This week we are adding in an extra #NurChat in conjunction with @NHSFluFighter. Flu is a virus that caused more than 600 deaths last year, yet only 34.7% of healthcare staff were vaccinated. This year’s staff seasonal flu campaign targets healthcare professionals and aims to improve vaccination uptake among frontline staff.

Chief Nursing Officer, Dame Christine Beasley has written a message to all nurses and midwives to support the campaign, calling on us to protect ourselves, our families and our patients by getting vaccinated. She says: “As trusted nurses and midwives, you all play a key role in helping people make decisions about their healthcare. By getting vaccinated yourself, you are then able to discuss the vaccination with your patients and clients from a first-hand perspective, helping them to understand the benefits and dispelling some of those myths that we know exist.”

So why is the uptake of flu vaccine low for frontline staff? What can we do to promote the flu vaccine and dispel myths amongst staff? How can we as nurses ensure that we break the chain and protect ourselves, our families, our colleagues and ultimately our patients from flu? Will you be getting vaccinated?

Follow @NHSFluFighter on twitter

Below are some links to some useful flu information

NHS Employers Flu Fighter Campaign
A message for nurses and midwives - Dame Christine Beasley
Nurses and midwives urged to get flu jab - BBC
NHS Employers Flu Fighter case studies

Post Chat Summary

This was a very lively debate with @NHSFluFighter as a very knowledgeable guest. The discussion began by asking why the uptake of the flu vaccine was only 34.7% in healthcare staff last year? It became quite clear that “flu myths” was one of the main reasons. Deployment of staff and accessibility was also discussed – and the use of mobile and night time units were seen as solutions.
It was asked if it is nurses professional duty to have the flu vaccine and the general opinion was that nurses do have a duty to protect themselves from getting flu and a duty of care to their patients.

Incentive schemes to get healthcare staff were discussed and these seemed to range from a lollipop to stickers even an extra days leave! Having flu fighter “champions” on each ward was also seen as a good idea, providing positive role models for flu jabs.

There was a large discussion on whether flu vaccinations should be treated as other vaccinations and become a condition of employment. There was mention that this may be a breach of human rights and infringe on freedom of choice - but most said that vaccinations were part of their employment anyway and flu is an important public health issue.

There were worries voiced about whether there are enough vaccines if more staff were to have the flu jab. Supplies in trusts ranged from being able to vaccinate 50% of staff to 80% of staff. Good communication between trusts was cited as a must to ensure that any shortfalls were met by neighbouring trusts. @NHSFluFighter assured that suppliers could supply more if needed.

In regard to this years flu campaign most felt that the campaign had drawn their attention to flu and getting vaccinated. It was generally agreed that it is great to see so many nurses getting passionate about flu vaccines.

It is well worth a read of this transcript, even if you took part in the debate, as the conversation has many very interesting threads. As always please feel free to share this with colleagues.

A big THANK YOU goes to @NHSFluFighter for this discussion suggestion and for taking part and providing us with lots of great flu information. Thanks also goes to all those who took part and added value.
Transcript and post chat review available at [http://t.co/jnMSDM5g](http://t.co/jnMSDM5g) soon, thank you all for sharing with @NHSFluFighter #nurchat

@Medisister Thanks tweet you soon!! #nurchat

@nursiedeb 😃 #nurchat

That’s been great - ty @NurChat @NHSFluFighter and everyone else. Now, can’t stay here jabbering all night... bb all. #nurchat

@PhilipRABall Thanks for providing some interesting chat #NurChat

RT @NurChat: Please follow eachother share content, ideas and thoughts about all aspects of nursing with eachother having met at #NurChat

Great choice of topic btw! #nurchat

RT @PhilipRABall: @NurChat Hi #nurchat gang my first time in thanks for the RT, follow and fun discussion #nurchat

You are most welcome - thanks for yr input #NurChat

RT @NHSFluFighter: RT @NurChat: Thanks a lot @nhsflufighter for a great debate - happy to have you in a discussion anytime :-) #NurChat
PhilipRABall @NurChat Hi #nurchat gang my first time in thanks for the RT, follow and fun discussion 9:05 PM

NurChat Please follow eachother and share content, ideas and thoughts about all aspects of nursing with eachother having met at #nurchat 9:05 PM

gracenglorydan RT @nursiedeb: So much fun! Thank you so much!!!! #nurchat 9:05 PM

NHSFluFighter Do get in touch with any questions or suggestions about your campaign: seasonalflicampaign2011@nhsemployers.org #flufighter #NurChat 9:05 PM

NurChat RT @NHSFluFighter: Good luck with your staff seasonal flu campaigns flufighters! #flufighter #NurChat 9:05 PM

gracenglorydan RT @NHSFluFighter: Good luck with your staff seasonal flu campaigns flufighters! #flufighter #NurChat 9:05 PM

nursiedeb So much fun! Thank you so much!!!! #nurchat 9:04 PM

NHSFluFighter Good luck with your staff seasonal flu campaigns flufighters! #flufighter #NurChat 9:04 PM

AgencyNurse great chat - lovely to tweet some great nurses, catchyouallagain in 2 wks time for the next chat "basic care" -details to come !!!!! #nurchat 9:04 PM

ruthsmyth RT @AgencyNurse: Just had a read of @NHSFluFighter info on their website before #NurChat 8pm, some really useful stuff recommend a look http://t.co/3C8Xp1c7 9:03 PM

NHSFluFighter RT @gracenglorydan fab to have "met" you all! Good luck in all campaigns! Heres to huge percentage uptakes and protected staff! #NurChat 9:03 PM
AgencyNurse @gracenglorydan here here!! #nurchat 9:03 PM

