

HSE West Vaccine Survey 2016

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Practice Numbers

- 40 GP Practices in Donegal – 78 GPs, 71 PNs
- 37 GP Practices in Sligo/Leitrim/W Cavan – 53 GPs, 45 PNs
- All Leitrim GPs have a practice nurse
- A number of Sligo Town practices don't have a PN

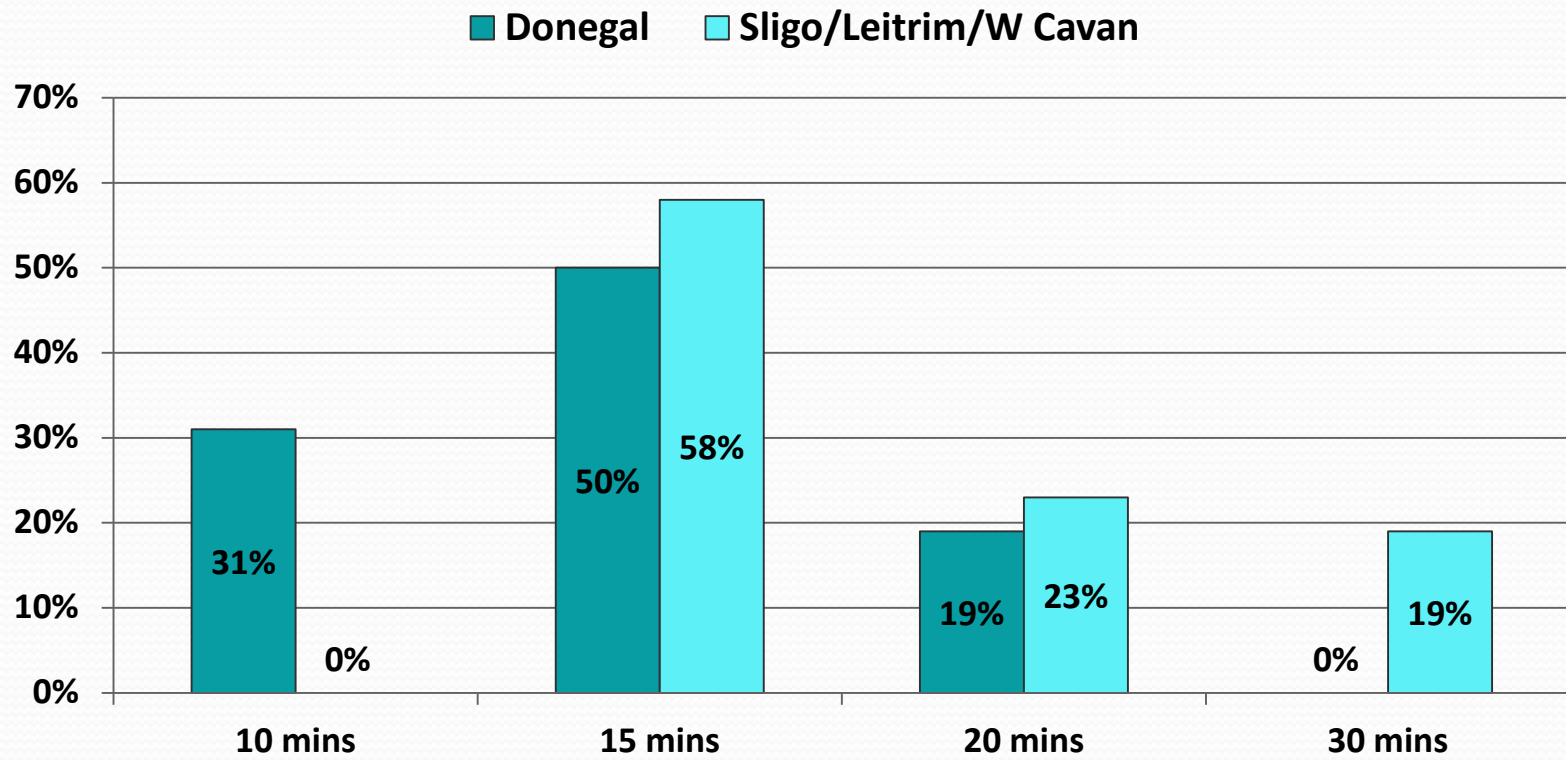
Response Rate

- The questionnaire was distributed to 111 practices nurses in the HSE-NW
- The response rate was 53%
- 32 responses were received by practices in Donegal
- 25 responses from Sligo/Leitrim/W Cavan

