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**Abstract:** The Accelerated Development of VAccine benefit-risk Collaboration in Europe (ADVANCE), a public-private consortium, implemented and tested a distributed network system for the generation of evidence on the benefits-risks of marketed vaccines in Europe. We tested the system by estimating the incidence rate (IR) of pertussis and pertussis-related complications in children vaccinated with acellular (aP) and whole-cell (wP) pertussis vaccine. Data from seven electronic databases from four countries (Denmark: AUH and SSI, Spain: SIDIAP and BIFAP, UK: THIN and RCGP RSC and Italy: Pédianet) were included in a retrospective cohort analysis. Exposure was defined as any pertussis vaccination (aP or wP). The follow-up time started 14 days after the first dose. Children who had received any pertussis vaccine from January 1990 to December 2015 were included (those who switched type, or had unknown type were excluded). The outcomes of interest were confirmed or suspected pertussis and pertussis-related pneumonia and generalised convulsions within one month of pertussis diagnosis and death within three months of pertussis diagnosis. The cohort comprised 2,886,367 children ≤5 years of age. Data on wP and aP vaccination were available in three and seven databases, respectively. The IRs (per 100,000 person-years) for pertussis ranged between 0.15 (95% CI: 0.12; 0.19) and 1.15 (95% CI: 1.07; 1.23), and the trend over time was consistent with those observed from national surveillance databases for confirmed pertussis. The pertussis IRs decreased as the number of wP and aP vaccine doses increased. Pertussis-related complications were rare (89 pneumonia, 7 generalised convulsions and no deaths) and their relative risk (vs. non-pertussis) could not be reliably estimated. The study demonstrated the feasibility of the ADVANCE system to estimate the change in pertussis IRs following pertussis vaccination. Larger sample sizes would provide additional power to investigate the incidence of pertussis and pertussis-related complications in vaccinated children.



Dr Gregory A Poland  
Editor-in-Chief, Vaccine

Paris, 6 December 2018

Dear Dr Poland

We are pleased to submit our paper '*ADVANCE system testing: vaccine benefit studies using multi-country electronic health data - the example of pertussis vaccination*' to your Journal, Vaccine for the ADVANCE supplement. This paper describes the proof-of-concept study assessing the ADVANCE system to estimate the benefits of pertussis vaccination. It is the fourth of the series of 10 papers that will be included in the supplement.

On behalf of all co-authors

Dr Myint **Tin Tin Htar**

I, , Dr. Myint Tin Tin Htar declare that all authors have seen and approved the final version of the manuscript being submitted. We warrant that the article is our original work that has not been previously published and is not under consideration for publication elsewhere

Dr Myint Tin Tin Htar

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**Declaration of interests**

☐ The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

☒ The authors declare the following financial interests/personal relationships which may be considered as potential competing interests:

Maria de Ridder, Toon Braeye, Ana Correa, Chris McGee, Talita Duarte-Salles, Consuelo Huerta, Elisa Martín-Merino, Lara Tramontan, Giorgia Danieli, Gino Picelli, Nicoline van der Maas, Klara Berensci, Hanne-Dorthe Emborg, Daniel Weibel and Kaat Bollaerts declared no conflicts of interest. Myint Tin Tin Htar is employed by Pfizer and holds company shares/stock options. Simon de Lusignan declared he has received funding through his University to conduct enhanced surveillance of influenza vaccine (GSK), and is a member Seqirus and Sanofi Pasteur advisory boards for which he received personal payment within the limits defined by his university. Lisen Arnheim-Dahlström declared that her organisation has received funding from SPMSD, MSD and GSK for population-based, observational studies that she has conducted and that she is currently employed by Celgene AB. Ulrich Heininger declared that he is a member of the Global Pertussis Initiative (GPI) Steering Committee, which is funded by an educational grant from Sanofi Pasteur. Miriam Sturkenboom declared that she has received grants from Novartis, CDC and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, for work unrelated to the submitted work.

**Abstract**

The Accelerated Development of VAccine benefit-risk Collaboration in Europe

(ADVANCE), a public-private consortium, implemented and tested a distributed network system for the generation of evidence on the benefits-risks of marketed vaccines in Europe.

We tested the system by estimating the incidence rate (IR) of pertussis and pertussis-related complications in children vaccinated with acellular (aP) and whole-cell (wP) pertussis vaccine. Data from seven electronic databases from four countries (Denmark: AUH and SSI, Spain: SIDIAP and BIFAP, UK: THIN and RCGP RSC and Italy: Pedianet) were included in a retrospective cohort analysis. Exposure was defined as any pertussis vaccination (aP or wP).

The follow-up time started 14 days after the first dose. Children who had received any pertussis vaccine from January 1990 to December 2015 were included (those who switched type, or had unknown type were excluded). The outcomes of interest were confirmed or suspected pertussis and pertussis-related pneumonia and generalised convulsions within one month of pertussis diagnosis and death within three months of pertussis diagnosis. The cohort comprised 2,886,367 children  $\leq 5$  years of age. Data on wP and aP vaccination were available in three and seven databases, respectively. The IRs (per 100,000 person-years) for pertussis ranged between 0.15 (95% CI: 0.12; 0.19) and 1.15 (95% CI: 1.07; 1.23), and the trend over time was consistent with those observed from national surveillance databases for confirmed pertussis. The pertussis IRs decreased as the number of wP and aP vaccine doses increased.

Pertussis-related complications were rare (89 pneumonia, 7 generalised convulsions and no deaths) and their relative risk (vs. non-pertussis) could not be reliably estimated. The study demonstrated the feasibility of the ADVANCE system to estimate the change in pertussis IRs following pertussis vaccination. Larger sample sizes would provide additional power to investigate the incidence of pertussis and pertussis-related complications in vaccinated children.

