HAV vaccination programme
in Puglia - Italy

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Contents

Hepatitis A in Puglia

• Epidemiology
• Risk factors
• Vaccination programme
Puglia, South Italy

4M people
Pro-capita GDP 12k €
Hepatitis A in Puglia

Median age of infection
- 16 years in 1993
- 20 years in 1998
Wet street market, Bari
Wet street market, Bari

20-30% of mussels +ve for HAV (PCR)

Chironna M et al, 2002
Enhanced HAV surveillance - 1997

“Did you eat raw sea-food during past two months?”

Lopalco PL et al, 2005
HAV outbreak linked to an infected food handler in Bari, July 2002

Prato R et al, 2005
Raw sea-food role in spreading HAV in Puglia

• Raw sea-food consumption is important in starting the outbreaks
• Population susceptibility and other risk factors sustain the epidemic and maintain the situation of endemicity in the Region
Epatite A: cost analysis

Average cost of a HAV case: 3,280 Euros

Cost of the 1996/97 outbreak in Puglia: > 36,000,000 Euros

*PharmacoEconomics* 1998, 13(2): 257-266
1998: universal HAV vaccination started in Puglia

toddlers at 15-18 months

Adolescents at 12 years
Adolescent vaccination schedule in Puglia until 2002

adolescent not yet vaccinated against HBV

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<tr>
<th>7th grade</th>
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<th>8th grade</th>
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<td>March/April</td>
<td>April/May</td>
<td>November</td>
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<tr>
<td>1^ HAV+HBV</td>
<td>2^ HAV+HBV</td>
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<td>MPR</td>
<td>VZV*</td>
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* boys and girls with negative history for varicella
Adolescent vaccination schedule in Puglia after 2002

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* boys and girls with negative history for varicella
HAV incidence after the start of immunization campaign
HAV in Puglia 1992/2005
median age of infection

R² = 0.969
Conclusions

- HAV incidence decreased after the introduction of universal vaccination
- Incidence reduction in all age groups suggests herd immunity effect
- Open questions
  - is the vaccination responsible for the current disease control?
  - catch up campaign?