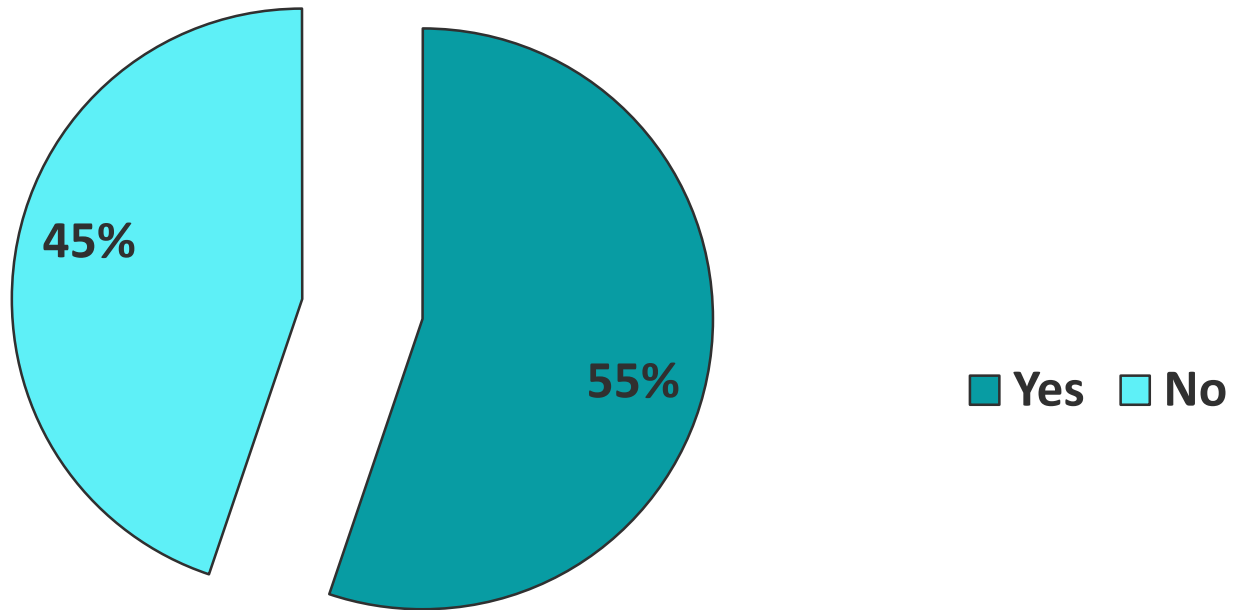
Information system used for vaccinations

- Computerised
 - Donegal - 88%
 - Sligo/Leitrim/W Cavan -76%
 - HSE-NW -83%
- Paper Charts
 - Donegal - 12%
 - Sligo/Leitrim/W Cavan -24%
 - HSE-NW -17%

How much time do you allow per appointment?



