

# Seasonal influenza vaccination programme country profile: United Kingdom – Wales

## 2012–13 Season

### Background information

Influenza immunisation policy and general facts about the United Kingdom	
Volume indices of GDP per capita in 2011 and 2013 (EU-28=100) Source: Eurostat <sup>a</sup>	106 and 109 respectively (UK)
Health costs as % of GDP 2011 Source: Eurostat <sup>b</sup>	8.0% (UK)
Total population of the country, 2011 Source: Eurostat <sup>c</sup>	UK: 63 182 180 Wales: 3 082 412 (source: Mid-year population estimate for 2013, Welsh Government StatsWales: <a href="https://statswales.wales.gov.uk/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population/Estimates/NationalLevelPopulationEstimates-by-Year-Age-UKCountry">https://statswales.wales.gov.uk/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population/Estimates/NationalLevelPopulationEstimates-by-Year-Age-UKCountry</a> )
Population ≥65, 2011 Source: Eurostat <sup>c</sup>	UK: 10 377 125 (16.4% from the total population) Wales: 600 630 (>65 population of Wales (19.5% of population) source: Mid-year population estimate for 2013, Welsh Government StatsWales: <a href="https://statswales.wales.gov.uk/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population/Estimates/NationalLevelPopulationEstimates-by-Year-Age-UKCountry">https://statswales.wales.gov.uk/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population/Estimates/NationalLevelPopulationEstimates-by-Year-Age-UKCountry</a> )
Population with chronic medical conditions <65 years, 2006 Source: ECDC (based on methodology by Fleming and Eliot, 2006) <sup>d</sup>	5 051 000 (8.0% from the total population) (UK)
Number of live births in 2011 <sup>e</sup>	807 776 (1.3%from the total population) (UK)
National seasonal influenza recommendations (e.g. age and target group recommendations and guidelines)	Recommendations available
URL link to Immunisation Guidelines for Wales	<a href="http://gov.wales/topics/health/cmo/publications/cmo/item/flu/?lang=en">http://gov.wales/topics/health/cmo/publications/cmo/item/flu/?lang=en</a>
National Action Plan (NAP) as requested by EC	Plan was adopted
URL link to NAP	<a href="http://www2.nphs.wales.nhs.uk:8080/PHWExecutiveManDocs.nsf/(\$All)/DCE43C7ADB6103BB80257A7E003904F8/\$File/Flu%20Plan.pdf?OpenElement">http://www2.nphs.wales.nhs.uk:8080/PHWExecutiveManDocs.nsf/(\$All)/DCE43C7ADB6103BB80257A7E003904F8/\$File/Flu%20Plan.pdf?OpenElement</a>

EUROSTAT links:

<sup>a</sup>GDP per capita 2013 (accessed 15.12.2014): [http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/GDP\\_per\\_capita\\_consumption\\_per\\_capita\\_and\\_price\\_level\\_indices](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/GDP_per_capita_consumption_per_capita_and_price_level_indices)

<sup>b</sup>Health expenditures 2011(accessed 15.12.2014): [http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/General\\_government\\_expenditure\\_on\\_social\\_protection\\_and\\_health](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/General_government_expenditure_on_social_protection_and_health)

<sup>c</sup> Total population and those > 65 years of age 2011 (accessed 15.12.2014):  
<https://ec.europa.eu/CensusHub2/intermediate.do?&method=forwardResult>

<sup>d</sup> Population with chronic medical conditions 2006:  
[http://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications/Publications/0808\\_GUI\\_Priority\\_Risk\\_Groups\\_for\\_Influenza\\_Vaccination.pdf](http://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications/Publications/0808_GUI_Priority_Risk_Groups_for_Influenza_Vaccination.pdf) (Fleming, D.M. and A.J. Elliot, Estimating the risk population in relation to influenza vaccination policy. 2006 May 15; 24(20):4378-85)

