

A review of evidence on equitable delivery, access and utilization of immunization services for migrants and refugees in the WHO European Region (2017)

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By: Elisabetta De Vito, Paolo Parente, Chiara de Waure, Andrea Poscia, Walter Ricciardi
Health Evidence Network synthesis report 53

2017, ix + 42 pages

ISBN 978 92 890 5274 0

CHF 30.00/US\$ 36.00

In developing countries: CHF 21.00

Order no.13400189

This review focuses on existing immunization policies and practices for migrants and refugees and provides an overview of barriers and facilitators for access to and utilization of immunization services. Evidence was obtained by a scoping review of academic and grey literature in English and a further 11 languages and included official documents available from the websites of ministries of health and national health institutes of the WHO European Region Member States. The review highlights that vaccination policies tailored to migrants and refugees are very heterogeneous among WHO European Region Member States. By comparison, common barriers for the implementation and utilization of immunization services can be identified across countries. Outlined policy options are intended to strengthen information about immunization for migrants and refugees, support future evidence-informed policy-making, enable the achievement of national vaccination coverage goals and improve the eligibility of migrants and refugees to access culturally competent immunization services.