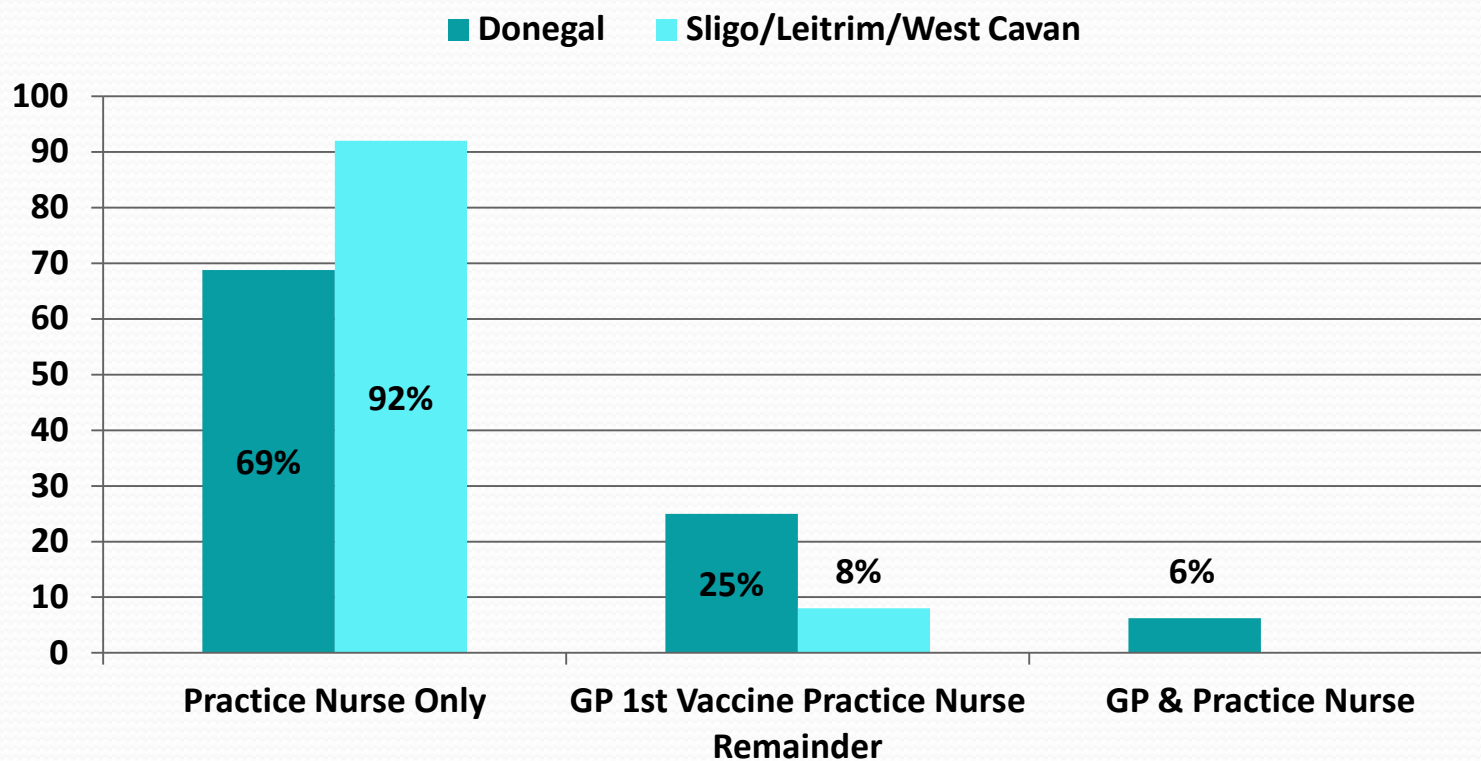
Do you or anyone else in the practice have dedicated time to return vaccination forms to the HSE?



Donegal - 63%

Sligo/Leitrim/W Cavan - 46%

Who usually vaccinates in your practice?

