



## Effective Health Care

### Mandatory Flu Vaccine for Healthcare Workers Nomination Summary Document

#### Results of Topic Selection Process & Next Steps

- The topic, *Mandatory Influenza Vaccination for Healthcare Workers*, was found to be addressed by an in process AHRQ-funded systematic review entitled: *The effectiveness of a mandate for influenza vaccination in health care providers: a systematic review*. Given that the review will cover this nomination, no further activity will be undertaken on this topic. The following link provides the protocol for the review:
  - Samantha Pitts, Jodi Segal, Kathryn Millar, RN. The effectiveness of a mandate for influenza vaccination in health care providers: a systematic review. PROSPERO 2012: CRD42012002913. To view a description and status of the research review, please go to: [http://www.crd.york.ac.uk/PROSPERO/display\\_record.asp?ID=CRD42012002913](http://www.crd.york.ac.uk/PROSPERO/display_record.asp?ID=CRD42012002913)

#### Topic Description

**Nominator(s):** Individual

**Nomination Summary:** The Rhode Island Department of Health recently amended their rules and regulations pertaining to immunization, testing, and health screening for health care workers in October of 2012 to require annual influenza vaccination for all healthcare workers (HCWs). Additionally, health care facilities have been directed to devise plans for staff influenza vaccination annually. The nomination seeks evidence of the effectiveness of mandated seasonal vaccination of HCWs, specifically those in long-term care settings, in preventing influenza and its complications, among long-term care facility residents.

##### **Staff-Generated PICO**

**Population(s):** Health care workers working in nursing homes, group homes, long-term-care facilities and other similar assisted living facilities for the elderly

**Intervention(s):** Mandatory influenza vaccination, as a condition of employment or continued employment or clinical practice by volunteers and other individuals not employed by health care facility

**Comparator(s):** Voluntary influenza vaccination, usual care

**Outcome(s):** Rate of laboratory-confirmed influenza among nursing home patients

**Key Questions from Nominator:** Does a mandate that HCWs and volunteers be vaccinated annually against influenza reduce the rate of laboratory-confirmed influenza in nursing home patients?

## Considerations

- The topic meets EHC Program appropriateness and importance criteria. (For more information, see <http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/submit-a-suggestion-for-research/how-are-research-topics-chosen/>.)
- Topic was found to be addressed by an in process systematic review entitled: *The effectiveness of a mandate for influenza vaccination in health care providers: a systematic review*. Key questions from this review include:
  1. Does an institutional mandate for influenza vaccination result in a change in attitudes toward vaccination in health care providers?
  2. Does an institutional mandate for influenza vaccination increase vaccination rates in health care providers?
  3. Does an institutional mandate for influenza vaccination decrease influenza infection, influenza-like illness, or absenteeism in health care providers?
  4. Does an institutional mandate for influenza vaccination decrease influenza infection, influenza-like illness, or mortality among patients receiving care at the facility or living within the geographic area served by the facility?
  5. Does an institutional mandate for influenza vaccination result in adverse events, including litigation, loss of health care providers due to resignation or termination, or more negative attitudes by health care providers toward hospital administration?