

VACCINATION STATUS AND PERCEPTION OF INFLUENZA VACCINATION IN THE POLISH POPULATION IN DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS CONSIDERING THE LEVEL OF EDUCATION.

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Influenza is still considered the most dangerous infectious disease of the 21st century. Outbreaks of influenza occur worldwide and affect all ages. This disease is severe, often with threatening complications and can lead to death. Despite this, many people often disregard it. One of the main ways of preventing the disease are vaccinations. The most effective method of prevention against influenza illness and its complications are the annual vaccinations. Vaccinations against influenza are among the preventive vaccinations recommended by the Ministry of Health in Poland, however, they are not subject to refund. This paper presents the results of research conducted with the anonymous questionnaire containing 18 questions completed by parents of school children, students of technical and medical university, patients, medical staff and people over 65 years of age. The study was conducted in the season 2012/2013 in Poland. The survey involved 1203 people in various age groups and with different education. The analysis of the study shows that respondents very rarely use this form of prevention. Even if the vaccination was refunded, the percentage of people vaccinated against flu would not increase significantly. Among the respondents those who are in favour of influenza vaccination are in the minority