



Brazil's Ministry of Health, Ceará's Health Secretariat and PAHO Initiate Activities for a Vaccination Coverage Survey in Ceará

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Starting in February 2016, a vaccination coverage survey is being conducted among households in the municipalities of Ceará. The survey is expected to estimate the coverage of vaccines offered in the National Immunization Program's immunization schedule for the Brazilian population aged 18 to 30 months and measure the impact of vaccination strategies against measles in the population aged 5-29 years in Caucaia and Fortaleza, the most affected municipalities by the Ceará's measles outbreak.



Technical team that will oversee survey implementation and analysis met in Ceará, Brazil on February 2016. Photo credit: PAHO

Survey results are expected to determine vaccination coverage for the BCG-ID, polio, pentavalent, yellow fever, varicella, rotavirus, pneumococcal conjugate, meningococcal conjugate, MMR, hepatitis A, DPT (first dose) and Sabin vaccines, as well as determine measles-rubella (MR) vaccination coverage among young adults. Survey results will provide evidence on the current vaccination status of children, adolescents and adults living in the municipalities of Caucaia and Fortaleza, where more than 1.9 million MR doses were administered to children, adolescents and adults. The survey will also help monitor access to services to receive the first vaccine dose, analyze compliance with the vaccination schedule, check the adaptation of the schedule, comparing valid applied doses and production data services and estimate the proportion of children using private vaccination services.

Comprehensive activities that included data search, training, review, synthesis and use of a decision-analysis were modeled, developed and validated. The proposed methodology is expected to achieve the desired results. The survey consists of 30 clusters with 7 people each, seeking to interview a total of 1,890 individuals. A research team consisting of 15 people will visit nine districts from the two municipalities.

Studies on immunization actions are directed to the improvement of program evaluation strategies; this survey, however, is searching for more precise indicators for measuring and understanding social inequalities related to vaccination coverage. Vaccination coverage is



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estimated by data doses and recorded and transcribed by health facilities. The coverage estimates are subject to errors.

Survey results are expected in May 2016.

3,000 Health Professionals Registered for Online Courses on Cold Chain Management and Immunization Data Analysis Offered by the Brazilian Health Ministry's Immunization Program

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Distance courses on Cold Chain Management and Immunization Data Analysis were offered through the immunization program of the Ministry of Health of Brazil, together with the Federal University of Goiás, and supported by PAHO/WHO. These courses were announced in Public Notice number 05 (2014) by the Health Surveillance office of the Ministry of Health. The goal of the courses is to implement educational initiatives to train workers involved in health surveillance in Brazil, and to strengthen health surveillance activities within the country's Unified Health System (UHS).

Projeto: Metodologias virtuais em salas de vacinas no âmbito do PNI/MS

Curso: 01. Rede de Frio

Curso: 02. Informação e Análise em Imunizações

Inscrições Online: 19 de fev. a 04 de mar. de 2016

Pelo Site do Projeto: pni.iptsp.ufg.br

Realização: UFG IPTSP

Financiamento: Ministério da Saúde

The courses are tailored to professionals working in the immunization area of the UHS and are intended to promote and improve know-how in cold chain management and immunization data analysis, using the National Immunization Program (NIP) information system.

Every three months throughout the year, four courses will be offered on both topics, each with 120 hours of duration. The courses will be divided into four modules, with tutorials. The cold chain course will cover the cold chain itself and its infrastructure and physical/functional organization, as well as cold chain management. The immunization data analysis course will cover the NIP and health information, NIP information systems, data quality, and data analysis.

As stated in the public notice, 200 students working in a variety of fields in Brazil's various regions will be accepted in each course. Online registration can be done at <http://www.pni.iptsp.ufg.br/>.

More information is available in the public notice published at: <http://www.pni.iptsp.ufg.br/>.