

Consultative Committee
with Parents
3 November 2009.

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(for info.)

CCWP Update Swine Flu (H1N1)

27.10.09

- The latest figures about the incidence of influenza A (H1N1) in Scotland were published by Health Protection Scotland (HPS) on 22 October 2009. HPS reports data from 86 per cent of practices across Scotland. The daily average GP consultation rate for Scotland was 88.5 per 100 000 in the week ending 16 October 2009. This represents a 17% decrease on the consultation rate from last week (106.3/100 000).
- Consultation rates remain highest in the 0-4 year age group. There was a decrease this week in the 5-14 years age group, whereas there was a levelling of the rates observed within the 0-4 years and the over 65 years age group. There is an increasing trend among those aged 15-64 years.
- The proportion of cold/flu calls to NHS 24 across most of Scotland is 8.3%, similar to that reported last week (8.4%). The age groups 5-14 and 15-44 years continue to account for the highest proportions of cold/flu calls. Over the past week the proportion of cold/flu calls in the 5-14 year age group decreased from 4.2% in week 41 to 2.7% in week 42.

Children and Families

- At the start of the school term, letters were sent to all parents following the Scottish Government guidelines. You can see a copy on the Scottish Government Parentzone website http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/Images/MinisterialSwineFluletterAug09_tcm4-560003.doc. This stressed that, for most children, H1N1 is a mild illness but highlighted the need for on-going hygiene.
- Further information on business continuity was sent to Children and Families establishments on 28 September. The note covered primary, secondary, special schools, nursery and early years' centres, child and family centres and support to children and young people (SCYP) services. This updated establishments on the department's business continuity arrangements, and informed establishments about what should be in place already and what they should do now.
- A secondary school in neighbouring West Lothian and some independent schools in Edinburgh reported earlier this month that they experienced an abnormally high number of absences with flu-like symptoms in early October. However, the numbers have reduced significantly in the last week. Council schools in Edinburgh were reporting normal absence levels.
- The City of Edinburgh Council will write to parents to keep parents up to date on the information in relation to H1N1

Vaccination Programme

- The Scottish Government announced on 15 October further details of the plans for the vaccination programme for priority groups as shown below. The programme started on 21 October and will be phased in over the next few weeks. Information is available on their website <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2009/10/15154358>
- Individuals who are eligible for the vaccination on health grounds will be contacted direct by their GP.
- The Council have received details on where and when priority staff and occupational groups will be offered vaccinations. This information is being cascaded to eligible staff by the Authority.
- Vaccination is voluntary. However, eligible groups are being strongly encouraged to come forward for the vaccination in order to prevent the spread of infection service users and family and friends.
- It has been noted that initial supplies of the vaccines may be limited. The Scottish Government/NHS may prioritise the groups as a result.
- **Eligible groups for vaccination programme**
 - All individuals aged between six months and 65 years in the current seasonal flu vaccine clinical at-risk groups
 - All pregnant women, subject to vaccine licensing considerations
 - Household contacts of immuno-compromised individuals
 - People aged 65 and over in the current seasonal flu vaccine clinical at risk groups
 - Health and social care workers who undertake personal care of patients/clients. These groups have been included alongside the first set of clinical priority groups because they are at increased personal risk of infection and of transmitting that infection to susceptible patients.
- The Government will continue to consider the need for other groups to be vaccinated beyond the first priority groups. The virus strain will continue to be closely monitored over the coming months and further decisions on vaccination will be informed by independent scientific advice. Further details about the vaccination programme can be found on the Scottish Government website <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Health/health/AvianInfluenza/mexicanswiuneflu/mexicanswinefluQandA/vaccination>.

Sources of further information

- The weekly update reports from Health Protection Scotland <http://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/resp/swineinfluenza.aspx>
- The Scottish Government updates, questions and answers <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Health/health/AvianInfluenza/mexicanswiuneflu/mexicanswinefluQandA/vaccination>

- The Scottish Government advice and guidance for parents and carers of nursery and school children <http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/parentzone/swineflu.asp>
- NHS 24 latest information and advice about H1N1 (swine) flu http://www.nhs24.com/content/default.asp?page=home_swineflu

Council internet website

http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/internet/Social_care/Health/CEC_swine_flu_outbreak