<sup>e</sup> Number of live births in 2011 (accessed 15.12.2014):  
<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/tgm/table.do?tab=table&init=1&language=en&pcode=tps00111&plugin=1>

## Seasonal influenza vaccination recommendations and payment mechanism for vaccination

Vaccination recommendations (population groups targeted by vaccination)	
Overall population	No recommendation
Healthy children and adolescents	No recommendation
Older population groups: ≥65 years of age	Recommended
Chronic medical conditions	Recommended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pulmonary diseases;</li> <li>- Neurologic diseases;</li> <li>- Cardiovascular diseases;</li> <li>- Renal diseases;</li> <li>- Hepatic diseases;</li> <li>- Haematological disorders;</li> <li>- Metabolic disorders;</li> <li>- Immunosuppressed individuals;</li> <li>- HIV/AIDS.</li> </ul>
	No recommendation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Morbid obesity,</li> <li>- Long-term aspirin use (children &lt;18 years).</li> </ul>
Pregnancy-related vaccination (including post-partum women)	Recommended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For all pregnant women at any stage during pregnancy.</li> </ul>
	No recommendation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Postpartum women if not vaccinated during pregnancy.</li> </ul>
Healthcare workers	Recommended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To some healthcare workers<sup>a</sup></li> </ul>
Other occupational groups	Recommended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Social care workers.</li> <li>- Members of voluntary organisations providing planned emergency first aid.</li> </ul>
Population groups in closed communities	Recommended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For residents of long-term care facilities;</li> </ul>
	No recommendation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For prisoners;</li> <li>- For children in day care centres</li> </ul>
Household contacts or carers of	Recommended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Immunosuppressed individuals.</li> <li>- Individuals with chronic medical conditions;</li> <li>- ≥65 years of age.</li> </ul>
	No recommendation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Infants &lt;6 months of age.</li> </ul>

<sup>a</sup> 'Some' means outpatient/inpatient/long-term care facility workers/ front line healthcare workers/ healthcare workers that have direct contact with patients.

Payment mechanism for vaccine and its administration for the population groups targeted by seasonal influenza vaccine		
	For vaccine	For administration
Overall population	na	na
Healthy children and adolescents	na	na
Older population groups (≥65 years of age) <sup>a</sup>	National health service	National health service
Chronic medical conditions groups (by group) <sup>a</sup>	National health service	National health service
Pregnancy-related vaccination (including post-partum women) <sup>a</sup>	National health service	National health service
Health care workers (including staff of long-stay care facilities) <sup>a</sup>	National health service	National health service
Other occupational groups <sup>a</sup>	National health service	National health service
Population groups in closed communities <sup>a</sup>	National health service	National health service
Household contacts or care givers <sup>a</sup>	National health service	National health service

na: Not applicable

<sup>a</sup> No co-payment for vaccine and vaccine administration.

**National insurance scheme:** health contributions are paid to the insurance fund and then for this contribution there is a package of services received. It is not by default that you receive the services if you do not pay the insurance contributions.

**National health service:** taxes are paid by a citizen or resident of the country and this person is covered by the health service.

**Out of pocket:** not reimbursed, paid by receiver of vaccine.

## Vaccination coverage rates

Vaccination coverage (%) in population groups targeted by seasonal influenza vaccination the from 2008–09 to the 2012–13 influenza season by method of data collection (administrative and /or survey)										
Population group	Influenza season									
	2008–09		2009–10		2010–11		2011–12		2012–13	
	Admin.	Surv.	Admin.	Surv.	Admin.	Surv.	Admin.	Surv.	Admin.	Surv.
Overall population	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Children/adolescents	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Older population groups: ≥65 years of age	59.5	na	63.5	na	65.7	na	67.7	na	67.7	na
Chronic medical conditions groups	40.8	na	49.1	na	48.5	na	50	na	49.7	na
Pregnant women <sup>a</sup>	-	-	-	-	39.6	na	31.7	na	43.6	61.6 <sup>c</sup>
Healthcare workers		na	11.6	na	18.5	na	30.9	na	35.5	na
Staff in long-stay care facilities <sup>b</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	NA	na	NA	na
Residents in long stay care facilities <sup>b</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	NA	na	NA	na

