

National seasonal influenza vaccination in Europe, overview of surveys conducted by Vaccine European New Integrated Collaboration Effort (VENICE) Project

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BACKGROUND

- WHO recommended seasonal influenza vaccine in 2012**
 - Pregnant women
 - Children aged <5 years
 - Older age groups
 - Chronic medical conditions
 - HCWs
- European Council (EC) Recommendation recommended**
 - To achieve 75% influenza vaccination coverage by 2014-15
 - In older age groups
 - Among those with chronic medical conditions
 - To improve vaccination coverage
 - Health care workers (HCWs)
- Prior to 2008, when VENICE conducted its first survey**
 - There was no comprehensive information on the seasonal influenza vaccination programmes in Europe

METHODS

- Annual collaborative studies**
 - Between EU /EEA countries/ ECDC/ VENICE Project
- Studies design**
 - Surveys with the same methodology each year
- Participating countries**
 - 28 EU, Norway and Iceland
 - Liechtenstein and Croatia participated in the survey in 2014 for first time
- Completed**
 - By gatekeepers/contact points in each MS
- Data collection**
 - Standardised web-based questionnaire

OBJECTIVE

- For the first survey**
 - To collect country specific recommendations for age, risk and targeted groups
 - To obtain vaccination coverage data
- The following surveys**
 - To update country specific vaccination recommendations for targeted and risk groups
 - To obtain latest data on vaccination coverage
 - To identify changes and compliance with EC and WHO recommendations among the EU/EEA countries during different influenza seasons

RESULTS

Seasonal influenza vaccine recommendations by age groups in 2012-13 influenza season in 30 EU/EEA countries

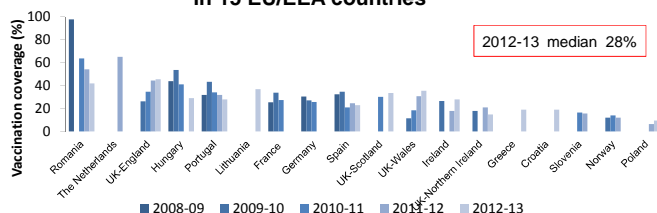
- All countries recommended vaccine to older age groups
 - 23 countries recommended vaccine for individuals ≥ 65 years;
 - Ten countries reported a lower age cut-off (ranging from 50 to 60 years of age).
- Seven countries recommended vaccination of healthy children

Seasonal influenza vaccine recommendations by risk/targeted groups in EU/EEA countries

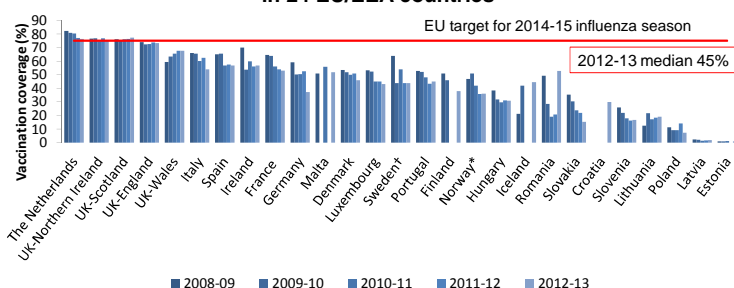
Recommendations	Number of countries where vaccination was recommended by influenza season				
	2008-09 (n=27)	2009-10* (n=28)	2010-11 (n=28)	2011-12 (n=28)	2012-13 (n=30)
Chronic medical conditions					
Chronic pulmonary, cardiovascular and renal diseases	27	28	28	28	30
Haematologic /metabolic disorders	26	28	28	28	27
Immunosuppression due to disease	25	28	28	28	29
HIV/AIDS	24	24	25	25	25
Hepatic diseases	15	17	19	21	27
Children on long-term aspirin	18	17	16	15	17
Morbid obesity (Body Mass Index	-	-	9	10	15
Pregnant women					
Recommended	10	16	22	23	27**
Any trimester	-	-	9	13	18
Health Care Workers					
Recommended	22	23	25	26	29

* Data refers to seasonal influenza vaccine recommendations in 2009-10 pandemic influenza season.
 **Recommended for all pregnant women in 25 countries; for those with clinical risk in 2 countries.
 Dash for influenza season 2008-09 and 2009-10 means that this information was not previously collected.

Seasonal influenza vaccination coverage among HCWs in 15 EU/EEA countries

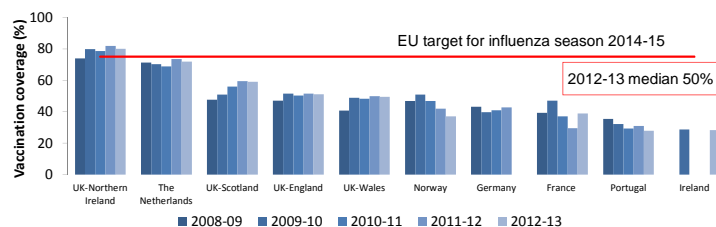


Seasonal influenza vaccination coverage in older population in 24 EU/EEA countries



† Reports were received for only around 60% of the population for 2009-10 influenza season.
 *2008-09 and 2009-10 coverage results calculated for those ≥65 and clinical risk groups together.

Seasonal influenza vaccination coverage among those with chronic medical conditions in seven EU/EEA countries



Seasonal influenza vaccination coverage among pregnant women in six EU/EEA countries



CONCLUSIONS

- Recommendations for seasonal influenza vaccination**
 - Standard in most of the countries
 - Comply with EC and WHO recommendations
- Vaccination of children is still uncommon**
- The gap between vaccination recommendations and actual vaccination coverage**
 - Exists for clinical risk groups, pregnant women and HCWs
 - Some countries do not monitor vaccination coverage for older age groups
- Vaccination coverage**
 - For the elderly
 - Lagging in most of the countries except Netherlands, UK
 - Did not increase in five influenza seasons
 - Do not meet EU target
 - HCWs and those with chronic medical conditions
 - Half of countries monitor for HCWs
 - One third countries monitor for chronic medical conditions
 - Moderate or low for these groups of individuals
 - Did not increase in five influenza seasons
 - For pregnant women
 - One third countries monitor vaccination coverage
 - Moderate in UK, but low in the remaining countries

RECOMMENDATIONS

- All countries should strive to collect information
 - On vaccine coverage for the elderly, clinical risk groups, pregnant women and HCWs
 - Absence of uptake data impedes ability to monitor progress

Affiliations

- Health Protection Surveillance Centre, Dublin, Ireland
- European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, Stockholm, Sweden
- Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome, Italy
- Institut de Veille Sanitaire, Saint-Maurice, France
- CINECA Consortium of Universities, Bologna, Italy
- Statens Serum Institut, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Robert Koch Institute, Berlin, Germany
- National Institute of Public Health - National Institute of Hygiene, Warsaw, Poland
- Vaccine European New Integrated Collaboration Effort (VENICE) Project
- The list of gatekeepers is available in the final report on VENICE website: <http://venice.cineca.org>

Acknowledgments

To VENICE gatekeeper /contact points in each MS