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Characterization of vaccination extra National Vaccination Program

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Background & Aim: There has been, in recent years, a remarkable decrease of morbidity and mortality due to infectious diseases targeted by vaccination, with consequent health gains. The National Vaccination Program (NVP) is a universal program, free and accessible to all residents in Portugal. In addition to the NVP vaccines, there are others in the market, recommended by the Portuguese Society of Pediatrics.

Aim: to characterize the extra-NVP vaccination in users under the age of 18.

Method: Observational, retrospective and cross-sectional study. Population: users born between 01/01/1996 and 12/31/2014, belonging to three Family Health Units (FHU). Data source: computer program Sinus®. Inclusion criteria: administration records of at least one dose of each of the following extra-NVP vaccines: - Vaccine against meningococcal group B (MenB) - Pneumococcal polysaccharide conjugate vaccine 13 valences (Pn13) - Vaccines against rotavirus (ROT) - Vaccines against hepatitis A (HAV) - Vaccines against varicella (VAR).

Results: The pediatric population in the three FHU corresponds to 8149 users, of which 51.7% are male. Regarding Pn13, 47.3% of the children were vaccinated, and 52.2% were male. They were vaccinated with MenB 2.7% of children, in which 56.2% were male. Regarding ROT, 13.4% of children were vaccinated, and 51.6% were female. As for VHA, 20.6% of children were vaccinated (54.4% male). None of the children were vaccinated with the VAR.

Conclusions: The use of extra-NVP vaccines should be considered after discussion with the pediatrician and / or family physician. The decision of the extra-NVP vaccination is the responsibility of parents, leaving the family doctor the key role of information and assistance in this decision process. This is an issue that may cause many repercussions on the health of children but also in the family and to the society in general. Disclosure: No conflict of interest declared.