

Immunization Handbook
for
Health Workers
(2017)

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Acronyms

ADS	Auto Disable Syringe
AEFI	Adverse Event Following Immunization
AES	Acute Encephalitis Syndrome
AFP	Acute Flaccid Paralysis
AIDS	Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome
ANC	Ante-natal Care
ANM	Auxiliary Nurse Midwife
ASHA	Accredited Social Health Activist
AVD	Alternate Vaccine Delivery
AWC	Anganwadi Centre
AWW	Anganwadi Worker
BCG	bacillus Calmette-Guerin
CBO	Community Based Organization
CBWTF	Common Biomedical Waste Treatment Facility
CHC	Community Health Centre
CRS	Congenital Rubella Syndrome
CPCB	Central Pollution Control Board
DF	Deep Freezer
DIO	District Immunization Officer
DPT	Diphtheria , Pertussis , Tetanus
DTFI	District Task Force – Immunization
EDD	Expected Date of Delivery
EEFO	Early Expiry First Out
FAQs	Frequently Asked Questions
FLW	Front Line worker
GMP	Good Manufacturing Practices
HHE	Hypotonic, Hypo responsive Episode
Hib	Haemophilus influenzae type b
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HMIS	Health Management Information System
HRA	High Risk Area
H-t-H	House to House
HW	Health Worker
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Services
IEC	Information, Education Communication
ILR	IceLinedRefrigerator
IM	Intra Muscular
IPC	Inter Personal Communication
IPV	Inactivated Poliovirus Vaccine
JE	Japanese Encephalitis
LHV	Lady Health Volunteer
LMP	Last Menstrual Period

LS	Lady Supervisor
LW	Link worker
MCH	Maternal and Child Health
MCP	Mother and Child Protection
MCTS	Mother and Child Tracking System
MO	Medical Officer
MOIC	Medical Officer In-Charge
MR	Measles Rubella
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NIS	National Immunization Schedule
OPV	Oral Polio Vaccine
OVP	Open vial policy
Penta	Pentavalent
PHC	Primary Health Centre
PIP	Project Implementation Plan
PRI	Panchayat Raj Institution
PW	Pregnant Women
RCH	Reproductive and Child Health
RI	Routine Immunization
RVV	Rotavirus Vaccine
SC	Sub Centre
SHG	Self Help Group
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
TT	Tetanus Toxoid
UHC	Urban Health Centre
UIP	Universal Immunization Program
VHSC	Village Health and Sanitation Committee
VHND	Village Health and Nutrition Day
VPD	Vaccine Preventable Disease
VVM	Vaccine Vial Monitor
WMF	Wastage Multiplication Factor
WPV	Wild Polio Virus

Welcome to your guide to effective immunization!!!

This book has been designed to provide all the information needed to better understand the activities and technical aspects of immunization.

The topics in this handbook will guide you in understanding your roles and the activities which help to ensure that all children and pregnant women are vaccinated. The chapters will cover not only how to plan immunization sessions but also strengthen your knowledge and provide you guidance on how to improve your skills.

This book is your companion and is a reference book. The chapters are colour coded to make it easier to go directly to a particular chapter.

The training program on immunization also follows the information in this book and all the exercises and needed reference material are to be found here.

There is also synchronization of many areas and chapters with the Medical Officers handbook which will make it easier for you to discuss some topics with your MO or during the monthly meetings.

Unit 1: Introduction and role of health workers in immunization

Learning Objectives

At the end of the unit, you should be able to:

- Describe the importance of immunization and reasons for low immunization coverage.
- List the responsibilities of Health Workers in Routine Immunization.

Contents

- Importance of immunization and reasons for low immunization coverage.
- Responsibilities of Health Workers in Routine Immunization.

1.1 Immunization and its importance

Immunization is the process whereby a person is made immune or resistant to an infectious disease, typically by the administration of a vaccine. Vaccines stimulate the body's own immune system to protect the person against later infection or disease.