**ADVANCE system testing: vaccine benefit studies using multi-country electronic health data - the example of pertussis vaccination**

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# **ADVANCE system testing: vaccine benefit studies using multi-country electronic health data - the example of pertussis vaccination**

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## Abstract

The Accelerated Development of VAccine benefit-risk Collaboration in Europe (ADVANCE), a public-private consortium, implemented and tested a distributed network system for the generation of evidence on the benefits-risks of marketed vaccines in Europe. We tested the system by estimating the incidence rate (IR) of pertussis and pertussis-related complications in children vaccinated with acellular (aP) and whole-cell (wP) pertussis vaccine. Data from seven electronic databases from four countries (Denmark: AUH and SSI, Spain: SIDIAP and BIFAP, UK: THIN and RCGP RSC and Italy: Pedianet) were included in a retrospective cohort analysis. Exposure was defined as any pertussis vaccination (aP or wP). The follow-up time started 14 days after the first dose. Children who had received any pertussis vaccine from January 1990 to December 2015 were included (those who switched type, or had unknown type were excluded). The outcomes of interest were confirmed or suspected pertussis and pertussis-related pneumonia and generalised convulsions within one month of pertussis diagnosis and death within three months of pertussis diagnosis. The cohort comprised 2,886,367 children  $\leq 5$  years of age. Data on wP and aP vaccination were available in three and seven databases, respectively. The IRs (per 100,000 person-years) for pertussis ranged between 0.15 (95% CI: 0.12; 0.19) and 1.15 (95% CI: 1.07; 1.23), and the trend over time was consistent with those observed from national surveillance databases for confirmed pertussis. The pertussis IRs decreased as the number of wP and aP vaccine doses increased. Pertussis-related complications were rare (89 pneumonia, 7 generalised convulsions and no deaths) and their relative risk (vs. non-pertussis) could not be reliably estimated. The study demonstrated the feasibility of the ADVANCE system to estimate the change in pertussis IRs following pertussis vaccination. Larger sample sizes would provide additional power to investigate the incidence of pertussis and pertussis-related complications in vaccinated children.

70 **Keywords:** Pertussis vaccination; pertussis-related complications; database study; feasibility  
71 study; children; pertussis incidence  
72

## **Introduction**

ADVANCE is a public-private collaboration aiming to develop and test a system for rapid benefit-risk monitoring of vaccines using existing healthcare databases in Europe using a distributed network approach similar to that used in other post-licensure vaccine safety studies [1]. Four proof-of-concept (POC) studies were designed to assess the feasibility of establishing the processes and systems proposed for generating the required data to perform benefit/risk (B/R) monitoring of vaccines [2-5]. These studies assessed the feasibility for generating data for coverage, benefit, risk, and the benefit-risk model. For these POC studies we assessed if the initial benefit-risk profile of pertussis vaccines was maintained after the switch from whole cell pertussis (wP) vaccines to acellular pertussis (aP) vaccines. The research question was considered as a proxy for the introduction of a hypothetical new vaccine when benefit-risk monitoring would be needed, which is one of the scenarios in which the ADVANCE system could be used in the future. These POC studies were undertaken for system testing and not to inform clinical, regulatory or public health decisions on pertussis vaccination.

Here we present the results from the benefit POC study. The specific objective was to determine the feasibility of using available electronic healthcare databases to estimate the incidence of pertussis following different doses of wP and aP vaccination and pertussis-associated complications (pneumonia, generalised convulsions and death) following pertussis disease to inform the benefit/risk model [6].

## **Material and Methods**

### *2.1 Study design*

Full details of the study design can be obtained in the protocol, registered on the ENCePP (EUPAS) registry [5]. The study was a retrospective dynamic cohort analysis.

## 2.2 *Electronic healthcare databases used*

Seven of the 19 European healthcare databases identified in ADVANCE participated in this POC study from Denmark (n=2), Spain (n=2), UK (n=2) and Italy (n=1) (Table 1) [7]. Details about the extraction, management, transformation, sharing, and analyses of the data using the ADVANCE system workflows and methodology can be found in paper 2 in this supplement [8].

## 2.3 *Population studied*

The source population consisted of children in the participating databases that were followed from first dose of pertussis vaccination until administration of the pre-school-entry booster or their sixth birthday (or death or transfer out of the database), which ever occurred first. To be eligible, date of birth and start and end of follow-up dates had to be available, i.e., no missing dates were allowed. Day, month and year were required for start and end of follow-up dates but date of birth could be rounded to an arbitrary day in the registered birth month. Children registered within three months of birth with a logical recorded series of pertussis vaccination (i.e., Dose 0 before Dose 1, etc.) were eligible. Only children who had received at least one dose of a single type of pertussis vaccine, i.e., only aP or wP, were included; those who switched from one type to the other or who had any doses with unknown type were excluded. The study period start and end dates varied between databases, depending on data availability (Table 2).

## 2.4 *Exposure*

The exposure of interest was aP- or wP-containing vaccines (either as a single component or part of a multivalent vaccine product). We defined four periods of exposure as follows: aP-0 – first 14 days after the receipt of the first dose (when children were considered to not yet be protected), aP-1 – from 14 days after the first dose until 14 days after the second dose, aP-2 –

from 14 days after the second dose until 14 days after the third dose, and aP-3 – from 14 days after the third dose until the end of follow-up.