NHSFluFighter @NurChat Thanks for having us! And thank you to everyone who joined in the live flu chat #NurChat 9:03 PM

gracenglorydan #NurChat fab to have "met" you all! Good luck in all campaigns! Here's to huge percentage uptakes and protected staff! 9:02 PM

NHSFluFighter RT @NurChat: Thanks a lot @nhsflufighter for a great debate - happy to have you in a discussion anytime :-) #NurChat 9:02 PM

PamNelmesFoH @NHSFluFighter ..oh and 'because I'm worth it'... (think L'oreal advert as you say this tweeps). #NurChat 9:02 PM

NHSFluFighter RT @PhilipRABall: @NurChat nurchat self portrait whilst chatting! http://t.co/xTBHWtEJ #NurChat 9:02 PM

NurChat RT @PhilipRABall: @NurChat nurchat self portrait whilst chatting! http://t.co/MIIdavxO < good snap Philip :) #nurchat 9:02 PM

NHSFluFighter @N1ckWarren Highlight to OH or HR some case studies http://t.co/UjQVgbyd fluorighter #NurChat 9:02 PM

NurChat RT @PhilipRABall: @NurChat nurchat self portrait whilst chatting! http://t.co/MIIdavxO #NurChat 9:02 PM

CatieH @N1ckWarren Have you spoken to OH or similar about making it more accessible? Trolleys on wards are the very best way! #nurchat 9:01 PM

NurChat Thanks a lot @nhsflufighter for a great debate - happy to have you in a discussion anytime :-) #NurChat 9:01 PM
PhilipRABall @NurChat #nurchat self portrait whilst chatting! http://t.co/ZQZJ8N9G 9:01 PM

NHSFluFighter @N1ckWarren where do you work? #NurChat 9:01 PM

NHSFluFighter RT @N1ckWarren: Wish my trust would make it easier - 4x 1 hour clinics at my unit offered so far - not on shift for any #NurChat 9:00 PM

NotFromBolton RT @AgencyNurse: This is how easy it is to #NurChat ;) http://t.co/cdr7sXlZ 9:00 PM

NHSFluFighter RT @AgencyNurse: @Medisister i think that is a brilliant ethos - lets keep trying - that's why we are here! #flufighter #NurChat 9:00 PM

PamNelmesFoH @NHSFluFighter it's important to me because it's important to others...#NurChat 9:00 PM

N1ckWarren Wish my trust would make it easier - 4x 1 hour clinics at my unit offered so far - not on shift for any #nurchat 9:00 PM

AgencyNurse @Medisister i think that is a brilliant ethos - lets keep trying #nurchat 8:59 PM

NHSFluFighter @PamNelmesFoH Great stuff! #NurChat 8:59 PM

NHSFluFighter RT @NurChat: RT @AgencyNurse: This is how easy it is to #NurChat ;) http://t.co/dFGLW0qI < nice NurChatting pic #NurChat 8:59 PM

gerrybolger @nursiedeb @HelenGSTT: interesting that in some places it's a choice and others not (not my experience I might add!) #nurchat 8:59 PM
AgencyNurse RT @gracenglorydan: RT @gerrybolger: Well done all the #flufighters and lets the the nation vaccinated #nurchat 8:59 PM

Medisister @nursiedeb Making people get the jab is likely to be as hard as making them stop smoking, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't try! #nurchat 8:59 PM

gracenglorydan RT @gerrybolger: Well done all the #flufighters and lets the the nation vaccinated #nurchat 8:59 PM

AgencyNurse @PamNelmesFoH lol - late but great !! #nurchat 8:58 PM

hannietaylor RT @NurChat; RT @NHSFluFighter: Five quick things you can do to support our flu fighter campaign http://t.co/nGP7LySc #flufighter #nurchat 8:58 PM

NurChat RT @AgencyNurse: This is how easy it is to #NurChat ;)
http://t.co/qGCvKidB < nice NurChatting pic #nurchat 8:58 PM

NurChat @nhsflufighter are going to be at primary care live nxt week -19&20, I'm sure they'd love to say hi if you are there #Nurchat 8:58 PM

nursiedeb RT @HelenGSTT; RT @nursiedeb: hep B vaccine is a choice and some staff decline It is a condition of employment where I work. #nurchat 8:58 PM

NHSE_Andrew RT @NurChat; RT @NHSFluFighter: Five quick things you can do to support our flu fighter campaign http://t.co/FWeFyF3V #flufighter #nurchat 8:58 PM

PamNelmesFoH I can see this as part of the marketing campaign for AW11- by @nursiedeb: well..'what else do we get for nothing at work’ #nurchat Class! 8:58 PM
CatieH @AgencyNurse @nursiedeb: Exactly - phrases like "manflu" make people think of #flu as a cold for pathetic people. It's most def not. #nurchat 8:58 PM

SFHFT RT @NHSFluFighter: These are just a few myths that surround the flu vaccination... along with the flu vaccine giving you the flu - which is false #NurChat 8:57 PM

NHSFluFighter RT @CatieH: @PamNelmesFoH you've just about enough time to give us a one-liner on why the jab is important to you! #NurChat 8:57 PM

NurChat RT @NHSFluFighter: Five quick things you can do to support our flu fighter campaign http://t.co/nGP7LySc #flufighter #nurchat 8:57 PM

AgencyNurse: This is how easy it is to #NurChat ;) http://t.co/cdr7sXlZ 8:57 PM

NHSFluFighter RT @N1ckWarren: Just been lurking tonight but great debate. #NurChat 8:57 PM

HelenGSTT RT @nursiedeb: hep B vaccine is a 'choice' and some staff decline #NurChat 8:57 PM

NHSFluFighter: Five quick things you can do to support our flu fighter campaign http://t.co/TK2Tx7Xu #flufighter #NurChat 8:57 PM