Immunization is a proven tool for controlling and eliminating life-threatening infectious diseases and is estimated to prevent between 2 and 3 million deaths each year. It is one of the most cost-effective health investments, with proven strategies that make it accessible to even the most hard-to-reach and vulnerable populations. It has clearly defined target groups; it can be delivered effectively through outreach activities; and vaccination does not require any major lifestyle change.

Over the years various strategies to make vaccines universally available, including to the most hard-to-reach and vulnerable populations have saved countless lives. The benefits to the individual include not only the prevention of disease and disabilities but also the opportunity for a healthier and a more productive life.

Each vaccine provides immunity against a particular disease; therefore, a number of vaccines are administered to children and women to protect them from many vaccine-preventable diseases.

India's Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) is one of the largest immunization programs in the world. The UIP targets to vaccinate nearly 2.7 crore new-borns each year with all primary doses and an additional ~10 crore children of 1- 5 year age with booster doses. In addition, nearly 3 crore pregnant mothers are targeted for TT vaccination each year. Every year ~90 lakh immunization sessions are conducted to vaccinate the beneficiaries, majority of which are at village level.

1.2 Key achievements of the Immunization Programme in India

The immunization programme in India has grown over the years, various new vaccines have been introduced and many mile stones achieved. The health workers in the field, the ANMs and the ASHA and AWW continuously contribute to making these milestones and sustaining them. It is good to know how the system evolved see Table 1.1 below to learn of some important activities and events .

