

## Immunization Survey – Hwalien County

During the period June 1-30, the Eastern Mobile Surveillance Team assisted local health station nurses in Hwalien County in conducting a survey to determine immunization rates among children 12-23 months of age. A pilot survey showed 7 children in the target age group could be identified by visiting approximately 80 households in Hwalien County. The household registration office was visited in each township to obtain the list of all households in Hwalien County. Households were then grouped into clusters of approximately 80 households each producing a total of 917 clusters. From this list, 30 were selected at random to yield a final sample size of approximately 210 children in the target age group. This sample size is adequate to estimate immunization rates within 10% of true values with 95% confidence<sup>1</sup>. Interviewers visited all households in each cluster to identify children in the target age group and verify immunization status by either immunization card, health station or hospital record. Children without documented proof of immunization were counted as unimmunized. Children were counted as fully immunized if they had received all of the following vaccines: one dose of BCG, three doses of DPT and polio, and one dose of measles.

Among 2,579 households visited, 199 children 12-23 months of age were identified (mean=6.8 per cluster; range=2-12 per cluster). Immunization rates by antigen are shown in Table 1. Measles vaccine had the lowest immunization rate of all antigens (82%). Only 80% of children were fully immunized. The most common reason given for missed immunizations among 40 children not fully immunized was a minor illness at the time immunization was due (36%).

*Reported by Eastern Mobile Surveillance Team; Hwalien County Health Bureau; Bureau of Disease Control, Department of Health, Executive Yuan.*

Table 1 Immunization rates by antigen among 199 children 12-23 months of age, Hwalien County, June 1986.

Antigen	No. Immunized	Rate
BCG	183	92%
DPT-1	181	91%
DPT-2	176	88%
DPT-3	172	86%
Polio-1	181	91%
Polio-2	175	86%
Polio-3	172	86%
Measles	164	82%
Complete	159	80%