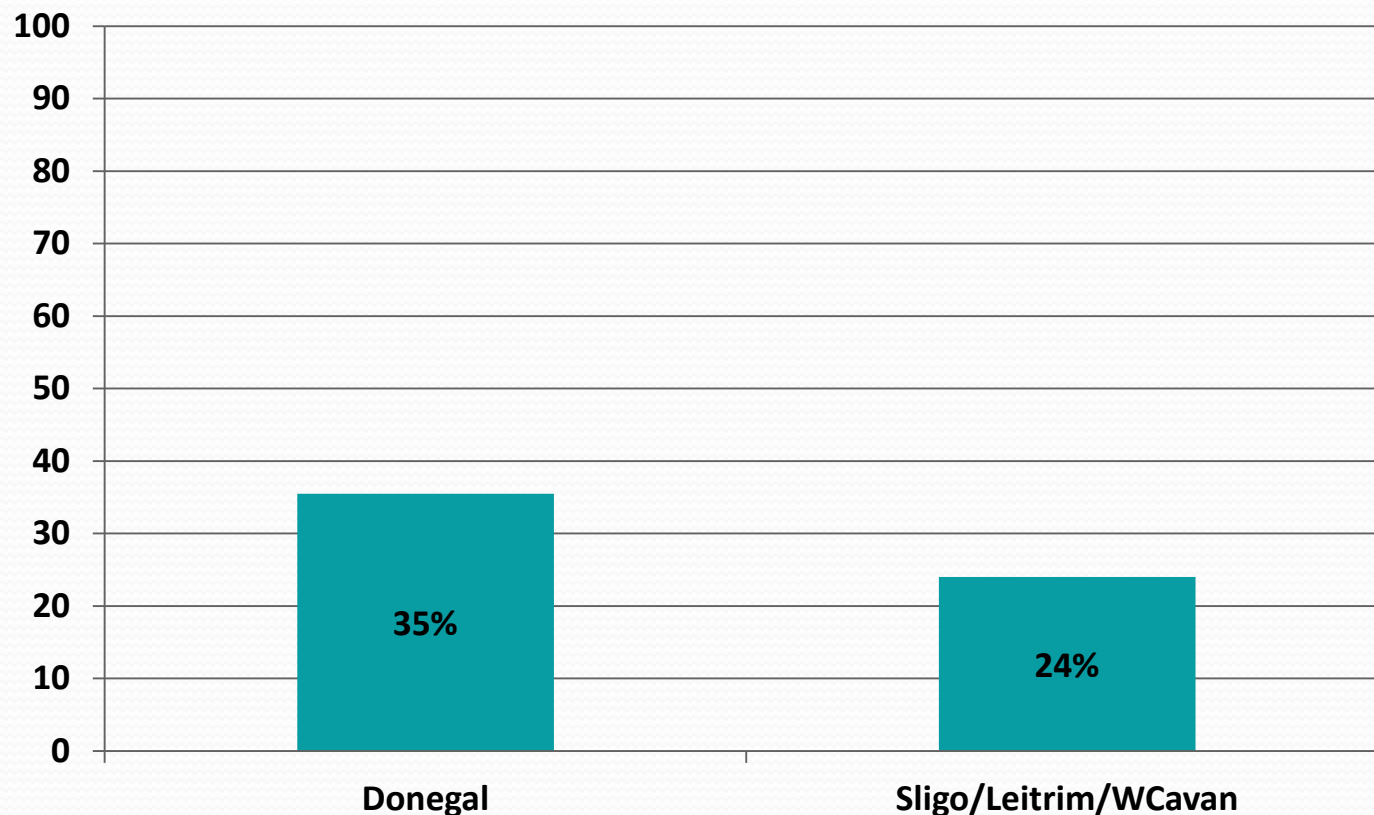




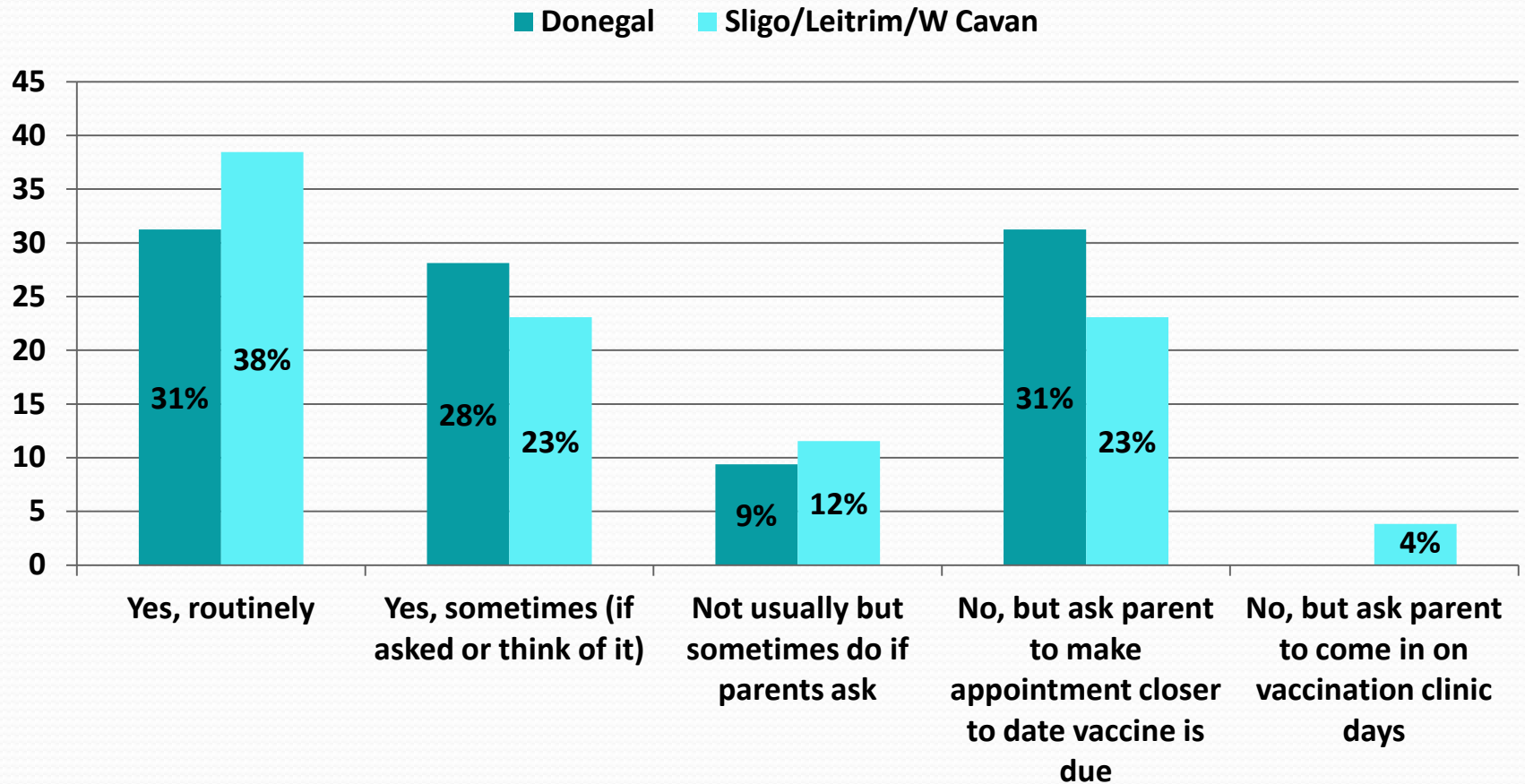
Do you discuss the minor side effects of vaccination with parents before administration of a vaccine?