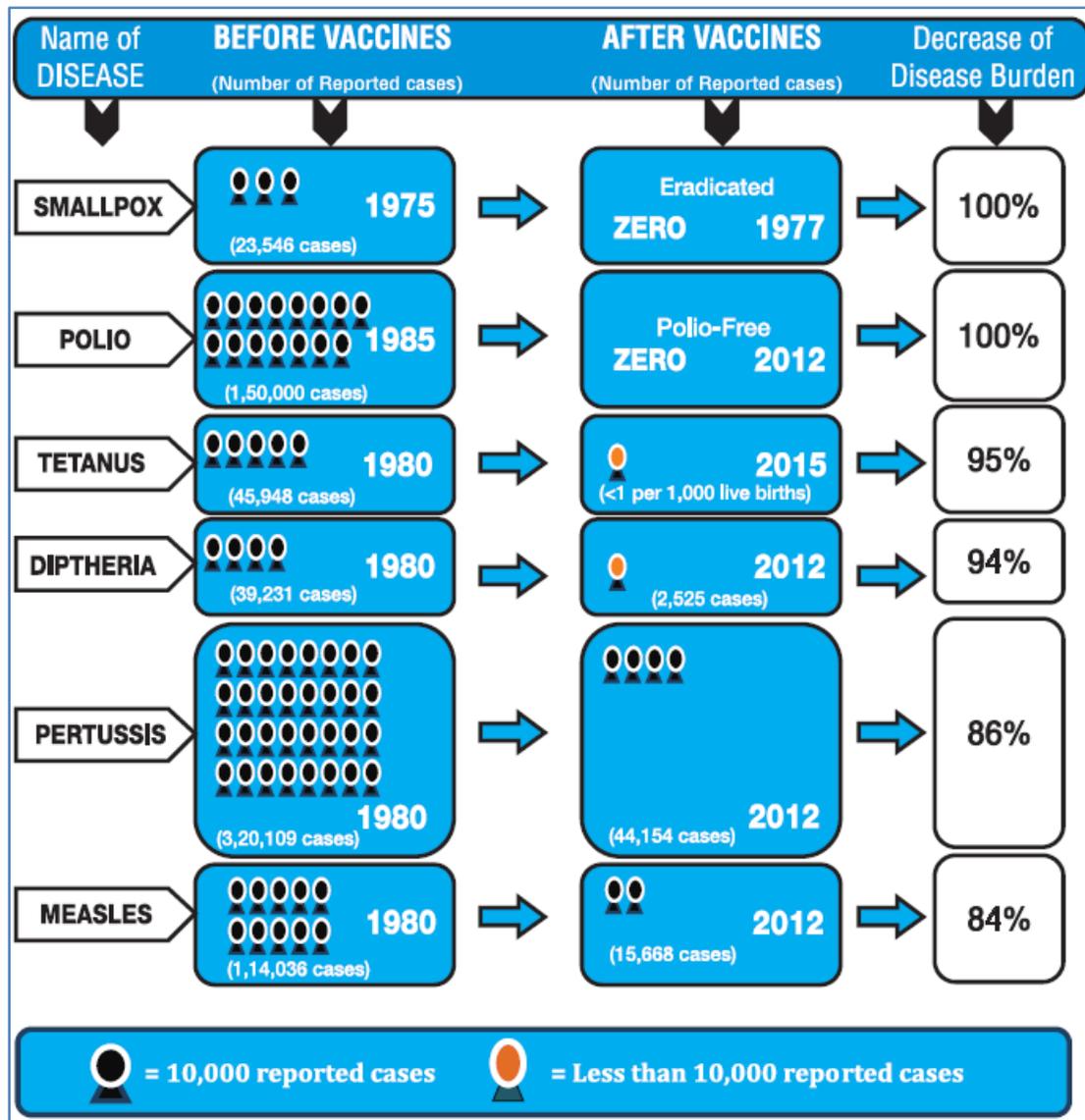
Table 1.1.Key achievements under UIP

1978	Expanded Programme of immunization BCG,DPT,OPV, typhoid (urban areas)
1983	TT vaccine for pregnant women
1985	Universal Immunization Programme – measles added, typhoid removed, Focus on children less than 1yr of age
1990	Vitamin-A supplementation
1995	Polio National Immunization Days
1997	VVM introduced on vaccines in UIP
2002	Hep B introduced as pilot in 33 districts & cities of 10 states
2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Rural Health Mission Launched Auto Disable (AD) Syringes introduced into UIP
2006	JE vaccine introduced after campaigns in endemic districts
2007-8	Hep B expanded to all districts in 10 states & schedule revised to 4 doses from 3 doses
2010	Measles 2nd dose introduced in RI and MCUP (14 states)
2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hepatitis B universalized and Haemophilus influenza type b introduced as pentavalent in 2 states Open Vial Policy for vaccines in UIP
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pentavalent expanded to 9 states Second dose of JE vaccine
2014	India and South East Asia Region certified POLIO- FREE
2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> India validated for Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus elimination Pentavalent expanded to all states IPV Introduced
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rotavirus vaccine introduced in 4 states in Phase 1 tOPV to bOPV Switch Switch to fractional IPV (Phased) Rotavirus vaccine introduced (Phased launch)
2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MR Vaccine introduced PCV (Phased launch) Use of adrenaline IM by ANM in AEFI

Impact of vaccines in India.

Has vaccination really helped the children? Look at the table below and see the changes in the number of cases every year. This is the impact of vaccination.

Remember !!Every time you go into the field to vaccinate children during RI sessions or any campaign , you are contributing to the decrease of disease in your beneficiaries.



1.3 Responsibilities of Health Workers in Routine Immunization

As Health workers, you play a very important role in providing Immunization services to mothers & children. You are expected to vaccinate all children and pregnant

women according to the National Immunization Schedule. Your responsibilities can be highlighted under the following headings

- a) Planning for Immunization
- b) Managing the Cold chain
- c) Preparing and conducting the immunization session
- d) Communicating with caregivers
- e) Recording, Reporting and tracking of dropouts
- f) Capacity building of ASHAs and AWWs to perform their roles in UIP
- g) Coordination with ICDS supervisor

The activities listed under each heading will guide you and help to ensure that all the activities are followed up. Some of the listed points such as in managing cold chain are listed to remind you of the importance of ensuring safety and quality while you are administering vaccines.

a) Planning for Immunization

Annually:

Actively participate in preparing and generating new RI microplans including house to house survey and head counting:

