

Paediatric meningococcal ACWY vaccine Immunisation coverage rates for your area

Dear Floreat Medical Practice

This postcard shows a map of the meningococcal ACWY immunisation rates among children in your practice area and surrounds. In January 2018, the WA Department of Health introduced a meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY) vaccination program for 12 month old children. There is also a catch up program for children aged 12 months to less than five years of age, which is finishing at the end of 2018.

These programs were introduced following an increase in meningococcal infections due to meningococcal serogroups W and Y in 2016 and 2017.

In the year to date, 16 children under 5 years of age have been hospitalised with meningococcal disease in WA. Of these, 12 children had meningococcal W disease. These infections could have been prevented if the children had been vaccinated. Of the 16 children with meningococcal infection, 12 were Aboriginal and 10 lived in the Perth metropolitan area.

Presently 54.5% of eligible WA children have received the MenACWY vaccine, meaning that over 60,000 children in the community remain unprotected.

Please contact the parents of children aged 12 months to 4 years of age in your practice who still have not been vaccinated and ask them to bring their child in for their free vaccination. Given the elevated risk in young Aboriginal children, it is especially important to make every effort to vaccinate these children with the MenACWY vaccine.

Further information on the MenACWY vaccine program can be found at the WA Health site: Google "WA meningococcal ACWY vaccine FAQ"

In addition, adolescents aged from 15 to 19 years are eligible to receive a free MenACWY vaccine until further notice. This group is also at higher risk of meningococcal carriage and infection, and should be strongly encouraged to receive the vaccine.

As Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) has expanded to a whole of life register, any vaccination should be entered on to the AIR. If you need any assistance with the AIR Secure Site, contact the AIR Internet Help Desk on 1300 650 039 or for general enquiries contact 1800 653 809.

Thank you again for your efforts to protect the children you care for from vaccine preventable diseases.

Sincerely,



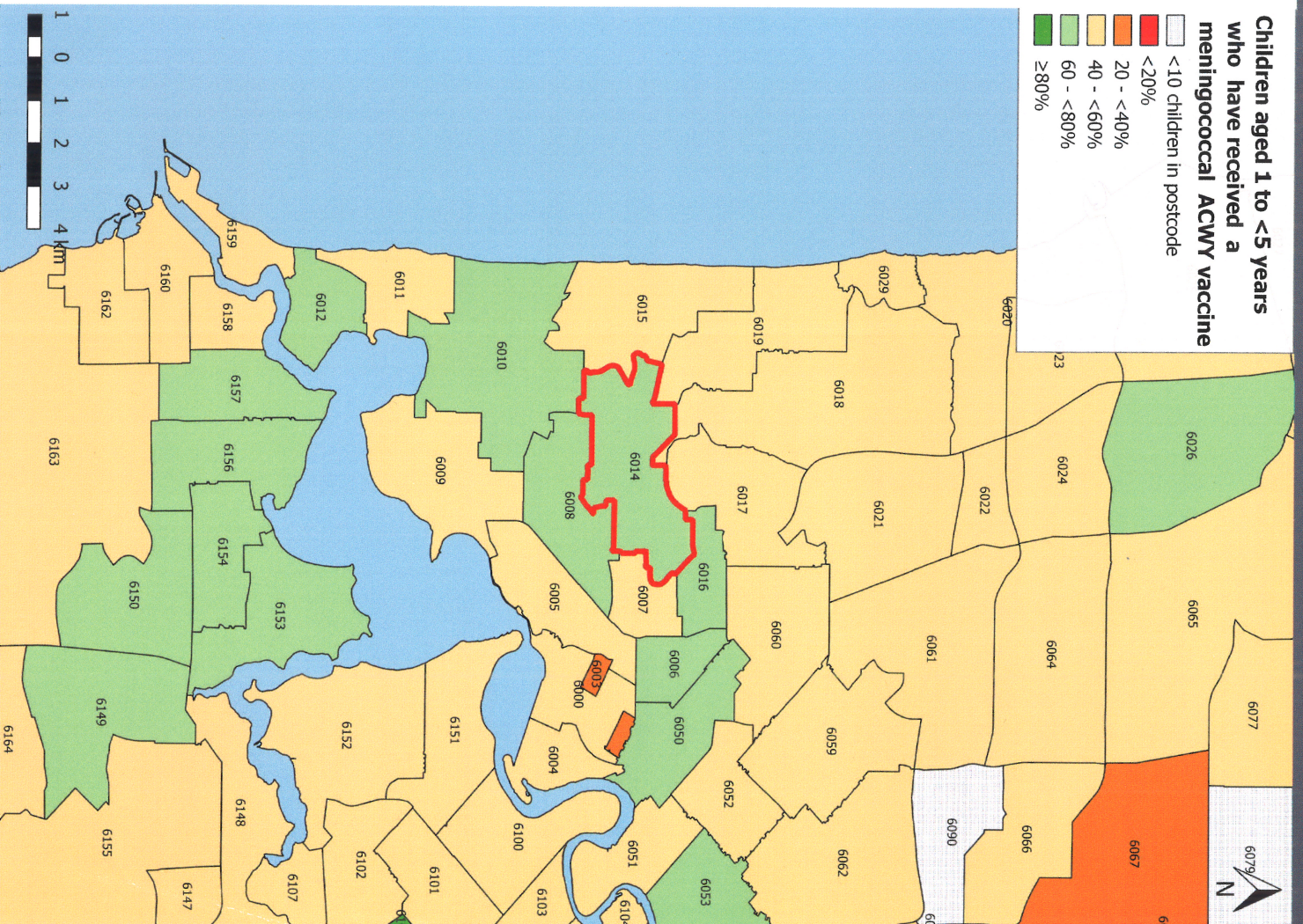
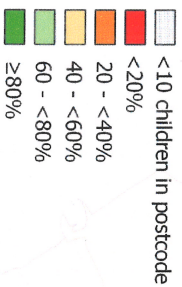
Dr Paul Effler
Medical Advisor
Communicable Disease Control Directorate
Department of Health WA



Government of Western Australia
Department of Health

Data not available for areas with <10 children

Children aged 1 to <5 years who have received a meningococcal ACWY vaccine





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Where can I get more information?

Department of Health WA Immunisation Page

<http://www.health.wa.gov.au/Healthy-living/Immunisation>

Department of Health WA Provider Immunisation Page

http://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/F_/Immunisation-provider-information-and-resources

WA Vaccine Safety Surveillance (WAVSS)

<https://wavss.health.wa.gov.au/>

Immunise Australia Program

<http://www.immunise.health.gov.au/>

Floreat Medical Practice

Immunise to protect 1-4 year olds from life-threatening meningococcal infection.



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If your parents need more information from the Australian Department of Human Services immunisation requirements, they can visit the website below by using the link or google 'What are immunisation requirements'.

<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/enablers/immunisation-requirements/35396>