



Department of Health
Government of **Western Australia**
South Metropolitan Area Health Service

PRESS RELEASE

DATE: April 2008

TITLE: Fremantle Hospital Staff Influenza Vaccination Program a Huge Success.

As part of the campaign to keep families and patients 'flu-free' this winter, staff at Fremantle Hospital have done their part by participating in a vaccination drive.

Executive Director Dr Mark Platell joined staff in being vaccinated.

"It's good health practice to get vaccinated," Dr Platell said.

"The staff response is fantastic. I'm overwhelmed by the numbers."

The launch of the 2008 Staff Vaccination Program saw staff turn out in large numbers. Infection Control Staff will take "flu free" trolleys across the campus for the next four weeks to vaccinate willing staffers unable to attend on the day.

Participation rates at Fremantle Hospital for the 'flu free' vaccination are always high and infection control staff are hoping that, again, a high percentage of staff will be vaccinated. The aim of having staff vaccinated is to protect patients.

Last year 226 people were admitted to West Australian hospitals with influenza. This is almost half the number from the previous year of 442 people.

For further information on the flu or vaccination contact your local GP, the central immunisation clinic on 93211312, or visit www.immunise.health.gov.au

CAPTION: Dr Mark Platell receives his free flu shot from Wendy Calnan at Fremantle Hospital.

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