## *2.5 Outcomes analysed*

The outcomes analysed in children from first dose up to school-entry booster vaccination, 6th birthday, death or leaving the database, were the incidence rates of pertussis following pertussis vaccination, non-fatal pertussis-related convulsions and pneumonia leading to hospitalisation within 1 month of pertussis diagnosis, and death within 3 months of pertussis diagnosis.

A set of codes were generated to identify confirmed and possible pertussis events in the databases using the ADVANCE Codemapper to map codes to the different coding systems used in the databases: 033.9; 484.3 (ICD-9), A37 (ICD-10), A33y, A33yz; A33z.; Ayu39; Ayu3A; H243.; X70I8; XE0Qw; XE0Qw; XM00D (Read version 2 or Clinical Terms version 3), A33 Ayu39; Ayu3A; H243(READ-V3) and R71 (ICPC) (Supplementary Table S1) [9, 10]. The database codes used for pertussis-associated complications are summarised in Supplementary Table S1.

## *2.6 Statistical analyses*

Incidence rates (IRs) for pertussis per 1000 person-years were calculated by dividing the number of events by the person-time of follow-up, overall and by year for children who had received at least one dose and by dose. This was done by calendar year and by exposure period. For the analyses of pertussis complications children diagnosed with pertussis after having received one or more doses of pertussis vaccine were identified ('break-through' pertussis cases) and were matched on birth-year and month to 100 children who had been vaccinated, but had not been diagnosed with pertussis (non-pertussis controls). Kaplan-Meier curves were estimated for pertussis-associated complication outcomes, pneumonia, convulsions and death. Cox regression models for these outcomes were fitted to compare



children with pertussis diagnosis and their controls. Using the probabilities estimated with the Kaplan-Meier method and the hazard ratios obtained from the Cox regression, ‘excess probabilities’ of the different events were calculated, with their 95% CIs.

### **3. Results**

#### *3.1 Characteristics of population*

The source population included over 38 million persons of all ages in seven databases from Denmark, Italy, Spain and the UK (4 national databases and 3 regional databases) (**Table 1**).

A total of 2,886,367 children <6 years of age were included in the study cohort. The national Danish database SSI contributed data for 1,004,854 children (35%) and the national UK database, THIN, contributed data for 770,849 children (27%). The smallest contribution was from the Italian regional paediatric database, PEDIANET; their contribution was 7,695 children (0.3%).

Data on aP vaccination were available in all databases and data for wP vaccination were available in three (RCGP RSC, THIN, BIFAP) (**Table 2**).

#### *3.2 Incidence of pertussis*

A total of 4,615 pertussis cases were identified in the study cohort during 8,576,043 person-years of follow-up with 79.6% of the follow-up time being post-dose 3. The overall incidence (/1 000 person-years) for pertussis in the study cohort (aged 0 to 5 years) ranged from 0.15 (95% CI: 0.12; 0.19) in the AUH database to 1.15 (95% CI: 1.07; 1.23) in the SIDIAP database (**Table 2**). The incidence rates of pertussis from 1<sup>st</sup> dose to 5 years by database and year in children who had received at least one dose are summarised in **Figure 1** and **Supplementary data Table S2**. The pertussis IRs decreased with the number of doses of vaccines received in most databases (**Figure 2**). The IRs after one dose of wP and aP ranged from 0 to 2.08 and 0.46 to 2.69, respectively. Post-dose 3 the IRs ranged from 0.19 to 0.28 and 0.03 to 0.68, respectively.

### 3.3 Complications following pertussis diagnosis

There were 89 cases of pneumonia within one month after pertussis diagnosis, with no cases in the UK (RCGP RSC and THIN) and Italian (PEDIANET) databases. Thus the HRs for pneumonia in breakthrough cases compared to vaccinated non-pertussis controls was calculated with data from the two Danish and two Spanish databases (**Table 3**). The HRs of pneumonia in pertussis cases ranged from 4.1 (95% CI: 2.2; 7.8) to 24.6 (95% CI: 19.1; 31.7). There were seven cases of generalised convulsions within one month after pertussis diagnosis (five in SSI and two cases in SIDIAP), with a relative risk of 1.99 (95% CI: 0.8; 4.8) in SSI and 4.6 (95% CI: 1.1; 19.2) in SIDIAP (**Table 3**). No deaths occurred within three months of pertussis diagnosis and therefore it was not possible to calculate HRs (**Table 3**). The planned analyses for pertussis-related complications in five age groups (2-3 months, 4-5 months, 6-11 months, 12-23 months, 24 months or older) could not be done because of the low number of events. The ‘excess probabilities’ of the different complication events were calculated but were too small to be reliably interpreted (data not shown).

## 4. Discussion

In this study we showed it was possible to estimate pertussis IRs following wP or aP vaccination overall, over time and by the number of doses received demonstrating that data from the participating healthcare databases can be used to estimate vaccine effectiveness. We observed that the IRs for pertussis decreased consistently as the number of aP and wP doses increased. This is consistent with our current knowledge, i.e. protection increases with the number of doses [11]. However, even with seven databases covering almost 3 million vaccinated children, it was not always possible to estimate HRs reliably for pertussis-related complications in vaccinated children who developed pertussis due to the low number of cases and complications in these cases. Only 4,615 children developed pertussis following vaccination among the 2.9 million vaccinated children and only 89 of these developed

pneumonia and 7 developed generalised convulsions within one month of the pertussis diagnosis and none died within three months of the pertussis diagnosis. Consequently, we were not able to calculate HRs for all outcomes in all databases, and we could not calculate any HRs by vaccine type, i.e. aP or wP vaccines.

