Publication Summary

Childhood Immunisation Statistics
Quarter and Year ending 31 December 2012
Publication date – 22 March 2013

About this Release
This annual report, covering calendar year immunisation uptake rates for children aged up to six years, is published in March each year. In addition, each quarter ISD publish updated tables presenting the latest quarterly uptake rates. This release includes uptake rates for the quarter and year ending 31 December 2012.

Key Points

- In Scotland immunisation uptake rates for children aged up to six years remain high and stable.

- At Scotland level, annual 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.

- Annual uptake of the first dose of MMR vaccine by 24 months of age reached 95.0% for the first time (the previous annual figure was 94.0%). Uptake rates by 24 months of age have continued to be above 90% since calendar year 2006. Annual uptake of the first dose of MMR by five years of age is 96.9% (the previous annual figure was 96.4%). MMR uptake rates by five years have remained above the 95% target since calendar year 2009.

- Uptake of the PCV booster vaccine by 24 months of age increased to 95.4% in 2012 (94.1% in 2011). This is the first time uptake of the PCV booster has reached and exceeded 95% since its introduction to the routine immunisation schedule in September 2006.
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), Meningococcal group C (MenC) and Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV). An additional national target of 95% uptake of one dose of the Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine by five 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.

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Further Information

Further information can be found in the Full Publication Report or on the ISD website

About ISD

Scotland has some of the best health service data in the world combining high quality, consistency, national coverage and the ability to link data to allow patient based analysis and follow up. Information Services Division (ISD) is a business operating unit of NHS National Services Scotland - and has been in existence for over 40 years. We are an essential support service to NHSScotland and the Scottish Government Health Department and others, responsive to the needs of NHSScotland as the delivery of health and social care evolves.

Official Statistics

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Further information on ISD’s statistics, including compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, and on the UK Statistics Authority, is available on the ISD website www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/