na: Not applicable

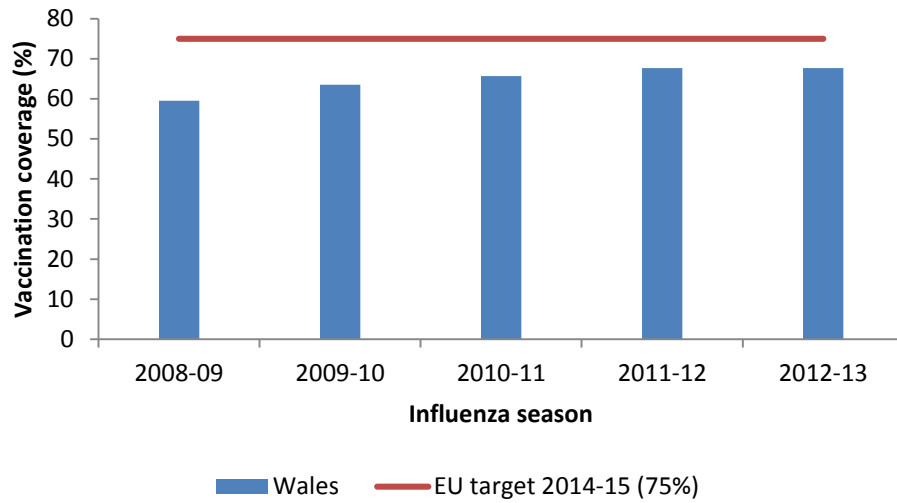
NA: Not available

<sup>a</sup> VENICE started to collect vaccination coverage data for pregnant women after the A(H1N1)pdm09 (2010-11 influenza season).

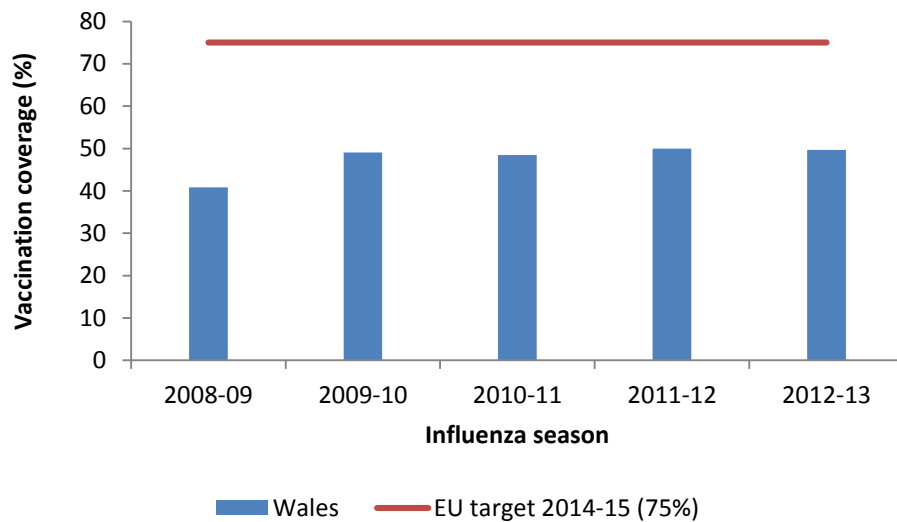
<sup>b</sup> VENICE started to collect vaccination coverage data for staff and residents in long-stay care facilities for the influenza season 2011-12.

