Retraction notice

This paper has been retracted because it contained errors in the data extraction and analyses that affect the results, figures and tables. Data from a study that had been published in two different journal articles were included twice in the analysis. There was an error in the description of the measures used for neurodevelopmental testing in the reporting of the results.


It is clear that a large number of neonatal units are yet to introduce rotavirus vaccination in UK neonatal units with regards to vaccination with many neonatal units providing guidance to target all babies. Thirteen units reported planning to increase immunisation rates. Most units (88%) (40/45) reported offering rotavirus vaccination in their unit. Of those units giving rotavirus vaccination, the JCVI state there is a potential for transmission through faecal material following vaccination. Following rotavirus vaccination, we identified three individual cases and three units had specific guidance to target all babies. Thirteen units had a high risk infants within a neonatal setting.

There appears to be apprehension about giving a live attenuated rotavirus vaccine in their unit. Twenty per cent of units (11/56) did not have a national childhood vaccine schedule. Rotavirus infection is responsible for over half of all gastroenteritis infections in children under 5 years of age and it contributes a significant health and economic burden. Guidance from Public Health England is clear that premature infants should receive their immunisations according to their chronological age. Therefore an important number of rotavirus vaccinations will be given on neonatal units.

For up to 14 days. From our survey 20% of units (10/45) are not using any infection control precautions following vaccination for up to 1 week and 11% (5/45) use precautions for over 1 week. Only 37% of units (17/45) had a set of measures to prevent the transmission of rotavirus. There is no national recommendations on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) variations in practice with only 63% of such units excluding patients from surgical infants or neonates for high risk infants within a neonatal setting. There is no national recommendations on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) variations in practice with only 63% of such units excluding patients from surgical infants or neonates for high risk infants within a neonatal setting.

Further data are necessary to determine the effectiveness and clinical impact of rotavirus vaccination. There is no national recommendations on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) variations in practice with only 63% of such units excluding patients from surgical infants or neonates for high risk infants within a neonatal setting.