Canada's National Advisory Committee on Immunization(NACI): Are we measuring our work?

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Output and Outcome Indicators for NITAGs - Global Immunization Meeting 2010

What is our work: Terms of reference

- “to provide the Public Health Agency of Canada with ongoing and timely medical, scientific, and public health advice relating to vaccines and certain prophylaxis agents (e.g., immunoglobulins)”
- Outputs:
  - Advisory Committee Statements published in *Communicable Disease Report (CCDR)* (http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/ccdr-rmtc/index-eng.php)and on website
  - Canadian Immunization Guide q 4 years
  - “public health notes” (not systematic)
  - Responses to inquiries to NACI secretariat

Who does the work

- 12 voting members (experts in the fields of pediatrics, infectious diseases, immunology, medical microbiology, internal medicine, nursing, pharmacy and public health)
- 11 liason members
- 1 - 2 medical epidemiologists, 2 project managers/administrative assistants, 1 nurse epidemiologist
- Currently 18 working groups

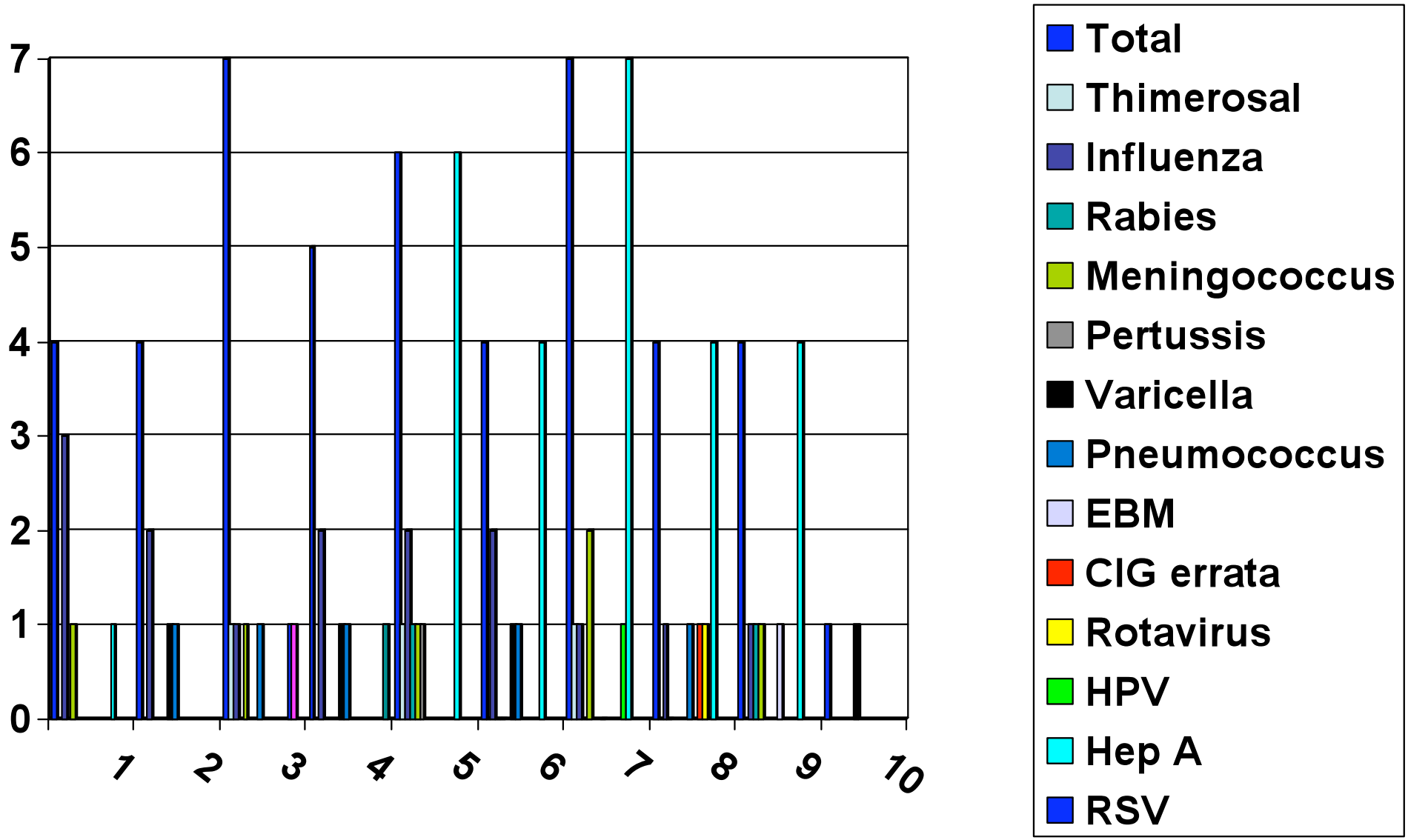
Measurement

Measurement consists of rules for assigning numbers to observable attributes in such a way as to present qualities of the attributes

What attribute of NITAG productivity are we aiming to measure ?

NITAGs – we could measure advice given, quality of advice, advice taken, advice implemented as policy, change in health outcomes because of advice, etc

NACI advisory committee statements 2001-2009



NACI outputs

- 4 to 7 statements per year in last decade
- Timeliness of statements ? (lag between product approval and publication of statement (up to 18 months)
- Knowledge translation – do recommendations get implemented? (Canadian Pediatric Society advocacy role: reports on provincial uptake by vaccine)