Our results show that the incidence of pertussis in children who had received at least one dose of pertussis vaccine from 2003 onwards was relatively low in the UK and relatively high in Spain. We did not observe any major differences between the results from the two UK databases, THIN and RCGP RSC, in the same calendar years. Although these databases do not cover the whole population they are representative of the UK population, with a small overlap in practices captured by the databases [12, 13]. The trend observed in our study was similar to that reported for confirmed pertussis observed over the last decade in children aged <5 years in the UK, although our IRs were lower since they are for vaccinated children only, whereas the reported national rates were for the whole population, vaccinated or not [14, 15].

For Denmark, we observed a similar trend over time for the pertussis incidence rate in the SSI (national) and AUH (regional) databases, except in SSI we observed peaks in the incidence rates in 2004 and 2012, similar to those reported for laboratory-confirmed pertussis in the whole Danish population [16]. In SSI The pertussis IRs were higher in the national SSI database than those in the regional AUH database, generally; this may be due to differences in population dynamics. For Spain, a higher incidence of pertussis was observed in the regional SIDIAP database than in the multi-regional BIFAP database but the trends since 2001 in the two databases were similar. The difference in incidence could be due to the different geographical coverage and the coding which differed between the databases [17].

In the UK, there were no cases of pneumonia after pertussis diagnosis in the vaccinated cohort that comprised more than 900,000 children. In RCGP RSC, pneumonia is one of the conditions specifically monitored and the participating practices receive feedback about their

data quality for these conditions, so it is likely that the data are reliable [18]. The HRs for pneumonia following pertussis in vaccinated children was similar in Denmark and Spain with overlapping 95% CIs. The rates of pneumonia following pertussis in our vaccinated cohorts, where this could be calculated were similar to previously reported rates of between 0 to 3% [19, 20]. The generalised convulsion rates in the vaccinated cohorts were extremely low and available in only two databases. The numbers of cases of generalised convulsions and death after pertussis in vaccinated children in the participating databases were too low to allow accurate interpretation.

The estimated IRs were coherent with those from national surveillance databases based on confirmed pertussis, although our analysis included all pertussis cases (both suspected and confirmed). It was difficult to make appropriate and reliable comparisons with pertussis or complication IRs in the literature because the confirmation information or predictive values were not always available. The databases included in our study were from different clinical settings (GP only, hospital only or hospital and GP data) and had different coding compartments (at regional or national levels), thus only the comparison of the trends over the time for estimates of incidence and complication rates seemed to be meaningful [17]. However, it is important to remember that the aim of this POC study was to assess the methodological aspects of the design, conduct and reporting of studies for vaccine benefit-risk monitoring activities using the proposed ADVANCE system. One aspect of this assessment was to show that the results described in this publication are plausible, but they are not intended to inform regulatory or clinical decisions. In conclusion, our results demonstrate the feasibility of estimating incidence rates for specific pertussis and pertussis-related complications outcomes using the ADVANCE distributed data system in the databases included in this study. Due to the low incidences of pertussis-related complications, larger sample sizes and inclusion of more databases would provide additional power.

**Disclaimer:** The results described in this publication are from the proof of concept studies conducted as part of the IMI ADVANCE project with the aim of testing the methodological aspects of the design, conduct and reporting of studies for vaccine benefit-risk monitoring activities. The results presented relate solely to the methodological testing and are not intended to inform regulatory or clinical decisions on the benefits and risks of the exposures under investigation. This warning should accompany any use of the results from these studies and they should be used accordingly. The views expressed in this article are the personal views of the authors and should not be understood or quoted as being made on behalf of or reflecting the position of the agencies or organisations with which the authors are affiliated.

**Conflicts of interest**

Maria de Ridder, Toon Braeye, Ana Correa, Chris McGee, Talita Duarte-Salles, Consuelo Huerta, Elisa Martín-Merino, Lara Tramontan, Giorgia Danieli, Gino Picelli, Nicoline van der Maas, Klara Berensci, Hanne-Dorthe Emborg, Daniel Weibel and Kaat Bollaerts declared no conflicts of interest. Myint Tin Tin Htar is employed by Pfizer and holds company shares/stock options. Simon de Lusignan declared he has received funding through his University to conduct enhanced surveillance of influenza vaccine (GSK), and is a member Seqirus and Sanofi Pasteur advisory boards for which he received personal payment within the limits defined by his university. Lisen Arnheim-Dahlström declared that her organisation has received funding from SPMSD, MSD and GSK for population-based, observational studies that she has conducted and that she is currently employed by Celgene AB. Ulrich Heininger declared that he is a member of the Global Pertussis Initiative (GPI) Steering Committee, which is funded by an educational grant from Sanofi Pasteur. Miriam Sturkenboom declared that she has received grants from Novartis, CDC and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, for work unrelated to the submitted work.