- Ensure that all areas are included into the list, confirm the master list of villages and HRAs;**Form 1**
- Prepare map of areas under SC with names of villages, urban areas including all hamlets (tola), subvillages, sub-wards, sector, mohalla, hard to reach areas, etc. showing exact boundaries and areas for ASHAs and AWWs;**Form 2**
- Ensure that migratory populations, temporary settlements are also listed and included in the map.
- Provide actual population and beneficiary counts through house to house survey and head counting;**Form 3, 4 & 5**
- Generate needed information for planning sessions, vaccine and logistic calculations.**Forms 6 & 7**

Half yearly:

Conduct only the house-to-house survey and head counting. This activity in coordination with ICDS and partners will help to:

- Identify any new sites for inclusion / mobilization and
- Update the beneficiary due lists for effective mobilization.

Quarterly:

Participate in RI microplan review to help:

- Update the plans to incorporate information on sub centres where staff is on leave or if it has become vacant and

- Respond to changes in vaccine delivery and inclusion of new areas - nomads / HRAs and other issues based on monitoring results.

Monthly:

At Sub centre: with ASHA/AWW

- Review due lists of all the sessions held in the previous month;
- Update coverage monitoring chart to quantify leftouts and dropouts;
- Share the salient points with the sector medical officer, so that MO can make plans to visit sub centre during this activity.

Weekly:

After every RI session take help of ASHA/AWW to:

- Review the session due list and
- Identify dropout / left-out beneficiaries and enter their names into the next session's due list for follow-up and mobilization.
- Guide ASHA/mobilizer to identify, newborns/pregnant women for inclusion in next due list.
- Guide ASHA/mobilizer to visit these houses during other field visits and remind beneficiaries of immunization.

b) Managing the Cold chain

As vaccine and cold chain handler at the cold chain point, you are responsible for:

- Daily maintenance and cleanliness of cold chain equipment;
- Twice daily temperature recording;
- Monthly vaccine and logistics indenting, receipt and storage;
- Timely issue of vaccine to the lower store/sessions as per microplan;
- Timely update of stock and issue registers for vaccines and logistics;
- Breakdown reporting immediately;
- Monthly vaccine utilization including wastage reporting.

On receiving the vaccine carrier and logistics or at the immunization session site, you must:

- Ensure that vaccines are brought in a vaccine carrier with 4 well-sealed conditioned ice packs;
- Ensure vaccine carriers are kept in shade and are not opened frequently;
- Check the labels for expiry date and VVM of the vaccine vials before use;
- Check that T-Series and HepB vaccines are not frozen;
- Follow the guidelines for use of open vaccine vials.
- Check that required diluents are placed in separate bag and in cold chain
- Required number of syringes are available
- AEFI kit contains all needed items as per checklist

c) Preparing and conducting the immunization session

- Prepare for the session by selecting appropriate site; arranging for required equipment and supplies; preparing due list of beneficiaries and sharing with AWW

and ASHA to bring them for the session and arranging the vaccination session site.

- Involve community influences and leaders.
- Assess infants for vaccination and possible contraindications.
- Use aseptic technique to prepare and reconstitute vaccines.
- After reconstitution, write the date and time of reconstitution on the label of vaccine vial.
- Use Auto Disable Syringe for each injection
- Facilitate correct positioning to keep the child still and the caregiver and vaccinator comfortable.
- Administer the vaccines by using correct technique.
- After the session, store opened vials based on open vial policy guidelines.
- Ensure separate packing of used vials with Session site name and date.
- Pack the vaccine carrier and return vaccines to the ILR.
- Follow immunization waste disposal as per guidelines.

d) Communicating with caregivers

At the start

- Greet the caregiver in a friendly manner. Thank them for coming for vaccination and for their patience if they had to wait.
- Ask the caregiver if they have any questions or concerns and answer them politely.

During assessment

- Explain what vaccine(s) will be given and the disease it prevents.
- Mention possible adverse events (minor AEFIs) and explain how to handle them.
- Explain the need for the child to return for each contact in the immunization schedule to be fully protected. Write the date for the next vaccination on the immunization card and tell the caregiver.
- Remind the caregiver to bring the immunization card when they bring the child back for the next vaccination.
- Explain the importance of waiting for 30 minutes after vaccination.

