

Edition 25
August 2003

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Correspondence

The Editor

Immunisation Network

Newsletter

HIC

PO Box 1001

Tuggeranong ACT 2901

email: editor.inn@hic.gov.au

Call:

1800 653 809

TTY hearing impaired:

1800 552 152

TIS translating

interpreting service:

131 450

Internet:

www.hic.gov.au

Australian Childhood Immunisation Register coverage results

Coverage results as at 30 June 2003

The coverage results reported by the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (the ACIR) at 30 June 2003 are:

- 12–15 months—91.2 per cent
- 24–27 months—89.3 per cent
- five to six years—82.3 per cent.

The coverage results have increased 1.0 per cent, 1.2 per cent and 1.7 per cent respectively compared to the same period in 2002.

The ACIR coverage reports are produced at the end of each calendar quarter for children registered with Medicare aged 12–15 months, 24–27 months and 72–75 months. Please note that the ACIR coverage is not the same as the General Practice Immunisation Incentives (GPII) coverage as it uses different algorithms to assess a child's immunisation status.

Assessment requirements and results for the ACIR coverage

Children aged between 12–15 months

The child needs to have received the following vaccines by 12 months of age:

- Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis—dose 3
- Polio—dose 3
- Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)—dose 2 or 3
- Hepatitis B—dose 2 or 3.

Vaccines administered after the child has turned 12 months of age are not included in the coverage calculation.

The following table outlines the coverage percentage(s) at 30 June 2003 for children born between 1 January 2002 and 31 March 2002.

state	no. in state	% DTP	% POLIO	% HIB	% HEPB	% fully
ACT	988	92.6	92.6	93.8	94.3	91.5
NSW	21356	92.2	92.1	94.3	95.1	91.0
VIC	15052	92.7	92.6	95.1	95.0	91.8
QLD	12300	92.0	91.9	94.3	94.7	91.1
SA	4518	92.4	92.2	94.9	95.2	91.5
WA	6268	90.9	90.8	94.0	93.8	89.9
TAS	1443	92.9	92.7	95.5	95.4	91.9
NT	922	92.3	91.9	96.7	97.3	91.6
AUST	62847	92.2	92.1	94.6	94.9	91.2

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Children aged between 24-27 months

The child needs to have received the following vaccines by 24 months of age:

- Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis—dose 4
- Polio—dose 3
- Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)—dose 3 or 4
- Hepatitis B—dose 2 or 3
- Measles, Mumps and Rubella—dose 1.

Vaccines administered after the child has turned 24 months of age are not included in the coverage calculation.

The following table outlines the coverage percentage(s) at 30 June 2003 for children born between 1 January 2001 and 31 March 2001.

state	no. in state	% DTP	% POLIO	% HIB	% HEPB	% MMR	% fully
ACT	1018	90.4	93.4	92.9	94.6	93.4	86.9
NSW	21244	90.7	94.7	93.5	95.4	93.8	88.4
VIC	15060	92.1	95.6	94.4	96.4	94.7	90.5
QLD	12431	91.8	94.8	93.8	95.2	93.9	89.8
SA	4427	91.8	95.3	94.4	95.7	94.5	90.4
WA	6200	89.2	94.1	92.5	95.1	93.3	87.0
TAS	1512	94.3	96.7	96.2	97.5	96.0	93.6
NT	862	90.5	97.6	95.2	98.5	96.3	89.0
AUST	62754	91.3	95.0	93.8	95.7	94.1	89.3

Children aged between 72-75 months

The child needs to have received the following vaccines by six years of age:

- Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis—dose 5
- Polio—dose 4
- Measles, Mumps and Rubella—dose 2.

Vaccines administered after the child has turned six years of age are not included in the coverage calculation.

The following table outlines the coverage percentage(s) at 30 June 2003 for children born between 1 January 1997 and 31 March 1997.

state	no. in state	% DTP	% POLIO	% MMR	% fully
ACT	1071	82.3	82.5	81.8	80.4
NSW	22050	84.3	84.1	82.7	81.2
VIC	15697	86.5	87.0	86.5	85.3
QLD	12638	83.6	83.9	83.5	82.0
SA	4681	83.2	83.7	82.7	81.3
WA	6588	82.5	82.9	82.2	80.6
TAS	1501	83.7	84.1	82.6	82.2
NT	816	82.0	84.9	83.0	81.1
AUST	65042	84.4	84.6	83.7	82.3

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Notifying the ACIR of the death of a child

The ACIR does not automatically receive information from the register of Births, Deaths and Marriages. However, when details of a child who has died are provided to Medicare, these are automatically transferred to the ACIR database. Immunisation providers are encouraged to inform the ACIR when they are made aware of such circumstances as this prevents correspondence being sent to bereaved parents and prevents their details from appearing in ACIR reports.

There are two ways of notifying the ACIR of such circumstances:

1. Immunisation providers or parents can call the ACIR on 1800 653 809.
2. Immunisation providers may advise the ACIR in writing with the following details:
 - provider's name and address
 - child's name, address, date of birth, Medicare number and the date of death.

Written notification must be signed by the provider and submitted to

HIC
GPO Box M933
Perth WA 6843

How you can help

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

- achieve accurate GPII Outcomes payments for providers
- reduce the need for Immunisation History (IMMU-13) forms
- improve a parent's eligibility to receive the Child Care Benefit and Maternity Immunisation Allowance, and
- achieve accurate ACIR coverage results and reports.

The following graph compares the March and June quarters with the time taken for providers to notify the ACIR of immunisation encounters from the service date. The graph will be updated after each quarter for future editions of this newsletter.

