

The impact of vaccination on the spread of varicella in Hungary

CHALLENGES

Health, demographic change and wellbeing

The Industrial Problem

Varicella Zoster Virus (VZV) causes chickenpox typically in children, and herpes zoster in adults (reactivation of the latent virus). Infections can be effectively prevented by a vaccine. In Hungary, varicella vaccination into the mandatory schedule incorporated in 2019.

Public health, epidemiology

Mathematical Epidemiology

Epidelay Group
Bolyai Institute



Mathematical study and computer simulations in mathematical epidemiology. Delay and hybrid models, networks.

Hungarian National Center of Public Health



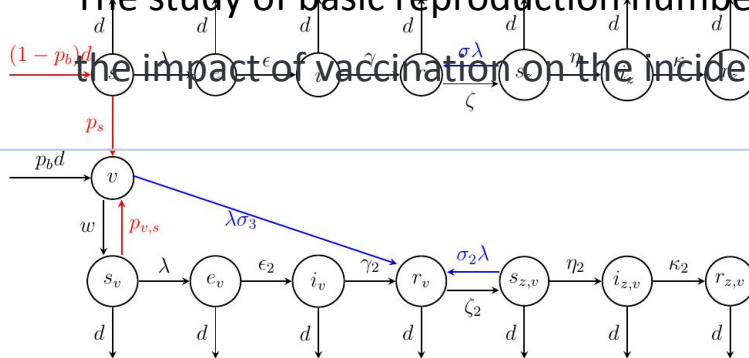
Hungarian national headquarter of public health.

Challenges & Goals

- Build new models and incorporate vaccination strategies into them according to the Hungarian specialties including seasonality.
- Parameter fitting and sensitivity analysis (LHS/PRCC method) of system parameters



- The study of basic reproduction number and the impact of vaccination on the incidence



$$\begin{aligned} s' &= (1 - p_b) d - p_s s - ds - \lambda s, \\ e' &= \lambda s - e(d + \epsilon), \\ i' &= e\epsilon - i(\gamma + d), \\ r' &= -r(d + \zeta) + \gamma i + \lambda \sigma s_z, \\ s'_z &= -(d + \eta) s_z - \lambda \sigma s_z + \zeta r, \\ i'_z &= \eta s_z - i_z(d + \kappa), \\ r'_z &= \kappa z - dr_z, \end{aligned}$$

$$v' = p_b d + p_s s + p_{v,s} s_v - \lambda \sigma_3 v - w v,$$

$$\lambda = \beta(i + v i_z + \rho i_v + v i_{z,v})$$

$$\begin{aligned} s'_v &= -p_{v,s} s_v - ds_v - \lambda s_v + w v, \\ e'_v &= \lambda s_v - (d + \epsilon_2) e_v, \\ i'_v &= \epsilon_2 e_v - i_v(\gamma_2 + d), \\ r'_v &= \lambda \sigma_2 s_{z,v} - (d + \zeta_2) r_v + \lambda \sigma_3 v + \gamma_2 i_v, \\ s'_{z,v} &= -(d + \eta_2) s_{z,v} - \lambda \sigma_2 s_{z,v} + \zeta_2 r_v, \\ i'_{z,v} &= \eta_2 s_{z,v} - (d + \kappa_2) i_{z,v}, \\ r'_{z,v} &= \kappa_2 i_{z,v} - dr_{z,v} \end{aligned}$$

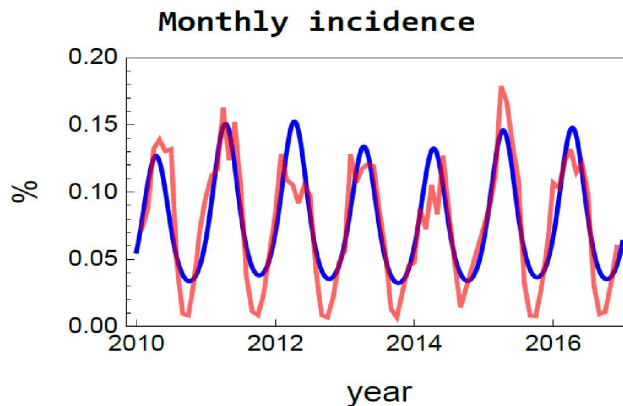
The transmission scheme and the compartmental equation. Framed part is the model with no vaccination used in parameter estimations.

λ : force of infection, proportional to the contacts of susceptible and infectious individuals.

