**Press Release for LPCs - 2021 Flu Season**

**Pharmacies in [local area] help deliver record number of flu jabs**

* **Nearly 3 million flu vaccinations administered in NHS community pharmacies** **in the current season**
* **This is already more jabs than was delivered by community pharmacy in the whole of the 2020-21 flu season**

Community pharmacies in [local area] are on track to deliver a record-breaking flu vaccination season.

So far, across the country, almost 3 million vaccinations have been administered in pharmacies. And pharmacies in [local area] are very much a part of this effort, with [number of pharmacies] of them offering NHS flu jabs to local communities this year.

 Local pharmacies have so far administered [local flu jab statistic] vaccinations this season – that’s [% increase] more than this time last year.

[Insert quote from local pharmacy about the level of demand for the service]

Suggested: *The demand for flu vaccinations this year has been exceptionally high and it has been great to be able to get so many members of our local community protected so early on in the season. Our pharmacy team is working flat out to keep up with this demand in addition to providing our regular day-to-day services.*

The pharmacy network is critical to the NHS, saving 24 million GP appointments every year. It is estimated that some 5 million people each year who are unable to access other healthcare providers turn to pharmacy for support.

This year the Government wants to vaccinate more people against flu than ever before, and pharmacies are ideally placed to help with that.

[Insert quote from LPC about the level of take up of the service/ local trends]

Suggested: *I am extremely proud of the way in which our local pharmacies have stepped up to the challenge of delivering record numbers of flu jabs this year. As well as NHS flu jabs, some pharmacies also offer a private service for people not eligible for an NHS jab. So if you would like a flu vaccination this year, contact their local pharmacy now.*

For all media enquiries, please contact**[LPC contact details]**

Please note: Pharmacies can provide a free NHS flu vaccination to people aged 50 and over, as well as those with underlying health conditions. For full details on eligibility, please visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/flu-influenza-vaccine/>

For those who do not meet this eligibility criteria, pharmacies are happy to provide a private vaccination service. Please contact them directly for details on availability and pricing.