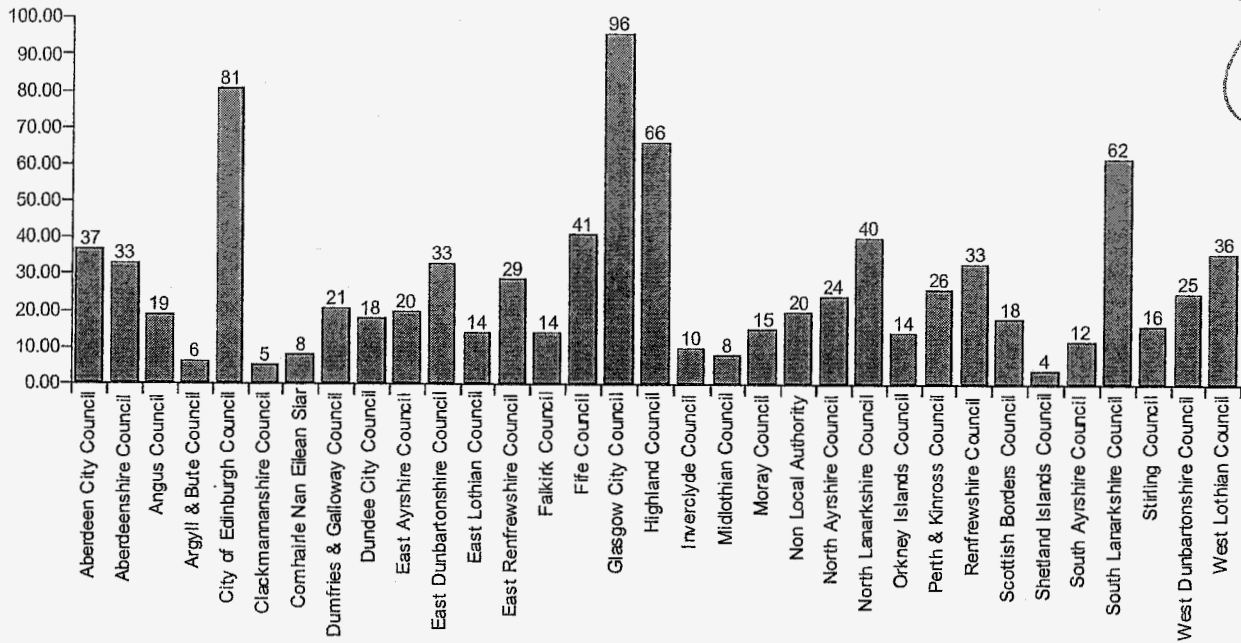
Further information on the current situation and reporting

- The Scottish Government website <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2009/10/15141223>
- Health Protection Scotland updates its situation report on its website weekly <http://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/resp/swineinfluenzareports.aspx>
- The most recent weekly update (15 October 2009) can be found on its website <http://www.documents.hps.scot.nhs.uk/respiratory/swine-influenza/situation-reports/weekly-h1n1v-sitrep-2009-10-15.pdf>.

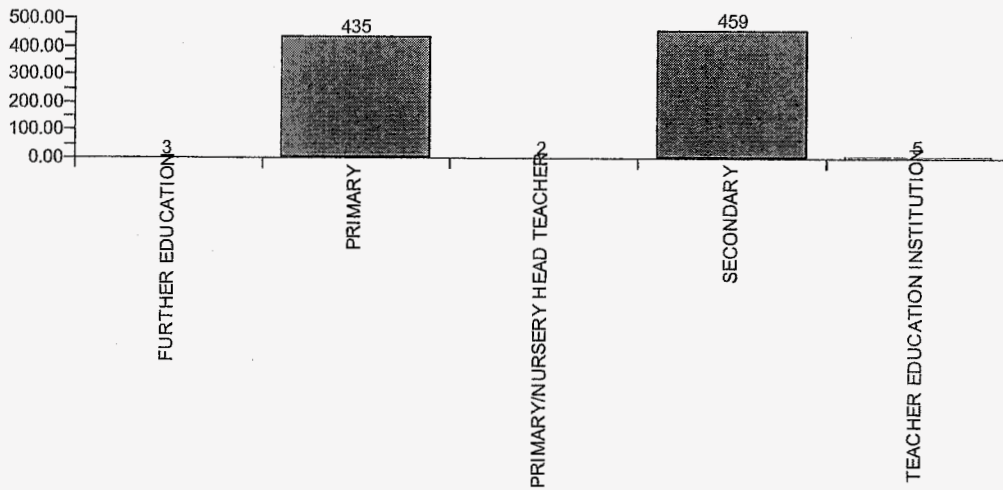
Chartered Teacher Statistics as at 10 September 2009

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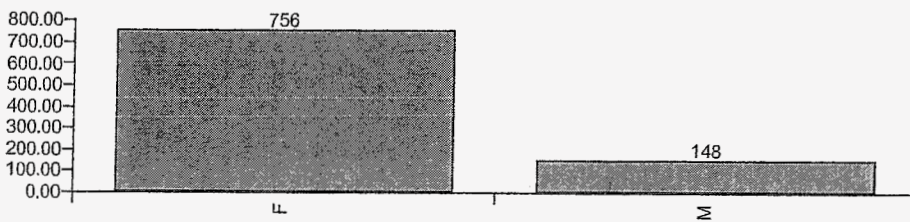
Chartered Teacher by Authority



Chartered Teacher by Sector



Chartered Teacher Gender



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3.11.09.