AgencyNurse RT @NurChat: 10 mins to go, great lively chat :) NEXT CHAT 25th October discussing "Basic Care" #nurchat 8:57 PM

CatieH @PamNelmesFoH you've just about enough time to give us a one-liner on why the jab is important to you! #nurchat 8:57 PM

gerrybolger Well done all the #flufighters and lets the the nation vaccinated #nurchat 8:57 PM
NHSFluFighter @AgencyNurse Thank you,... but it is frontline staff like yourself who make the difference #NurChat 8:56 PM

gerrybolger @KevinHamUoP so true #nurchat 8:56 PM

AgencyNurse @nursiedeb i think you may have a point there flu is not seen as serious!!! #nurchat 8:56 PM

N1ckWarren Just been lurking tonight but great debate. #nurchat 8:56 PM

KevinHamUoP #nurchat will need longer than an hour for that debate Gerry 8:56 PM

NurChat RT @PamNelmesFoH: Pam here joining very late! Just scanning tweets and what a great debate you've all had #nurchat @flufighters #nurchat 8:55 PM

NHSFluFighter RT @AgencyNurse: i think that its brilliant to see so many nurses passionate about flu and this years campaign #NurChat 8:55 PM

NHSE_Dean RT @NHSFluFighter: RT @nursiedeb: @NHSFluFighter Thank you. I am incredibly proud to be part of the campaign #NurChat 8:55 PM

PamNelmesFoH Pam here joining very late! Just scanning tweets and what a great debate you've all had #nurchat @flufighters 8:55 PM

nursiedeb Do you think that we can 'make' staff get a vaccination they don't want? is it perhaps cos flu is not seen as 'serious' like hep B? #nurchat 8:54 PM

gerrybolger Can I propose for a future #nurchat how do we solve a problem like the NHS (and stop it being a political football 8:54 PM
NurChat Why not show nurses how easy it is to #NurChat? twit a pic of yourself NurChatting tonight...a feel a competition coming on! #nurchat 8:54 PM

AgencyNurse ... thanks goes to the hard working ppl at @nhsflufighter for bringing the campaign to nurses #nurchat 8:54 PM

nhsemployers RT @NHSFluFighter: RT @nursiedeb: Would like to take a wee minute to say thank you to all the staff fighting flu. Both giving and receiving jabs! #NurChat 8:54 PM

gracenglorydan Absolutely!! “@AgencyNurse: i think that itsbrilliant to see so many nurses passionate about flu and this years campaign #nurchat” 8:54 PM

gerrybolger RT @AgencyNurse: i think that itsbrilliant to see so many nurses passionate about flu and this years campaign #nurchat 8:54 PM

AgencyNurse i think that itsbrilliant to see so many nurses passionate about flu and this years campaign #nurchat 8:53 PM

gracenglorydan #NurChat re: mandatory vaccines read a great quote: "Imms is more highly valued by a public persuaded of it's benefits not coerced" 8:53 PM

NurChat RT @nursiedeb: Would like to take a wee minute to say thank you to all the staff fighting flu. Both giving and receiving jabs! #nurchat 8:52 PM

KevinHamUoP #nurchat I agree Gerry 8:52 PM

AgencyNurse @gerrybolger will post on blog :D #nurchat 8:52 PM

KevinHamUoP RT @gerrybolger: @AgencyNurse do we mean 'basic' or fundamental? care #flu #fluflighter #nurchat 8:52 PM
gerrybolger @AgencyNurse do we mean 'basic' or fundamental? care #flu #fluflighter #nurchat 8:51 PM

NurChat RT @gerrybolger: @theRCN what's your position on #flu vaccinations being an occupational requirement #fluflighter #nurchat 8:51 PM

nursiedeb @NurChat Day of my surgery, but I will be taking part as I hope to be receiving some very good basic care lol! #nurchat 8:51 PM

AgencyNurse RT @gerrybolger: @theRCN what's your position on #flu vaccinations being an occupational requirement #fluflighter #nurchat 8:51 PM

NHS Flu Fighter RT @NurChat: 10 mins to go, great lively chat :) NEXT CHAT 25th October discussing "Basic Care" #NurChat 8:51 PM

AgencyNurse RT @nursiedeb: Would like to take a wee minute to say thank you to all the staff fighting flu. Both giving and receiving jabs! #nurchat 8:50 PM

NurChat 10 mins to go, great lively chat :) NEXT CHAT 25th October discussing "Basic Care" #nurchat 8:50 PM

AgencyNurse @gerrybolger you have persuaded me with your arguement #nurchat 8:50 PM

NHS Flu Fighter RT @nursiedeb: Would like to take a wee minute to say thank you to all the staff fighting flu. Both giving and receiving jabs! #NurChat 8:49 PM

gerrybolger @CatieH trust me I will! Are unions opposed to other occupational vaccines then too? #nurchat 8:49 PM

NHS Flu Fighter RT @KevinHamUoP surely this is what this yrs campaign is all about- target healthcare staff and they pass on the message #NurChat 8:49 PM
NHSE_Andrew RT @nursiedeb: Would like to take a wee minute to say thank you to all the staff fighting flu. Both giving and receiving jabs! #nurchat 8:49 PM

laurajole RT @NHSFluFighter: @nursiedeb After all it is about protecting our patients and family as well as ourselves #flufighter #NurChat 8:49 PM

CatieH @gerrybolger I assume that's something you need to take to your union, although I believe they are opposed mandatory flu jabs. #nurchat 8:49 PM

gerrybolger RT @AgencyNurse: @gerrybolger i must admit i do agree with you there - it should be a requirement #nurchat Thank you I felt a lone voice! 8:48 PM

nursiedeb Would like to take a wee minute to say thank you to all the staff fighting flu. Both giving and receiving jabs! #nurchat 8:48 PM

