

# Immunisation Network Newsletter

July 2004

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## Australian Childhood Immunisation Register coverage results

The ACIR coverage reports are produced at the end of each calendar quarter for children registered with Medicare who are aged between 12-15 months, 24-27 months and 72-75 months.

The ACIR coverage is not the same as the General Practice Immunisation Incentive (GPiI) scheme coverage which uses different algorithms to assess a child's immunisation status.

### Coverage percentages as at 30 June 2004

Cohort 1—children aged between 12–15 months, children born between 1 January 2003 and 31 March 2003.

Cohort 2—children aged between 24–27 months, children born between 1 January 2002 and 31 March 2002.

Cohort 3—children aged between 72–75 months, children born between 1 January 1998 and 31 March 1998.

	ACT	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	AUS
Cohort 1	90.8	90.4	91.7	91.6	91.4	89.3	93.4	85.2	90.9
Cohort 2	90.0	91.0	92.3	91.8	92.7	90.6	94.9	94.5	91.7
Cohort 3	84.9	83.2	85.5	83.6	83.3	81.1	80.4	78.7	83.5

Full coverage details at a vaccine level are available at [www.hic.gov.au/acir](http://www.hic.gov.au/acir) under the heading statistics. These figures will be updated quarterly.

## Importance of timely reporting to the ACIR

The ACIR relies on providers to report immunisation encounters as soon as possible. By doing this you help:

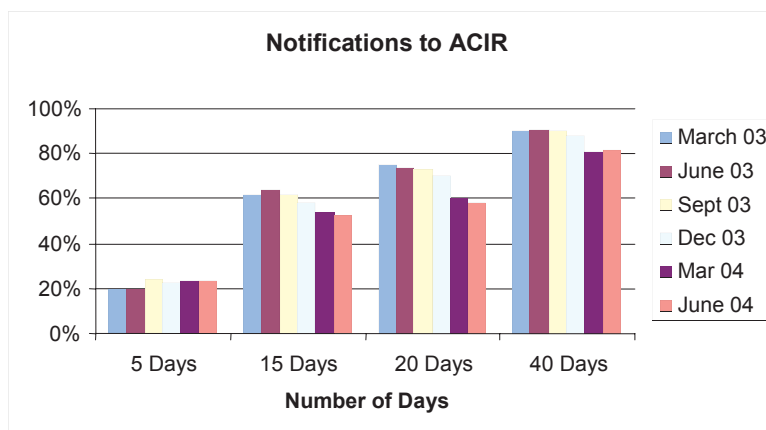
- achieve accurate ACIR coverage results and reports



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- improve parents' eligibility to receive the Australian Government's family assistance payments, the Child Care Benefit and Maternity Immunisation Allowance
- reduce the need for immunisation history (IMMU-13) forms
- assist eligible providers achieve GPII outcomes payments.

The following graph compares the number of days between the immunisation service date and the date the notification is received by the ACIR. The data in this graph is updated each quarter and is included in each newsletter.



## Networking opportunity for immunisation providers

Below is an article from the National Centre of Immunisation Research and Surveillance (NCIRS) about a new Australian immunisation professionals email discussion group. Anyone in the immunisation network interested in participating in the group can subscribe at the address provided at the bottom of the article.



### NCIRS-AIP *Australian Immunisation Professionals (AIP)*

NCIRS-AIP is an electronic email discussion group that has been set up for Australian immunisation professionals. The group facilitates communication between Australian immunisation practitioners, policy makers and researchers. It is modelled on a similar group in the United Kingdom.

Discussion items include:

1. News items/publications and meetings of interest
2. A forum for questions and feedback
3. An avenue for rapid information about media controversies.

The group is designed chiefly for professionals involved in immunisation in Australia, whether at the level of research, policy development or as immunisation providers. NCIRS welcomes into the group all Australian professionals, as well as professionals in other countries who wish to learn more about immunisation in Australia, and/or wish to communicate their experience with us.

Subscribers to NCIRS-AIP receive regular international updates on immunisation news (news briefs) and weekly summaries and commentaries on recent papers presented and discussed at the NCIRS Immunisation Journal Club.

**If you are interested in subscribing to this group, please log on at**  
<http://mailman.ucc.usyd.edu.au/mailman/listinfo/ncirs-aip> and follow the instructions located there or visit the website at <http://www.ncirs.usyd.edu.au/newsevents/index.html>