<sup>c</sup> Conducted through survey of women delivering during a 5 day period in March

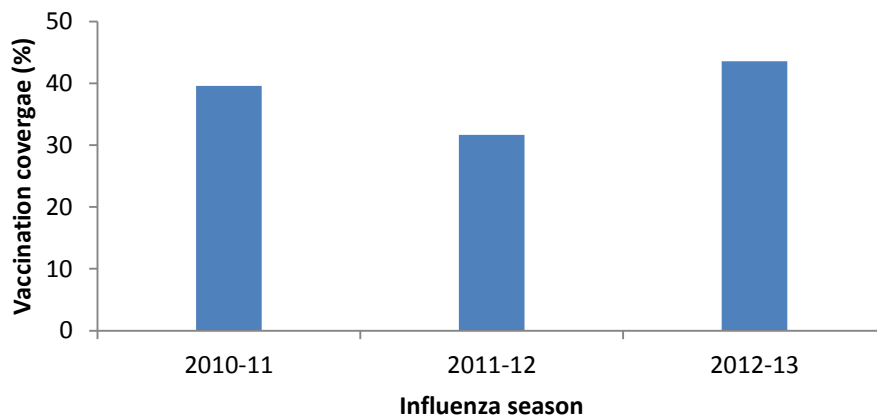
**Figure 1. Seasonal influenza vaccination coverage among those  $\geq 65$  years of age from the 2008–09 to the 2012–13 influenza season**



**Figure 2. Seasonal influenza vaccination coverage among those with chronic medical conditions from the 2008–09 to the 2012–13 influenza season**

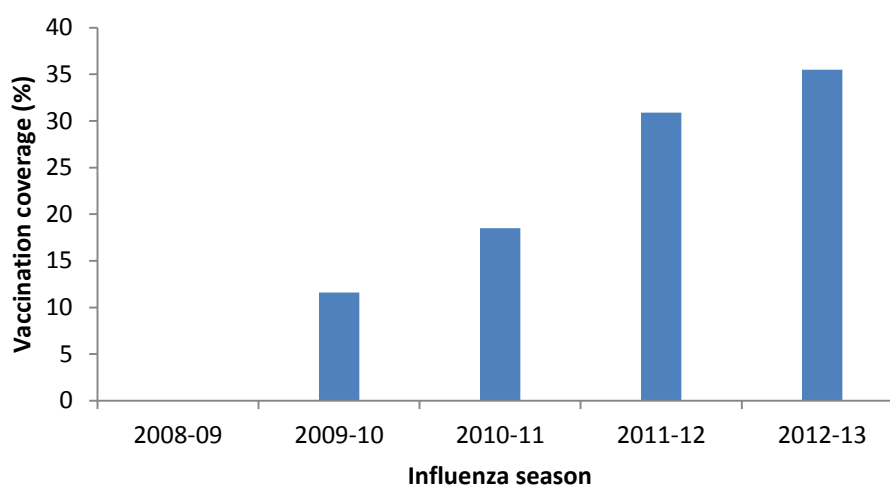


**Figure 3. Seasonal influenza vaccination coverage among pregnant women from the 2010–11 to 2012–13 influenza season**



*Note: VENICE started to collect vaccination coverage data for pregnant women after the A(H1N1)pdm09 (2010–11 influenza season).*

**Figure 4. Seasonal influenza vaccination coverage among healthcare workers from the 2009–10 to the 2012–13 influenza season**



## Methods to monitor vaccination coverage, safety and effectiveness

### Monitoring of vaccination coverage during the 2012–13 influenza season

#### Method used to monitor influenza vaccination coverage

Administrative method for all groups, uptake in pregnant women also ascertained through a survey of women giving birth.

### Method used (administrative, survey) to monitor vaccination coverage by population group

Administrative	Survey
Adults: aged $\geq 65$ years old; Individuals with medical/risk conditions (clinical risk groups); Pregnant women; Health care workers; <b>Household contact/Carer of:</b> Immunosuppressed individuals; Persons with clinical risk indication; Adults ( $\geq 65$ )	Pregnant women: influenza immunisation status in women giving birth in delivery units around Wales, during a five day window in March each year, is ascertained by mid-wives and reported to Public Health Wales.