After vaccination

- Ask the beneficiaries to wait for half an hour after vaccination to observe for any AEFI.
- Explain how to manage mild fever and local reactions and to contact ASHA/AWW if needed.
- Remind the caregiver when to return with the infant.
- In the event of any out-of-stocks of vaccine at the time of the session, inform the caregiver where and when to return for the next doses.

- Ask the caregiver if they have any questions or concerns and answer them politely.

e) Recording, Reporting and tracking of dropouts

- Record all vaccinations in a due list cum tally sheet, immunization card and immunization register.
- Mark the date of vaccination and the next due date on the card if another dose is needed, and ensure that the caregiver understands when and where to return for the next dose(s) of vaccine(s).
- Keep the updated counter foil of the immunization card in tracking bag.
- Share the list of dropouts with AWW and ASHA and ensure they track them.
- Maintain immunization coverage monitoring chart at the sub center.
- Report all suspected cases of TB, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Neonatal Tetanus, Measles, AES and AFP to the medical officer.
- Report all AEFIs. Ensure recording of all AEFIs in the Block AEFI register.

f) Capacity building of ASHAs and AWWs to perform their roles in UIP

For Immunization planning train them to:

- Describe the national immunization schedule and address FAQs.
- Conduct the house-to-house survey to undertake head count and generate beneficiary list.
- Contribute to finalizing master list of villages/areas, including HRAs and underserved population.
- Confirm area demarcation between ASHA, AWW /LW/ surveyor.
- Help to create working maps for each area.
- Help in preparing the beneficiary due list.
- Help in planning and selection of the site, day and time of the session in the village.
- Share the list of newborns in the area with the ANM every month.
- Suggest community mobilization activities for each session site and sub centre area.
- Visit households to inform the due beneficiaries for vaccination day and site.
- Report all suspected VPDs to the ANM.

For managing immunization session train them to:

- Assist in setting up RI session site.
- Ensure that all beneficiaries are brought to the session site as per due beneficiary list.
- Assist in conducting the immunization session. (Control the crowd, assist in recording etc.).
- Remind caregivers of the 4 key messages about immunization.
- Ensure beneficiaries wait for 30 minutes at the session site after immunization.

- Help with preparing the due list for next session.

For post immunization follow-up, train them to:

- Report any AEFI i.e. a case of High fever, any allergic reaction or convulsions after immunization to the ANM and ensure the treatment.
- Visit the houses of dropouts and leftouts to counsel the mothers to immunize their children.
- To contact you for any advise or questions.

g) Coordination with ICDS supervisor

Use the followingsources of information in planning immunization:

- List and map of villages including hamlets /urban areas /wards.
- 0-6 years registers, eligible couple register, etc for total and beneficiary population.
- VHND microplans.
- AWW/Helper list.
- Panchayath records or lists

Involve the ICDS supervisors to:

- Visit field to monitor the house-to-house survey conducted by AWWs.
- Supervise the filling of forms 3,4 and 5.
- Support in review of all survey forms and consolidation of sub centre microplans during meeting at SC.
- Be aware of Health and ICDS sector boundaries for joint planning, implementation and monitoring of immunization activities.
- Contribute in development of communication plan.
- Ensure that the AWWs are regularly trained in immunization/mobilization.

1.4 Reasons for low immunization coverage

Low immunization coverage puts the entire community and area at risk of disease. This low coverage can be because of drop-outs or left-outs.

Drop-outs – those beneficiaries who have been identified and have been receiving vaccines but do not complete the vaccinations as per the schedule.

Left-outs – those beneficiaries who have not been identified and are not receiving any vaccination.

There are many factors that influence the immunization coverage. Listed in Table 1.2 are some of the issues identified by the health service providers across many states.

