How useful is a ‘drop in’ immunisation service in a tertiary paediatric hospital
Attendance and/or admission to hospital provides opportunities for both routine and catch-up Immunisation

Opportunistic immunisation of infants admitted to hospital: Are we doing enough?

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Providing opportunistic immunisations for at-risk inpatients in a tertiary paediatric hospital

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Journal for Specialists in Pediatric Nursing. Volume 22(1), January 2017
Opportunistic vaccination service at the Children’s Hospital, Westmead

- NSW Immunisation Specialist Service (NSWISS) opened November 2015
- Drop-in outpatient vaccination service provides opportunistic vaccination to all children with particular focus on targeting “at risk” patients identified in the Australian Immunisation Handbook
- Compliments community based immunisation services
- Assist in vaccinating children with rare diseases where there may be reluctance to vaccinate in the community
- Review, advise and assist in-patient immunisation services
NSW IMMUNISATION SPECIALIST SERVICE

Opened November 2015

- 5 clinical components
  1. Drop in immunisation service – (Monday to Friday)
     - Opportunistic vaccination (outpatients)
     - Influenza vaccine for parents and siblings
  2. 1800 Phone advice line – (Monday to Friday)
     • Directed at providers
  3. Special immunisation clinic – Friday
  4. Telehealth consultation
  5. Needle phobic clinic
HOW BEST TO PROMOTE A NEW HOSPITAL SERVICE?
How do people know we exist

- Posters
- Postcards
- Online promotion
- Ward and medical in-services
- Outreach clinics
- Liase and work with specialist teams (e.g. Liver, Haematology, Cystic Fibrosis)
- Hospital signage
- World Immunisation week, Information Booth
Postcards

Immunisation clinic
FOR ALL CHILDREN

- Free childhood immunisations
- Come if your child is due or overdue for immunisations
- No booking required

We are located at:
Immunisation clinic Level 1 (behind the Book Bunker and opposite the Cafeteria)
The Children’s Hospital at Westmead

Follow the green footprints on the wall from outside Outpatient Clinics down the ramp to Level 1 for immunisations today

We are open Monday to Friday 9am to 3pm

Contact the Immunisation Nurses on (02) 9845 0169 or pager 7007

For information about immunisation visit immunise.health.gov.au or health.nsw.gov.au

ncirs
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR IMMUNISATION RESEARCH & SURVEILLANCE
Targeted promotions for Influenza vaccination

We offered Influenza vaccination to all family members including adults.

Top four reasons your children need the Influenza Vaccine

1. Prevents influenza related illness and death
   - Children can get really sick and die from the flu, especially children aged less than 5 years, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, and those with medical conditions predisposing them to severe illness.

2. Vaccination is safe and effective
   - The brands of influenza vaccine approved for use in children are shown to be safe. Getting the vaccine each year helps prevent influenza related illnesses.

3. Protects other people
   - Protecting your child will stop the spread of flu to others who may be at particular risk, such as grandparents and those with chronic illness.

4. Reduced time off work and school
   - Children infected with flu may not be able to attend school or childcare for several weeks. Parents and carers need to take time away from work to care for them.

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NATIONAL CENTRE FOR IMMUNISATION RESEARCH & SURVEILLANCE
Did in-hospital advertising and posters work?

Total encounters = 950 01 January to 30 June 2017

Classification of referral type has been reviewed since Feb 2017
CHW = OPD + other CHW hospital service
Hospital Poster = Internal advertising within the Hospital using signage, postcards & posters
GP = GP sent them in for review and vaccination
Walk in = Community not affiliated with the hospital
Influenza Vaccine numbers in children within the Drop-in clinic have dramatically increased from 2016.

• Total in 2016 = 454
• Thus far in 2017 = 703
Outreach clinics

Slowly he would cruise the neighborhood, waiting for that occasional careless child who confused him with another vendor.
Influenza vaccine numbers per speciality

- Cystic Fibrosis: 137
- Respiratory (inc Asthma): 48
- Liver: 40
- Oncology: 39
- General Medical: 36
- Cardiology: 25
- Renal: 23
- Other: 355
Capitalising on world Immunisation Week
Influenza Vaccine 2017

Drop-in Clinic Weekly trend lines

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3-7 April 17</td>
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CHILDREN

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ADULTS
Benefits of auditing outpatient clinic vaccine records
NSWISS review of immunisation status of children attending the outpatient department at the Children’s Hospital, Westmead

- 4 month review of the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR) for immunisation records of children aged < 7 years attending selected outpatient clinics prior to their appointment.
- A flag addressed to the treating doctor/team is then attached to the child's outpatient notes if they are found to be due or overdue for a scheduled vaccine.
- Provided there are no contraindications to vaccination, parents are able to present their child to the immunisation clinic for vaccination on the day.
- The child’s ACIR records are updated if parents present to the clinic with records of vaccination already given.
- A follow up ACIR review of the same children was undertaken 3 months after their appointment.

Results of initial ACIR review

![Graph showing initial ACIR review results.]

- Total = 1943
- Up to date: 1532
- Overdue for a scheduled vaccine: 248
- Due for a scheduled vaccine: 163

Results following the outpatient appointment

![Graph showing provider summary results.]

- Total = 242
- Vaccinated at GP: 111
- ACIR updated by NSWISS: 58
- ACIR updated by GP: 55
- Vaccinated at NSWISS: 18
Indigenous flu vaccinations

- For Indigenous children, we vaccinated
  - 30 in 2016
  - 21 in 2017
Conclusions

- A drop-in vaccination service in paediatric hospital facilities:
  - assists in timely vaccination by providing an opportunity to opportunistically vaccinate all children whilst they are attending the outpatient department
  - compliments community based services
  - plays an important role in targeting risk groups and providing additional recommended vaccines

- Important to have visible presence and ongoing promotion
Best tools to promote our service and vaccine uptake

- Location, location, location
- Posters
- “Jump onto” promotions
- Outreach services

Next year
- “League” table – comparing hospital department uptake
- Electronic Medical record – “flags” for patients