

SAND abstract No. 175 from the BEACH program 2010–11

Subject: Pertussis and persistent cough among general practice patients

Organisation supporting this study: GlaxoSmithKline Australia Pty Ltd

Issues: The vaccination status of general practice patients for pertussis, diphtheria and tetanus; whether the patient has close contact with an infant aged less than 6 months and the nature of the patient's relationship with the infant; prevalence of pertussis; prevalence of a discreet coughing episode lasting more than 3 weeks (referred to as persistent cough) in the previous 12 months; time taken off work or study because the patient or someone in their care had pertussis or persistent cough.

Sample: 2,422 patients from 82 GPs; data collection period: 26/10/2010 – 29/11/2010

Method: Detailed in the paper entitled *SAND method 2010–11* at:
<<http://sydney.edu.au/medicine/fmrc/publications/sand-abstracts>>.

Summary of results

The age and sex distributions of the patients who responded to the question about vaccination status did not differ from all patients at 2009–10 BEACH encounters.

Pertussis vaccination status was provided by 2,389 respondents. Of these, 751 patients (31.4%, 95% CI: 27.7–35.2) had received a pertussis vaccination in the previous ten years, 1,393 (58.3%) had not been vaccinated, and 245 (10.3%) did not know if they had been vaccinated. Patient age was recorded for 2,376 of these respondents. The proportion vaccinated decreased with age: 94.3% of patients aged 0–14 years, 65.6% of those aged 15–24 years, 29.3% of 25–44 year olds, 15.7% of 45–74 year olds and 11.4% of those aged 75 years and over.

Diphtheria vaccination status was provided for 2,364 patients. Of these, 1,042 patients (44.1%, 95% CI: 40.2–47.9) had been vaccinated in the previous ten years, 1,083 (45.8%) had not been, and 239 (10.1%) did not know. Tetanus vaccination status was recorded for 2,371 patients. Of these, 1,149 patients (48.5%, 95% CI: 44.7–52.3) had been vaccinated in the previous ten years, 1,000 (42.2%) had not been, and 222 (9.4%) did not know.

There were 296 patients (12.4% of 2,392 respondents) who had close contact with an infant aged < 6 months. Of these, 179 (61.3%) had been vaccinated in the previous decade for pertussis. Relationship with the infant was specified for 285 respondents: 85 (29.8%) were grandparents, 69 (24.2%) a parent/guardian, 33 (11.6%) siblings, 20 (7.0%) child care workers, nine (3.2%) health workers, and 72 (25.3%) had an other relationship with the infant. Of the 85 grandparents, 83 provided pertussis vaccination status. Approximately half (51.8%) of these were known to be vaccinated. Of the 69 parents, 72.5% had received pertussis vaccination, and of the 33 siblings, 32 (97.0%) were vaccinated.

There were 2,393 respondents to the pertussis diagnosis question. None of the respondents had been diagnosed with pertussis in the previous year. However, 65 (2.7%) did not know whether they had been diagnosed with pertussis.

Of 2,334 respondents, 107 patients (4.6%) had had a persistent cough in the previous 12 months. Of 2,105 respondents, 98.8% had not had time off work or study because the patient or someone in their care had pertussis or persistent cough.

Correspondence to: Clare Bayram, FMRC

Family Medicine Research Centre, University of Sydney. SAND abstract No. 175 from the BEACH program: Pertussis and persistent cough among general practice patients. Sydney: FMRC University of Sydney, 2011. ISSN 1444-9072

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

The shaded section of the following forms asks questions about **PERTUSSIS (WHOOPIING COUGH) AND PERSISTENT COUGH.**

You may tear out this page as a guide to completing the following section of forms.

INSTRUCTIONS

Please answer the following questions for **ALL** of the **next 30 PATIENTS** in the order in which the patients are seen.

Please **DO NOT** select patients to suit the topic being investigated.

Vaccination status

Please use the tick boxes to indicate whether this patient has been **vaccinated** for **pertussis** (i.e. whooping cough), **diphtheria** or **tetanus** in the **past 10 years**.

Pertussis

Please use the tick boxes to indicate whether this patient has been **diagnosed with pertussis** (i.e. whooping cough) in the **past 12 months**.

Management of pertussis

For patients who were diagnosed with pertussis please indicate how they were treated (either with or without clinician involvement).

Medication(s): please specify the **name, form** and regimen (**dose and frequency**) for **any medication taken**.

Hospital admission: please tick the box if the patient was hospitalised due to pertussis

Other treatment(s): in the space provided please specify any other treatment used to manage pertussis (e.g. procedures)

If the patient's pertussis was **not treated** please tick the box labelled '**NO treatment**'.

Contact with infants aged <6 months

Please advise whether this patient is in **close contact** with any **infant(s) aged <6 months**.

If 'yes' please use the tick boxes to indicate the **relationship** this patient has **with the infant**.

Persistent cough

For patients who have not been diagnosed with pertussis please indicate whether they have had a **discrete episode of coughing lasting more than 3 weeks** in the **past 12 months**.

Please **exclude coughs with a known cause** (e.g. asthma, smoking).

Time off work/study

Please use the tick boxes to indicate whether this patient had to take **time off work or study** (i.e. school or university) in the **past 12 months** because they or **someone in their care** had **pertussis**, or a **cough** lasting >3 weeks.

<p>Has the patient been vaccinated in past 10 years for:</p> <p>Yes No Don't know</p> <p>Pertussis (Whooping cough) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Diphtheria <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Tetanus <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Is the patient in close contact with infant(s) aged <6 mths?</p> <p><i>(E.g. household member, carer, health worker)</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>What is the patient's relationship with the infant(s)?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Parent/guardian</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sibling</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Grandparent</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Childcare worker</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Health worker</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p>	<p>Has the patient been diagnosed with pertussis in the past 12 mths?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>	<p>If 'no' or 'don't know', has the patient had a discrete episode of coughing lasting >3 weeks in past 12 mths?</p> <p><i>(Please exclude coughs with a known cause e.g. smoking, asthma)</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>If the patient had pertussis, how was it treated?</p> <p>Medication:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name & Form</th> <th>Strength</th> <th>Dose</th> <th>Freq</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Hospital admission</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other treatments: _____</p> <p><i>(please specify)</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO treatment</p>	Name & Form	Strength	Dose	Freq	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	<p>In past 12 mths was the patient absent from work/study because they or a person in their care had pertussis, or cough lasting >3wks?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <1 wk <input type="checkbox"/> No time off</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 wks</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> >2 wks</p>
Name & Form	Strength	Dose	Freq																			
_____	_____	_____	_____																			
_____	_____	_____	_____																			
_____	_____	_____	_____																			