



Recruiting care homes for the 2022/23 flu season- **STAFF** flu vaccination trial.





FluCare

Working towards flu-free care homes

# Operation FluCare!

- Context: care homes and flu vaccination
- The intervention
- Data being collected
- How to get involved

# Project Management and Funding

## Co-Chief Investigators



Amrish Patel



David Wright

## Co-Investigators (13)



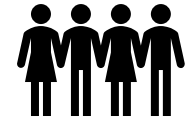
Expert Advisory Group (6)  
+ Trial Steering Committee (6)  
+ Data Management Committee (3)



## Public and Patient Involvement Panel (8)



## RAs and staff (12)



## Funding

**NIHR**  
 £1.4 million



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# Motivation



Avg 17,000 per year in UK



World Health Organization

75%



≈ 35%

# FluCare



Testing the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of a complex intervention to increase the flu vaccination rate of care home **staff**

# Context and Impact

- Context
  - Aging population, care homes increasingly important
  - COVID infections and mortality in care homes
  - Severe resurgence of flu anticipated this/next year
  - Vaccination in public consciousness like never before, unique opportunity to change norms
  - Care sector resistance against “mandatory” vaccination/staffing difficulties
  - Learnings useful for COVID booster vaccinations (or joint vacc)
- Considerable previous (piecemeal) policy efforts
  - Free vaccination for care home staff with a contract
  - Pharmacists permitted to vaccinate staff in homes
  - .... Not tackling all remaining barriers to vaccine uptake at once
- Potential impact: Change Department of Health and Social Care policy
  - Resident health and mortality
  - Care quality
  - Care home financial sustainability

# The Intervention

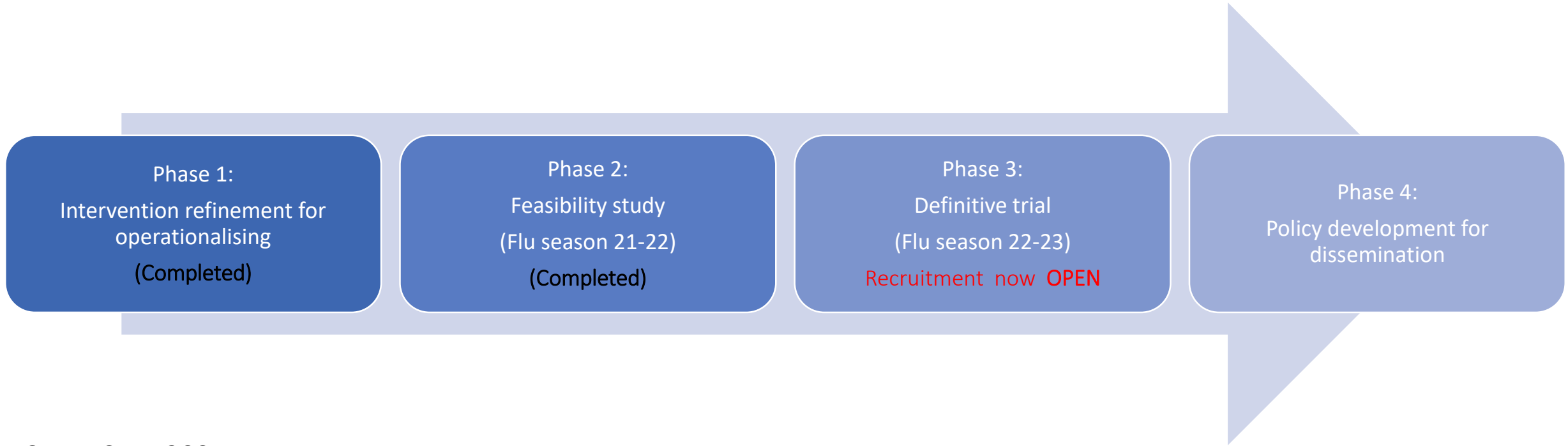
- Free and convenient vaccine clinics for staff delivered within the care home by a pharmacist, GP or other provider
- Motivational videos, posters, and leaflets for staff across the care home
- Incentive payment to care homes for meeting the staff vaccination target

This is called **The FluCare Package**



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# Project Plan



**Start:** Sept 2021

**End:** Apr 2024

# Flu Season 2022-23 Trial

## **70 care homes from across England**

- 35 will be randomly chosen to receive the intervention
- 35 will be randomly chosen to not receive the intervention

## **We'll collect data on various things from the homes including:**

- Staff vaccination rates
- Staff sick days
- Aggregate resident sickness etc



# Have low **staff** flu vaccine rates? Want to help take-action against flu?

- **Some homes will receive the FluCare package and others will not**

All participating homes **will receive £500** to cover the costs of time spent taking part and providing information for the researchers, whether they are chosen to receive the FluCare package or not.

[www.flucare.co.uk](http://www.flucare.co.uk)

# To take part **your** care home must:

- Be a residential or nursing care home in England
- Be providing care for people aged 65 and older
- Have ten or more staff members of any role
- Have a **staff** flu vaccination rate of less than 40% (from the 2021/22 flu season)

# Research Data To Be Collected

## Care home managers

- Site profile questionnaire: care home characteristics
- Care home manager log: individual-level staff details (anonymised)
- Aggregated resident data
- Interviews

## Care home staff

- Brief staff questionnaire (voucher payment for completion)
- Interviews

All participating homes **will receive £500** to cover the costs of time spent taking part and providing information for the researchers, whether they are chosen to receive the FluCare package or not.

# How to get involved

- Go to the FluCare website: [www.flucare.co.uk](http://www.flucare.co.uk) to find out more information and express an interest
- Go to Twitter [@flu\\_care](https://twitter.com/flu_care)
- Get in touch with our team at [flu.care@uea.ac.uk](mailto:flu.care@uea.ac.uk)

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# Thank you for listening!

Contact Jeanette or Jennifer for more information.

**[flu.care@uea.ac.uk](mailto:flu.care@uea.ac.uk)**