Table 1.2. Common issues affecting the immunization coverage

Immunization services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• vacant SCs (some areas remain without immunization services)• weak tracking of children (large number of dropout and leftout children)• fixed timing of sessions (not suitable for the some communities)• stock out of vaccines, diluents, AD syringes, hubcutters, immunization cards etc.
Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• vacancies of ANMs and doctors• irrational distribution of ANMs
Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• lack of supervision and guidance by MOs• absence of regular training and refresher training• poor availability of trainers and quality of training
Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• weak or absent RI microplans, absence of validation of areas• lack of involvement of MOs in RI microplanning• lack of involvement of other departments like Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and urban bodies• difficulties in urban areas planning
Community involvement and communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• poor understanding and misconceptions about immunization in the community (weak interpersonal communication skills or lack of efforts to meet the community members)• four key messages not delivered (fear of AEFIs not addressed)IEC material not displayed at session site
Funds release	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• delay in disbursal of funds for project implementation plan (PIP)• delay in incentive payments• delay in alternate vaccine delivery (AVD) payments

In addition to the above, geographical and social factors also play an important role

Unit 2: Diseases prevented by vaccination

Learning Objectives

At the end of the unit, you should be able to:

- List diseases that are preventable by immunization under the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP).
- Describe their mode of spread and how they can be recognized and prevented.

Contents

- Diseases prevented by Immunization under UIP Programme.
- Their mode of spread and how they can be recognized and prevented.

The following are the targeted vaccine preventable diseases under Universal Immunization Program:

1. Tuberculosis
2. Hepatitis B
3. Polio
4. Diphtheria
5. Pertussis
6. Tetanus
7. HaemophilusInfluenzae Type B related diseases(bacterial meningitis, pneumonia and others)
8. Diarrhoeas due to rotavirus
9. Pneumococcal disease
10. Measles
11. Rubella
12. Japanese Encephalitis

2.1 Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis (TB) is caused by the bacterium(*Mycobacterium tuberculosis*). It usually attacks the lungs but can also affect other parts of the body including the bones,joints and brain. TB can cause serious illness and death.

a) How to recognize the disease?

- A child with fever and / or cough for more than 2 weeks, with loss of weight / no weight gain; AND
- History of contact with a suspected or diagnosed case of active TB disease within the last 2 years.

b) How is it spread?

TB is spread from one person to another through the air, often when an infected person coughs or sneezes. TB spreads rapidly, especially in areas where people are living in crowded conditions, have poor access to health care and/or are malnourished. A person can contract bovine tuberculosis, another variety of TB by consuming raw milk from infected cattle.

c) How is the disease prevented?

Vaccination with Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG) as per the schedule will prevent serious forms of childhood tuberculosis.

2.2 Hepatitis B

Hepatitis B is caused by a virus that affects the liver. Infants who get infected during birth or before one year of age, 90% develop chronic disease. It is a highly infectious disease (50-100 times more infectious than HIV) and is the leading cause of jaundice, cirrhosis or liver cancer.

a) How to recognize the disease?

An acute illness typically including acute jaundice, dark urine, anorexia, malaise, extreme fatigue and right upper quadrant tenderness.

b) How is it spread?

The disease spreads through contact with infected blood or other body fluids in various situations:

- a) from mother to child during birth;
- b) during social interaction between children with cuts, scrapes, bites and/or scratches;
- c) from person to person during sexual intercourse; and d) through unsafe injections and/or transfusions, or needle stick accidents with infected blood.

c) How is the disease prevented?

By vaccinating children with HepB vaccine as per the Immunization schedule (contained in Pentavalent vaccine), we can prevent infection and its complications.

2.3 Poliomyelitis

Poliomyelitis, or polio, is a highly infectious disease caused by poliovirus types 1, 2 or 3. It mainly affects children of less than five years of age. One in 200 infections causes irreversible paralysis when the virus attacks the spinal cord nerve cells that control the muscles.

India continues to be polio free since 2011. It is important that all polio vaccinations and immunization campaigns continue until the world is polio free.

a) How to recognize the disease?

Sudden onset of weakness and floppiness in any part of the body in a child less than 15 yrs of age or paralysis in a person of any age in whom polio is suspected.

b) How is it spread?

