

# Serotype replacement in invasive pneumococcal disease following vaccination: fact or fiction?

Florian Burckhardt (1), Rene Reinert (2), Irene Seegmüller (2), Mark van der Linden (2), Anette Siedler (1)  
1. PAE, Robert Koch Institute, 2. National Reference Centre for Streptococci

## Background

- Invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD) is a major vaccine preventable infection in children
- Seven-valent conjugate-vaccine (PCV7) does not protect against all pneumococcal serotypes
- Universal vaccination of children under-two years recommended in Germany in July 2006
- Non-vaccine serotypes (NVS) might replace vaccine serotypes
- Pre-vaccination data were analysed to detect secular trends in NVS before universal vaccination
- IPD exhibit strong seasonality starting in July and peaking in winter months

## Methods

- IPD surveillance:
  - 1997 – 2006: active population based laboratory surveillance of children under 16 years of age with paper-based monthly questionnaires (zero reporting)
  - Beginning from 2007: passive web-based surveillance “PneumoWeb”, recording IPD cases of all ages (fig 1) by 100 sentinel laboratories
- Chi2-trend test of under-16y olds between 07/97-06/06
  - Total NVS as share of all serotypes
  - Individual NVS comprising more than 5% of NVS
- Proportion of NVS in under-2 year olds 07/97- 06/06 compared with 07/06 – 06/07 using Chi-square

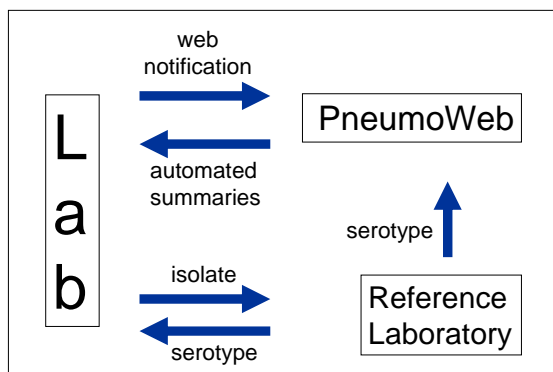


Figure 1: Flow of information and isolates within PneumoWeb

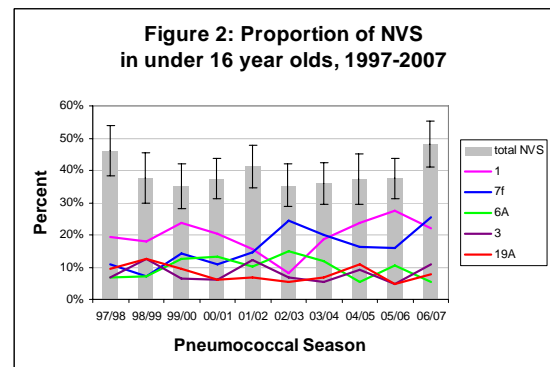


Figure2: Proportion of total non vaccine serotypes (NVS, grey bar) relative to all isolates including 95% confidence intervals, proportion of individual NVS (coloured lines) relative to all NVS. Isolated from under 16 year olds between 1997 and 2007.

## Results

- No secular trend in proportion of total NVS in children ( $\text{Chi}^2=0,005$ ;  $\text{df}1$ ;  $p=0,94$ ) prior to general vaccination
- Variability in individual serotypes: serotype 7F had a significant upward trend ( $\text{Chi}^2=7,48$ ;  $\text{df}1$ ;  $p=0,006$ ), serotypes 1, 6A, 3, 19A had no trend
- no significant difference in proportions of NVS in under-2 year old between time prior to and after vaccination ( $\text{Chi}^2=0,41$ ;  $\text{df}1$ ;  $p=0,521$ )

## Conclusions

- NVS trends prior to vaccination show heterogeneous patterns with type 7F increasing despite no trend in total NVS
- No serotype replacement observed
- Although slight increase in proportion of NVS relative to all isolates in season 2006/07, it might be too early to measure vaccine effect on pneumococcal community
- Efficient IPD-surveillance such as PneumoWeb essential to detect serotype replacement