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A big pertussis outbreak in a primary school with high vaccination coverage in northern China: An evidence of the emerging of the disease in China

A big pertussis outbreak occurred in a primary school with high vaccination coverage in northern China. An investigation was carried out in order to calculate the attack rate and identify the risk factors. Between May 12th and July 29th, an investigation was carried out in the primary school, which included 383 students and 27 teachers. Three definitions were used to distinguish the cases: confirmed, epidemiologically linked and suspected cases. A total of 232 blood samples were collected and examined by ELISA from healthy children in another primary school. A total of 138 suspected pertussis cases were counted, of which 116 students were confirmed. The attack rate among students was as high as 30.29%. The pertussis outbreak lasted 88 days and had quaternary cases of transmission at least. It is worth noting that the highest attack rate was 53.45% among students aged 10-11 years old. In addition, students who had received the last dose of pertussis vaccine more than 4 years prior were three times more likely of becoming ill than those less than 4 years ($p=0.006$). The overall average positive immune response rate was 37.5% among healthy children. No statistically significant difference was observed between DTaP and DTwP ($p=0.053$). The pertussis outbreak in the primary school with high vaccination coverage was an evidence of the resurgence of the disease in China. The waning immunity after pertussis vaccination over time was the major risk factor. A booster vaccination for students should be given.

Biography

Haitao Huang has completed his MPH from Peking University. He is mainly engaged in epidemiological studies of pertussis since 2007. He has published more than 30 papers about pertussis study in reputed journals. He was the first researcher that had proved the pertussis-reemergence in China based on community via active symptom surveillance from 2010 to 2012.

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