



Summary general questions

Italy

February 21, 2019

Country description

The population in Italy is estimated at 60 million, with 473,000 births each year. The average life expectancy is estimated at 80 for men and 85 for women (2016). The gross national income per capita (PPP int. \$) is 39,818 (2017). The estimated total expenditure on health per capita (Intl \$, 2014) is 3,239 and the total current expenditure on health as percentage of GDP (2014) is 9.2%.

General health and school systems

The total density of hospitals is 2.08 per 100,000 people (2013). Almost all children are born in (private) hospitals and 99.9% of births are attended by skilled personnel. Prematurely born children can be treated from 22-25 weeks. The average stay in the hospital is 2-3 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 6.

Existing prevention programmes and coverage

General Preventive Child Health Care programmes are both nationally and regionally organized. Every Region can choose the way to reach the targets of the "National Prevention Plan" and the guidelines are organized by the individual regions. The screening is performed by pediatricians. The care is funded by the municipalities and health insurance and free of charge for the parents.

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

Since the general Preventive Child Health care screening programme is regionally organized, the contact moments differ by region.

All children are invited by the pediatricians and about 80% of the children attends screening. The quality of the programme is monitored. No official data have been published about the cost-effectiveness of the general Preventive Child Health care screening programme.

Mandatory vaccinations (anti-poliomyelitic, anti-diphtheria, anti-tetanic, anti-hepatitis B, anti-pertussis, anti-Haemophilus influenzae type b, anti-measles, anti-rubella, anti-mumps and anti-varicella) are established on a national level and free of charge for the parents. The non-compulsory vaccinations are strongly recommended for those born in and after 2017. About 85%-94% of the children are vaccinated, depending on the vaccination.

The average salary costs for a pediatric professionals involved in screening are 24,000 – 48,000 euros per year.

References

WHO (all accessed August 2018):

- Data on country population and economics: <http://www.who.int/countries/en/>
- Data on health infrastructure: <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.30000>
- Data on skilled professionals at birth: <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.1630>
- 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>