A staff clinic audit to improve the influenza vaccination rate among health care workers
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Introduction
- Influenza is a highly infectious disease causing significant morbidity and mortality. - Scientific evidence shows that vaccination of health care workers (HCWs) against influenza effectively reduces transmission of influenza in health-care settings. However, uptake of voluntary vaccination among health care workers remains relatively low.

Objectives
To improve the influenza vaccination rate among health care workers attending the staff clinic in a general hospital.

Methodology
- This clinical audit was conducted from October 2013 to May 2014 - Several audit criteria were adopted after literature review - Randomly selected target patients who attended the staff clinic during the HA wide influenza vaccination program periods from 18/10/2012 to 31/5/2013 and from 18/10/2013 to 31/5/2014 were recruited to the first and second cycle respectively - Patients’ vaccination status and medical records were reviewed using the Clinical Management System of Hospital Authority - Area of deficiencies on influenza vaccination provision were identified after evaluation of the results of the first cycle - Measures targeted on the deficiencies included: - Educational meetings held amongst clinic’s doctors and nurses - Offering guidelines and template to clinic doctors to facilitate anticipatory care provision on vaccination - Enhancing HCWs awareness and motivation to receive vaccine by motivational interviewing strategies - Reminders to clinic staff to participate in vaccine promotion - Results of the two cycles were compared after implementation of improvement
result
- 332 patients in the first cycle and 333 patients in the second cycle were recruited -
The audit demonstrated marked improvements in all the criteria in Cycle 2: □
 Documentation on checking of patient’s vaccination status, promoting vaccine in staff, explaining indication and side effects to staff increased from 0% to 97.7% (p-value < 0.0001) □ Documentation on reason of refusing vaccine and clarifying misconception from 0% to 86.1% (p-value < 0.0001) □ Total vaccine rate had increased significantly from 13.6% to 58.8% (p-value < 0.005) - Time constraint and lack of awareness among doctor colleagues were the major barriers for vaccine promotion and provision. Conclusion: - Improvement measures in various aspects have led to better outcome on providing influenza vaccination as an important anticipatory care for health care workers attending our clinic.