

Abstract

This diploma thesis deals with the issue of the attitude of parents towards selected infectious diseases which are preventable by vaccines in the Czech Republic. The primary focus is on parents' opinions on vaccination against invasive diseases caused by meningococci, haemophili and pneumococci. The theoretical part discusses the issue of vaccination, its importance and organizational structure; it further describes the selected pathogens, the diseases they cause and the epidemiological situation. It also considers the factors that may lead many parents to distrust and be critical of vaccination. The main aim of the practical part is to find out by means of an online questionnaire which social, geo-demographic, economic and other factors influence the choice of parents to have their children vaccinated against the given bacteria. Statistical methods of χ^2 -independence test and binary logistic regression have been used to evaluate the data obtained from the questionnaire with the help of the SPSS program. The results show that parents with lower education and fewer children are more likely to get their child vaccinated; furthermore, it is the parents in the vicinity of where the outbreak of the given disease occurred or those who obtain sufficient information from a pediatrician and consider this information to be their main source of information. Healthcare professionals are more likely to have their child vaccinated against haemophilic infections; as well as parents who know closely a person working in this field, which has also been shown to be a statistically significant fact even in the case of meningococcal diseases.

Keywords

Child, haemophilus, meningococcus, parent, pneumococcus, questionnaire, vaccination.