- 85% (50/59) answered this question
- 100% - Yes

Do you advise parents to refer to the booklet (PHN) *“Your Childs Immunisation A Guide for Parents”*



When a child is seen for vaccinations, is the parent given an appointment for the next visit?




Do you identify children in your practice who have missed out on some vaccinations?

- Donegal - 97%
- Sligo/Leitrim/W Cavan - 92%
- HSE-NW -93%

If yes how?

- When a child or parent visits check the patients chart
 - Donegal - 31%
 - Sligo/Leitrim/W Cavan -58%
 - HSE-NW -42%
- Run list of defaulters (from your computerised system) and follow up
 - Donegal - 38%
 - Sligo/Leitrim/W Cavan – 8%
 - HSE-NW -24%
- Use information from HSE defaulter reports to follow up children
 - Donegal - 75%
 - Sligo/Leitrim/W Cavan - 81%
 - HSE-NW -78%
- Paper records in practice – 20%

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- *“...I keep my own record of when next due , and normally phone them to remind them or send out letter, then bring their details forward in my diary x 2 weeks and check again if vaccinated. It works well for me, parents are busy they need a lot of reminding nowadays”.*
 - *“We have one admin person allocated approx 3 hours / fortnight to chase up defaulters. We keep all children's return forms in a folder in order of the month they are due. When that month passes admin contacts the parent by telephone to make an appointment . If unsuccessful a letter is sent. Those who persistently default are referred to me (the nurse) and I try to contact by phone to discuss”.*

When you identify defaulters how do you follow these up for vaccination?

- **Phone call to remind parent**

- Donegal - 81%
- Sligo/Leitrim/W Cavan -81%
- HSE-NW -81%

- **Text message to remind**

- Donegal - 25%
- Sligo/Leitrim/W Cavan – 0%
- HSE-NW -14%

- **Letter to parent to remind**

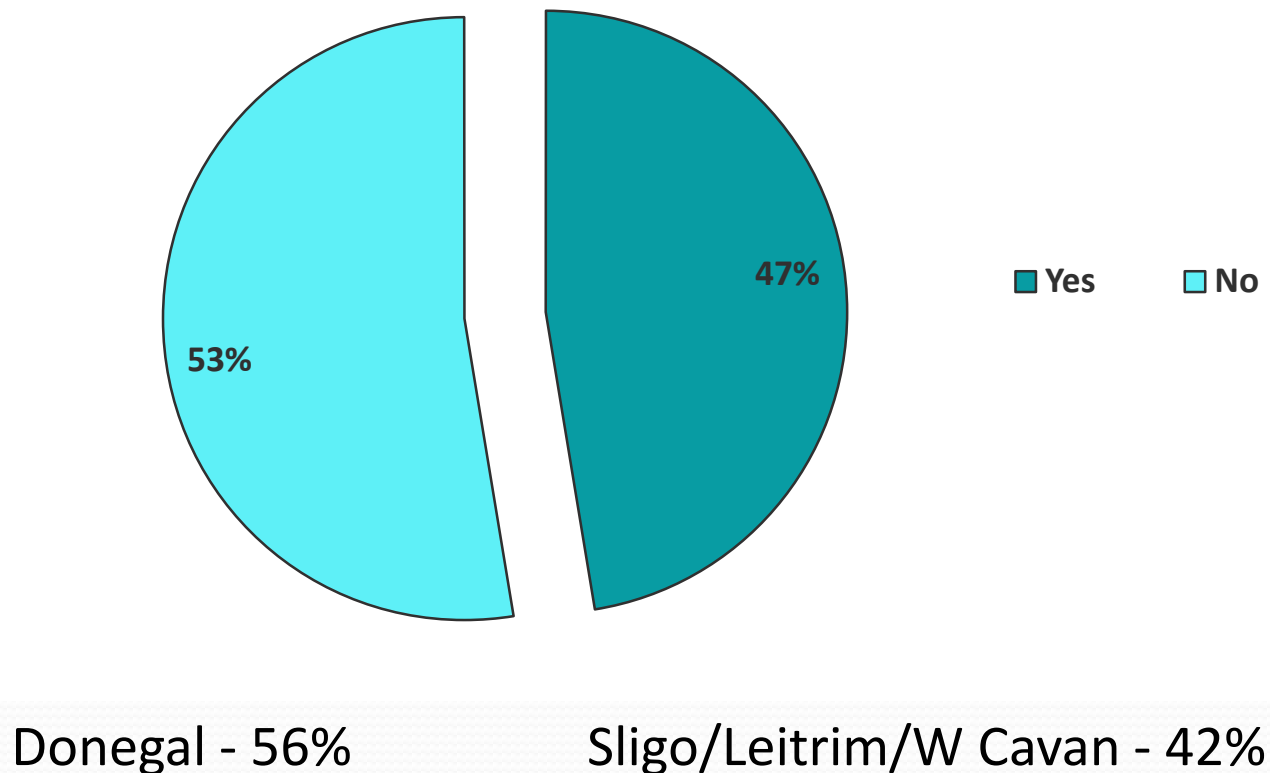
- Donegal - 78%
- Sligo/Leitrim/W Cavan - 46%
- HSE-NW -63%