AgencyNurse @gerrybolger i must admit i do agree with you there - it should be a requirement #nurchat 8:48 PM

gerrybolger RT @nursiedeb: RT @NHSFluFighter: After all it is about protecting our patients and family as well as ourselves #flufighter #nurchat 8:48 PM

nursiedeb RT @NHSFluFighter: @nursiedeb After all it is about protecting our patients and family as well as ourselves #flufighter #nurchat 8:47 PM

gerrybolger #nurchat if where I used 2 live our GP had 3 weekends of flu jabs only the uptake by elderly & vulnerable puts NHS staff to shame 8:47 PM

AgencyNurse @KevinHamUoP surely this is what this yrs campaign is all about- target healthcare staff and they pass on the message #nurchat 8:47 PM

NHSFluFighter @nursiedeb After all it is about protecting our patients and family as well as ourselves #flufighter #NurChat 8:47 PM
NHSFluFighter RT @nursiedeb: @NHSFluFighter Thank you. I am incredibly proud to be part of the campaign #NurChat 8:47 PM

gerrybolger @AgencyNurse i repeat we've made it optional and not a requirement #nurchat 8:46 PM

nursiedeb @NHSFluFighter Thank you. I am incredibly proud to be part of the campaign #nurchat 8:46 PM

KevinHamUoP #nurchat I suppose we need better strategies to target the high risk groups 8:46 PM

laurajole @HelenGSTT I took part in the programme 2yrs ago, trained through OH and covered with a PGD #NurChat 8:45 PM

AgencyNurse @gerrybolger which is ??? #nurchat 8:45 PM

NHSFluFighter @nursiedeb Most definitely Debbie...and it is down to staff like you that makes that a reality #NurChat 8:45 PM

gerrybolger RT @AgencyNurse: I get irritated w e have the same discussion year on year and we don't tackle the underlying issue #nurchat 8:45 PM

nursiedeb Hopefully we will improve year on year. Certainly heartening to know we have an increase #nurchat 8:44 PM

NHSFluFighter RT @KevinHamUoP: #nurchat at my local GP they have all the flags out to increase uptake you cant miss it #NurChat 8:44 PM

AgencyNurse RT @KevinHamUoP: #nurchat at my local GP they have all the flags out to increase uptake you cant miss it #nurchat 8:44 PM
@NHSFluFighter @gerrybolger Great that you admire the work gone into the 2011/2012 campaign. #NurChat 8:44 PM

@NurChat RT @gerrybolger: I have to admire this year flu campaign it's in your face and hard for staff to ignore #nurchat (& on my payslip too!) 8:44 PM

@AgencyNurse @gerrybolger yes it certainly seems to have got our attention this year #nurchat 8:44 PM

@KevinHamUoP #nurchat at my local GP they have all the flags out to increase uptake you can't miss it 8:44 PM

@CatieH RT @NHSFluFighter: @gerrybolger any positive increase of flu vaccination uptake is an improvement #NurChat 8:44 PM

@NHSFluFighter RT @gerrybolger: I have to admire this year flu campaign its in your face and hard for staff to ignore (& on my payslip too!) #NurChat 8:43 PM

@NHSFluFighter RT @PhilipRABall working in independent charity provider trying to persuade them flu jabs good investment not all GPs help #NurChat 8:43 PM

gerrybolger I have to admire this year flu campaign it's in your face and hard for staff to ignore #nurchat (& on my payslip too!) 8:43 PM

@gracenglorydan RT @CatieH: The last thing we want is some trusts with waste and some with not enough, so keep communications with neighbours open! #nurchat 8:42 PM

@NHSFluFighter @gerrybolger any positive increase of flu vaccination uptake is an improvement #NurChat 8:42 PM

@AgencyNurse RT @CatieH: The last thing we want is some trusts with waste and some with not enough, so keep communications with neighbours open! #nurchat 8:42 PM
NHSFluFighter RT @CatieH: The last thing we want is some trusts with waste and some with not enough, so keep communications with neighbours open! #NurChat 8:42 PM

HelenGSTT @laurajole how are you facilitating ~ is there 1 Trust PGD? #NurChat 8:42 PM

NurChat RT @CatieH: Yes still stocks left. Of course trusts that run out should consider asking neighbouring trusts if they have an excess... #nurchat 8:42 PM

gerrybolger RT @AgencyNurse: though if last years uptake was only 35% ish then 50% would be a marked improvement #nurchat or a bad result for 50% don't 8:41 PM

CatieH The last thing we want is some trusts with waste and some with not enough, so keep communications with neighbours open! #nurchat 8:41 PM

NHSFluFighter @gerrybolger More stock has been ordered than last year...and suppliers have confirmed that they have additional supplies #NurChat 8:41 PM

nursiedeb RT @AgencyNurse: though if last years uptake was only 35% ish then 50% would be a marked improvement #nurchat 8:41 PM

AgencyNurse though if last years uptake was only 35% ish then 50% would be a marked improvement #nurchat 8:41 PM

gerrybolger RT @NHSFluFighter: @gerrybolger ...and suppliers report that they still have stocks available to order. #NurChat So we have enough stocks 8:41 PM

CatieH Yes still stocks left. Of course trusts that run out should consider asking neighbouring trusts if they have an excess... #nurchat 8:40 PM
@PhilipRABall: @NurChat #NurChat working in independent charity provider trying to persuade them flu jabs good investment @NHSFluFighter not all GPs help 8:40 PM

gerrybolger: I maybe simplifying the issue, but we have limited stocks optional choice & want everyone to have it that's not a win-win situation #nurchat 8:40 PM

