

P36: Adherence to seasonal vaccination against influenza virus: Motivation of Pharmacy Professionals in Iberian hospitals

Marta Ferreira¹, Ângelo Jesus²

¹School of Allied Health Technologies, Polytechnic Institute of Porto, Portugal

²Pharmacy Department, Center for Health and Environment Research, School of Allied Health Technologies, Polytechnic Institute of Porto, Portugal

Presenting author: martaferreira2893@gmail.com

Introduction: Flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses.. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting vaccinated each year. The immunization of Health Professionals emerges as a measure to reduce the transmission of infection, with the purpose of protecting both the individual and the patients being treated. Health Professionals fall within priority groups for seasonal vaccination against the *influenza virus*, as recommended by WHO.

Objectives: This exploratory study aims to assess the adherence and motivation of Pharmacy Professionals to free influenza vaccination regimens.

Materials and Methods: Study was conducted in 6 hospitals from 2 areas of the Iberian Peninsula (n=32) using a pre-validated questionnaire. All data was evaluated using STATA 12.1 in order to apply parametric (*Probit* model) and non-parametric tests (Mann-Whitney/Chi-square/Kruskal-Wallis).

Results and Discussion: Of all participants, 62.5% reported that they had already been vaccinated at least once, during their lifetime. However, only 31.25% in the 2014/2015 flu season. There is a statistically significant increase in adherence to vaccination with age, and number of working years. Adherence to vaccination appears to be linked to individual's perception of their risk of exposure.

Conclusion: Despite vaccination being an effective and free method of prevention there is still a significant number of Hospital Pharmacy Professionals who don't get vaccinated every year. Work must be conducted in order to make these Pharmacy Professional, aware of the risks for themselves and their patients.

References

1. Hill, M. M., & Hill, A. (2008). *Investigação por Questionário*. Lisboa, Portugal: Sílabo. Jiménez-Jorge, S., et al (2014). Estudio cycEVA: casos y controles para la estimación de la efectividad de la vacuna antigripal en España, 2008-2013. *Revista Española de Salud Pública*, 88(5)
2. Rubinstein, H. et al (2015). Public preferences for vaccination and antiviral medicines under different pandemic flu outbreak scenarios. *BMC Public Health*, 15(1), 190