

KiGGS – The German Health Interview and Examination Survey for Children and Adolescents

Abstract Principal Publication

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Vaccination coverage and predictors for vaccination level. Results of the German Health Interview and Examination Survey for Children and Adolescents (KiGGS)

Abstract The level of childhood immunisation is an acknowledged indicator for health prevention. In Germany, vaccination is not compulsive. Continuous representative data derive only from school health examinations. From May 2003 until May 2006 the German Health Interview and Examination Survey for Children and Adolescents (KiGGS) was conducted and vaccination information on 16,460 participants was obtained. Using data on the vaccination cards, it was possible to make detailed analyses of vaccination coverage in children up to the age of 17. Different vaccine types were taken into consideration in defining the term ‘immunisation coverage’. The average prevalence of full immunisation for tetanus, diphtheria und polio as well as the coverage for the first dose of measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccination was above 90% in children aged 2–17 years. Vaccination coverage for pertussis, Hib and hepatitis B is higher in younger than in older age groups. Compliance with the recommendation to have a second MMR dose and to make up of hepatitis B and pertussis immunisation is still low, especially in adolescents. In 7- to 17-year-old children the additional booster (recommended for 5- to 6-year-old children) is frequently missing.

Keywords Health Survey - Children - Adolescents - Vaccination - Vaccination coverage - Predictors
