

Presenting Author:

Aisling Moore

Current appointment and place of work:

CNM 2 Health Protection Department of Public Health RHA A

Co-Authors

Dr Gabriel Fitzpatrick Department of Public Health RHA A gabriel.fitzpatrick@hse.ie

Dr Barbara Gilmer Department of Public Health RHA A barbara.gilmer@hse.ie

Title:

There is no I in team but there is in Vaccine.

Abstract:

An outbreak of varicella in an International Protection Accommodation Service (IPAS) centre. 6 cases in children from ages 3 months to 13 years, 1 adult case identified within a 3 week period. Approx. 50% of occupants of the centre were either children or women of child bearing age. 3 women also highlighted that they were pregnant. A Public Health Risk Assessment (PHRA) identified the need to offer vaccine as an outbreak control measure. The challenge, getting the offer of vaccine accepted. The need for a team was clear. Gathering together Public Health (PH), Social Inclusion (SI), the onsite Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) and the Community Vaccination Team (CVT) a plan was created. Identification of a time and date for vaccination set by all team members. Prompt creation of vaccine information leaflets by PH, translated by SI and disseminated by the NGO allowed us to inform the occupants of the offer of vaccine in a timely matter. Promotion of the vaccine and gathering of interested participants by the NGO allowed us to identify a target number of 20 occupants to vaccinate. On the day of vaccination, SI provided translators to assist PH in prescribing, the NGO supported the CVT and occupant families during the vaccination process. The target of 20 occupants was achieved.