

Health utilisation survey: vaccination component in Soweto

Claire von Mollendorf

A health utilisation survey (HUS) was conducted in Klerksdorp and Soweto from July to October 2012. The main aim of this survey was to describe how people use healthcare when they become ill with selected syndromes. A second component to the survey was conducted from Sep 2012 to Jan 2013 in Soweto. This component involved the collection of vaccination histories from households with children ≤ 5 years of age who agreed to have a follow-up visit. A total of 483 children ≤ 5 years were identified for interview by the nurses, but only 434 questionnaires were completed as some children had relocated or the caregivers refused an interview at the time of the nurse visit. The median number of children per household was 2 (range 1-6 children). Over 90% of children had available road-to-health-cards and approximately 45% of children had received vaccine doses late (≥ 1 month after scheduled date).

Another HUS is planned in Pietermaritzburg for August this year and the data from the KZN vaccination component will be combined with the current Soweto data for the final vaccination analysis and comparison to the IPD case-control study.