@NHSFluFighter: @gerrybolger: 8.4m doses of seasonal flu vaccine have been distributed to the NHS and private sector in the UK #NurChat 8:40 PM

@laurajole: My trust is aiming for 70% with trained nurses in every dept giving out the jabs #NurChat 8:39 PM

@nursiedeb: That's an interesting point about supplies. #nurchat 8.4m vaccines have been made this year. 7.1m doses last year. 8:39 PM

@gracenglorydan: @nursiedeb: We brought enough for 80%! I'm so under pressure not to waste any! ;-} #nurchat 8:39 PM

@nursiedeb: Considering that we are the 3rd largest employer in the world, we should have more #nurchat 8:39 PM

@PhilipRABall: @NurChat #NurChat working in independent charity provider trying to persuade them flu jabs good investment @NHSFluFighter not all GPs help 8:39 PM

@gracenglorydan: @nursiedeb: We brought enough for 80%! I'm so under pressure not to waste any! ;-) #NurChat 8:39 PM

@NHSFluFighter: @gerrybolger: ...and suppliers report that they still have stocks available to order. #NurChat 8:39 PM

@AgencyNurse: RT @nursiedeb: In my trust we have a limited supply. We would not have enough if over 50% of staff got it. - OMG really ?? #nurchat 8:39 PM
laurajole  My trust is aiming for 70% with trained nurses in every dept giving out the jabs #Nurchat 8:39 PM

NHSFluFighter @gerrybolger 8.4m doses of seasonal flu vaccine have been distributed to the NHS and private sector in the UK #NurChat 8:38 PM

nursiedeb @laurajole It wont be your last love! Its addictive this chatting to other nurses stuff! #nurchat 8:38 PM

gerrybolger @nursiedeb thats why we are not making it mandatory! #nurchat not enough 8:38 PM

AgencyNurse RT @gerrybolger: If the whole of the NHS & private sector had to have it, have we enough vaccinations - interesting question #nurchat 8:38 PM

laurajole @nursiedeb hi, first time on #NurChat 8:37 PM

nursiedeb In my trust we have a limited supply. We would not have enough if over 50% of staff got it. #nurchat 8:37 PM

gerrybolger Can anyone remember when you had to get your Hep Vacs form your GP before it was provided at work? #nurchat (or am I showing the 80's) 8:37 PM

NurChat RT @NHSFluFighter: @KevinHamUoP Studies show that trivalent seasonal influenza vaccines give about 7080% protection to healthy adults #NurChat 8:37 PM

AgencyNurse @laurajole welcome :D #nurchat 8:37 PM

gerrybolger If the whole of the NHS & private sector had to have it, have we enough vaccinations #nurchat 8:36 PM
nursiedeb @laurajole Hiya! #nurchat 8:36 PM

gracenglorydan RT @NHSFluFighter: @KevinHamUoP Studies show that trivalent seasonal influenza vaccines give about 70-80% protection to healthy adults #NurChat 8:36 PM

NHSE_Andrew @HelenGSTT at least it raised the issue! #nurchat 8:36 PM

AgencyNurse @nursiedeb maybe it's due to some of the common myths about the jab #nurchat 8:36 PM

gerrybolger Am I mistaken, why are e offering sweeties to the children to do the right thing and get vaccinated, it's a responsibility of care? #nurchat 8:36 PM

laurajole Sorry I'm late, cardiac nurse in the catheter labs, prev worked with OH to administer flu jabs to staff, interesting discussion #NurChat 8:36 PM

NHSFluFighter @KevinHamUoP Studies show that trivalent seasonal influenza vaccines give about 70-80% protection to healthy adults #NurChat 8:36 PM

CatieH @PhilipRABall Some are paying them with an extra day holiday, or incentivising by doing a draw for free car park space/vouchers etc #nurchat 8:35 PM

nursiedeb Can't understand why anyone wouldn't want it. What else do we get for nothing at work!! #nurchat 8:35 PM

AgencyNurse RT @KevinHamUoP: excuse my ignorance but how much does having the jab reduce your risk of acquiring flu? - one for @nhsflufighter #nurchat 8:35 PM

NHSE_Andrew @gerrybolger 'choice'. Having said that all unions very supportive of this year's campaign. #nurchat 8:35 PM
nursiedeb RT @AgencyNurse: RT @PhilipRABall: @NurChat how about paying staff to take flu jab? .... WHAT !!! isnt a lollipop enough?? #nurchat 8:35 PM

NurChat Have you been offered the jab? Let's get some feedback for @NHSFluFighter tonight. #nurchat 8:35 PM

NHSFluFighter @PhilipRABall Why should staff need paying? It is free. It protects them. Their families and their patients. #NurChat 8:34 PM

AgencyNurse RT @PhilipRABall: @NurChat how about paying staff to take flu jab? .... WHAT !!! isnt a lollipop enough?? #nurchat 8:34 PM

KevinHamUoP #nurchat excuse my ignorance but how much does having the jab reduce your risk of acquiring flu? 8:34 PM

CatieH @nursiedeb And although that isn't the same as a "champion" it makes her easily recognisable as a nudge to get the jab #nurchat 8:34 PM

gerrybolger @NHSE_Andrew why? #nurchat 8:34 PM

HelenGSTT It will be interesting to see what happens if HCW uptake poor, given the CMO article in the Times some weeks ago #NurChat 8:33 PM

gerrybolger #nurchat in fact if the GMC and NMC had any small round things they'd tackle their practitioners for not complying as a duty of care 8:33 PM

NHSE_Andrew @gerrybolger Not just DH. Staff side also opposed to mandatory vaccination. #nurchat 8:33 PM

NHSFluFighter @gerrybolger So do you think that resistance is because of myths? #NurChat 8:33 PM
nursiedeb: Resistance is futile! #nurchat 8:33 PM

