Improving Influenza Vaccine Rates
Objectives

• Provide background information about UWHC’s annual Influenza vaccine clinics
• Share rates of Influenza vaccine acceptance at UWHC
• Current Influenza Vaccine Policy
• Changes made to improve rates
• Changes that have been successful
• Changes being considered to improve rates
Background

- Over 7500 employees at UWHC plus ~ 2000 UWMF staff work at our locations
- TB screening/Influenza vaccine clinics offered at our 409-bed hospital & 11 offsite locations
- Extended hours 7am – 5pm & weekend hours at hospital
- Require hiring & orienting extra help, work with UWMF Employee Health
- Student nurses require orientation & mentoring
- One person in charge; stationed at intake
- At completion of scheduled clinics & based on compliance rates, further clinics are offered.
Influenza Vaccine Rates by Patient Care Duties

Seasonal Influenza Immunization Coverage by Patient Care Duties

- Patient Care Employees
- All Employees

Coverage rates for the years 2005-06 to 2011-12 are shown for both patient care employees and all employees. The coverage rates for patient care employees range from 60% to 84%, while for all employees, they range from 60% to 83%.
Influenza Vaccine Rates by Clinical Group

Seasonal Influenza Immunization Coverage by Clinical Group

- Resident MD
  - 2005-06: 87%
  - 2006-07: 86%
  - 2007-08: 85%

- Respiratory Care
  - 2005-06: 87%
  - 2006-07: 86%
  - 2007-08: 85%

- Nursing
  - 2005-06: 87%
  - 2006-07: 86%
  - 2007-08: 85%
Influenza Vaccine Rates by High Risk Unit

Seasonal Influenza Immunization Coverage by High Risk Unit

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tx</td>
<td>98%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peds ICU</td>
<td>90%</td>
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<td>TLC</td>
<td>90%</td>
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<td>Burn</td>
<td>89%</td>
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<td>CardThSurg ICU</td>
<td>88%</td>
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<td>Neuro ICU</td>
<td>88%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peds HemOnc-Tx</td>
<td>87%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heme-Onc-BMT</td>
<td>82%</td>
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<td>ER</td>
<td>80%</td>
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<td>Cardiac ICU</td>
<td>76%</td>
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Reasons for Declination

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<th>Reason for Declining Immunization</th>
<th>2011-2012</th>
<th>2010-2011</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>#</td>
<td>%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>777</td>
<td>53.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Never get the flu</td>
<td>313</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fear flu from immunization</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical contraindication</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fear side effects</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fear injections</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Declinations</td>
<td>1450*</td>
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* 2011-12 includes 6 declinations with blank forms, so not categorized
Current Influenza Vaccine Policy

- All employees and volunteers are required to get annual Influenza vaccine or sign a declination waiver.
- Removed from work if not compliant by Jan 31.
Changes Made to Improve Rates

• Employee ID:
  – Last season looked up those who presented without ID in UConnect directory to confirm employment.

• Education:
  – Updated ‘Flu Vaccine: Myths and Facts’ handout to address previous reason for declination of ‘Never get the Flu’. Also added on 2 new myths/facts to encourage vaccination.

• To decrease wait times:
  – Those with hx of +TB skin test were identified at check-in & employee was asked to complete the questionnaire at that point prior to seeing the clinician.

• On-line Influenza vaccine waiver form.
Changes That Have Been Successful?

• Local unit level dispensing of Influenza vaccine
• Mobile Influenza Vaccine carts (go to high-risk areas or difficult to get away from areas – ER, TLC, PICU, Burn Unit, Neuro ICU)
• Doing some depts earlier (i.e. OR) and/or separately (i.e. Environmental Services.)
• Having off-site locations
• Having on-line Influenza vaccine waiver form
Potential Future Efforts to Improve Influenza Vaccine Rates

• To decrease waiting times:
  – Provide paperwork for download so employee can fill out and bring with to clinic.
  – Change form to make clearer and easier to complete
  – Send out reminders to bring employee ID and wear short sleeves. Have privacy screens available at off sites
  – Discourage employees from going to an off site clinic location on the first day, if not located at that clinic.
  – Place a post-it note on the employee’s Flu vaccine form stating TB screening completed
  – Have Flu vaccine only stations
  – Offer Flu vaccines only at certain locations
Potential Future Efforts to Improve Influenza Vaccine Rates (cont’ed)

• Recognize & support more local unit level administration of flu vaccine
• Offer nasal-spray flu vaccine to those who fear injections
• Offer Flu vaccine to employees who present to Employee Health Clinic for another reason
• Education: Update Flu vaccine Myths and Facts handout.
Questions?