

Influenza preventive measures: campaigns to promote vaccination and surgical mask among health-care workers

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L. Hoisnard, E. Seringe, K. Lebascle, P. Astagneau
North France healthcare Infection Control Centre (Cclin Paris-Nord), Paris, France

Introduction

Prevention of health-care associated infections is an important issue in all health care facilities (HCF). Influenza well-known preventive measures include vaccination and use of surgical mask. This study estimates vaccination coverage among health care workers (HCW) and assesses campaigns organized to promote these methods in 2017. It has been conducted for 3 years.

Methods

A descriptive survey was conducted during the 2016-2017 flu epidemic. Data from HCF were collected thanks to an online platform. Items about vaccination rate and campaigns promoting mask use and vaccination were filled by Infection Control Team (ICT) in 2 French regions.

Evolution of vaccination coverage was assessed for HCF that participated during the 3 years.

New items such as flu epidemics during the season, health care workers infection, prescription of neuraminidase inhibitor as prophylactic treatment were added for the 2016-2017 season.

Results

- In 2016-2017: a total of 191 HCF (25%) participated. The **overall vaccination coverage** was **20.4%** [18.1 - 22.8]

Vaccination coverage	
Doctors and midwives	Nurses and nursing assistants
38.0% [33.8 - 42.2]	19.6% [16.8 - 22.4]

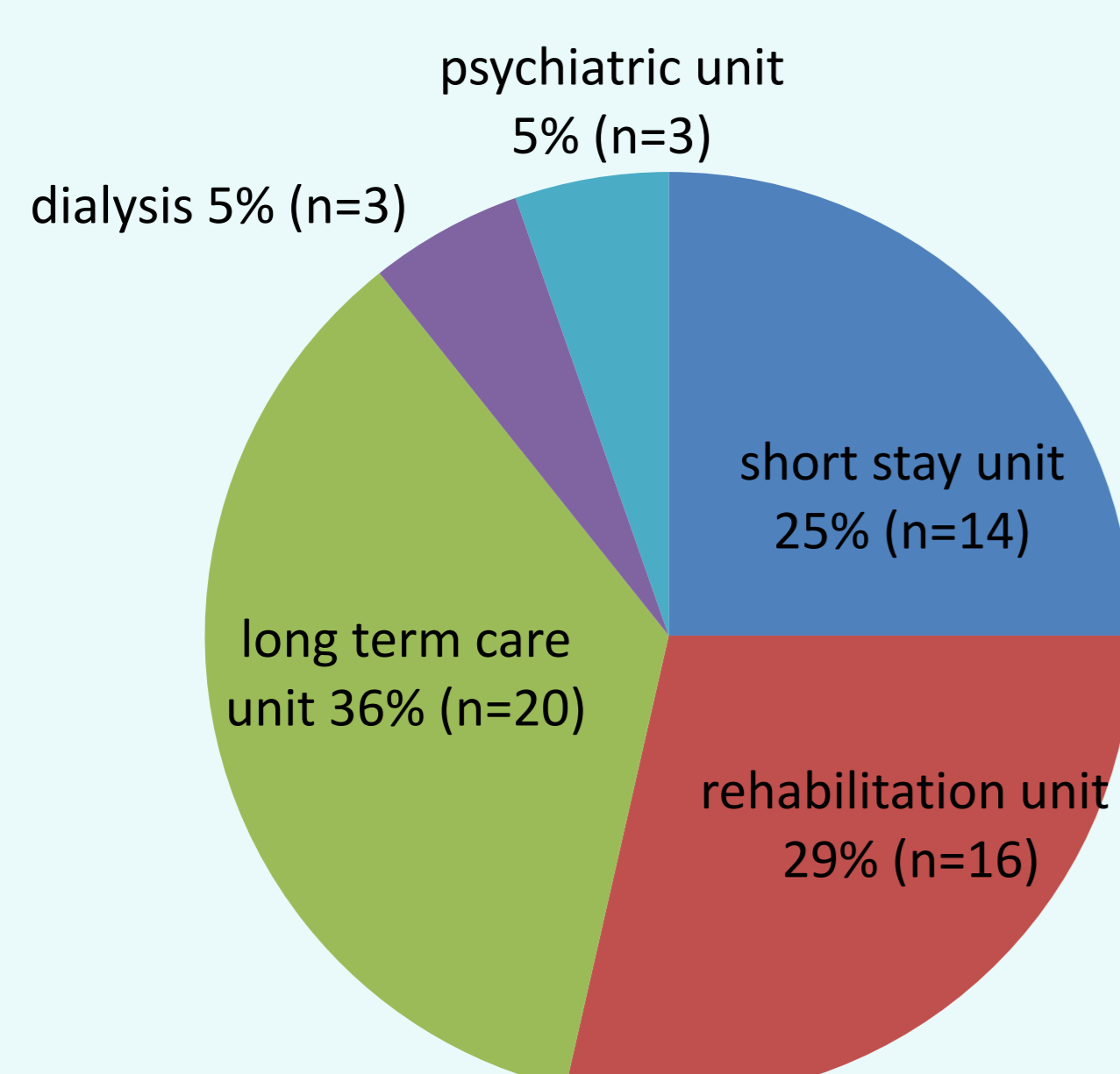
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- Preventive measures campaigns:**
 - Information about flu vaccine 93%
 - Vaccination campaigns 96%
 - Poster advising mask use in hospital 87%, Lift 40% and hall 87%

