From package to protection - how do we close global coverage gaps to optimise the impact of vaccination?

"Les Pensières" Fondation Mérieux Conference Center Veyrier-du-Lac - France

22-24 September 2014

Steering Committee:

- Jacques LOUIS
- Angus THOMSON
- Michael WATSON



Background

The success of every vaccination program is dependent upon reaching & sustaining the target coverage rates. Coverage gaps leave populations vulnerable to disease and preventable death. One of every 5 children born today never receives a vaccine. The rapid progress in provision of routine immunisation that came after the introduction of the EPI has stagnated in the last 10 years, with the global coverage rate for DTP3 actually decreasing recently. At the same time, an estimated 50,000 adults die of vaccines preventable diseases every year in the US. In addition to these coverage gaps where target coverage rates are never reached, vaccination programs may see erosion of coverage due to, for example, loss of public confidence in vaccination. Recent measles outbreaks in the UK were a direct consequence of people refusing MMR vaccination for their children.

There is widespread recognition of the urgent need to tackle these coverage and erosion gaps in vaccination coverage. The Global Vaccine Action Plan (GVAP) has the clearly stated goal to "meet vaccination coverage targets in every region, country and community". The WHO SAGE recently called for the rate of DTP3 coverage to be increased to the GVAP goal of 90% in 2015. The EC Commission interim analysis of the EU Council 2009 recommendations on influenza vaccination concludes that countries need to make clear commitments and determined efforts to enhance vaccination coverage rates. So, what now?

This symposium aims to explore how we may most effectively address these coverage gaps, by challenging assumptions with evidence and focusing on impact.

We hobble ourselves with many assumptions. Making vaccines more affordable had an impact on global coverage rates, but has had little impact on the 20% of kids who are never vaccinated. Erosion gaps are attributed to vaccination refusal, but measles outbreaks in France were not due to acceptance and data tells us that it is hesitancy not refusal that most likely threatens programs. Acceptance issues are not the luxury of rich countries, they also arise in low income countries, and high income countries have huge coverage gaps that have never been filled. We must structure our analysis of this complex, multi-faceted challenge to get to the root causes. Our actions must become evidence-based not assumption-based. We must generate more and better evidence, and use that evidence to focus our actions on real impact to ensure that all vaccines get from packages to protection.

Scientific programme

Monday 22 September 2014

17:30 - 18:30	Registration	
18:30 - 18:50	Welcome addresses	Fondation Mérieux Angus THOMSON
18:50 - 19:30	Key-note address: Bringing science to life, and death to pseudoscience - lessons learnt as an irreverent blogger	Olivier BERNARD
19:30	Welcome dinner	

Tuesday 23 September 2014

Session 1

Why do people get vaccinated? Time to drop our assumptions and pick up the evidence

up the evidence				
Chair: Bruce Gellin				
08:30 - 08:50	The social and cognitive determinants of adult vaccination: a psychometrically validated tool	Ana WHEELOCK		
08:50 - 09:05	Discussion			
09:05 - 09:25	Measuring attitudes of HCPs to vaccination and to advocating for vaccination	Marianne PROMBERGER		
09:25 - 09:40	Discussion			
09:40 - 10:00	Identifying, understanding and talking to vaccine- hesitant parents	Douglas OPEL		
10:00 - 10:15	Discussion			
10:15 - 10:45	Coffee break			
10:45 - 11:05	Mapping vaccine hesitancy: roots, determinants and scope	Eve DUBE		
11:05 - 11:20	Discussion			
11:20 - 11:40	A proposed measure of parental vaccine acceptance: The V-ABC	Hal WILLABY		
11:40 - 11:55	Discussion			
12:00 - 13:30	Lunch			
13:30 - 13:45	Demonstration of the MOTIVgATE community of practice	Laura MILLET		



Scientific programme

Session 2

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Stop talking in tongues - engaging with the public on health & science				
Chair: John PARRISH-SPROWL				
13:45 - 14:05	How can we help people to make wise decisions?	Eugenius LAURINAITIS		
14:05 - 14:20	Discussion			
14:20 - 14:40	How should society respond to the risk of vaccination hesitancy?	David ROPEIK		
14:40 - 14:55	Discussion			
14:55 - 15:15	Bringing the public voice to the public	Danny DARCHE		
15:15 - 15:30	Discussion			
15:30 - 15:50	Leading with the values: an intervention in a vaccine-hesitant community.	Katie ATTWELL		
15:50 - 16:05	Discussion			
16:05 - 16:30	Coffee break			

Session 3

Bringing it all together - Building a practical framework to close vaccination gaps					
Chair: Bruce GELLIN					
16:30 - 16:50	Tools for identifying root causes of children remaining unvaccinated	Rudi EGGERS			
16:50 - 17:05	Discussion				
17:05 - 17:25	The 5As vaccination coverage framework – reaching target coverage through evidence-based advocacy	Angus THOMSON			
17:25 - 17:40	Discussion				
17:40 - 18:00	Update on the NVAC working group on vaccination hesitancy	Vish VISHWANATH			
19:15	Dinner				

Scientific programme

Wednesday 24 September 2014

Session 4

What works? Social & behavior change interventions that actually impact vaccination coverage				
Chair: Douglas ST	OREY			
08:30 - 08:50	Evidence-based approaches to communicating risks and benefits	Ellen PETERS		
08:50 - 09:05	Discussion			
09:05 - 09:25	What works – Strategies to close the vaccination coverage gap	Julie LEASK		
09:25 - 09:40	Discussion			
09:40 - 10:00	Interventions for reducing parental vaccine refusal and vaccine hesitancy	Saad OMER		
10:00 - 10:15	Discussion			
10:15 - 10:45	Coffee break			
10:45 - 12:15	Workshops			
	Workshop 1: Finding and generating data to build comprehensive evidence-based national coverage programs	Vish VISHWANATH & S. ATEGBO		
	Workshop 2: What works –finding, testing and sharing behaviour and social change interventions	J. LEASK & S. OMER		
12:15 - 14:00	Lunch			
14:00 - 14:20	Conclusions from Workshop 1	Vish VISHWANATH & S. ATEGBO		
14:20 - 14:40	Conclusions from Workshop 2	J. LEASK & S. OMER		
14:40 - 15:00	Discussion			
15:00 - 15:20	Guest lecture: Equity and emerging issues in political economy in immunization in Nigeria	Emmanuel ABANIDA		
15:20 - 15:35	Discussion			
15:35 - 15:55	Closing lecture: Beliefs, facts and vaccination	Brendan NYHAN		
15:55 - 16:15	Closing comments and end of meeting	Mike WATSON		