### Details on administrative method used (medical records vs. immunisation registry; manual vs. electronic) by population group

Medical records		Immunisation registry	
Manual	Electronic	Manual	Electronic
-	Adults aged $\geq 65$ years old; Individuals with medical/risk conditions (clinical risk groups); Pregnant women; <b>Household contact/Carer of:</b> Immunosuppressed individuals; Persons with clinical risk indication; Adults ( $\geq 65$ )	No	No

Numerator assessment		
Pharmaceutical data	Administrative data	Frequency of numerator assessment
Not used	Aggregate collection of number of vaccines administered	Weekly <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> This information is collected, but not reported on a routine basis

Denominator assessment by population groups and data source	
Population group	Data source for population group
Entire population	Used. Electronic medical records from General Practice
Children and adolescents	na
Adults	Used. Electronic medical records from General Practice
Individuals with medical/risk conditions (clinical risk groups)	Used. Electronic medical records from General Practice
Pregnant women	Used. Electronic medical records from General Practice
Healthcare workers	Used. Aggregate notifications of vaccinations given in NHS Health Board Occupational Health Departments
Essential public sector workers	Not used
Prisoners	Not used
Residents of long-term care institutions	Used. Medical records from General Practice
Educational institutions	Not used
Other, please specify	Not used

na: Not applicable

Details for survey method used for the 2012–13 influenza season			
Type of the survey	Survey mode	Sampling strategy	Sample size
Pregnant women: influenza immunisation status in women giving birth in delivery units around Wales, during a five day window in March each year, is ascertained by mid-wives and reported to Public Health Wales.	na	All women delivering in NHS delivery units in Wales during a five data period	443

na: Not applicable

Scientific studies conducted for vaccination coverage; vaccine safety and vaccine effectiveness
Performed: studies on influenza vaccine effectiveness <a href="http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=20389">http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=20389</a> <a href="http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19791">http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19791</a> <a href="http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=20389">http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=20389</a>

Vaccine safety monitoring (adverse events following immunisation AEFV)				
Data collected at the national and at the regional level	Data linkage with immunisation registry	Details collected	Status of reporting	AEFV reported to
Yes <sup>a</sup>	-	-	Mandatory	The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

<sup>a</sup>Yellow card reporting system to MHRA.

Monitoring of influenza vaccine break-through <sup>a</sup> infections in vaccinated individuals		
Data collected at the national and at the regional level	Data linkage with immunisation registry	Details collected
There is no such system	na	na

na: Not applicable

<sup>a</sup> Break-through infection is defined as laboratory-confirmed influenza infection >14 days after seasonal influenza vaccination in the current season (i.e. vaccine failure).

## Vaccine procurement and delivery

Influenza vaccine procurement and delivery, 2012–13 influenza season		
Number of doses		
Purchased	Distributed	Used
NK	NK	NK

NK: Not known

Type of vaccine/Product Name	Target groups
<b>Trivalent inactivated non-adjuvanted vaccines (TIV)</b>	
Used	
Abbott; Baxter; GlaxoSmithKline; Pfizer/CSL Australia; Sanofi Pasteur; Novartis (non adjuvanted)	Older adults (e.g. ≥60/65 years); Those with medical condition/s; Pregnant women; Residents of long stay care facilities; Health Care Workers
<b>Trivalent inactivated adjuvanted vaccines (aTIV)</b>	
Used	
Crucell (virosomal vaccines)	Older adults (e.g. ≥60/65 years); Those with medical condition/s; Residents of long stay care facilities
<b>Trivalent live attenuated nasal vaccine (LAIV)</b>	
Used	
Astra Zeneca	Those with medical condition/s
<b>Quadrivalent attenuated nasal vaccine (LAIV)</b>	
Not used	
<b>Quadrivalent inactivated non-adjuvanted vaccine (QIV)</b>	
Not used	