- **Remind parent when see him/her at GP practice**

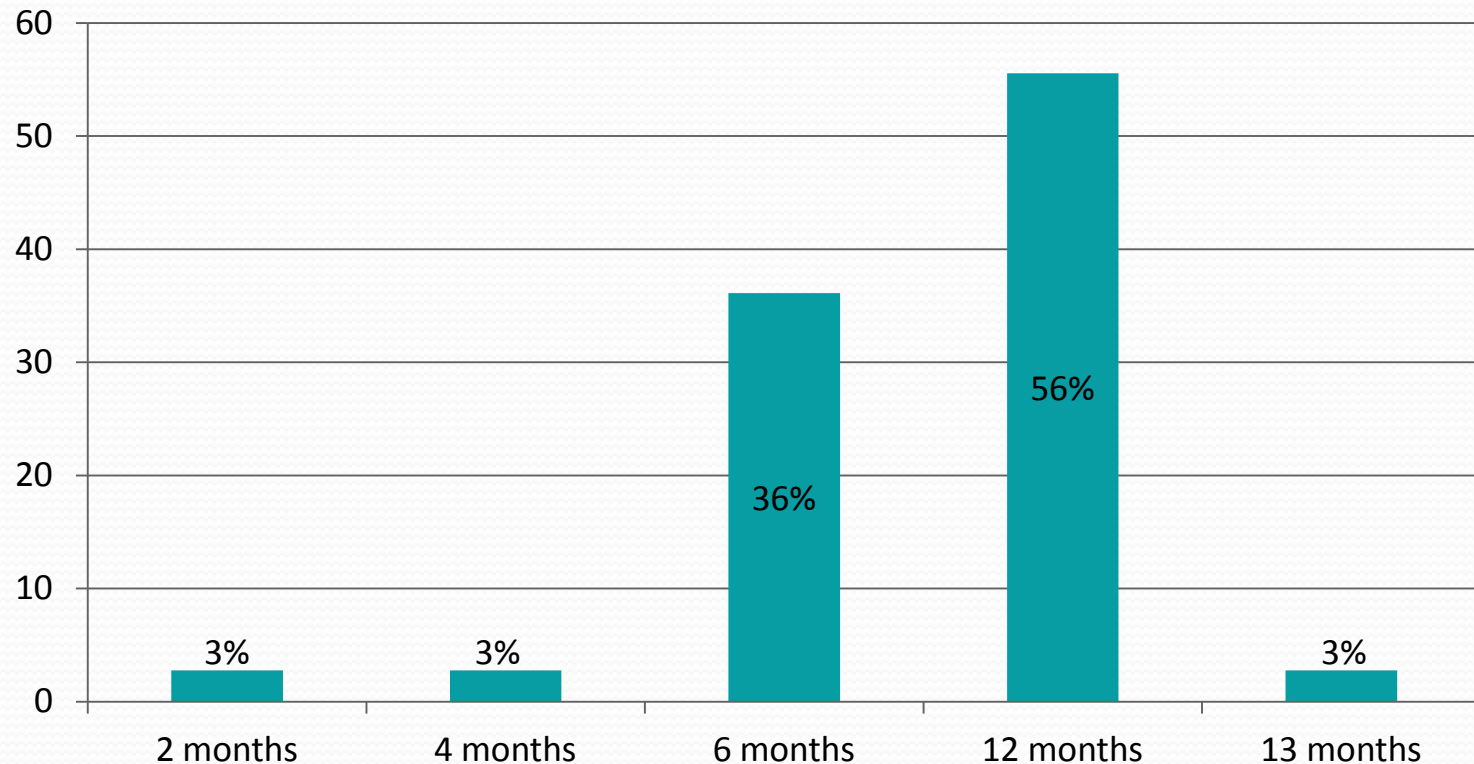
- Donegal - 34%
- Sligo/Leitrim/W Cavan - 62%
- HSE-NW -46%

