This publication presents annual uptake rates of two routine teenage booster immunisations for pupils in S3 and S4 in school year 2013/14 in Scotland. We report on the teenage Td/IPV vaccine that completes the course of childhood vaccines providing protection against tetanus, diphtheria, and polio, and the teenage MenC vaccine which boosts protection against meningitis and septicaemia (blood poisoning) caused by meningococcal group C bacteria. The teenage booster vaccinations are routinely offered to pupils in the third year of secondary school in Scotland at around 14 years of age. Any pupils not vaccinated in S3 are offered the vaccine in S4.

Key Points

- In 2013/14 uptake of the teenage Td/IPV booster vaccination among S3 pupils was 84.2%. This is a small increase on the 2012/13 uptake of 83.4%.
- For pupils in S4 in school year 2013/14 uptake had reached 87.1% by the end of the school year. This is a marginal increase on the 2012/13 uptake for S4 pupils of 86.9%.
- Since September 2013, teenagers have been offered the MenC booster vaccination in S3, at the same time as the Td/IPV booster. Uptake of the MenC booster vaccine among S3 pupils was 83.6% in 2013/14.

Background

Vaccination programmes aim to protect the individual from many serious infectious diseases and to prevent the spread within the wider population.

The teenage Td/IPV booster immunisation has been part of the routine immunisation schedule for many years, mainly through a school-based programme.
From September 2013, teenagers are also offered a booster dose of MenC vaccine in S3, at the same time as the Td/IPV booster vaccine. Research has shown that the length of protection against meningococcal group C bacteria is increased when a dose of the vaccine is given in the early teenage years.

These statistics are published as ‘experimental statistics’ as they are recently introduced official statistics undergoing evaluation. The data completeness and quality issues are explained in the Publication Report.

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

Feedback
Key to developing ‘experimental statistics’ is to obtain feedback from users to help inform their development. Readers are invited to send any comments on this publication summary and the publication report to NSS.isdchildhealth@nhs.net.

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