# P12

## INNOVATION IN STAFF VACCINATION PROGRAMS – THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ROBOTIC PROCESS AUTOMATION (RPA)

*S. Forster, A. Neale, Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, UK*

Background

Healthcare workers are highly likely to be exposed to influenza and Covid-19, highly transmissible infections with patient populations in hospital more vulnerable to severe effects. Vaccines remain a fundamental tool for prevention.

Delivering a successful staff vaccination program is challenging, requiring high volumes of information to be processed and inputted into a national immunisation and vaccination system (NIVS) by multiple vaccinators in a variety of settings. This has a significant training and staffing burden as well as challenges with support with technical issues. The trust is a regional anchor for the implementation of Robotic Automation Process (RPA) in healthcare and an opportunity was identified to assist with this issue with development of RPA.

Method

RPA was implemented to perform data input on behalf of 350 peer vaccinators across multiple sites. The design from ideation to implementation was 2 weeks and required an administrator to manage the software whilst active.

Results

Clinical vaccination records of 11,252 employees were uploaded by RPA over 12 weeks. Each input to NIVS by a peer vaccinator takes 3 mins approx. Total direct saving from RPA 750 hours of activity = 100 x 7.5 hour shifts at Band 5 pay scale.

Conclusion

The innovation gave a direct saving of 100 working days. Indirect positive impact of RPA was the saved time/expense to train staff, the reduced impact on staffing pressures and recruitment and the impact on the pace of the vaccination program.