“Very busy find it extremely difficult to find the time alongside all other nursing jobs especially as I have no admin help”

Have you been obliged to split administration of some vaccines due to parental pressure

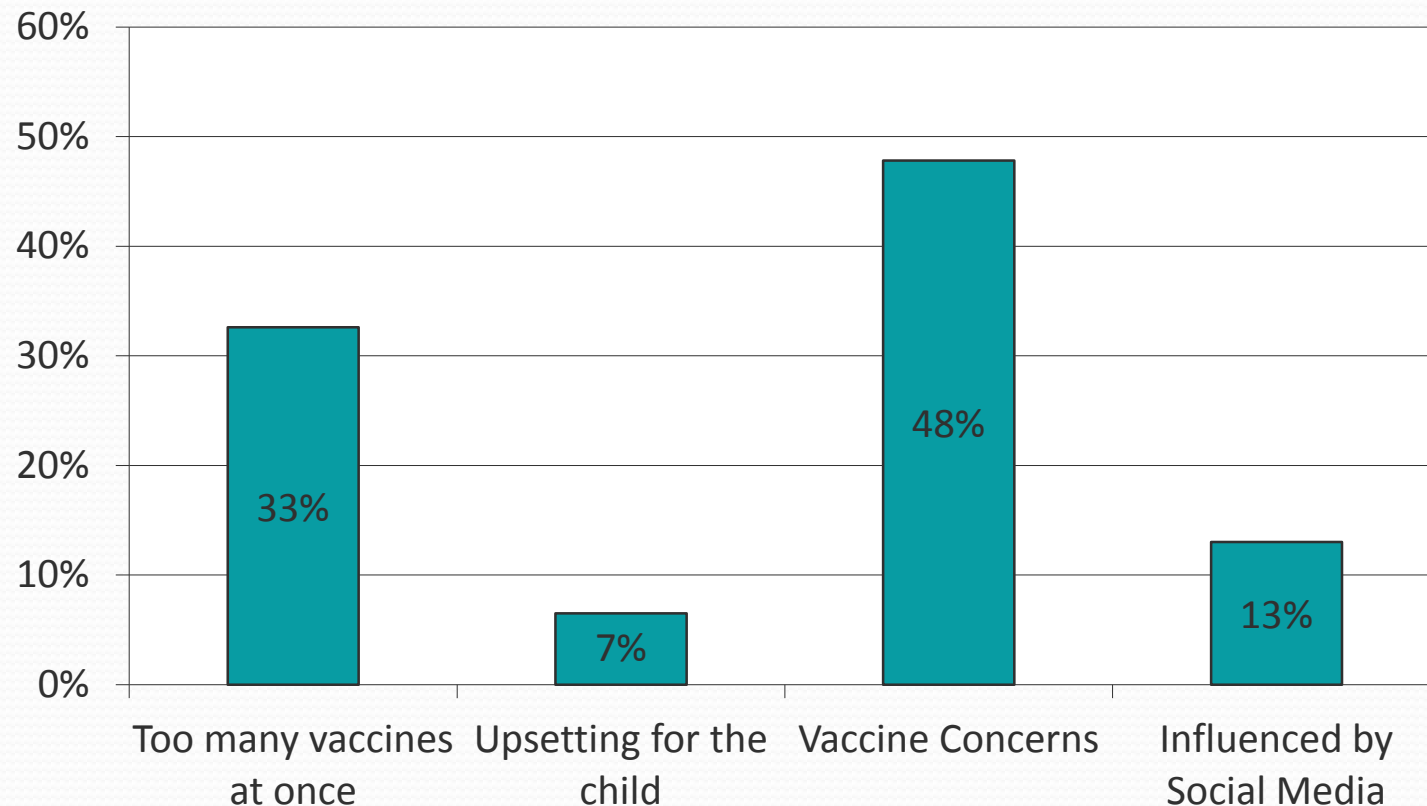


Which Vaccines?