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339

340 **Table 1:** Overall numbers of individuals in each database and numbers of children aged <6 years included in the benefit cohort

|   | Denmark   |           | UK        |            | Spain     |           | Italy     |            |  |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|--|
|   | AUH       | SSI       | RCGP RSC  | THIN       | BIFAP     | SIDIAP    | PEDIANET* | Total      |  |
| Type of database  | Regional  | National  | National  | National   | National  | Regional  | Regional  |            |  |
| Data period   | 2002-2015 | 2000-2014 | 1995-2015 | 1996-2015  | 2003-2014 | 2006-2015 | 2006-2013 |            |  |
| Number of persons in full population file (any age)                 | 1,725,165 | 7,512,032 | 3,017,610 | 11,696,261 | 7,541,864 | 7,096,695 | 9,708     | 38,599,335 |  |
| Number of children (0-5 years) included in the final benefit cohort | 143,399   | 1,004,854 | 151,764   | 770,849    | 288,476   | 519,330   | 7,695     | 2,886,367  |  |

341 \* PEDIANET included only children 0-14 years of age

342

**Table 2:** Exposure, follow-up time, number of pertussis cases and pertussis incidence rates (per 1,000 person-years) in children aged 0 to 5 years who had received at least one dose of whole-cell pertussis (wP) or acellular pertussis (aP) containing vaccine (follow-up started 14 days after the first dose)\*

| Database<br>(country) | Date or period of wP<br>to aP switch | Vaccine<br>used | Total follow-up<br>(person-years) | Number of<br>pertussis<br>cases | Incidence rate/1000 person-<br>years** (95% CI) |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| AUH<br>(Denmark)      | 1997                                 | aP              | 556,048                           | 83                              | 0.15 (0.12; 0.19)                               |
| SSI (Denmark)         | 1997                                 | aP              | 4,155,943                         | 2,820                           | 0.68 (0.65; 0.70)                               |
| RCGP RSC<br>(UK)      | 2004                                 | aP + wP         | 474,732                           | 109                             | 0.23 (0.19; 0.28)                               |
| THIN (UK)             | 2004                                 | aP + wP         | 2,229,848                         | 487                             | 0.22 (0.20; 0.24)                               |
| BIFAP (Spain)         | 2000-2004                            | aP + wP         | 370,343                           | 229                             | 0.62 (0.54; 0.70)                               |
| SIDIAP (Spain)        | 2000-2004                            | aP              | 751,786                           | 862                             | 1.15 (1.07; 1.23)                               |
| PEDIANET<br>(Italy)   | Before 1996                          | aP              | 37,343                            | 25                              | 0.67 (0.45; 0.99)                               |

\*children were followed up until 6th birthday, pre-school booster dose, death, leave database or the end of the study, whichever occurred earliest

350 **Table 3:** Pertussis-related complications in children who had received at least one dose of pertussis vaccine compared with matched controls

| Data source (country) | Study group               | Pneumonia (within one month) |         |                          | Generalised convulsions (within one month) |         |                          | Death (within three months) |         |                          |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------|--------------------------|--|---------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|--------------------------|
|                       |                           | Yes                          | No      | Hazard ratio<br>(95% CI) | Yes  | No      | Hazard ratio<br>(95% CI) | Yes                         | No      | Hazard ratio<br>(95% CI) |
| AUH (Denmark)         | Reference cohort aP       | 11                           | 6,789   | 18.6 (4.1; 84.0)         | 9  | 6,791   | NA                       | 1                           | 6,799   | NA                       |
|                       | Pertussis cohort aP       | 2                            | 66      |                          | 0  | 68      |                          | 0                           | 68      |                          |
| SSI (Denmark)         | Reference cohort aP       | 313                          | 200,387 | 24.6 (19.1; 31.7)        | 251  | 200,499 | 1.99 (0.8; 4.8)          | 45                          | 200,655 | NA                       |
|                       | Pertussis cohort - aP     | 75                           | 1,932   |                          | 5  | 2,002   |                          | 0                           | 2,007   |                          |
| RCGP RSC (UK)         | Reference cohort aP or wP | 8                            | 10,871  | NA                       | 18   | 10,861  | NA                       | 0                           | 10,879  | NA                       |
|                       | Pertussis cohort - aP     | 0                            | 41      |                          | 0  | 41      |                          | 0                           | 41      |                          |
|                       | Pertussis cohort wP       | 0                            | 115     |                          | 0  | 115     |                          | 0                           | 115     |                          |
| THIN (UK)             | Reference cohort aP or wP | 6                            | 43,953  | NA                       | 13   | 43,946  | NA                       | 6                           | 43,953  | NA                       |
|                       | Pertussis cohort - aP     | 0                            | 182     |                          | 0  | 182     |                          | 0                           | 182     |                          |
|                       | Pertussis cohort wP       | 0                            | 261     |                          | 0  | 261     |                          | 0                           | 261     |                          |
| BIFAP (Spain)         | Reference cohort aP or wP | 77                           | 27,991  | 15.4 (3.6; 66.3)         | 30   | 28,038  | NA                       | 4                           | 28,064  | NA                       |
|                       | Pertussis cohort - aP     | 2                            | 306     |                          | 0  | 308     |                          | 0                           | 308     |                          |
|                       | Pertussis cohort wP       | 0                            | 3       |                          | 0  | 3       |                          | 0                           | 3       |                          |
| SIDIAP (Spain)        | Reference cohort aP       | 242                          | 161,358 | 4.1 (2.2; 7.8)           | 43   | 161,557 | 4.6 (1.1; 19.2)          | 18                          | 161,582 | NA                       |
|                       | Pertussis cohort aP       | 10                           | 1,608   |                          | 2  | 1,616   |                          | 0                           | 1,618   |                          |
| PEDIANET (Italy)      | Reference cohort aP       | 18                           | 2,482   | NA                       | 1  | 2,499   | NA                       | 0                           | 2,500   | NA                       |
|                       | Pertussis cohort aP       | 0                            | 29      |                          | 0  | 29      |                          | 0                           | 29      |                          |

351 NA: could not be estimated; \* 5 pertussis non-exposed children were matched for each pertussis exposed child

352 **Figure legends**

353 Figure 1: Pertussis incidence rate per 1000 person-years for children who had received at least  
354 one dose of pertussis vaccine by database and year followed from 1<sup>st</sup> dose to age 5 years