## Promoting seasonal influenza vaccination

Promoting seasonal influenza vaccination during the 2012–13 influenza season	
Promotion activities with the general public and healthcare workers	Source of information (if yes)
<b>General public</b>	
Yes	Radio; Newspapers; Leaflets; Posters; Website; Other: Social media and sponsorship of national weather updates on one TV channel
<b>Population over 65</b>	
Yes	Radio; Newspapers; Leaflets; Posters; Website; Other: Social media and sponsorship of national weather updates on one TV channel
<b>Pregnant women</b>	
Yes	Radio; Newspapers; Leaflets; Posters; Website; Other: Social media and sponsorship of national weather updates on one TV channel
<b>Chronic medical conditions</b>	
Yes	Radio; Newspapers; Leaflets; Posters; Website; Other: Social media and sponsorship of national weather updates on one TV channel
<b>Healthcare workers</b>	
Yes	Radio; Newspapers; Leaflets; Posters; Website; Other: Social media and sponsorship of national weather updates on one TV channel



## Use of antiviral agents for treatment and chemoprophylaxis of influenza

Recommendations and/or guidelines (policy document) on antiviral use	
Recommendations available	
Use of antiviral agents for treatment and chemoprophylaxis of influenza during the 2012–13 influenza season	
Use of antivirals for <u>treatment</u> for in-patients and out-patients who are at higher risk of developing influenza complications	
For in-patients who:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- have severe, complicated influenza-like illness (ILI);</li> <li>- have progressive influenza-like illness;</li> <li>- require hospitalisation due to influenza-like illness.</li> </ul>	Recommended
For out-patients who are at higher risk of developing influenza complications on the basis of their age or underlying medical conditions:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children &lt; 2 years;</li> <li>- Children &lt; 5 years;</li> <li>- Adults aged ≥65 years;</li> <li>- Individuals belonging to risk groups.</li> <li>- Women who are pregnant or postpartum (within 6 weeks after delivery);</li> <li>- Residents of nursing homes and other chronic-care facilities.</li> </ul>	Recommended
Use of antivirals for <u>post-exposure</u> prophylaxis	
For family or other close contacts of a person at higher risk for influenza complications who have not been vaccinated with influenza vaccine at the time of exposure;	Recommended
For unvaccinated healthcare workers with occupational exposure and who did not use personal protective equipment at the time of exposure	Recommended
Use of antivirals for <u>pre-exposure</u> prophylaxis	
For individuals who are at high risk (e.g. severely immunosuppressed patients) for influenza-related complications who cannot otherwise be protected during times when a high risk for exposure exists	Recommended
Use of antivirals for <u>control of influenza outbreaks</u>	
For individuals in long-term care facilities/care for immunocompromised individuals if not vaccinated or if the circulating influenza strain does not match the vaccine strains	Recommended
For unvaccinated healthcare staff who provide care to individuals at high risk of developing complications in long-term care facilities/ care for immunocompromised patients if not vaccinated or if the circulating influenza strain does not match the vaccine strains	No recommendation
For all health care staff regardless of whether they received an influenza vaccination if the circulating influenza strain does not match the vaccine strains	No recommendation
Prisoners	No recommendation
Educational institutions	No recommendation
Existence of antiviral resistance surveillance system	
Antiviral resistance surveillance system	There is an antiviral resistance surveillance system in place

Country profiles are based on the [Seasonal Influenza Vaccination in Europe](#) report produced by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and the Vaccine European New Integrated Collaboration Effort III (VENICE III). The data are from the seasonal influenza vaccination survey for 2012–13 season in EU/EEA countries. During the validation process in June 2015, minor changes were introduced in some country profiles. Therefore, data may be different to those available in the report.