FluCare

Working towards flu-free care homes

Recruiting care homes for the 2022/23 flu season- STAFF flu vaccination trial.

NHS
Norfolk and Waveney
Clinical Commissioning Group

University of East Anglia

FUNDED BY
NIHR | National Institute for Health Research

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Operation FluCare!

- Context: care homes and flu vaccination
- The intervention
- Data being collected
- How to get involved

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Project Management and Funding

Co-Chief Investigators

Amrish Patel

David Wright

Co-Investigators (13)

University of East Anglia

University of Leicester

University of Liverpool

Norwich CTU

Public Health England

NHS

Askham a village community

Norfolk LPC

Norfolk County Council

Expert Advisory Group (6)
+ Trial Steering Committee (6)
+ Data Management Committee (3)

Boots

Care Quality Commission

Care England

Day Lewis

Wakefield Council

NCF The National Care Forum

King's College London

HC one

Department of Health & Social Care

Public and Patient Involvement Panel (8)

RAs and staff (12)

Funding

NIHR

£1.4 million

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Motivation

World Health Organization

75%

≈35%

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Testing the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of a complex intervention to increase the flu vaccination rate of care home **staff**

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Context and Impact

- Context
  - Aging population, care homes increasingly important
  - COVID infections and mortality in care homes
  - Severe resurgence of flu anticipated this/next year
  - Vaccination in public consciousness like never before, unique opportunity to change norms
  - Care sector resistance against “mandatory” vaccination/staffing difficulties
  - Learnings useful for COVID booster vaccinations (or joint vacc)
- Considerable previous (piecemeal) policy efforts
  - Free vaccination for care home staff with a contract
  - Pharmacists permitted to vaccinate staff in homes

  …. Not tackling all remaining barriers to vaccine uptake at once
- Potential impact: Change Department of Health and Social Care policy
  - Resident health and mortality
  - Care quality
  - Care home financial sustainability

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The Intervention

- Free and convenient vaccine clinics for staff delivered within the care home by a pharmacist, GP or other provider
- Motivational videos, posters, and leaflets for staff across the care home
- Incentive payment to care homes for meeting the staff vaccination target

This is called The FluCare Package

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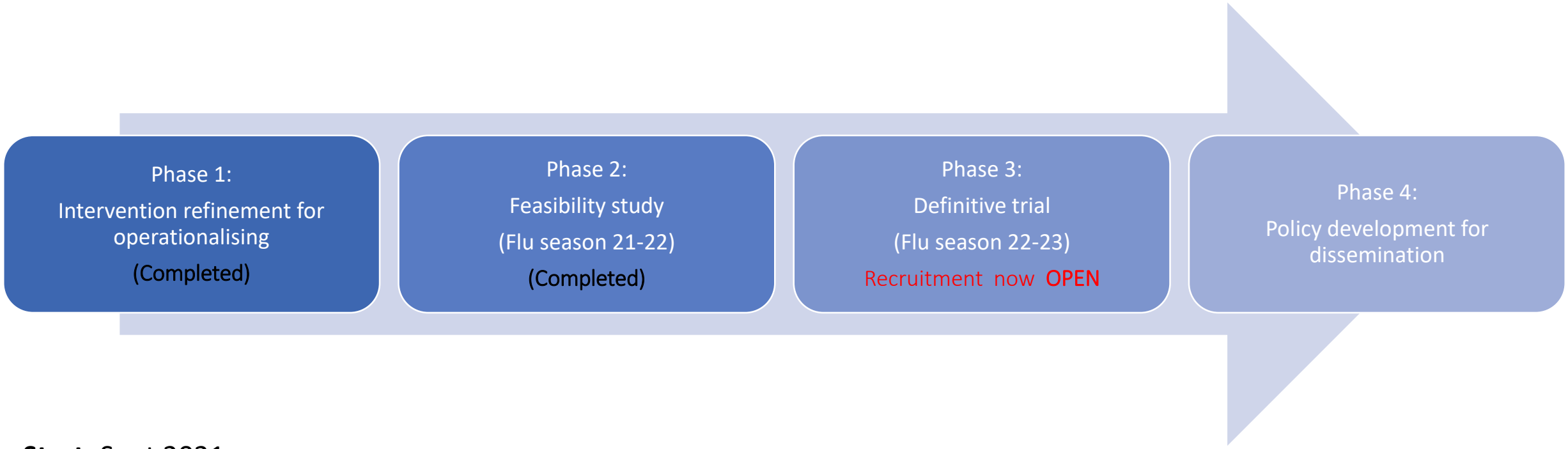
Project Plan



Start: Sept 2021

End: Apr 2024

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Flu Season 2022-23 Trial

70 care homes from across England

- 35 will be randomly chosen to receive the intervention
- 35 will be randomly chosen to not receive the intervention

We'll collect data on various things from the homes including:

- Staff vaccination rates
- Staff sick days
- Aggregate resident sickness etc

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Have low staff flu vaccine rates?
Want to help take-action against flu?

- **Some homes will receive the FluCare package and others will not**

All participating homes **will receive £500** to cover the costs of time spent taking part and providing information for the researchers, whether they are chosen to receive the FluCare package or not.

www.flucare.co.uk

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To take part **your** care home must:

- **Be a residential or nursing care home in England**
- **Be providing care for people aged 65 and older**
- **Have ten or more staff members of any role**
- **Have a staff flu vaccination rate of less than 40% (from the 2021/22 flu season)**

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Research Data To Be Collected

Care home managers

- Site profile questionnaire: care home characteristics
- Care home manager log: individual-level staff details (anonymised)
- Aggregated resident data
- Interviews

Care home staff

- Brief staff questionnaire (voucher payment for completion)
- Interviews

All participating homes **will receive £500** to cover the costs of time spent taking part and providing information for the researchers, whether they are chosen to receive the FluCare package or not.

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How to get involved

- Go to the FluCare website: www.flucare.co.uk to find out more information and express an interest
- Go to Twitter **@flu_care**
- Get in touch with our team at **flu.care@uea.ac.uk**

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Thank you for listening!

Contact Jeanette or Jennifer for more information.

flu.care@uea.ac.uk