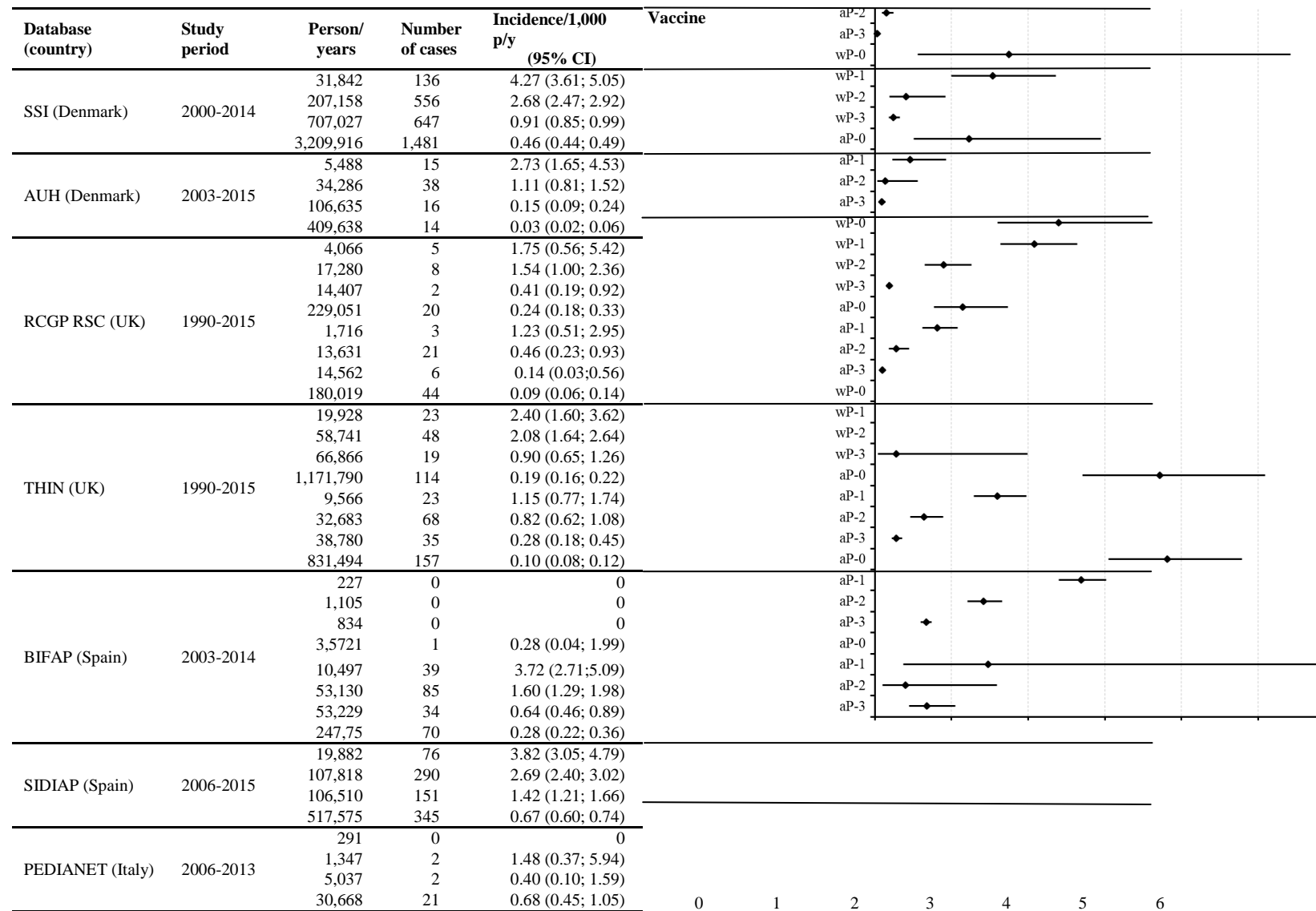
355 Figure 2: Incidence of pertussis according to the type and number of vaccine doses received

## Figure 1



Year

## Figure 2





# 1 Supplementary data

## 2 Table S1: Codes used for extraction of data for outcomes: pertussis and pertussis-associated 3 complications

| Variable               | Operational definition*   |
|------------------------|---|
| Pertussis              | ICD-9: 033.9 Whooping cough, unspecified organism; 484.3 Pneumonia in whooping cough<br>ICD-10: A37<br>READ-CTv3: A33y.<br>A33yz; A33z.; Ayu39; Ayu3A; H243.; X70I8; XE0Qw; XE0Qw; XM00D<br>READ v2: A33.. Ayu39; Ayu3A; H243.<br>ICPC: R71<br>String text was also used in BIFAP   |
| Confirmed pertussis    | see above but with laboratory confirmation  |
| Pneumonia              | ICD-9 480–487<br>ICD-10: (J12–J18)<br>READ-Ctv3: H20z.<br>H222.<br>H223.<br>H22yz<br>H22z.<br>H23..<br>H26..<br>H2700<br>X100E<br>X100H<br>X100J<br>X100M<br>XE0YG<br>XE0YJ<br>XM0rv<br>READ-v2: H20.<br>H222.<br>H223.<br>H22yz<br>H22z.<br>H23..<br>H25..<br>H26..<br>H26..<br>H2700<br>ICPC: R81<br>String text was also used in BIFAP |
| Death                  | Code for death or reason for exit from population   |
| Generalised convulsion | ICD-9: 779<br>ICD-10: P90<br>READ-CTv3: Q480.<br>X75Z0<br>READ-v2: F25H.<br>Q480.<br>ICPC: none<br>String text was also used in BIFAP   |
| Age                    | From date of birth calculation  |
| Calendar month         | From calculated follow-up time  |
| Gender                 | From population input files   |
| Pertussis vaccination  | From vaccination files, coded as aPe, uPe, wPe by dose  |

