

Problem

- Reported immunisation rates for the Routine Childhood Immunisation Programme have dropped in Barnet since April 2013. Figures 1 – 6 illustrate the rates for uptake of primaries ('5-in-1') by age 1, uptake of PCV booster, Hib/Men C booster and first dose of MMR by age 2 and the preschool booster and 2nd dose of MMR by age 5 for Barnet compared to London and England averages.
- A drop of 9% can be seen between Q1 (April – June 2013) and Q2 (July-September 2013) for the age 1 cohort, a smaller drop of 4% for the Age 2 cohort and a drop of 6-7% for the Age 5 vaccines. The sharp decline of 9% is unusual for the age 1 cohort as typically this age group has the highest rates (nearing 95%) with a pattern of rates dropping as age group increases. This pattern is due to the high population mobility in the London population (which increases the denominator) and not all parents/guardians being called and followed up for appointments for MMR doses and the boosters.
- Seeing such a sharp drop for the age 1 cohort is indicative of data management issues. In Barnet's case, the decline is due to data linkage problems – i.e. transfer of information from GP systems to update the information on the Child Health Information System (CHIS), which since April 2013, has been the responsibility of Central London Community Healthcare NHS Trust (CLCH).
- CLCH are currently experiencing challenges receiving immunisations data from general practices in Barnet. For the submission of Q1 COVER data, 40% of GP practices were not compliant with the submission rules of COVER data and so were excluded.
- GP practices in Barnet who submitted Q1 COVER data to CLCH ran their own extracts (not standardised), which in turn caused a great deal of extra work for CLCH-Child Health Information Hub and therefore, delays in data submission.
- Barnet PCT used to arrange for practices to undertake a twice monthly extract routine of the immunisation data for their practice population under 18 years of age. This was then sent in CSV format via NHS mail to the Child Health Department at CLCH. The CLCH Hub would transform it and process for upload to RiO.
- The PCT would monitor and chase those practices who failed to submit their data and would support those who were experiencing problems. No one currently chases up those practices who either do not submit data or whose data file is not complete or corrupt. CLCH does not see chasing up practices to submit data as part of their role. However, this role will be made explicit in future contracts with CLCH.

