

Summary

In Quarter 3-2004, national immunisation uptake rates in children at 12 months of age increased by 1-2% when compared with Q2-2004. Uptake rates for all vaccines were 84% with the exception of BCG (92%) and MenC (83%).

Quarter 3-2004 is the fifth quarter where uptake rates for BCG vaccination are presented. Where data were available, an uptake rate of 92% was reported for the BCG vaccine. This represents an increase of 2% on the figure reported in Q2-2004.

At 24 months, national uptake rates increased by 1% for D₃, P₃, T₃, Polio₃, and MenC when compared with the previous quarter. Uptake rates for Hib₃ and MMR₁ remained unchanged. Uptake rates at 24 months for D₃, T₃, and Polio₃ were 90%, while P₃ and Hib₃ uptake rates were 89%. MenC₃ uptake was 88% and MMR₁ uptake was 81%.

Trends at 12 months

Figure 1 presents the national uptake rates at 12 months for each vaccine component from Q3-2000 to Q3-2004. In Q3-2004 national vaccine uptake rates for most antigens at 12 months increased by 2% in comparison to Q2-2004 with the exception of MenC₃ (1% increase). All health boards reported an increase in uptake rates at 12 months, ranging from 1% to 3%. The MHB, MWHB, NEHB and WHB reported increases of 2-3%. Highest uptake rates for all antigens with the exception of BCG, was reported by the MHB (91%), followed by the NWHB (91% for D₃, T₃ Hib₃, Polio₃ and 90% for P₃ and MenC₃). These are the highest vaccine uptake rates ever reported since Q3-2000.

Internationally

Vaccination coverage statistics for children 12 months of age in Quarter 3-2004 were 94-95% in Northern Ireland¹ and 90-91% for the United Kingdom as a whole².

Introduction

The immunisation uptake statistics presented in this report relate to children 12 and 24 months of age in Quarter 3-2004 and who have received three doses of vaccines against diphtheria (D₃), pertussis (P₃), tetanus (T₃), *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib₃), polio (Polio₃), meningococcal group C (MenC₃), one dose of vaccine against measles, mumps and rubella (MMR₁; uptake at 24 months only) and one dose of BCG vaccine (BCG; uptake at 12 months only). These statistics therefore relate to uptake in the cohorts born between 01/07/2003 & 30/09/2003 and 01/07/2002 & 30/09/2002.

Immunisation uptake at 12 months

Immunisation uptake rates in children 12 months of age in Q3-2004 are presented (Table 1). National uptake rates for D₃, T₃, P₃, Hib₃, and Polio₃ were 84%, and 83% for MenC₃. The highest uptake rates for these vaccines at 12 months were reported by the MHB (91%), while the lowest rates were reported in the ERHA (79%).

Quarter 3-2004 is the fifth quarter where uptake statistics for the BCG vaccination are presented. Data are available for 4 of the 8 health boards at this time, covering less than one-third of the Q3-2004 birth cohort. Where data were available, national uptake was 92% for BCG vaccination. This represents an increase of 2% on the figure reported in Q2-2004. The target rate of 95% uptake was reached in the SEHB in Q3-2004.

Table 1. Immunisation uptake (%) in cohort born 01/07/2003–30/09/2003, calculated at 12 months

Health Board	No. in cohort	BCG	D ₃	P ₃	T ₃	Hib ₃	Polio ₃	MenC ₃
ERHA	5762	na	79	79	79	79	79	79
MHB	1040	84	91	91	91	91	91	91
MWHB	1306	92	88	88	88	88	88	88
NEHB	1566	na	89	88	89	89	89	88
NWHB	837	93	91	90	91	91	91	90
SEHB	1718	96	87	86	87	87	87	86
SHB	2160	na	84	83	84	83	83	83 [†]
WHB	1361	na	83	82	83	83	83	82
Ireland	15750 [‡]	92	84	84	84	84	84	83

[†]SHB - number in cohort for MenC₃ = 2171

[‡]number in cohort for BCG vaccination = 4831

na = not available at this time

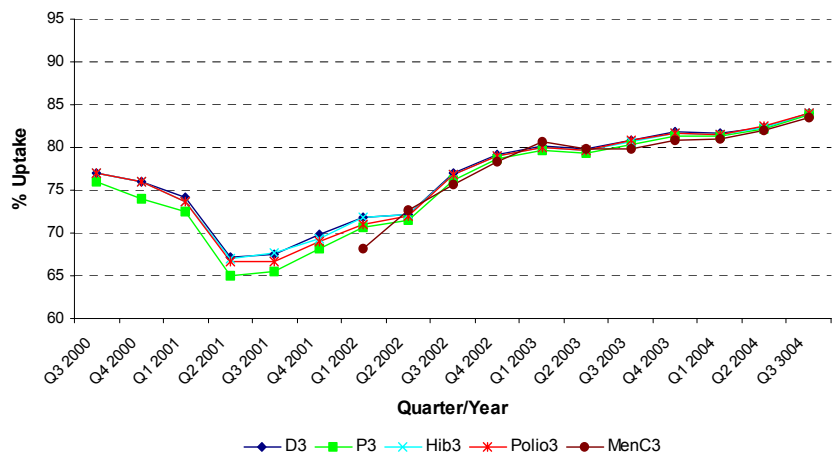


Figure 1. National quarterly immunisation uptake rates at 12 months

Immunisation uptake at 24 months

Immunisation uptake rates in children 24 months of age in Quarter 3-2004 are presented (Table 2). National uptake rates were 90% for D₃, T₃, and Polio₃, 89% for P₃ and Hib₃, and 88% for MenC₃. Uptake rates for these vaccines ranged from 85-86% in the ERHA up to 94-95% in the NWHB (Table 2). The target uptake rate of 95% was reached for D₃, P₃ and T₃ in both the MHB and NWHB. The target rate of 95% uptake was also reached in the MHB and NWHB for Polio₃ in Q3-2004. MMR₁ uptake was 81% nationally, ranging from 76% in the ERHA to 92% in the MHB (Table 2).