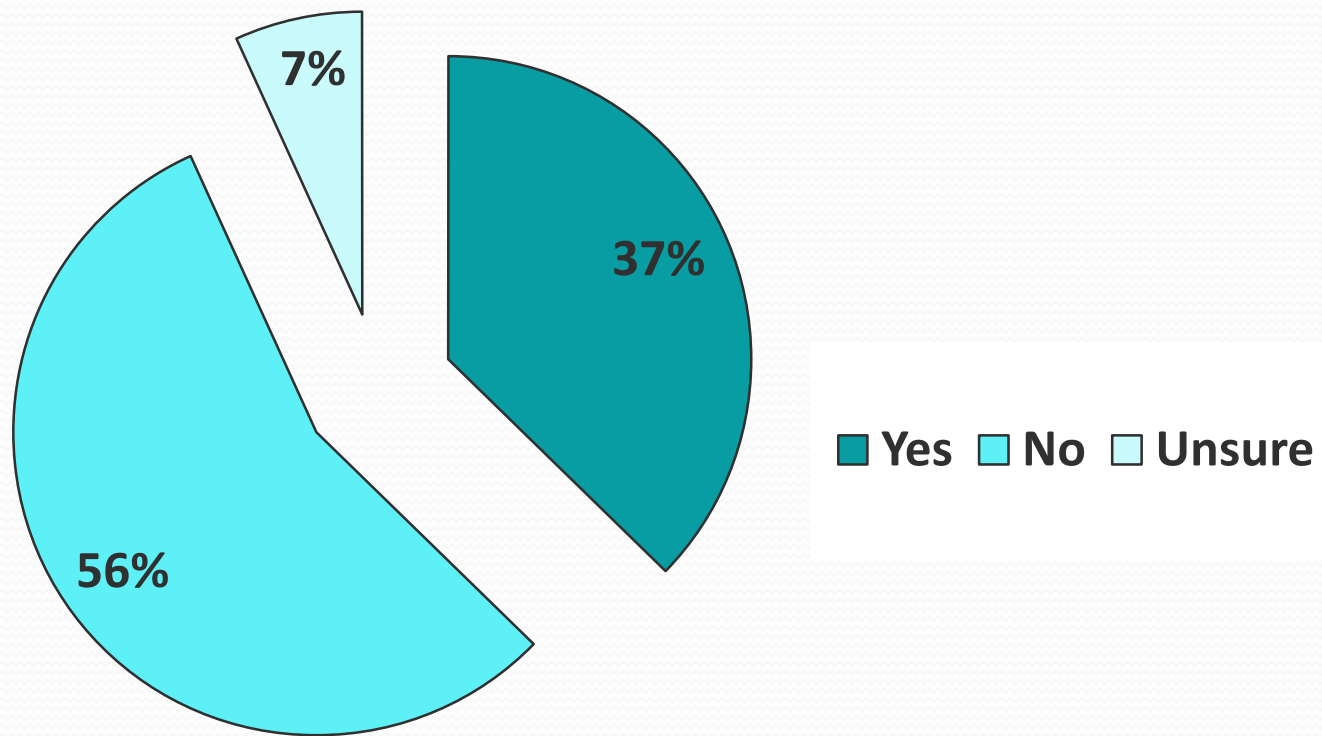


"You must work with the parent concerned and appreciate their concerns, I do not like splitting vaccines, but if that is the only way I can get a child fully immunised, I will do it, often the parent when she gets the same nurse, and gets reassured at each visit, it is helpful. every practice generally a situation like this."

What reason did the parent give for splitting administration of the vaccinations?



Have you seen a change in parental attitudes to childhood vaccinations over the last two years?



"Parents tend to question side effects more, also necessity of having so many together. 'Is it safe?' etc. I find that they agree to vaccination if well informed"

"People are happier regarding MMR vaccine but still you will get some parents very reluctant due to misguided old history"

"An increase in relaxed attitude towards following through with vaccine schedule"

"Not aware of which vaccines the child is due and the importance of these vaccines"

"Once child has MMR and PCV at 12 mths a lot of parents feel they have completed I find they are slow to bring child for Hib and Men C"

"...refusing to start the Primary vaccines, these are Professional Clients who refuse"

"Parents are tending to read a lot on the internet about vaccines especially parents from other countries"

"More reluctant to give vaccines, social media having big impact - researching online"

"More refusals than any other time in the past 16 years, since I became a practice nurse"



Have you any suggestions on how to improve vaccination uptake?

- Organising next appointment at each visit
- Introduce text alerts
- National Advertising – Radio / TV
- Saturday morning clinics
- Maintaining good communication with the parents

Thank you

- Study carried by the;
Regional Immunisation Committee HSE – NW
- Practice Nurses
- GPs

Much done More to do.....