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## Jamie joins in jab campaign

Collabro's Jamie Lambert is using his star power to promote uptake of the flu vaccination among NHS staff and the public.

Jamie, who rocketed to fame when he and his fellow bandmates won Britain's Got Talent in 2014, took the opportunity to get the jab on a visit to meet friends and former colleagues at South Tyneside District Hospital, where he worked in the supplies department on and off for six years before taking part in the talent show.

Jamie, of Washington, whose proud mother is South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust Chief Executive Lorraine Lambert, said: "I was going to have the jab anyway because Collabro are about to embark on a full UK tour and we all need to be physically at the top of our game so it seemed the perfect chance to get it when I was back at the hospital to see some of my old friends, who have given me such wonderful support over the last few months. I, in turn, am very happy to support the flu immunisation campaign as I know from my personal experience of working in the NHS how important it is."

Mrs Lambert said: "Every Winter, we encourage all of our staff to get immunised against flu to cut the risk of it spreading to vulnerable patients and their own colleagues and families and to enable us keep services running efficiently at what is the busiest time of the year for the NHS. We are delighted that Jamie has given our flu immunisation campaign his backing and, at the same time, is highlighting to the public the importance of the jab as, although for most flu is simply an unpleasant illness, for certain people it can lead to potentially serious complications."

Flu injections are annually given free on the NHS to adults and children in 'at risk' groups, who are more likely to develop the potentially serious complications of flu. These include anyone over the age of 65, pregnant women, children and adults with an underlying health condition and with weakened immune systems, care home residents and carers for older or disabled people.

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*Pictured above: Jamie Lambert getting his flu jab. Photo courtesy of The Shields Gazette*

*To read more about Jamie's visit to South Tyneside District Hospital go to*

*<http://www.shieldsgazette.com/what-s-on/gigs-music/watch-collabro-star-jamie-lambert-on-the-craziest-year-of-his-life-1-7031381>*

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