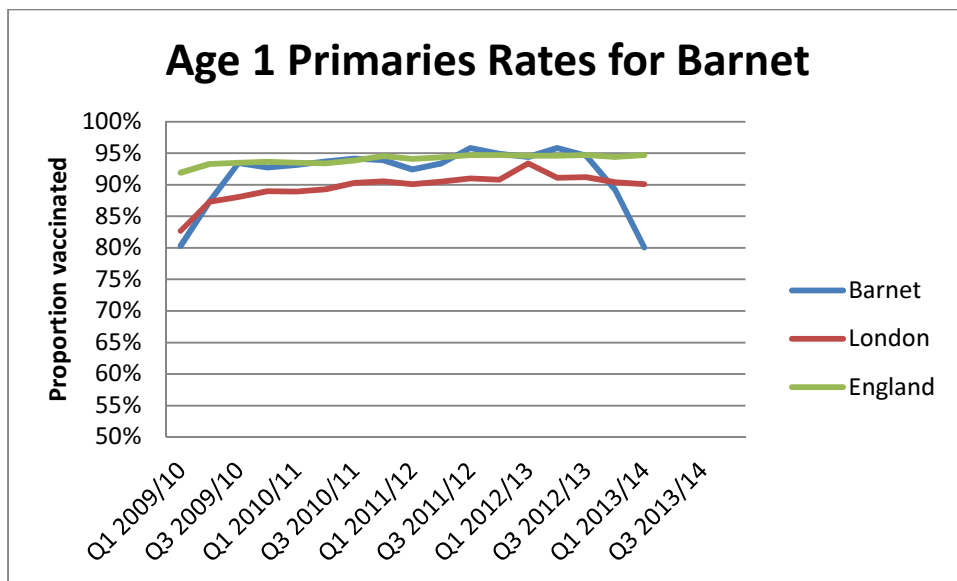
Solutions

- Given that the problem for the drop in rates is a data management issue, the focus has been on working to improve this situation.
- The North West London NHSE patch team who lead on commissioning immunisations in North West London have been meeting with the CLCH CHIS team regularly and are instigating a number of options for commissioning a short term arrangement (October 2013 to end of March 2014).
- One option is to install CDR Intell data linkage software to provide automated data extractions from GP clinical systems. This will improve quality of GP data and therefore increase reported rates (Automate data extract routines in CSV format). CDR Intell is data extraction software which has been commissioned in 4 other CCG areas in London. Health Intelligence software if agreed will be an urgent fix for salvaging GP data immunisation systems and improving data extraction beginning with Q2 COVER.
- The North West London NHSE patch team are also working with the Barnet CCG Board to discuss other options and to find ways of how they could be of help to improve immunisation data related issues.
- A protocol has been put into place across London for earlier scrutiny of rates prior to submission to COVER by the patch and central immunisation commissioning teams in NHSE. This is helped by the new minimum child health dataset (implemented 1st September 2013) which enables monthly reports on immunisations to the NHSE immunisation teams.
- A population health manager from the North West London NHSE patch team has been leading the alignment of GP Immunisations data linkage to all Child Health Information Systems (CHISs) across London. The project aim is to improve data reporting for vaccinations between GP surgeries and the child health information teams across London. The results of this project will be implemented as part of the commissioning process for 2014/15. This project is also aligned with the NHSE immunisation action plan for London and the NHSE Childhood Immunisation Strategy for London whereby the aim is to have 95% across COVER cohorts for London.

Results

- A stabilisation of rates for Q3 COVER data, followed by an increase for Q4 2013/14 onwards.
- There is the opportunity to re-submit Q1 and Q2 data by the end of the financial year and this will be reflected in the annual rates for Barnet for 2013/14.

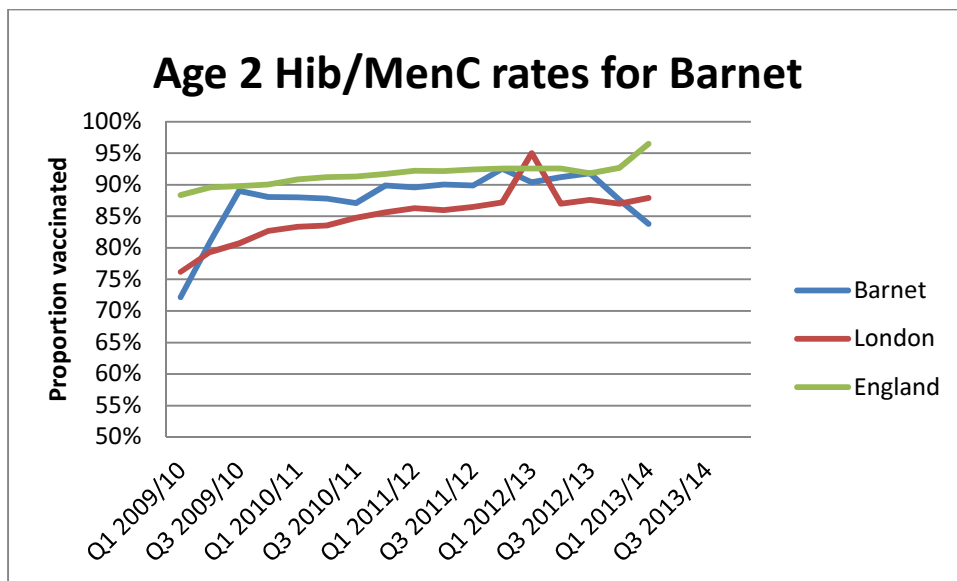
Figure 1
COVER Quarterly rates for Age 1 Cohort for Barnet compared to London and England averages
(2009-2013)



