

A checklist to get prepared for your 24-25 employee flu campaign



FEATURED EXPERT Page Thompson Director of Employee Health & Safety Propelus

Preparing for the 2024-2025 flu season is crucial for maintaining the health and safety of your healthcare workforce and, ultimately, your patients. Studies show that healthcare staff are up to 10 times more likely to get influenza compared to the general population¹ and that an estimated 20% of healthcare workers are infected with the flu every year².

Flu outbreaks can also pose serious challenges for healthcare facilities since absenteeism among healthcare workers may approach 30-40% during these times, resulting in staff shortages, increased employment costs, and a threat to care delivery³.

To help your healthcare organization better prepare for your upcoming employee flu campaigns, we've developed this comprehensive checklist with insights from our experts.

Evaluate your previous healthcare professional (HCP) flu campaigns

Review data from past campaigns to assess vaccine and PPE (personal protective equipment) inventory. Adjust orders based on past usage and anticipated needs.

Determine strategies and incentives

Engaging supervisors and offering rewards and recognition programs can help achieve high HCP vaccination rates.

Ensure you understand your state's latest immunization requirements and registry reporting process

Utilize technology like Immuware by Propelus for direct integration with your state's registry.

Select location site(s) and clinicians for vaccine administration

Choose location sites that are convenient for employees. The Centers for DIsease Control (CDC) also **recommends** establishing a staffing plan and identifying functional roles and responsibilities for each clinic.



Ensure important forms and questionnaires are current Review consent forms, pre-consent forms, offsite documentation, exemptions, and declinations (if applicable) for accuracy.
Determine the process for staff to schedule their vaccination appointments
Consider leveraging Immuware's Appointment Scheduler module for streamlined scheduling.
Select training and education resources
Examples include the <u>CDC's infection control basics</u> . You can also leverage Immuware's resources to manage and educate your workforce on vaccination campaigns.
Review, update and reinforce administrative policies and practices
Examples include the proper practice of hand hygiene and using personal protective equipment to minimize flu exposure.
Implement real-time vaccination tracking
Utilize advanced technology like Immuware to monitor vaccination rates and ensure compliance, with on-demand access to real-time reports.
Ensure alignment with the CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) requirements
Immuware automatically generates government-mandated comprehensive NHSN reports to save you time and eliminate errors.

To learn more about how Immuware by Propelus can support your employee flu campaign and connect with our experts, visit <u>Immuware.com</u>.

Sources:

2. PubMed.gov: Incidence and recall of influenza in a cohort of Glasgow healthcare workers during the 1993-4 epidemic: results of serum testing and questionnaire

^{1.} PubMed.gov: Incidence of influenza in healthy adults and healthcare workers: a systematic review and meta-analysis

^{3.} PubMed.gov: Influenza vaccination for health care workers: A duty of care