5 **Table S2:** Pertussis annual incidence rates (IR) per 1000 person years (PY) and their 95%  
6 confidence intervals in each database in pertussis vaccinated children followed from 1<sup>st</sup> dose  
7 to age 5 years

| Database (country) | Year | PY     | Number of<br>pertussis events | IR   | 95% CI      |
|--------------------|------|--------|-------------------------------|------|-------------|
| AUH (Denmark)      | 2003 | 4944   | 2                             | 0.40 | 0.10; 1.62  |
|                    | 2004 | 15952  | 7                             | 0.44 | 0.21; 0.92  |
|                    | 2005 | 26512  | 5                             | 0.19 | 0.08; 0.45  |
|                    | 2006 | 36758  | 6                             | 0.16 | 0.07; 0.36  |
|                    | 2007 | 47029  | 5                             | 0.11 | 0.04; 0.26  |
|                    | 2008 | 52751  | 8                             | 0.15 | 0.08; 0.30  |
|                    | 2009 | 53469  | 8                             | 0.15 | 0.07; 0.30  |
|                    | 2010 | 53680  | 1                             | 0.02 | 0.00; 0.13  |
|                    | 2011 | 53961  | 7                             | 0.13 | 0.06; 0.27  |
|                    | 2012 | 53802  | 12                            | 0.22 | 0.13; 0.39  |
|                    | 2013 | 52960  | 7                             | 0.13 | 0.06; 0.28  |
|                    | 2014 | 52143  | 9                             | 0.17 | 0.09; 0.33  |
|                    | 2015 | 52087  | 6                             | 0.12 | 0.05; 0.26  |
| SSI (Denmark)      | 2000 | 199701 | 188                           | 0.94 | 0.82; 1.09  |
|                    | 2001 | 259367 | 247                           | 0.95 | 0.84; 10.8  |
|                    | 2002 | 316134 | 600                           | 1.90 | 1.75; 2.06  |
|                    | 2003 | 332900 | 176                           | 0.53 | 0.46; 0.61  |
|                    | 2004 | 302307 | 361                           | 1.19 | 1.08; 1.32  |
|                    | 2005 | 292786 | 185                           | 0.63 | 0.55; 0.73  |
|                    | 2006 | 286216 | 69                            | 0.24 | 0.19; 0.31  |
|                    | 2007 | 281810 | 112                           | 0.40 | 0.33; 0.48  |
|                    | 2008 | 280212 | 123                           | 0.44 | 0.37; 0.52  |
|                    | 2009 | 280511 | 100                           | 0.36 | 0.29; 0.43  |
|                    | 2010 | 282434 | 93                            | 0.33 | 0.27; 0.40  |
|                    | 2011 | 284089 | 107                           | 0.38 | 0.31; 0.46  |
|                    | 2012 | 283409 | 230                           | 0.81 | 0.71; 0.92  |
|                    | 2013 | 279859 | 122                           | 0.44 | 0.37; 0.52  |
|                    | 2014 | 194178 | 107                           | 0.55 | 0.46; 0.67  |
| RCGP RSC (UK)      | 1990 | 592    | 2                             | 3.38 | 0.84; 13.51 |
|                    | 1991 | 2219   | 2                             | 0.90 | 0.23; 3.60  |
|                    | 1992 | 4078   | 3                             | 0.74 | 0.24; 2.28  |
|                    | 1993 | 6194   | 6                             | 0.97 | 0.44; 2.16  |
|                    | 1994 | 8483   | 7                             | 0.83 | 0.39; 1.73  |
|                    | 1995 | 10969  | 3                             | 0.27 | 0.09; 0.85  |
|                    | 1996 | 12584  | 6                             | 0.48 | 0.21; 1.06  |
|                    | 1997 | 13082  | 4                             | 0.31 | 0.11; 0.81  |
|                    | 1998 | 13690  | 8                             | 0.58 | 0.29; 1.17  |
|                    | 1999 | 14797  | 5                             | 0.34 | 0.14; 0.81  |