Masks are available in :



- Flu epidemic among patients**
44 (23%) ICT declared flu epidemic during the season



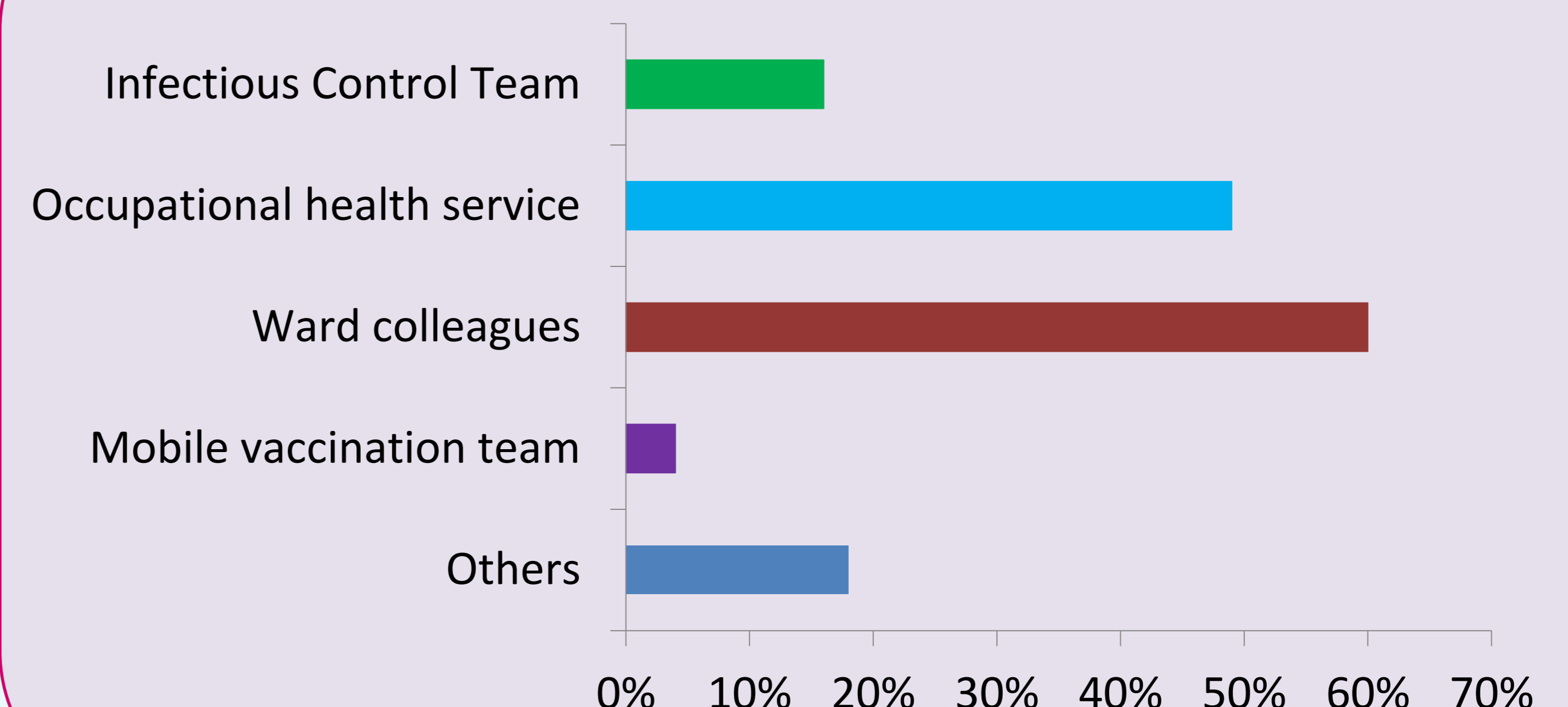
- Most of the ICT (32/44 flu epidemic) declared use of **neuraminidase inhibitor** such as oseltamivir, as prophylaxis treatment

- Among HCF who participated in 2016-2017, 74 (38%) have been participating for 3 years

Vaccination coverage evolution		
2014-2015 season	2015-2016 season	2016-2017 season
19,75% [16,5;23,0] (n=68)	19,5% [16,2;22,8] (n=69)	20,1% [17,1; 23,1] (n=72)

Anova: no statistically significant difference

Who vaccinates?



Health care workers being infected by flu:

44 (23%) HCF declared HCW with flu, most of them during flu epidemic in the hospital (n=30)

This question wasn't answered by 133 HCF (55% no response)

Conclusion

Despite information and vaccination campaigns, assessed during three years, the overall vaccination among HCW remains below expectation, about 20%. More effective measures such as behavioral methods are needed to reinforce prevention campaigns and enhance information level and awareness of patients and HCW.