• Staff more likely to be offered hepatitis B vaccination, have their vaccination status and post vaccination serology recorded than clients.
• Only 1 in 4 agencies request staff complete vaccination prior to employment and only 1 agency requests clients are vaccinated prior to attendance. To protect this vulnerable population it is vital that staff and clients are vaccinated prior to attendance/employment.
• Agencies need to receive the support and resources required to protect their clients and staff appropriately.

Vaccination Status of Staff (see Table 2)
• Over ½ of staff have had a complete course of vaccination.
• 10% of staff were not offered vaccination.
• No records were available for 1 in 5 staff.

Table 1: Vaccination Status of Clients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccination Status</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full course + antibodies</td>
<td>519</td>
<td>31.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full course + no antibodies</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some of course</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Declined</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postponed</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No records</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not offered</td>
<td>561</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>1659</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Results cont’d

1/3 of agencies do not have specific policies relating to infection control and standard precautions.
• 87% of agencies identified a need for training in infection control and standard precautions.
• A number of agencies highlighted lack of resources and support as factors in terms of educating staff, recording vaccination status and offering hepatitis B vaccination to staff and clients.

Results

Response rate
Postal Questionnaire: 57/72 (79%)
Postal Questionnaire & NIDD: 68/72 (94%)

Clients n=3511
• Age range: 39% 0-18 yrs, 61% >18yrs
• Disability range: Mild 37%, Mod/Severe 45%, Profound 6%, Unknown 4%, Other 8%

Hepatitis B Vaccination Recording Systems
• 24/57 (42%) agencies have a recording system for staff.
• 5/57 (9%) agencies have a recording system for clients (and staff). These agencies tended to be bigger organisations.
• Only 1 agency requires clients complete full vaccination course prior to attendance. 13 (23%) request staff complete course prior to employment.
• 1/3 of agencies record post vaccination serology of staff. Less than 1/10 agencies record post vaccination serology of clients.

Vaccination Status of Clients (see Table 1)
• 1/3 of clients have had a complete course of vaccination.
• 34% of clients were not offered vaccination.
• No records were available for 1 in 4 clients.

Methodology
• 72 agencies provide care (residential/day/respite) or training for people with an intellectual disability in the South East.
• All agencies were sent a postal questionnaire requesting information in relation to: type of service provided, type of recording system for hepatitis B vaccination status of staff and clients, current hepatitis B vaccination status of their staff and clients and any training needs around infection control.
• The National Intellectual Disability Database (NIDD) was used to establish basic details in terms of client make up, client and staff numbers and services provided for non-responders.

Infection Control Policy and Training
• 1/3 of agencies do not have specific policies relating to infection control and standard precautions.
• 87% of agencies identified a need for training in infection control and standard precautions.
• A number of agencies highlighted lack of resources and support as factors in terms of educating staff, recording vaccination status and offering hepatitis B vaccination to staff and clients.

Limitations of Study
• Of responding agencies less than 50% completed all sections. Therefore results may not accurately represent current situation.

Conclusion
• National Immunisation Guidelines not being met in the HSE SE. Over 50% of clients attending services are unvaccinated.
• Staff more likely to be offered hepatitis B vaccination, have their vaccination status and post vaccination serology recorded than clients.
• Only 1 in 4 agencies request staff complete vaccination course prior to employment and only 1 agency requests clients are vaccinated prior to attendance. To protect this vulnerable population it is vital that staff and clients are vaccinated prior to attendance/employment.
• Agencies need to receive the support and resources required to protect their clients and staff appropriately.