Country report general questions

Poland

September 25, 2018

Country description

The population in Poland is estimated at 38 million, with around 400,000 births each year. The average life expectancy is estimated at 74 for men and 82 for women (2015). The gross national income per capita (PPP int. $) is 29,026 (2017). The estimated total expenditure on health per capita (Intl $, 2014) is 1,570 and the total current expenditure on health as percentage of GDP (2014) is 6.3%.

General health and school systems

The total density of hospitals is 0.18 per 100,000 people (2013). Almost 100% of children are born in the hospital and 99.8% of births are attended by skilled personnel. Prematurely born children can be treated from 23 weeks. The average stay in the hospital is 2-3 days (4 days after Cesarean section). The birth registration coverage is 100%. The infant mortality under the age of 5 per 1000 live births per year is 5. The newborn mortality per 1000 live births per year is 4.

The primary school is compulsory from age 7, but children can already attend school at age 6.

Existing prevention programs and coverage

General Preventive Child Health Care Services are nationally organized. There are no general Preventive Child Health Care professionals, the nurses can be taught to do the screening, but one nurse will do one type of screening (for example neonatal screening only). The care is funded by charity (new born hearing screening program only (although the procedure is founded by health insurance)) and health insurance.

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

	Vaccination or tests	Coverage
First weeks		
1 day after birth	Hepatitis B (first dose), tuberculosis	around 92%
2-3 days after birth	New born Hearing Screening	98%
2 weeks	General examination (weight, height, head circumference, icterus, hip dysplasia)	
6-8 weeks	Hepatitis B (second dose), diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (first dose), Aemophilus Influenzae B (first dose), pneumococcus (first dose)	around 92%
2 months	General examination (weight, height, motor skills)	
4months	diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (second dose), Aemophilus Influenzae B (second dose), Polio (first dose), pneumococcus (second dose)	around 92%
4-6 year		
48 months	General examination and spine, knees, feet examination, visual acuity	
6 years	General examination and evaluation of pronunciation, hearing and visual examinations	
6 years	diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (5th dose), Polio (fourth dose)	around 92%

There is no information provided on the invitation process and on the final coverage. (Children are under control of the family doctor (pediatrician), who takes care about the Vaccination or tests calendar). There is no information provided on quality control, collection of outcomes or cost-effectiveness.

Vaccinations are obligatory. There are penalties for missing. Parents who do not come with compulsory vaccinations are first given a call from the clinic (paper letter). If this does not work, the situation is notified by sanitary-epidemiological station. The amount of fine for non-vaccinating a child can range from 25 euros to 1250 euros one time. But the fine can be imposed repeatedly. The upper limit is 12,500 euros. Vaccinations are connected with general screening performed by a family doctor.

The total costs of general screening are 8-9 million euros per year and about 20-25 euros per child per year. The average salary costs for a nurse or midwife are 9500 euro gross per year (5 euro per hour).

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