



Summary general questions

Greece

November 13, 2018

Country description

The population in Greece is estimated at 11 million, with 90,000 births each year. The average life expectancy is estimated at 79 for men and 84 for women (2016). The gross national income per capita (PPP int. \$) is 27,809 (2017). The estimated total expenditure on health per capita (Intl \$, 2014) is 2,098 and the total current expenditure on health as percentage of GDP (2014) is 8.1%.

General health and school systems

95%-98% of children are born in the hospital or maternity clinic. Prematurely born children can be treated from 23 weeks. The average stay in the hospital is 2-5 days. The birth registration coverage is 100%. The infant mortality under the age of 5 per 1000 live births per year is 4.

The primary school starts at age 5.

Existing prevention programmes and coverage

General Preventive Child Health Care programmes are nationally organized and are performed by pediatricians.

Health care contact moments in the first weeks and at 4-6 year

	Vaccination or tests	Coverage
First weeks		
Birth	Universal newborn testing by Guthrie test	>95%
	BCG only high risk newborns	Low - unknown
	HepB at birth only when mother HbsAg (+) or status unknown	90%
4 weeks	General examination (weight, height, head circumference, icterus, hip dysplasia)	80%
8 weeks	DTaP-IPV-Hib/HepB + PCV	100% & 94%
	No National hearing test in place, there are guidelines for red reflex testing	no data on coverage
4-6 year	2 nd dose MMR & Varicella	83% & 74%
	5 th dose of DTaP-IPV	90%
	Visual testing usually performed	No data

Private pediatricians are inviting children for screening. At least 60% of children are seen at private pediatricians' offices for primary care. Although recently protocols have been published there is no evidence that there has been adoption and implementation as yet. There is no system to invite children for screening (other than National newborn screening). The number of children that attends screening is unknown. No information is provided on the monitoring of the quality of the programme or on cost-effectiveness.

No national vaccination registry exists as yet so no official data on vaccine coverage are available . There are a couple of regional studies for some vaccines . According to WHO data about 97% of the children are vaccinated.

The total costs of general screening are unknown. The average salary costs for a pediatrician are 12,000 to 18,000 euros per year (6-9 euros per hour).

References

WHO (all accessed August 2018):

- Data on country population and economics: <http://www.who.int/countries/en/>
- Data on birth registrations: <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.GSWCAH54v>
- Data on vaccinations: <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.UHCIMMUNIZATIONv>

World Bank (accessed August 2018):

- GDP per capita: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.PP.CD?view=chart>