

Publication Summary



Childhood Immunisation Statistics

Quarter ending 30 September 2011

Publication date – 15 December 2011



About this Release

Immunisation uptake rates for children in Scotland aged up to 6 years are published quarterly. This release includes quarterly data to 30 September 2011.

Key Points

- In Scotland immunisation uptake rates for children aged up to 6 years remain high and stable.
- Quarterly uptake rates by 24 months of age for primary courses of immunisation against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio & Hib (DTP/Pol/Hib), MenC and PCV remain high and stable at around 96% to 98%. Uptake rates have exceeded the 95% target for the last decade.
- Quarterly uptake of one dose of MMR vaccine (MMR1) by 24 months is 94.0% (the previous quarterly figure was 93.5%). Uptake rates by 24 months have continued to be above 90% since autumn 2005. Quarterly uptake of MMR1 by 5 years of age is 96.9% (the previous quarterly figure was 96.4%). Uptake rates by 5 years have remained above the 95% target since September 2008.

Background

Children in Scotland are protected through immunisation against many serious infectious diseases. Vaccination programmes aim both to protect the individual and to prevent the spread of these illnesses within the population. As a public health measure, immunisations have been hugely effective in reducing the burden of disease. It is of public health concern when immunisation rates fall, as this increases the possibility of disease transmission and, hence, complications arising from outbreaks of infectious diseases.

In Scotland the target of the national immunisation programme is for 95% of children to complete courses of the following childhood immunisations by 24 months of age: diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)

and Meningococcal group C (MenC). An additional national target of 95% uptake of one dose of MMR vaccine by 5 years of age (with a supplementary measure at 24 months) was introduced in 2006 to focus efforts on reducing the number of susceptible children entering primary school.

Childhood immunisation statistics in Scotland are often published outwith the standard ISD timetable for National Statistics publications so that they are available at the same time as comparable statistics for other parts of the UK, published by the [Health Protection Agency](#).

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Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication](#) Report or on the [ISD website](#)

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