



UNIVERSITY
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IMPAct - A Hospital-Based Active Surveillance System for Vaccine Associated Adverse Events and Selected Infections in Hospitalized Children

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What is IMPAct?

IMPAct, Immunization Monitoring Program ACTIVE, is a paediatric hospital-based national surveillance network for adverse events following immunization, vaccine failures and selected infectious diseases in children that are or are soon to be, vaccine preventable.

How does IMPAct Work?

- National network involves 12 Canadian centres with a designated nurse monitor and is supervised by a volunteer physician who specializes in paediatrics and/or infectious diseases
- Case examples of adverse events following immunization reported by IMPAct centers reflect temporal associations, which means that they are reported within specific timelines but could be purely coincidental and are not to be confused with events caused by vaccine.
- Reports are forwarded to the Vaccine Safety Unit of the Public Health Agency of Canada and severe cases are reviewed by the Advisory Committee on Causality Assessment

Why do vaccine surveillance?

- IMPAct surveillance is designed to detect any occurrences associated with administering new vaccines to contribute data on the need for new immunization programs in Canada
- Gathering information on cases of selected infections such as pertussis (whooping cough) and varicella and zoster virus (chicken pox and shingles) helps determine how severe these diseases are and assesses the benefits of new vaccines.

For more information on the study, email Debbie Cote, IMPAct Nurse Monitor for Dr. Joanne Embree at dcote@mich.ca