

IMPACT OF INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS AMONG HEALTHCARE WORKERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRIC INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN WROCŁAW

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We create an online influenza-like illness (ILI) surveillance system to monitor ILI activity and impact among employees of the Department of Pediatric Infectious Diseases in Wrocław. All employees were asked to complete a weekly online report during two seasons 2016/17 (1stS) and 2017/18 (2ndS). Employees with ILI symptoms were encouraged to undergo test for influenza (PCR assay).

In the study participated 36 (1stS) and 32 employees (2ndS). 967 reports were analyzed. General vaccination coverage rate was 40% in 1st season and 72% next year.

In 1stS: 29 employees reported at least one episode of ILI - 10 of them was vaccinated (71% of the vaccinated group) and 19 was not (86% of the unvaccinated group). 2ndS: 18 employees reported ILI - respectively 12 vaccinated (52%) and 6 not (67%).

The most frequently reported symptoms were: sore throat (61% and 44% next year), headache (58% and 39%), cough (53% and 39%), hoarseness (33% in both seasons), fever (19 and 22%). Among HCWs with ILI: 9 employees (31%) in 1stS and 3 (17%) next year took some days off from work. 4 participants in 1stS and 2 next year lost financial benefits; 12 HCWs in 1stS could not participate in a social event and 5 in 2ndS.

Only vaccinated HCWs wanted to test themselves for the influenza. First year we obtained 5 swabs (all positive for influenza A); next year we collected 3 swabs (all negative).

Conclusions: Influenza-like illness has great impact on private and professional life of HCWs.