funding makes a difference
- Multidisciplinary team
- Flu champions (60 in community 0 in hospital)
- Leadership is important
- Key opinion leaders have a big role to play
- Bring dissenters on board and involve
- Needs to be someone's job

Did we have any effect?



- Started conversations
- Spread some other key messages about influenza to staff and public
- Support from the public
- Won over local advocates
- Secured managerial commitment in community

Lessons Learned



- **The bad**
 - The power of dissenters
 - Liaising with national campaign can be difficult
 - Capacity within Occupational Health can be limited
 - Difficulty in monitoring
 - Flu fatigue
- **The good**
 - Managerial support essential
 - Multidisciplinary team brings fresh ideas and skills
 - There are flu champions out there – use them
 - Long term, year long process needed
 - It's ok to have some fun with it!

What are our plans?

- Peer vaccinator programme
- Improved monitoring
- Feedback
- Better communication plan
- Building on momentum

Jab-o-meter



2012/13 current uptake
45.6%

2011/12 average uptake:
44.6%



So whose job is it?

It is the job of all staff to look after ourselves and the vulnerable patients we look after

If you cannot
be positive,
then at least
be quiet.

- Joel Osteen -

I wish there was a vaccine
that prevented me from
hearing your opinion
about flu shots.



someecards

Thanks
Questions?

