Who did pharmacists vaccinate in Australia’s first Pharmacist Immunisation Pilot?

Lisa Nissen

Chris Campbell (presenter)

Esther Lau
Helen Kastrissios
Beverley Glass
Aaron Drovandi
Pharmacists and pharmacy

• Pharmacists are recognised as ethical & trustworthy
  – Frequently recognised as “most trusted”

• Community pharmacy
  – Convenient and highly accessible
  – Most frequently used health care destination
  → Core primary health care destination
Queensland Pharmacists Immunisation Pilot

- Pilot Pharmacist administer influenza vaccines for adults
- Improve access for non-NIP patients
- Improve immunisation rates
- Phase 1: 1st April, 2014 - for 2014 flu season

QPIP - Study design

Arm 1
South East Qld
Terry White Chemists
“Exposed” Pharmacists
51 pharmacies

Arm 2
North Qld
Individual Pharmacies
Immunisation naïve
29 pharmacies

Aim: 10% follow-up – one week post-vaccination
Yes, every year

No, never

Yes, but not every year

≈ 11K Vaccinations, who were they?

18% would not have had a flu vaccination if the service was unavailable
Outcomes?

63%

45-64yr

≈ 10% Eligible for the NIP

60%

61%
Cumulative frequency of influenza vaccine

Beginning of winter (1\textsuperscript{st} of June)
Local reactions and mild systemic effects as expected

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adverse Event</th>
<th>Received influenza vaccination before (%)</th>
<th>Not received influenza vaccination before (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pain at injection site</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>33.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redness at injection site</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>28.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Itchiness at injection site</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>11.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skin infection at injection site</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shivering and/or chills</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headache</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fever</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cough, running nose, sore throat</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muscle and/or joint pain</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive fatigue (more than normal)</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chest infection</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guillian Barre Syndrome</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nerve AE (pins and needles, nerve)</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allergic reaction</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe allergy requiring urgent treatment</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1st vax AE rate for both groups was similar

Small number of vasovagal reactions in store
What about the service?

Some reflections from the TWC cohort
When did vaccinations take place?

![Bar chart showing the number of bookings by day of the week. The highest bookings are on Tuesday and Wednesday, and the lowest on Sunday.]
How did patients present to stores?

![Bar chart showing the number of vaccinations administered by type of presentation: Walk ins, Online, Instore.]
Time of day appointments were made?

![Bar chart showing number of bookings by time of day]
Location, location
Consultation room > Booth > Screened area
Post-vaccination patient satisfaction survey

95% ... happy to receive vaccination in pharmacy in the future

97% ... Would recommend this service to others

- Advertise more
- More awareness of how available it is through the pharmacy
- Create awareness of it being available

Ensure that it always remains possible to just drop in without an appointment - as convenience is one of the main reasons for choosing pharmacy!

- Provide ice cream
- Supply a few beers
- Jelly beans.
- Movies.
Participant’s overall thought and comments

Convenience with no waiting time in a “germy” waiting room are huge benefits for me.

Great public health initiative and hope it gets continual support. It takes pressure off GP's and allows greater access for people who need those appointments.

It saved me having to get script, go to pharmacy for vaccine rather than back to doctor. Great service, very convenient and no waiting (as can happen at doctor).

All vaccines should be allowed to be given in pharmacy by pharmacists!

Excellent service. I hope it remains for years to come.

A great service – I hope it continues.

10/10, would be jabbed again.
Tips for success

- Online and in practice booking
- Book specific “Clinic” days
- Pharmacist vaccinator available for walk-Ins
- Consider having >1 pharmacist trained
- Discuss & inform GP / other health professionals
Pharmacists to offer measles and pertussis vax
9 July, 2014  Paul Smith  9 comments

Pharmacists will offer measles and pertussis vaccinations from September in a radical expansion of the Queensland vaccination trials.

- Total of ≈ 23K vaccination given (inc. 1400 pertussis)
- Across 200+ pharmacies & 400+ pharmacists
- Evaluation data indicates similar patient support / feedback
- Influenza expansion to NT, WA, SA, NSW.
Measles – 8 cases from UQ last week

Metro North Hospital and Health Service

MEASLES ALERT: Metro North Public Health Unit (MNPHU) confirmed today that an eighth case of measles has been linked to the University of Queensland, St Lucia campus.

Public Health Physician, Dr James Smith said that the student was infectious while attending classes at UQ Business School between Tuesday 25/08/2015 and Thursday 27/08/2015. As well as the university, the student visited the following locations in Brisbane while infectious:

- Westfield Garden City, Mt Gravatt late afternoon on Wednesday 26/08/2015
- City Beach, Queen Street Mall in evening on Wednesday 26/08/2015
- George’s Paragon Seafood Restaurant in evening on Wednesday 26/08/2015
- Coffee Club Eagle Street Pler, Brisbane in afternoon on Friday 28/08/2015
- Beijing House, Queen Street in evening on Friday 28/08/2015
- Woolworths, Spring Hill, late morning on Saturday 29/08/2015
- Hanaro Mart, Spring Hill, early afternoon on Saturday 29/08/2015.

Whooping cough at Brisbane schools

UPDATE: Three Brisbane schools have been struck down with whooping cough within a week.

Cases of the highly contagious infection have been detected at Sunnybank State High School and Albany Creek State School, as well as Brisbane State High School, as reported earlier.
B 'Brisbane' flu virus sees cases spike

**Tuesday 1 September 2015**

A less severe strain of the influenza virus known as the B 'Brisbane' virus is a contributing factor to a recent spike in Queensland's high number of notified influenza (flu) cases.

Executive Director of the Communicable Diseases Unit, Dr Sonya Bennett said the Brisbane strain was not covered by the federal government subsidised trivalent flu vaccine, but was included in the privately available quadrivalent vaccine.

"The World Health Organisation sets the annual flu vaccine composition based on what strains are prevalent in the northern hemisphere at the time," Dr Bennett said.

"There are often two types of B flu strain in circulation during the flu season, with one strain usually predominating and no way of predicting which strain that would be from year to year.

"Circulating influenza virus strains can vary from year to year, and it is not uncommon for a spike in figures to occur with the appearance of a strain not covered by the current vaccine."

Dr Bennett said it was important to note that influenza B strains were usually less severe than influenza A.

"While both types circulate each season, the proportion attributable to influenza B is variable, with influenza A infections generally predominant," she said.