PhilipRABall @NurChat: how about paying staff to take flu jab? #nurchat 8:33 PM

AgencyNurse RT @gerrybolger: Then DH can stop whining that the uptake is bad. Imagine if we made all the other vaccinations optional! #nurchat 8:33 PM

gerrybolger: I agree role models are good but you'll have a die hard group that will resist #nurchat 8:32 PM

NurChat RT @nursiedeb: Lol! I was kidding. I think flu cost us a lot more money than hepatitis B and we all have to be vaccinated against that #nurchat 8:32 PM

AgencyNurse @Medisister: that's a very interesting perspective & i would have to agree #nurchat 8:32 PM

nursiedeb @AgencyNurse: Yes. Get people on the ground and get jabbing! #nurchat 8:32 PM

NurChat RT @Medisister: A flu jab at this time of year is as much a duty of care as washing your hands. #nurchat 8:32 PM

gerrybolger @NHSE_Andrew: Then DH can stop whining that the uptake is bad. Imagine if we made all the other vaccinations optional! #nurchat 8:32 PM

NHSE_Andrew @nursiedeb: London Ambulance have done same things with their paramedics - worked really well and vaccine rates high. #nurchat 8:32 PM

NHSFluFighter @nursiedeb: Flufighter champions are a great idea! #NurChat 8:32 PM
AgencyNurse @nursiedeb that's a great idea - someone at grass roots level though to act as role model too  #nurchat 8:31 PM

gerrybolger @HelenGSTT then so be it 9unless their good clinical grounds you can't have it like others and its on an individual basis.  #NurChat 8:31 PM

KevinHamUoP #nurchat yeah 8:31 PM

NHSE_Andrew @HelenGSTT Your right and when we last spoke to them there was no plans to make it mandatory.  #nurchat 8:31 PM

Medisister A flu jab at this time of year is as much a duty of care as washing your hands.  #nurchat 8:30 PM

nursiedeb Lol! I was kidding. I think flu cost us a lot more money than hepatitis B and we all have to be vaccinated against that  #nurchat 8:30 PM

AgencyNurse @KevinHamUoP are you still working there ??  #nurchat 8:30 PM

HelenGSTT I think guidance would be required from DH in order to mandate the vaccine  #NurChat 8:29 PM

nursiedeb I think each ward should have a couple of flu fighter champions, Do some training and let each ward have their own supply of jabs  #nurchat 8:29 PM

KevinHamUoP #nurchat I declined an immunisation recently that I was told I had to have to work within my Trust 8:29 PM

NHSFluFighter @nursiedeb This is understandable and has come up in our flu workshops...but isn't it also a duty of care?  #NurChat 8:29 PM
gerrybolger @nursiedeb Then all other vaccines are a breech of human rights, hogwash!! It's a public health issue! #nurchat 8:29 PM

AgencyNurse @nursiedeb but don't we already have to have immunisations - surely one more wont breach our human rights? #nurchat 8:29 PM

AgencyNurse RT @gerrybolger: @KevinHamUoP Do you have a freedom of choice on other vaccines then required for work? #nurchat 8:28 PM

nursiedeb Gerry I agree, however some may say that its a breach of their human rights lol! #nurchat 8:28 PM

gerrybolger @KevinHamUoP Do you have a freedom of choice on other vaccines then required for work? #nurchat 8:27 PM

gracenglorydan Hear hear!! Lol! ;-) “@AgencyNurse: @gracenglorydan extra days leave or a lollipop- the lollipop get my vote !! #nurchat” 8:27 PM

gerrybolger @NHSFluFighter I think the flu vaccine should be trated like other occupational vaccines. #NurChat 8:27 PM

AgencyNurse RT @Medisister No. Everyone knows what an injection is and what a needle looks like. Saying Ive had it wont make it more appealing #nurchat 8:27 PM

NurChat RT @NHSFluFighter: @gerrybolger So you believe that the flu vaccination should be contractual? #NurChat 8:27 PM

gerrybolger I think we're muddying the issues by making it optional & the issue of employer requiring it is good public health practice? #nurchat 8:26 PM

nursiedeb Oh brilliant thank you Catie! #nurchat 8:26 PM
Medisister @NurChat - No. Everyone knows what an injection is and what a needle looks like. Saying 'I've had it' won't make it more appealing #nurchat 8:26 PM

NHSFluFighter @gerrybolger So you believe that the flu vaccination should be contractual? #NurChat 8:26 PM

gracenglorydan @NurChat absolutely!! Virtually every staff member I approach and offer asks me: "have you had it?". #NurChat 8:26 PM

CatieH @nursiedeb No need to make stickers, I have some spare in the office! Email the flu capaign address and I'll send you som! #nurchat 8:26 PM

AgencyNurse @PhilipRABall do you think ?? we already have vaccinations anyway as part of our employment #nurchat 8:25 PM

NHSFluFighter RT @AgencyNurse: @gracenglorydan extra days leave or a lollipop- the lollipop get my vote !! #NurChat 8:25 PM

NHSFluFighter @nursemaiden It is up to your employer if they offer you this or not. You can buy the vaccine over the counter for as little as £7 #NurChat 8:25 PM

gerrybolger #nurchat isn't it an occupational clearance requirement to have standard vaccinations, why isn't flu treated the same? Why make it optional? 8:25 PM

AgencyNurse @gracenglorydan extra days leave or a lollipop- the lollipop get my vote !! #nurchat 8:24 PM

PhilipRABall @NurChat That would be one way but would it lead to other measures becoming a condition of employment/practice i.e. stop smoking? #nurchat 8:24 PM

NHSE_Andrew @gracenglorydan - lollies a great idea! #nurchat 8:24 PM
NHSFluFighter @nursemaiden This campaign is aimed at NHS organisations... some private sector organisations have offered the flu jab - CoOp #NurChat 8:24 PM