| Database (country) | Year | PY     | Number of<br>pertussis events | IR   | 95% CI      |
|--------------------|------|--------|-------------------------------|------|-------------|
|                    | 2000 | 15667  | 9                             | 0.57 | 0.30; 1.10  |
|                    | 2001 | 16905  | 8                             | 0.47 | 0.24; 0.95  |
|                    | 2002 | 17914  | 1                             | 0.06 | 0.01; 0.40  |
|                    | 2003 | 18793  | 6                             | 0.32 | 0.14; 0.71  |
|                    | 2004 | 19425  | 4                             | 0.21 | 0.08; 0.55  |
|                    | 2005 | 19502  | 2                             | 0.10 | 0.03; 0.41  |
|                    | 2006 | 21207  | 1                             | 0.05 | 0.01; 0.33  |
|                    | 2007 | 22997  | 1                             | 0.04 | 0.01; 0.31  |
|                    | 2008 | 25652  | 2                             | 0.08 | 0.02; 0.31  |
|                    | 2009 | 27844  | 7                             | 0.25 | 0.12; 0.53  |
|                    | 2010 | 28239  | 2                             | 0.07 | 0.02; 0.28  |
|                    | 2011 | 28193  | 2                             | 0.07 | 0.02; 0.28  |
|                    | 2012 | 28714  | 9                             | 0.31 | 0.16; 0.60  |
|                    | 2013 | 29750  | 4                             | 0.13 | 0.05; 0.36  |
|                    | 2014 | 31816  | 2                             | 0.06 | 0.02; 0.25  |
|                    | 2015 | 35426  | 3                             | 0.08 | 0.03; 0.26  |
| THIN               | 1990 | 1131   | 5                             | 4.42 | 1.84; 10.62 |
|                    | 1991 | 4928   | 5                             | 1.01 | 0.42; 2.44  |
|                    | 1992 | 9610   | 8                             | 0.83 | 0.42; 1.66  |
|                    | 1993 | 14483  | 13                            | 0.90 | 0.52; 1.55  |
|                    | 1994 | 19643  | 17                            | 0.87 | 0.54; 1.39  |
|                    | 1995 | 25348  | 11                            | 0.43 | 0.24; 0.78  |
|                    | 1996 | 30825  | 27                            | 0.88 | 0.60; 1.28  |
|                    | 1997 | 35487  | 40                            | 1.13 | 0.83; 1.54  |
|                    | 1998 | 41194  | 15                            | 0.36 | 0.22; 0.60  |
|                    | 1999 | 48181  | 19                            | 0.39 | 0.25; 0.62  |
|                    | 2000 | 57123  | 7                             | 0.12 | 0.06; 0.26  |
|                    | 2001 | 77907  | 32                            | 0.41 | 0.29; 0.58  |
|                    | 2002 | 97751  | 29                            | 0.30 | 0.21; 0.43  |
|                    | 2003 | 112769 | 18                            | 0.16 | 0.10; 0.25  |
|                    | 2004 | 126734 | 25                            | 0.20 | 0.13; 0.29  |
|                    | 2005 | 129107 | 18                            | 0.14 | 0.09; 0.22  |
|                    | 2006 | 138233 | 12                            | 0.09 | 0.05; 0.15  |
|                    | 2007 | 146135 | 18                            | 0.12 | 0.08; 0.20  |
|                    | 2008 | 152379 | 28                            | 0.18 | 0.13; 0.27  |
|                    | 2009 | 155103 | 15                            | 0.10 | 0.06; 0.16  |
|                    | 2010 | 154863 | 13                            | 0.08 | 0.05; 0.14  |
|                    | 2011 | 154166 | 12                            | 0.08 | 0.04; 0.14  |
|                    | 2012 | 151686 | 59                            | 0.39 | 0.30; 0.50  |
|                    | 2013 | 142856 | 18                            | 0.13 | 0.08; 0.20  |
|                    | 2014 | 128520 | 11                            | 0.09 | 0.05; 0.15  |
|                    | 2015 | 73683  | 12                            | 0.16 | 0.09; 0.29  |
| BIFAP (Spain)      | 2004 | 9266   | 6                             | 0.65 | 0.29; 1.44  |

| Database (country) | Year | PY    | Number of<br>pertussis events | IR   | 95% CI     |
|--------------------|------|-------|-------------------------------|------|------------|
|                    | 2005 | 22208 | 23                            | 1.04 | 0.69; 1.56 |
|                    | 2006 | 28988 | 12                            | 0.41 | 0.24; 0.73 |
|                    | 2007 | 33472 | 16                            | 0.48 | 0.29; 0.78 |
|                    | 2008 | 34703 | 15                            | 0.43 | 0.26; 0.72 |
|                    | 2009 | 37271 | 13                            | 0.35 | 0.20; 0.60 |
|                    | 2010 | 35542 | 25                            | 0.70 | 0.48; 1.04 |
|                    | 2011 | 39061 | 52                            | 1.33 | 1.01; 1.75 |
|                    | 2012 | 49734 | 26                            | 0.52 | 0.36; 0.77 |
|                    | 2013 | 49214 | 23                            | 0.47 | 0.31; 0.70 |
|                    | 2014 | 28929 | 18                            | 0.62 | 0.39; 0.99 |
|                    |      |       |                               |      |            |
| SIDIAP (Spain)     | 2006 | 25105 | 23                            | 0.92 | 0.61; 1.38 |
|                    | 2007 | 68863 | 44                            | 0.64 | 0.48; 0.86 |
|                    | 2008 | 79467 | 67                            | 0.84 | 0.66; 1.07 |
|                    | 2009 | 85206 | 45                            | 0.53 | 0.39; 0.71 |
|                    | 2010 | 85634 | 43                            | 0.50 | 0.37; 0.68 |
|                    | 2011 | 86210 | 171                           | 1.98 | 1.71; 2.30 |
|                    | 2012 | 85660 | 133                           | 1.55 | 1.31; 1.84 |
|                    | 2013 | 80999 | 75                            | 0.93 | 0.74; 1.16 |
|                    | 2014 | 77708 | 80                            | 1.03 | 0.83; 1.28 |
|                    | 2015 | 76932 | 181                           | 2.35 | 2.03; 2.72 |
|                    |      |       |                               |      |            |
| PEDIANET (Italy)   | 2007 | 4679  | 3                             | 0.64 | 0.21; 1.99 |
|                    | 2008 | 7067  | 1                             | 0.14 | 0.02; 1.00 |
|                    | 2009 | 6828  | 3                             | 0.44 | 0.14; 1.36 |
|                    | 2010 | 6615  | 6                             | 0.91 | 0.41; 2.02 |
|                    | 2011 | 6215  | 9                             | 1.45 | 0.75; 2.78 |
|                    | 2012 | 3984  | 3                             | 0.75 | 0.24; 2.33 |

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## Supplemental Files

[Click here to download Supplemental Files: Supplementary data file\\_06DEC2018.docx](#)