Trends at 24 months

Figure 2 presents the national uptake rates at 24 months for each vaccine component from Q1-1999 to Q3-2004. In Q3-2004, national uptake rates increased by 1-2% for D₃, P₃, T₃, Hib₃, MenC and Polio₃ at 24 months when compared with the previous quarter. Increases in uptake for all of these vaccines were reported by the SHB (5-6%), MHB (2%), NEHB (1-3%) and WHB (1-2%).

MMR₁ uptake

In Q3-2004, the national MMR₁ uptake rate at 24 months was 81%, the same as that reported in the previous quarter. MMR₁ uptake rates increased by 1-3% in the MHB, NEHB, SHB, and WHB. The uptake rate for MMR₁ remained unchanged in ERHA, NWHB, SEHB, MWHB. As in Q2-2004, the highest uptake rate for MMR₁ uptake was recorded in the MHB (92%).

Internationally

In Q3-2004, vaccination coverage statistics at 24 months for D₃, P₃, T₃, Hib₃, Polio₃ and MenC₃ were 97% in Northern Ireland¹ and 93-94% for the United Kingdom as a whole.² MMR₁ uptake was 87% in Northern Ireland¹ and 81% in the UK.²

Conclusions

The national MMR₁ uptake rate remains 2% below the uptake rate reported in Q4-2000 and 14% below the national target rate of 95% uptake. Uptake rates for all other vaccines remain 5-7% below the national target rates.

Acknowledgements

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References

1. Vaccination coverage statistics for children in Northern Ireland. Available at: <http://www.cdscni.org.uk/surveillance/Coveragestats/default.asp>
2. COVER programme: April to June 2004. CDR Weekly 2004: 14(39). Available at: <http://www.hpa.org.uk/cdr/default.htm>

Table 2. Immunisation uptake (%) in cohort born 01/07/2002 – 30/09/2002, calculated at 24 months

Health Board	No. in cohort	D ₃	P ₃	T ₃	Hib ₃	Polio ₃	MenC ₃	MMR ₁
ERHA	5859	86	86	86	86	86	85	76
MHB	964	95	95	95	95	95	95	92
MWHB	1318	89	88	89	88	89	87	84
NEHB	1450	92	92	92	92	92	92	82
NWHB	799	95	95	95	94	95	92	87
SEHB	1773	91	90	91	91	91	90	86
SHB	2218	92	92	92	92	92	91	85
WHB	1465	90	90	90	90	90	87	79
Ireland	15846	90	89	90	89	90	88	81

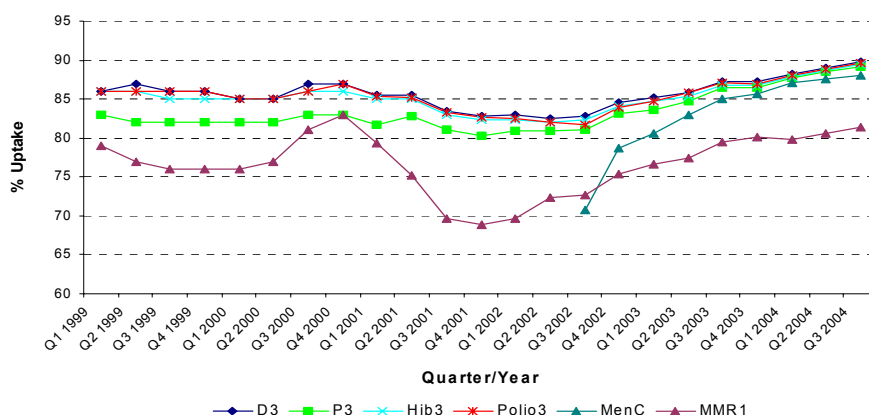


Figure 2. National quarterly immunisation uptake rates at 24 months

Further information

Table 3 presents recent national quarterly immunisation uptake rates at 24 months from Q4-2002 to Q3-2004. A complete listing of national and regional immunisation uptake statistics at 12 and 24 months for each health board are available at the following URL:

www.ndsc.ie/Publications/Immunisation/LatestImmunisationUptakeStatistics/

Table 3. National quarterly immunisation uptake rates at 24 months

Quarter -Year	D ₃	P ₃	T ₃	Hib ₃	Polio ₃	MenC ₃	MMR ₁
Q4-2002	85	83	85	84	84	79	75
Q1-2003	85	84	85	85	85	81	77
Q2-2003	86	85	86	85	86	83	77
Q3-2003	87	86	87	87	87	85	80
Q4-2003	87	86	87	87	87	86	80
Q1-2004	88	88	88	88	88	87	80
Q2-2004	89	88	89	89	89	87	81
Q3-2004	90	89	90	89	90	88	81