

Survey of vaccination policies in French healthcare institutions

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France's healthcare panorama



- 2784 hospitals
 - 983 in the public sector, 1801 in the private
 - 440 427 beds: 55% in the public sector
 - 31 university hospitals
 - 511 regional hospitals
 - 20 cancer centers
 - 327 dedicated to mental illnesses



Vaccination policy in France

- Recommendations are proposed to the Minister of Health by the High Council of Public health
- Published every year by the Institute of Epidemiology and Surveillance
- Recommendations for the general population and for specific groups (among whom HCWs)



Immunizations and healthcare workers

- 2 types of recommendations:
 - Mandatory:
 - BCG (1950's)
 - Diphtheria, tetanus, poliomyelitis (1950's)
 - Hepatitis B (1991)
 - Provide a certificate before being admitted
 - « Recommended » (i.e. not mandatory)
 - Influenza (2000)
 - Pertussis (2004)
 - Varicella (2004)
 - Measles (2005)
 - No certificate requested

The « Avancées Vaccinales » Group

- Group of 45 experts in vaccinology (clinicians, scientists, pharmacists, epidemiologists)
- Supported by Sanofi-Pasteur-MSD
- Aims to promote vaccination among HCWs and global french population
- Started in 2006, ending soon...

Why doing this survey ?

- Vaccine coverage rates vary a lot, depending on the vaccination, the HCW category...
- No national recommendation for implementation of the immunization policy
- 2 key persons for the vaccine policy in hospitals:
 - Occupational physician (OP)
 - Head of the hospital infection and prevention committee (HIPC)
- Vaccination rates of the staff will soon be part of the evaluation of the hospital quality system (« ICALIN » index)

Methods

- Questionnaire written by the AV expert group
 - Awareness of vaccine coverage rates for the HCWs by category
 - Specific vaccinal strategy
 - Management of epidemics
- Sent to each infection control team of a panel of regional and university hospitals

Results

- 30 institutions answered:
 - 70% university hospitals, 30% regional
 - 57% had > 1000 beds
 - 33% 400 to 1000 beds,
 - 10% < 400 beds



Results

- Knowledge of coverage rates
 - 59% of the OP, among whom 24% knew the rates by for each professional category
 - 31% of the HIPC, among whom 19% knew the rates by for each professional category
 - > 90% knowledge for DTP, but 50% for pertussis and 23% for influenza

Results

- Communication on vaccination:
 - 59% of OP and 35% of HIPC declared a specific communication on HCWs immunizations in their institution
 - Communication made by:
 - the hygiene and safety committee 62%
 - Specific meetings 42%
 - Intranet 19%
 - Traditional mailing 12%

Results

- Vaccinations suggested by the OP

Vaccinations suggested by the occupational physician at the annual visit.
Vaccinations proposées par la médecine du travail lors de la visite annuelle.

	All staff	Specifically to new staff members	According to medical unit	According to socio-professional category	According to age	According to individual history	Not suggested
dTP	100%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Pertussis	62%	17%	35%	28%	24%	14%	0%
Influenza	97%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Hepatitis B	48%	11%	24%	45%	0%	4%	0%
Varicella	17%	17%	24%	14%	10%	48%	31%
Measles	24%	14%	31%	24%	21%	52%	17%

Several possible answers for each vaccination; dTP: diphtheria–tetanus–poliomyelitis.

Results

- Epidemics:
 - 55% faced a pertussis epidemics
 - 42% a measles epidemics

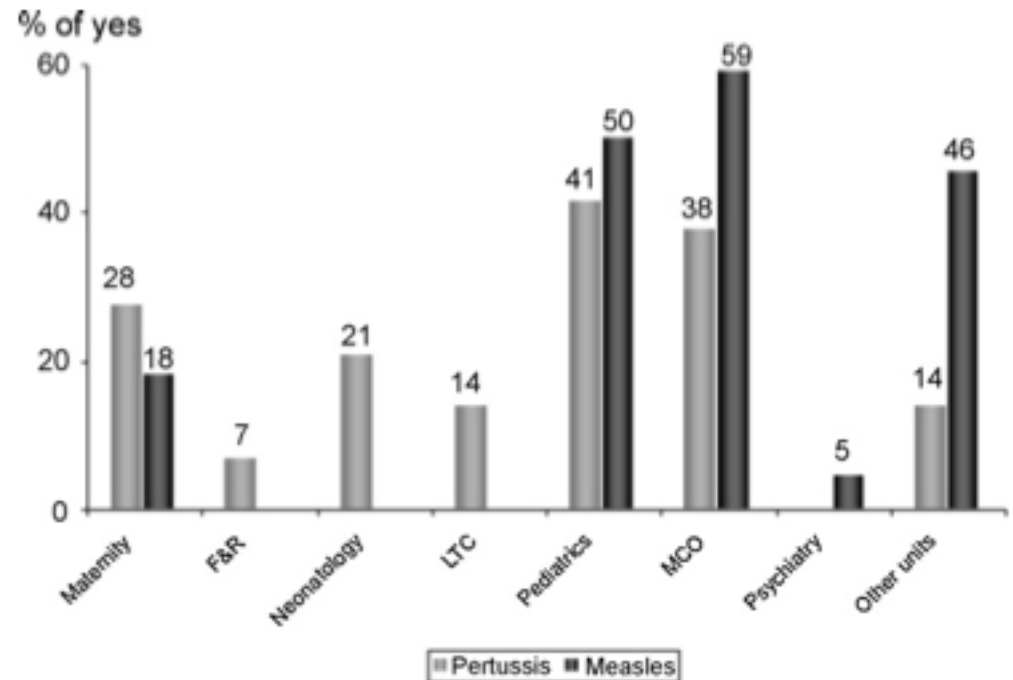


Fig. 2. Unit affected by pertussis and measles epidemics. Other medical units, especially for measles: emergency unit - intensive care dermatology and infectious diseases; for pertussis: admissions and nurseries. F & R: follow-up and rehabilitation - LTC: long-term care - MCO: medicine surgery obstetrics.
Secteurs concernés par les épidémies de coqueluche et de rougeole.

Discussion

- Vaccine coverage rates are not well known
- They remain low
- Communication media are not always used to promote vaccination
- Emphasis are made on mandatory vaccines (DTP, hep B) + influenza, but not on other useful and « non polemical » vaccines, such as measles, varicella and pertussis

Actions

- Communicate with new media
- Communicate often and accurately
- Communicate on every vaccine, not always influenza
- Implicate more the infection prevention teams: immunizations are part of their job, not only bacterial resistance and ATB use...

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THANK YOU

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KIITOS

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