

Thursday, 18 February 2016

National report updates child vaccine coverage in Brisbane North

Brisbane North is on track to meet the revised childhood immunisation target of 95 per cent, according to a new national report.

National Health Performance Authority (NHPA) figures released today show the immunisation rate in the Brisbane North PHN region for 5-year-old children had reached 93 per cent in 2014-15.

The rate for 1-year-old children was slightly lower at 92.6 per cent, while the rate among two-year-olds had fallen to 91.4 per cent.

The NHPA has acknowledged that the addition of three new vaccines to the National Immunisation Schedule in January 2015 caused a decrease in the reported immunisation coverage among two-year-old children.

Brisbane North PHN Chief Executive Abbe Anderson said the region was making good progress toward the national target, despite changes to the National Immunisation Schedule.

“Brisbane North PHN continues to work closely with GPs and other primary healthcare professionals to lift childhood immunisation rates,” Ms Anderson said.

“The information in this report will be useful for planning a childhood immunisation public awareness campaign that Brisbane North PHN will run again this year, in the lead up to World Immunisation Week (24-30 April),” Ms Anderson said.

The NHPA report presents updated immunisation data for each of the 31 Primary Health Network regions and also by smaller statistical areas and postcodes.

This year’s report shows there have been significant increases in the one-year-old immunisation rate, since the 2013-14 report, in areas around Indooroopilly (4 per cent) and Kenmore, Brookfield and Moggill (2.3 per cent). These areas were the focus of a coordinated media campaign in April last year.

The NHPA figures also reveal that more work is needed to lift one- and two-year-old immunisation rates in the Caboolture area and among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

Healthy Communities: Immunisation rates for children in 2014–15 is available for download from NHPA website: www.nhpa.gov.au.

ENDS

Contact

Simon Brooks, Public Relations Officer
t 07 3630 7330 f 07 3630 7830 m 0481 009 021 e simon.brooks@brisbanenorthphn.org.au

www.brisbanenorthphn.org.au

Suite SP020, Ground Floor, Lutwyche City
543 Lutwyche Road, Lutwyche QLD 4030
PO Box 845 Lutwyche QLD 4030
t 07 3630 7300 f 07 3630 7333

Level 2, 10 Endeavour Boulevard
North Lakes QLD 4509
PO Box 929 North Lakes QLD 4509
t 07 3490 3490 f 07 3630 7400

Editor's note:

In late 2014, the Commonwealth Chief Medical Officer and all state and territory chief health officers agreed to a 95 per cent aspirational national immunisation target. This aspirational target was agreed based on advice from the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation, the Communicable Disease Network of Australia and the National Immunisation Committee.

Source: <http://www.nhpa.gov.au/internet/nhpa/publishing.nsf/Content/Immunisation-improvement>.

About the Brisbane North PHN

Brisbane North PHN supports clinicians and communities in Brisbane's northern suburbs, Moreton Bay Regional Council and parts of Somerset Regional Council. It covers approximately 4,100 km² of urban, regional and rural areas, with a population of over 900,000.

The Federal Government announced the establishment of 31 Primary Health Networks to replace the national network of Medicare Locals in 2015. The Government selected successful PHNs through an open and competitive process, including the Brisbane North PHN.

The key objectives of the PHN are:

- increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of medical services for patients, particularly those at risk of poor health outcomes; and
- improving coordination of care to ensure patients receive the right care in the right place at the right time.

Contact

Simon Brooks, Public Relations Officer
t 07 3630 7330 f 07 3630 7830 m 0481 009 021 e simon.brooks@brisbanenorthphn.org.au

www.brisbanenorthphn.org.au

Suite SP020, Ground Floor, Lutwyche City
543 Lutwyche Road, Lutwyche QLD 4030
PO Box 845 Lutwyche QLD 4030
t 07 3630 7300 f 07 3630 7333

Level 2, 10 Endeavour Boulevard
North Lakes QLD 4509
PO Box 929 North Lakes QLD 4509
t 07 3490 3490 f 07 3630 7400