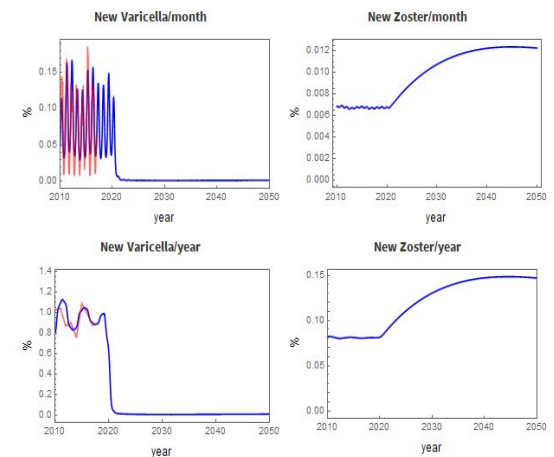
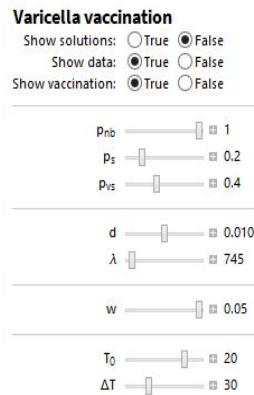
Vaccination strategies for varicella in Hungary

Mathematical and computational methods and techniques applied

- Construction of a state-of-the-art transmission model with no vaccination that is the most realistic and providing the best fitting to the reported incidence data in Hungary.
- Sensitivity analysis on dependence of basic reproduction number on system parameters.
- Study of the dependence of basic reproduction number on underreporting.
- Combination of analytical (compartmental models, nonlinear impulsive systems, next-generation operator, spectral analysis), statistical, numerical, computational (e.g., fitting, sensitivity, optimization ...), as well as epidemiological and simulation tools.



Fitting the seasonal model

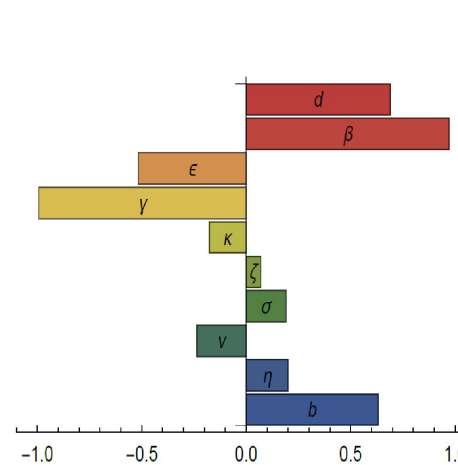


Dynamic simulations on the model: an effective vaccination case

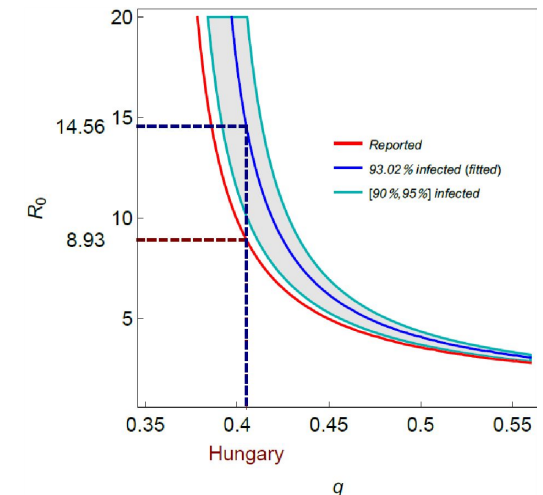
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Results & Benefits to the company

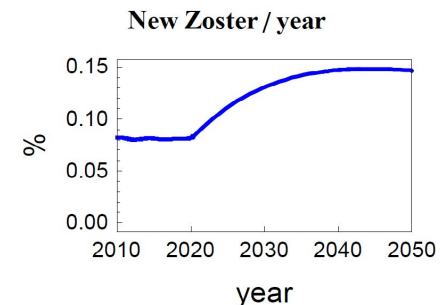
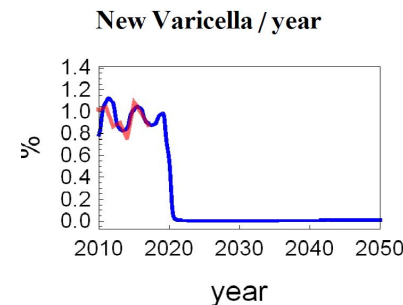
- General scheme model of Varicella transmission
- Scientific results on the spread of Varicella-Zoster Virus with and without vaccination.
- Finding key factors to decrease the basic and control reproduction numbers.
- Emphasizing the importance of underreporting.
- Comparing the effect of different vaccination strategies.
- The results help to make scientific, evidence-based decisions in optimizing the routine varicella vaccinations in Hungary, affecting the whole population and billions of HUFs.



Seasonal case: sensitivity (max. PRCC values, $t \in [0,5]$)



Relation between underreporting ratio and R_0



An effective comprehensive vaccination

The National Center of Public Health receives dynamic modeling tools and analysis of vaccination strategies.