

CGA/19/52 - Improving older adults' vaccination uptake: are existing measures of vaccine hesitancy valid and reliable for older people

In Scotland, older adults (aged 65+) are offered flu, pneumococcal, and shingles vaccinations via the NHS. These vaccinations prevent illness and life-threatening complications in older adults, but uptake is low and decreasing. Our future research will identify the reasons for this, so that we can design interventions to increase vaccination coverage and improve older adults' health. However, existing measures of vaccine hesitancy, measuring barriers to vaccination, were developed with younger adults. Before future use, we therefore first need to ensure that these measures are valid and reliable in older adults and, if not, develop them for this population.