



Promotion of seasonal influenza vaccination rate among hospital staff

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Introduction

Seasonal influenza can lead to severe complications with higher mortality rate and longer hospitalization which imposes a heavy burden on society. For reducing influenza complications, seasonal influenza vaccination is the most effective way, in particular to the persons with elderly age, chronic disease, pregnancy, and hospital staff. Therefore, policy to promote vaccination rate among hospital staff to reduce cross infection in hospital is an important issue.

Methods

As encouragement policy, lottery system was designed for rewarding the vaccinated person in the first 3 weeks after starting seasonal influenza vaccination. Participants were drawn every day since the first day of vaccination; and the odds of winning were set as 10 percent of daily vaccinated persons in the first two weeks, and 5 percent in the last week. Prize is unknown to the participants. Propaganda of posters and e-mails to healthcare workers was done one month before vaccination.

Results

In the first two weeks, higher vaccination rate was found in the lottery group, compared with the same period in the past year. The last week, higher vaccination rate was also found in the lottery group, compared with the same period in the past year. The overall vaccination rate of first 3 weeks was also higher than the same period in the past year.

Conclusions& Comments

Risk of seasonal influenza infection is higher among hospital staff than general public. Seasonal influenza vaccination is the most effective way to reduce influenza complications. In this study, we successfully promoted vaccination rate by encouragement policy as lottery system that is expected to reduce influenza complications and cross infection in hospital.

Key word: Seasonal influenza, Vaccination, Policy, Promotion, Hospital staff, Reward

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