

Vaccinate or not vaccinate

Ingrid Hankes Drielsma 29th PNAE meeting
Naples



Reason for giving thought to vaccinations in the Netherlands

2016 when the Paediatric nurses of the Dutch nursing organization wanted to organize a mini symposium on the subject

Groups against vaccinations made an upheaval

This led to cancelling the event and choosing to write articles about different aspects on vaccination in the Dutch Magazine for Paediatric nurses.



Reason for Corry van de Hoed-Heerschop to ask PNAE members to inform her on national vaccination programs within Europe

- Goal was to get a broad spectrum view on resemblances and differences of preventive vaccination programs for children and young adults within European countries and publish the results in:
the **Dutch Magazine for Paediatric Nurses**

Corry thanks all PNAE members that responded.



9 countries including the Netherlands responded:

Belgium

Czech Republic

Germany

Portugal

Sweden

Slovenia






Turkey

United Kingdom




Dutch National Vaccination Program

Vaccinatieschema

Fase 1	Inenting 1	Inenting 2
 6 - 9 weken	DKTP Hib HepB	Pneu
 3 maanden	DKTP Hib HepB	
 4 maanden	DKTP Hib HepB	Pneu
 11 maanden	DKTP Hib HepB	Pneu
 14 maanden	BMR	MenC

Fase 2	Inenting 1	Inenting 2
 4 jaar	DKTP	

Fase 3	Inenting 1	Inenting 2
 9 jaar	DTP	BMR

Fase 4	Inenting 1	Inenting 2
 12 jaar	HPV (2 keer 1 prik)	

Betekenis afkortingen

D Difterie
K Kinkhoest
T Tetanus
P Polio
Hib Haemophilus influenzae type b
HepB Hepatitis B

Pneu Pneumokokken
B Bof
M Mazelen
R Rodehond
MenC Meningokokken C
HPV Humaan Papillomavirus



Resemblances in preventive vaccination programs

The countries that responded all have the preventive vaccination programs that correspond with the Dutch National preventive vaccination program.

Some countries showed small differences of a time span of a few weeks in which certain vaccinations were given.

There was a slight difference in at what age the last DKT(P) was given in the adolescent period.

For example in Slovenia the last Tetanus shot is given at the age of 18 compared to the Czech Republic where it is given at 14 years of age.



Differences in vaccination programs

Biggest differences:

- Czech Republic, Portugal & Turkey:

Newborns (4 days) and then infants (2 months) are vaccinated with BCG (Bacillus Calmette –Guérin) to avoid (TBC).

Other countries don't give this vaccination.

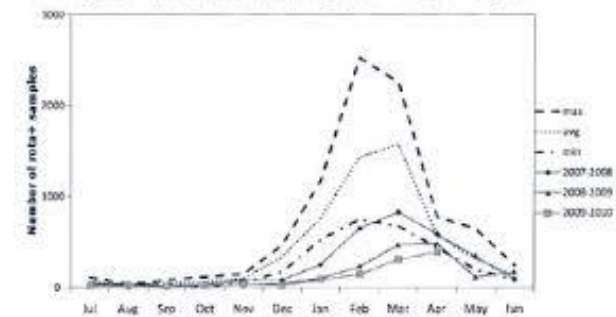
- In the Netherlands this vaccination is not part of the National vaccination program. Is only given to high risk children (Living with people who have TBC or going to a country for a period of 3 months or longer where TBC is endemic)

Second big differences in national vaccination programs is oral vaccination against the ROTA virus

Countries where it's included are:

- Belgium at 8,12 and 16 wks after birth;
- Germany at 6 weeks after birth;
- United Kingdom at at 8 weeks;
- In the Netherlands is not part of the national program yet.
- It's not clear why above mentioned countries have already included it.

Figure 1 Rotavirus detection through sentinel labs in Belgium



Other questions were about:

- Organized groups against Vaccinations in countries
- Return of old infectious diseases due to large groups of immigrants (asylum seekers)



Countries with organized groups against vaccinations

- **Czech Republic:**

Group called Paracelsus was initiated by group of parents that didn't agree with the National prevention vaccination program.

- **Slovenia:**

group a citizens initiative.

This group is politically active, has own website and knows how to use social media and newspapers.

Not known if these groups have an impact on the amount of parents that have their children vaccinated.

Netherlands

Each parent can decide to vaccinate or not vaccinate their child

95% of parents have their child vaccinated

There is an initiative of group of parents against vaccination thru a website

The reasons not to want a child vaccinated is not based on evidence but seems to be a matter of religion emotions, fear or other personal opinions

Germany

- Has no group against vaccinations but does have individuals who are concerned and give reasons not to have their child vaccinated.

In 2007 a report of the Robert Koch institute (disease prevention & control) and the Paul-Ehrlich institute (vaccines & biomedication) has been translated to English by the European Centre for disease and prevention. It's available for a broad public.

In this report 20 reasons not to vaccinate children are given.

- In the other countries no groups against vaccinations are known.

discussions in 2016 and 2017

- Even though Italy did not respond to our questions I was in Italy last year and there were heated discussions in the media in Bologna, Firenze and Rome which Imaculata translated for me
- In several regions in Italy there are discussions whether children can start attending school if not vaccinated.
- In the Netherlands we have the same discussions in the media about non vaccinated babies being a threat to other babies in day care centers and if others parents should be informed

Further more a few interesting statements that were discussed in the articles of the Paediatric magazine

- Nurses have to give vaccinations according to protocol and have to deal with parents who have a different opinion and where often emotions win from rational.
- Nurses who themselves don't want any vaccinations are responsible to so anyway in order to safe guard their patients, family and friends
- Even though nurses have a responsibility to protect high risk and weak patients there are nurses who e refuse a flu vaccination and give the following as reasons:
 - there is a low risk perception (for getting the flu & the severity of it)
 - afraid of side effects
 - Have doubts of the effectiveness
- Above reasons are similar to reasons parents give.

Do old infectious diseases return due to large groups of immigrants ?

- Netherlands: asylum seekers are checked, they are not in good health when arriving but the risk of them bringing infectious diseases is small.
- Germany: has the same experience.
- Other countries also don't have data concerning the return of old infectious disease.
- In the Czech Republic there are no exact data but there does seem to be a rise of Hepatitis A, TBC and infectious skin diseases.

Conclusion

- 9 European countries use (with difference in ages) almost the same preventive vaccination program.
- Only in a few countries is TBC en Rota virus part of the vaccination program.
- In Europe there are groups against vaccinations but there are not many
- In Europe there are no known data on outbreaks of infectious disease due to asylum seekers.

Vaccinate or not Vaccinate

- Any questions or information countries want to share at this moment ?

