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**ABSTRACT**

Specific prevention is one of the levels of primary prevention, characterized by actions during the pre-

pathogenic period on pathogens and their vectors. Among the various forms of specific protection, we have vaccination, which consists of the application of etiological agents or parts thereof, such as viruses and bacteria, living or dead, and is currently considered the most efficient way of protection against infectious diseases, given that the stimulus for the production of antibodies occurs. Thus, after being tested and approved for efficacy and safety, each and every vaccine is recommended by the health authorities and legally considered an essential health measure.

**Keywords:** Immunization, Infection, Effectiveness.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Specific prevention is one of the levels of primary prevention, characterized by actions during the pre-pathogenic period on pathogens and their vectors. Among the various forms of specific protection, we have vaccination, which consists of the application of etiological agents or parts thereof, such as viruses and bacteria, living or dead, and is currently considered the most efficient way of protection against infectious diseases, given that the stimulus for the production of antibodies occurs. Thus, after being tested and approved for efficacy and safety, each and every vaccine is recommended by the health authorities and legally considered an essential health measure.

## 2 OBJECTIVE

This study aims to highlight the essential role of child and adolescent vaccination in primary prevention and its importance within health promotion and specific prevention.

## 3 MATERIALS AND METHODS

This article is a literature review, based on scientific articles and technical notes, through the search of data in Scielo, Ministry of Health, Fiocruz, Butantan Institute and Public Ministry, in the period from 2003 to 2022, using the key words: "immunization" "infection" "efficacy".

## **4 RESULTS**

According to IBOPE research, in August 2020 three out of ten children were not immunized against possibly fatal diseases. With the Covid-19 pandemic there was a greater worsening of vaccination adherence, with a decrease from 93.1% in 2015 to 71.5% in 2021, coverage well below the minimum coverage recommended by the World Health Organization. The consequences are evidenced from the return of eradicated diseases. In 2018, Brazil lost the certificate of elimination of the measles virus, with more than 10,000 confirmed cases, according to the Ministry of Health. Complications of Covid-19 have already been identified in children and adolescents, such as insomnia, persistence of symptoms and irreversible sequelae. MS bulletins reported 2,625 deaths in people up to 19 years of age. Anvisa includes the vaccination of children aged 5-11 years since clinical trials have shown that the anticipation of the vaccination age would have relevance to public health by acting in the reduction of severe forms and deaths by Covid-19 in this age group, help in reducing its transmissibility and allow a safe return and maintenance for school activities. In the adolescent NIP, the quadrivalent HPV vaccine was adopted in 2014 and its implementation in the vaccination schedule has already shown protection of 80%-100% for anogenital warts and 60-80% in the reduction of new cases of premalignant lesions.

## **5 CONCLUSION**

Therefore, the importance of immunization in primary prevention is verified. After the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a reduction in vaccine adherence, impairing the coverage and vaccination schedule of children and adolescents. Consequently, we detected the return of some diseases already eradicated in Brazil, such as the case of Measles where there was loss of the certificate of elimination of the virus in 2018. In addition, vaccine protection decreases viral infection and the chances of acquiring severe sequelae of infectious diseases.

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