NurChat Do you think that by getting the flu jab we can then have first hand perspective to promote the jab to patients? #nurchat 8:24 PM

nursiedeb I made stickers! #nurchat 8:23 PM

AgencyNurse @NHSFluFighter an extra days leave in exchange for having the jab!!! wow!! #nurchat 8:23 PM

gracenglorydan @NHSE_Andrew hi Andrew, we haven't stretched to a days leave but we are giving out lollipops with the flu jab!! Pediatric staff! #NurChat 8:23 PM

NurChat RT @NHSFluFighter: @nursiedeb @CatieH has been working on best practice Case Studies for the #flu campaign. Some great examples: http://t.co/UjqVgbyd #NurChat 8:22 PM

HelenGSTT Gerry, which Trusts have vaccines as a condition of practice/employment? #NurChat 8:22 PM

AgencyNurse RT @nursemaiden: #NurChat Hi Im now working in the independent sector, where do they fit in with this programme? #nurchat 8:22 PM

NurChat RT @gerrybolger: @nurchat Why the flu vaccination isn't treated the same way as the other vaccinations and a condition of employment/practice? #nurchat 8:22 PM

NHSFluFighter RT @NHSE_Andrew: I know of one trust that is giving everyone who has the jab an extra days leave - good idea?? #NurChat 8:21 PM

AgencyNurse @gerrybolger interesting question Gerry - anyone know the answer? #nurchat 8:21 PM
nursiedeb RT @NHSE_Andrew: I know of one trust that is giving everyone who has the jab an extra days leave - good idea?? #nurchat 8:21 PM

nursiedeb I also believe that the jab should be offered to all those who want it. #nurchat 8:21 PM

NHSE_Andrew I know of one trust that is giving everyone who has the jab an extra days leave - good idea?? #nurchat 8:21 PM

NHSFluFighter RT @nursiedeb: Put it this way, I cant feed my kids if I cant work! Or buy shoes! #NurChat 8:20 PM

NHSFluFighter @nursiedeb @CatieH has been working on best practice Case Studies for the #flu campaign. Some great examples: http://t.co/UjqVgbyd #NurChat 8:20 PM

nursemaiden #NurChat Hi I'm now working in the independent sector, where do they fit in with this programme? We treat NHS. Are they involved? 8:20 PM

gerrybolger @nurchat Why the flu vaccination isn't treated the same way as the other vaccinations and a condition of employment/practice? #nurchat 8:20 PM

gracenglorydan RT @nursiedeb: Put it this way, I cant feed my kids if I cant work! Or buy shoes! #nurchat 8:20 PM

nursiedeb Put it this way, I cant feed my kids if I cant work! Or buy shoes! #nurchat 8:19 PM

AgencyNurse RT @gracenglorydan: @NurChat Definately! I wouldnt forgive myself if I passed the flu virus onto one of our pediatric patients. #nurchat 8:19 PM

AgencyNurse @nursiedeb i would agree with you there #nurchat 8:19 PM
gracenglorydan @NurChat: Definitely! I wouldn't forgive myself if I passed the flu virus onto one of our pediatric patients. #NurChat 8:19 PM

NHSFluFighter RT @nursiedeb: personally yes I do. Having seen what flu can do to healthy people, it's my job to protect myself and those around me. #NurChat 8:18 PM

AgencyNurse RT @NHSE_Andrew: Any ideas for making sure community staff are targeted? Big issue for trusts who have just taken over community staff. #nurchat 8:18 PM

nursiedeb For me personally yes. I do. Having seen what flu can do to healthy young people, it's my job to protect myself and those around me. #nurchat 8:18 PM

HelenGSTT We offer until about midnight because in previous years no takers between midnight & 6 or at weekends?! #NurChat 8:17 PM

NHSE_Andrew Any ideas for making sure community based staff are targeted? Big issue for trusts who have just taken over community staff. #nurchat 8:16 PM

NurChat Do you feel it's our professional duty to get the jab? #nurchat 8:16 PM

gracenglorydan @NHSFluFighter so glad u liked! Really appreciating your encouragement this year! #NurChat 8:16 PM

Medisister @nursiedeb taking the jab to staff might be the answer but you know the old adage about leading a horse to water? #nurchat 8:16 PM

nursiedeb So true. I feel that the government could do mythbusting adverts on TV too. Reach a much wider group of people. #nurchat 8:16 PM

NurChat RT @KevinHamUoP: #nurchat has anyone mentioned how bad manflu is yet? 8:16 PM
Jon_Restell RT @AgencyNurse: @Jon_Restell @nhsflufighter amazing that myths are still prevalent even in nurses #nurchat 8:16 PM

NHSFluFighter RT @AgencyNurse: @Jon_Restell @nhsflufighter amazing that myths are still prevalent even in nurses #nurchat 8:16 PM

NHSFluFighter @nursiedeb A lot of Trusts do offer a night time clinic and a mobile vaccination clinic.... planning is key #NurChat 8:15 PM

AgencyNurse @Jon_Restell @nhsflufighter amazing that myths are still prevalent even in nurses #nurchat 8:15 PM

NHSFluFighter @gracenglorydan Yes we saw your photos! Great by the way and your enthusiasm for the campaign is inspiring! #NurChat 8:14 PM

KevinHamUoP #nurchat has anyone mentioned how bad manflu is yet? 8:14 PM

AgencyNurse RT @nursiedeb: I think we need to deploy more staff . We are all concerned about sickness levels so surely makes financial sense? #nurchat 8:14 PM

nursiedeb Do you guys offer night staff a service out of hours? Something I am trying #nurchat 8:14 PM