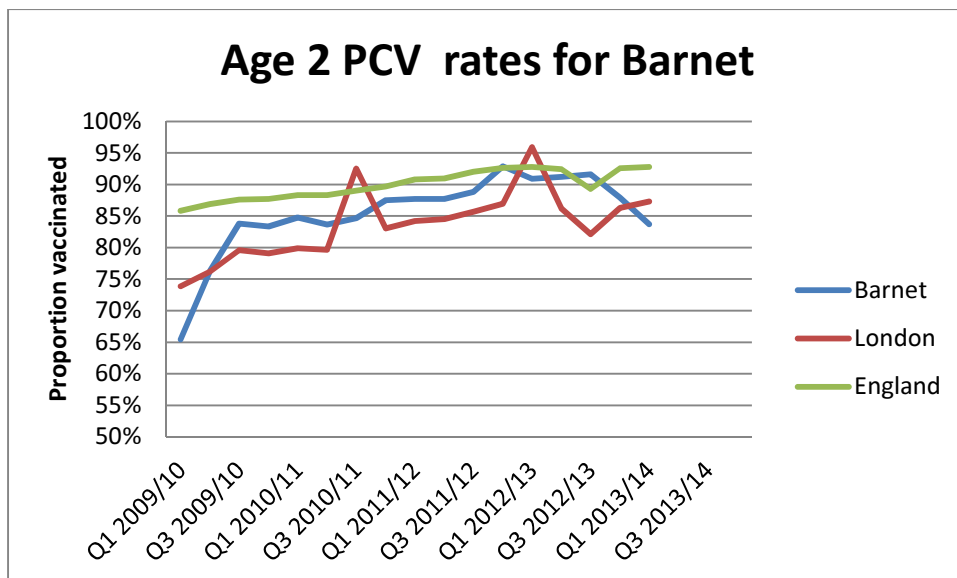
(Source: PHE, 2013)

Figures 2- 4

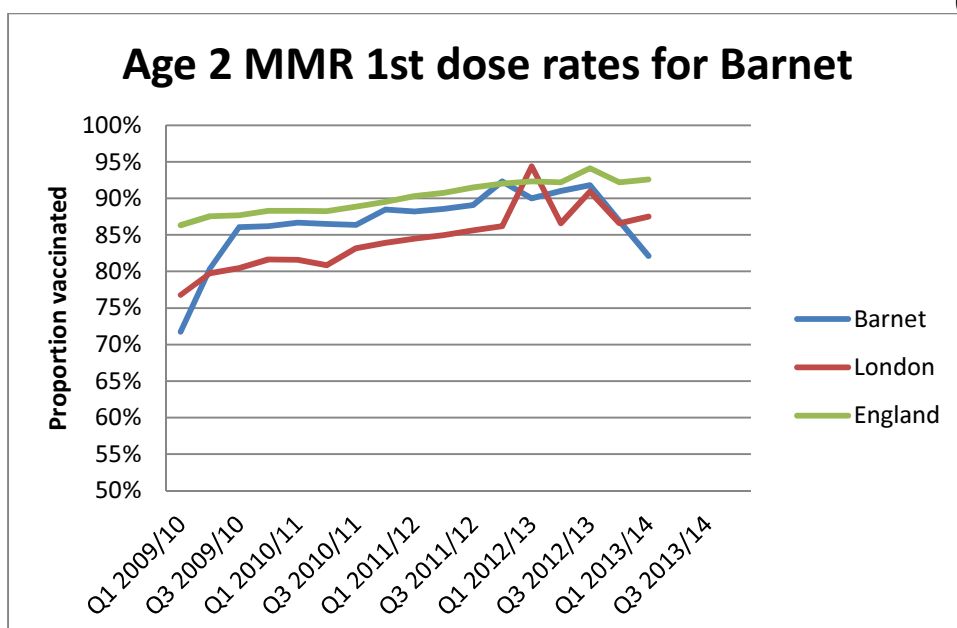
COVER Quarterly rates for Age 2 Cohort for Barnet compared to London and England averages (2009-2013)



(Source: PHE, 2013)

