



Version 1, published 4 September 2014

## **Announcement of methodological changes to NHS Immunisation Statistics, England, 2013-14 [NS] <sup>1</sup>**

### Change to methodology for calculating coverage

Information on childhood immunisation coverage at ages one, two and five years is collected through the UK Cover of Vaccination Evaluated Rapidly (COVER) collection. The COVER data for all vaccinations, with the exception of selective neonatal hepatitis B, are reported by Upper Tier Local Authority (LA) for the first time. Where data are reported by LA, it is by the LA responsible population and coverage figures are supplied for patients registered with GPs based in that LA and for unregistered patients who were resident in that LA.

Where data suppliers are not able to provide data for the LA responsible population, the HSCIC estimates LA figures by apportioning PCT data on the basis of population. Most LAs share the same geographical boundaries as the old PCTs (i.e. are coterminous) and therefore the LA responsible population is the same as the old PCT responsible population so no estimation is required.

### Estimating LA figures from PCT data

Where LA figures are estimated from PCT data, PCT data are either added together to create LAs (where two or more PCTs together form an exact match for the LA) or are split and weighted according to population to create LAs.

Where a PCT is split across two or more LAs, population data from ONS Output Areas, which fit both the LA and PCT boundaries, are used to estimate the percentage of the PCT population that falls within each LA. This estimate is then used to create a weighting which is applied to the vaccination data to produce the LA figures. For example, if 75% of PCT1's population falls within LA1 and 25% of PCT1's population falls within LA2, then 75% of the PCT1s eligible population and 75% of PCT1s vaccinated population is allocated to LA1. LA2 receives 25% of PCT1's eligible and vaccinated population.

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<sup>1</sup> [NS] denotes that the publication has National Statistics status



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For LAs whose boundaries are contained wholly within a single PCT, but are not equal to the whole PCT, the LA counts are estimated as a proportion of the PCT figure (based on population data from ONS Output Areas).

The local and regional statistics are therefore based on an LA dataset that includes some estimated data. National figures are not estimates. As the dataset combines estimated LA data and reported LA data, LA figures do not sum to equal national or regional totals.

LA regional coverage figures are calculated from aggregating PCT data. All PCTs fit wholly within regional boundaries with the exception of Swindon and Tameside and Glossop PCTs. These two PCTs are split across two regions each and their data are apportioned on the basis of population in the same way as the LA data.