Jon_Restell RT @NHSFluFighter: Mythbusting is something that the #flufighter team have to tackle http://t.co/9zbK0OaD #NurChat 8:14 PM

NurChat RT @nursiedeb: I strongly feel we should offer a mobile service and go to the wards/units. Take the jab to the staff #nurchat 8:13 PM

AgencyNurse @Jon_Restell i thought that the letter form dame beasly CNO was a great idea #nurchat 8:13 PM
NHSFluFighter Mythbusting is something that the #flufighter team have to tackle http://t.co/9zbKOOaD #NurChat 8:13 PM

nursiedeb I think we need to deploy more staff to do it. We are all concerned about sickness levels so surely makes financial sense? #nurchat 8:13 PM

CatieH @gracenglorydan Did you photograph the event? Useful to get pics to use throughout the organisation! #nurchat 8:13 PM

Jon_Restell RT @NHSE_A: Docs are a big problem. We've produced a letter with the BMA to try and persuade them. Royal Colleges also supporting. #nurchat 8:12 PM

CatieH @nursiedeb Yes this seems to be the best "top tip" that comes from workshops...but it can't always be that easy? #nurchat 8:12 PM

NHSE_A Docs are a big problem. We've produced a letter with the BMA to try and persuade them. Royal Colleges also supporting. #nurchat 8:11 PM

GMTimes RT @NHSFluFighter: A lot of people feel that the flu vaccination is not safe or that the size of the needle is something to be concerned about #NurChat 8:11 PM

gracenglorydan #nurchat hi all! Im the immunization coordinator at birmingham childrens hospital. I vaccinated our Exec team today! V brave! 8:11 PM

NHSFluFighter These are just a few myths that surround the flu vaccination... along with the flu vaccine giving you the flu - which is false #NurChat 8:11 PM

CatieH I'm Catie and I also work on the #fluf campaign, gathering case studies of good practice and helping those who need it #NurChat 8:11 PM

gerrybolger #nurchat hello from London 8:11 PM
nursiedeb I strongly feel we should offer a mobile service and go to the wards/units. Take the jab to the staff #nurchat 8:10 PM

NHSFluFighter A lot of people feel that the flu vaccination is not safe or that the size of the needle is something to be concerned about #NurChat 8:10 PM

nursiedeb I have tried to organise mobile clinics and going in at night. Most uptake is from support staff. Only 1 FY1 in 2 weeks! #nurchat 8:10 PM

AgencyNurse @nursiedeb i would agree with you there - i hear this all the time #nurchat 8:09 PM

NHSE_Andrew Hi Helen - we filmed some of our flufighter vox pops at St Tommys! #nurchat 8:08 PM

HelenGSTT Hi, I'm Helen and I'm the Trust staff flu jab lead at Guy's and St Thomas, Londond #NurChat 8:07 PM

NHSE_Andrew Our research backs up what Debbie says - myths around the vaccine big issue. Also difficult for many to attend jab clinics #nurchat 8:07 PM

AgencyNurse i must admit that i did not have the flu jab last year , i think it was just one of those thing i didnt get around to #nurchat 8:06 PM

nursiedeb I think the main problem is people saying the jab makes them ill. I hear it time and time again in clinic #nurchat 8:05 PM

KP_LD RT @NHSE_Andrew: Hi I'm Andrew and amongst other things I am looking after this year's national flu campaign for NHS Employers #nurchat #nurchat 8:05 PM
Jon_Restell RT @NHSE_Andrew: Hi I'm Andrew and amongst other things I am looking after this year's national flu campaign for NHS Employers #nurchat

NHSE_Andrew Hi I'm Andrew and amongst other things I am looking after this year's national flu campaign for NHS Employers #nurchat 8:03 PM

AgencyNurse hi Teresa - agency nurse in bristol #nurchat 8:01 PM

nursiedeb Hello! Im Debbie. An ICU nurse and flu fighter in Edinburgh #nurchat 8:01 PM

NHSFluFighter @NurChat Thanks for having us! #NurChat 8:00 PM

NurChat As always let's start with introductions - so who's out there ?? #Nurchat 8:00 PM

NurChat Thanks to @nhsflufighter for tonight's discussion subject and for joining us tonight #Nurchat 7:59 PM

NHSFluFighter RT @NurChat: Also please remember to adhere to NMC guidelines when tweeting http://t.co/SUr0JY3 #NurChat 7:58 PM

NHSFluFighter RT @NurChat: We'll be starting in 5 mins, before we start pls remember that yr tweets are all yr own opinions & not necessarily those of NurChat #NurChat 7:57 PM

NurChat Also please remember to adhere to NMC guidelines when tweeting http://t.co/SUr0JY3 #NurChat 7:56 PM

NHSFluFighter RT @NurChat: Joining us this evening for the #flufighters twitter chat, use http://t.co/VA9hOt98 to make life easier :) #nurchat 7:56 PM
We'll be starting in 5 mins, before we start pls remember that yr tweets are all yr own opinions & not necessarily those of NurChat #Nurchat 7:54 PM

Joining us this evening for the #flufighters twitter chat, use http://t.co/VA9hOt98 to make life easier :) #nurchat 7:51 PM

time for a quick cup of tea before the #flu nurse twitter chatter starts #nurchat 7:48 PM

RT @NHSE_Andrew: Don't bother with Holby City tonight. Join some real nurses online at 8pm to talk about the flu jab. #nurchat #flufighter 7:39 PM

RT @NHSE_Andrew: DONT bother with Holby tonight. Join some real nurses online 8pm to talk about the flu jab. #nurchat #flufighter #nurchat 7:36 PM

Don't bother with Holby City tonight. Join some real nurses online at 8pm to talk about the flu jab. #nurchat #flufighter 7:34 PM