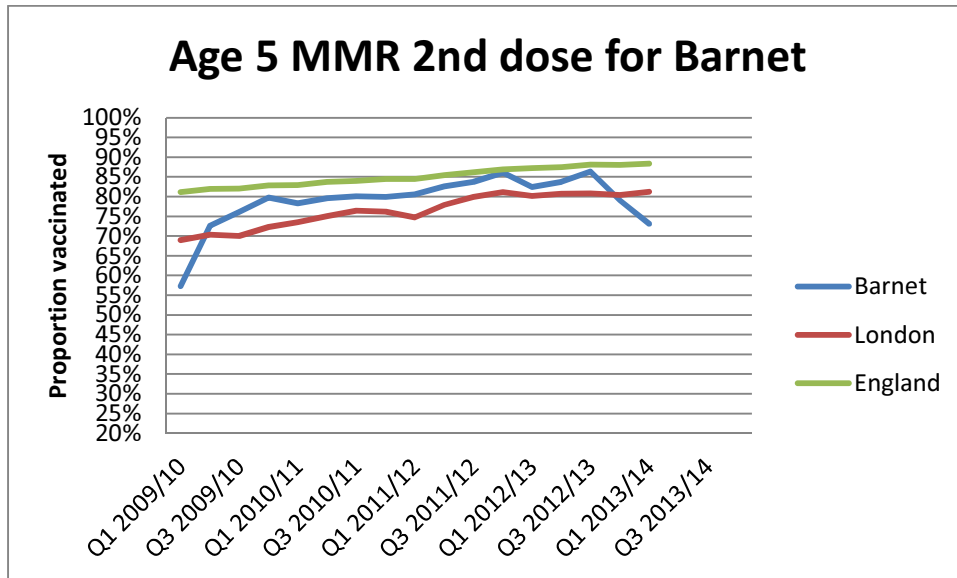


(Source: PHE, 2013)

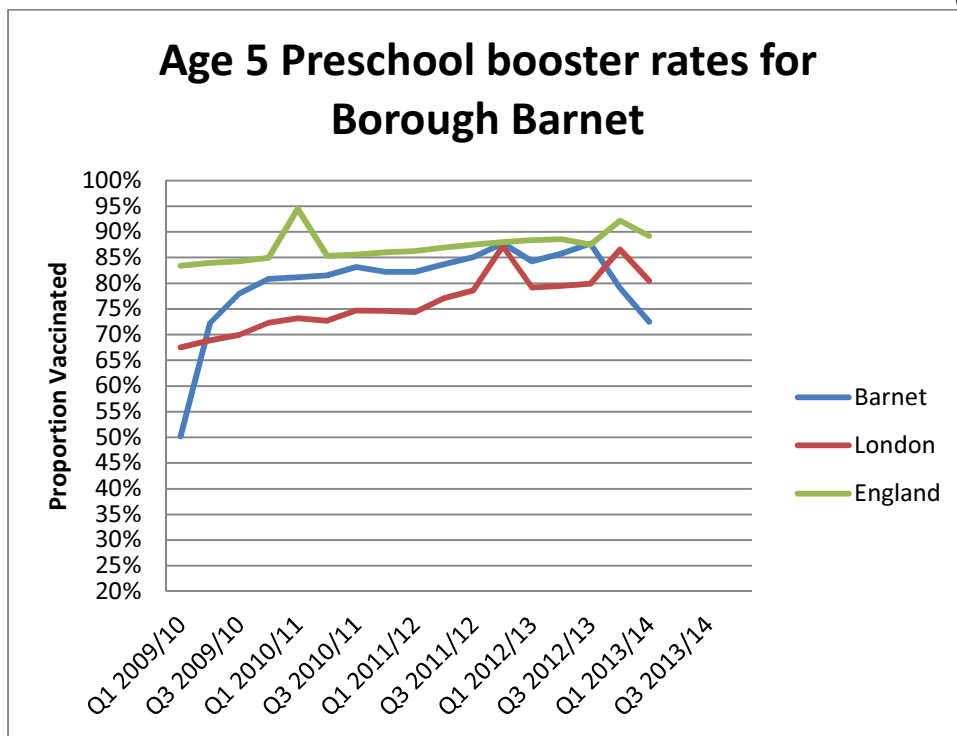


Figures 5-6

COVER Quarterly rates for Age 5 Cohort for Barnet compared to London and England averages (2009-2013)



(Source: PHE, 2013)



(Source: PHE, 2013)