

Critical Review of HB- vaccination Programme Progress in Germany

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Surveillance

- **New comprehensive communicable disease law (*Infektionsschutzgesetz*)**
- **Case-based system**
 - illness (acute hepatitis)
 - pathogens
 - risk factors
- **Case definitions**
- **Electronic reporting**

Surveillance (II)

- **Data available at all levels**
 - local interventions
 - national trends
 - assessement of programs
- **Feed-back**
 - weekly
 - yearly summaries
 - access to data base
 - several media

Surveillance (III)

- **Under-reporting**
 - MDs
 - laboratory diagnosis
- **Limited data set**
- **ICD-10 coding**

Vaccination Recommendations

- **STIKO tasks defined in new law**
- **Recommendations**
 - **infants and adolescents - universal**
 - **adults - risk groups**
 - **professionals**
 - **underlying illnesses**
 - **other risk groups**
- **Hexa-valent vaccine available**

Vaccination Recommendations (II)

- **STIKO recommendations**
 - have to be taken up up by states
 - agreed to be compensated by health insurers
 - implemented by MDs
- ⇒ **time needed for implementation**

Delivery System

- **Pediatricians in private practice**
- **GPs**
- **Gynaecologists**
- **Hospitals**
- **Public health services**

- **Free of charge (social health insurance)**

Delivery System (II)

- **Vaccination by treating physicians**
 - less ‘missed opportunities’
 - but many players
 - stronger role of public health services?
- **No school public health system**

Monitoring System

- **Vaccine coverage at school entry is rising quickly**
- **Sero-surveys**
- **Morbidity and mortality data**
- **Hospital discharge data**
- **Evaluation of outbreak investigations**

Monitoring System (II)

- **Vaccine coverage assessed at age \approx 6 years - not at target age**
- **No vaccination registry**
- **Limitations of supplemental data (recording and coding)**
- **Vaccination coverage in adolescents and adult in risk groups relatively low**

Screening of Pregnant Women

- **Universal program**
- **80% compliance**
- **Vaccination and HB-IG for newborns**
 - follow-up
 - family contacts/partners?

Other Issues

- **Notification system of adverse events**
- **Compensation for complications**
- **Vaccine safety and effectiveness**
- **Health education**