



Evaluation of the Western Australia Pharmacist Influenza Vaccination Trial 2018-2020

Summary Report

What was the Trial?

The WA Pharmacist Influenza Vaccination Trial ran from 2018-2020 and marked the beginning of Western Australian pharmacies participating in the National Immunisation Program (NIP). Under the Trial, community pharmacies administered government-funded influenza vaccines to adults aged 65 years and over.

The Trial aimed to:

- increase influenza vaccination rates for older adults in WA
- understand the reasons why older adults receive their influenza vaccination at a community pharmacy, and
- determine the suitability of community pharmacy participation in a government-funded immunisation program in WA.

Why was the Trial evaluated?

An evaluation was conducted to assess many aspects of the Trial, specifically:

- how many community pharmacies participated in the Trial
- the uptake of influenza vaccinations for older adults through pharmacies
- safety and quality of the service
- consumer satisfaction with service
- identifying the barriers identified by participating pharmacies to providing vaccinations.

What did evaluation reveal?

The results of the evaluation revealed:

- positive consumer and pharmacist experiences to the Trial
- an observed increase in influenza vaccination rates in persons aged 65 years and older in WA
- a total of 29,916 government-funded influenza vaccines were administered to older adults through community pharmacies in WA
- consumers indicated they were happy with the service and appreciated the convenience, indicating future intentions to access the service
- pharmacies found the Trial to be worthwhile, with 373 pharmacies participating in 2020
- no significant safety or quality concerns associated with the Trial.

What were the outcomes of the Trial?

With many benefits identified, the Department of Health launched the **Pharmacist-Administered Influenza Vaccination Program for Older Adults** in early 2021, to formally transition community pharmacies to be important immunisation service providers, under the NIP.

For more information about the Program, including the full evaluation report of the Trial, please visit: [Pharmacist-administered influenza vaccination program for older adults](#)

If the link above does not work, try copy and pasting this URL into your web browser: https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/N_R/Pharmacist-administered-influenza-vaccination-program-for-older-adults

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