

## MenC booster vaccine uptake in Ireland: 2015/2016

MenC (meningococcal group C) vaccine is recommended as part of the primary childhood immunisation programme. Immunity to meningococcal disease reduces over time so a booster dose is recommended now to provide additional protection. The National Immunisation Advisory Committee recommends vaccination with a booster MenC vaccine at 12-13 years of age. The MenC booster vaccine was introduced into the HSE schools immunisation programme in September 2014. This vaccine is offered to students in first year of second level schools and their age equivalents in special schools and home schooled. The vaccinations are provided by vaccination teams from the Local Health Offices (LHOs) who go into schools in their areas to vaccinate or provide vaccination clinics free of charge for children in the target cohorts. Vaccinations provided through the schools immunisation programme are entered into the School Immunisation System (SIS). Data on vaccination is inputted into the SIS database at a local level.

This is the second report of the new school based MenC programme.

Please see the HSE National Immunisation Office (NIO) website at <http://www.immunisation.ie> for detailed and current information on the all recommended vaccines including the primary childhood immunisation schedule and the school vaccination programme. MenC vaccine uptake data in children at 12 and 24 months of age is available on the Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) website at [www.hpsc.ie](http://www.hpsc.ie).

### MenC booster vaccine uptake in Ireland during the 2015/2016 academic year

MenC booster vaccine uptake in the academic year 2015/2016, provided through the school immunisation programme and recorded on SIS, is presented in table 1.

The data presented here are the result of collaboration between NIO, School Immunisation Teams, Immunisation Coordinators, Immunisation System Administrators, Immunisation administrative staff and HPSC.

The figures presented in this summary are based on data recorded on SIS on the 24<sup>th</sup> January 2017. These figures are subject to change due to ongoing updating of data on the database.

#### Summary

For the 2015-2016 academic year

- National uptake was 86.7%
- There was some regional variation with uptake among the Community Healthcare Organisations ranging from 80.8% to 88.9%

Table 1. MenC booster vaccine, provided through the school immunisation programme, uptake data in the academic year 2015/2016 (data extracted from the School Immunisation System 24/01/2017)

Community Healthcare Organisation (CHO)	Local Health Office/ CHO Total	First Years in second level and age equivalent * in special schools, home schooled and out of school			Outside Cohort	
		Denominator	Numbers Vaccinated with:	% Vaccinated with:	Denominator	Numbers Vaccinated with:
			MenC booster	MenC booster		MenC booster
CHO1	Cavan/Monaghan	1850	1533	82.9%	N/A	1
	Donegal	2238	2009	89.8%	N/A	0
	Sligo/Leitrim	1321	1204	91.1%	N/A	5
	CHO1 Total	5409	4746	87.7%	N/A	6
CHO2	Galway	3399	2877	84.6%	N/A	9
	Mayo	1774	1553	87.5%	N/A	3
	Roscommon	574	499	86.9%	N/A	2
	CHO2 Total	5747	4929	85.8%	N/A	14
CHO3	Clare	1534	1358	88.5%	N/A	3
	Limerick	1958	1683	86.0%	N/A	0
	Tipperary North/East Limerick	1949	1700	87.2%	N/A	15
	CHO3 Total	5441	4741	87.1%	N/A	18
CHO4	North Cork	1196	1078	90.1%	N/A	1
	North Lee - Cork	2698	2367	87.7%	N/A	0
	South Lee - Cork	2565	2278	88.8%	N/A	1
	West Cork	695	582	83.7%	N/A	1
	Kerry	1983	1643	82.9%	N/A	1
	CHO4 Total	9137	7948	87.0%	N/A	4
CHO5	Carlow/Kilkenny	2092	1934	92.4%	N/A	18
	Tipperary South	1159	1005	86.7%	N/A	6
	Waterford	1715	1591	92.8%	N/A	0
	Wexford	2327	1957	84.1%	N/A	0
	CHO5 Total	7293	6487	88.9%	N/A	24
CHO6	Dublin South	1928	1661	86.2%	N/A	31
	Dublin South East	1182	1112	94.1%	N/A	0
	Wicklow	1515	1314	86.7%	N/A	1
	CHO6 Total	4625	4087	88.4%	N/A	32
CHO7	Dublin South City	1482	1338	90.3%	N/A	1
	Dublin South West	1828	1484	81.2%	N/A	3
	Dublin West	2167	1792	82.7%	N/A	1
	Kildare/West Wicklow	3661	3360	91.8%	N/A	0
	CHO7 Total	9138	7974	87.3%	N/A	5
CHO8	Laois/Offaly	2358	2140	90.8%	N/A	2
	Longford/Westmeath	2178	2006	92.1%	N/A	0
	Louth	2135	1838	86.1%	N/A	0
	Meath	2815	2445	86.9%	N/A	3
	CHO8 Total	9486	8429	88.9%	N/A	5
CHO9	Dublin North West	2719	2161	79.5%	N/A	5
	Dublin North Central	1503	1221	81.2%	N/A	0
	Dublin North	3151	2572	81.6%	N/A	15
	CHO9 Total	7373	5954	80.8%	N/A	20
Home Schooled	100	3	3.0%	N/A	3	
Total of LHOs and Home Schooled	63749	55298	86.7%	N/A	131	
Out of School	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	5	
Total of LHOs and Home Schooled and Out of School	N/A	55298	N/A	N/A	136	

\*Age equivalents are those born between 01/09/2003 and 31/08/2004.

Outside cohort refers to those who were vaccinated but who were outside the routine cohort for vaccination.

Local health office (LHO) refers to the LHO of the school. Therefore, in reports the LHOs of homeschooled and out of school children do not appear.

The denominator for second level schools was defined as the number of children on the school roll on 30th September 2015 for first year. The denominator for age equivalent to first years in second level schools was defined as children born between 01/09/2003 and 31/08/2004 on the school roll of special schools or registered with the National Educational Welfare Board on 30th September 2015. All the denominator data was entered onto the School Immunisation System by the relevant System Administrator.

N/A-Not applicable

Home schooled refers to children registered with the National Educational Welfare Board to be educated at home. These children were recorded on the School Immunisation System and reported here as home schooled.

Out of school refers to vaccinated children who were neither enrolled in a second level school, special school nor registered with the National Educational Welfare Board as home schooled.

## Internationally

In England coverage for the first cohorts to be routinely offered meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY) vaccine in schools from September 2015 (those born 1 September 2000 to 31 August 2001 (Year 10 in 2015/2016) and those born 1 September 2001 to 31 August 2002 (Year 9 in 2015/2016)) and evaluated up to the end August 2016 was 77.2% (Year 10) and 84.1% (Year 9).<sup>1</sup>

In Scotland, uptake of the teenage MenACWY booster among S3 pupils (year three of secondary school) in 2015/2016, the class year in which the vaccines are routinely offered, remained at a similar level to the previous year at 82%.<sup>2</sup>

In Wales uptake of MenACWY vaccine in the 2015/2016 School Year 9 (13-14 year olds) was 78%, uptake in the 2015/2016 School Year 11 (15-16 year olds) was also 78%.<sup>3</sup>

In the United States, coverage among 13-17 year olds of  $\geq 1$  dose of quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine was 81.3% in 2015.<sup>4</sup>

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## References

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