

PAT/11/412

Monday, 19 September 2011

Find out how to fight the flu this winter with Pennine Acute Trust

DO you want to know more about how you can fight flu this winter and how your local hospitals are preparing?

The Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust is inviting staff, patients, the public and its Foundation Trust members to attend a winter flu information presentation event on Monday 26 September.

David Clements, the Trust's emergency planning co-ordinator, will be talking about how the Trust and individuals are planning and preparing themselves for winter flu, including information about flu jabs for older and vulnerable or high risk patients.



Pennine Acute Trust's flu plans were tested to the full in December 2010 when there was an increase in the number of seriously ill patients suffering from the H1N1 strain of seasonal flu. The Trust's response was proactive with staff vaccinations, communication and inpatient management through patient isolation and grouping patients with flu-like symptoms on separate wards.

The Trust's seasonal flu gold command group was introduced which included senior managers and clinicians. The group held weekly meetings to discuss operational issues and how best to cope with the increasing numbers of patients presenting with flu-like symptoms.

The Trust is not responsible for giving flu vaccinations to the public and vaccinations will not be available at the presentation events.

The flu vaccine is available from October each year from your local GP or practice nurse. For more information on how to get the seasonal flu jab visit the NHS Choices website at www.nhs.uk.

The event is part of the Trust's series of new medicine for member's events. All sessions are free and open to everyone.

FT members and the public can choose to attend one of two presentations at:

Monday 26 Sept - Education Centre, Fairfield General Hospital, 2pm -3pm.

Monday 26 Sept – Post graduate centre, North Manchester Hospital, 6pm -7pm

For more information or to book your place contact Angela Greenwood on 01706 517302 or email ft.membership@pat.nhs.uk