Polio is transmitted by the faecal-to-oral route. In areas with poor sanitation, it enters the body through the mouth when people eat food or drink water that is contaminated with faeces.

c) How is the disease prevented?

Vaccination with the oral polio vaccine (OPV) and inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) administered as per the immunization schedule will effectively prevent infection.

c) Why AFP should still be reported?

As the world is not yet polio free, it is important that all AFP cases be reported even though India is polio free. Surveillance for polio must continue to ensure that we will be able to detect cases if they occur.

2.4 Diphtheria

Diphtheria is caused by the bacterium (*Corynebacterium diphtheriae*). Diphtheria is an infectious disease that commonly affects the throat and the tonsils, forming a membrane that can lead to obstructed breathing and death.

a) How to recognize the disease?

An illness of the upper respiratory tract characterized by the following: laryngitis or pharyngitis or tonsillitis, **AND** adherent membranes of tonsils, pharynx and/or nose.

b) How is it spread?

The bacteria causing diphtheria inhabit the mouth, nose and throat of an infected person. It spreads from person to person by coughing and sneezing.

c) How is the disease prevented?

Giving DPT (contained in Pentavalent vaccine) and DPT boosters as per the immunization schedule is the most effective method of prevention.

2.5 Pertussis (whooping cough)

Pertussis or whooping cough, is a disease of the respiratory tract caused by *Bordetella pertussis* bacteria that live in mouth, nose and throat. It is highly communicable disease characterized by repeated cough that may lead to pneumonia and other complications leading to death especially in infants and young children.

a) How to recognize the disease?

A person with a cough lasting at least two weeks with at least one of the following: a) paroxysms (i.e. fits) of coughing; b) inspiratory whooping; c) post-tussive vomiting (i.e. vomiting immediately after coughing); d) without other apparent causes.

b) How is it spread?

Pertussis spreads very easily from person to person in droplets produced by coughing or sneezing.

c) How is the disease prevented?

Giving DPT (contained in Pentavalent vaccine) and DPT boosters as per the immunization schedule will prevent pertussis.

2.6 Tetanus

Tetanus is caused by the bacterium *Clostridium tetani*, which is present in soil everywhere. Infection with this bacterium occurs when soil enters a wound or cut. A toxin released by the bacterium causes severe, painful muscle spasms that can lead to death. Neonatal tetanus (in newborns) and maternal tetanus (in mothers) is a serious problem in areas where home deliveries conducted without sterile procedures are common.

a) How to recognize the disease?

Neonatal Tetanus: Any neonate with a normal ability to suck and cry during the first 2 days of life, and who thereafter cannot suck normally between 3 and 28 days of age and becomes stiff or has convulsions/spasms (jerking of the muscles), or both.

b) How is it spread?

Tetanus is not transmitted from person to person. In people of all ages, the bacterium can enter a wound or cut from items such as dirty nails, knives, tools, wood splinters, dirty tools used during childbirth, or deep puncture wounds from animal bites.

In newborn babies, infection can occur when delivery occurs on dirty mats or floors, a dirty tool is used to cut the umbilical cord, dirty material is used to dress the cord or when the hands of the person delivering the baby are not clean.

c) How is the disease prevented?

Immunizing pregnant women and children with TT/DPT (contained in Pentavalent vaccine /DPT boosters as per the immunization schedule) is an effective method of preventing both neonatal as well as tetanus in other age groups.

2.7 Haemophilus influenzae type b disease

Haemophilus influenzae is a bacterium found commonly in the nose and throat of children. There are six types of *Haemophilus influenzae*. Out of these six types, *Haemophilus influenzae* type b, or Hib, causes 90% of all serious *Haemophilus influenzae* infections. Hib can lead to severe pneumonia and meningitis in children aged less than 5 years.

a) How to recognize the disease?

Clinical signs and symptoms of pneumonia include fever, chills, cough, rapid breathing and chest wall retractions. Children with meningitis can have fever, headache, sensitivity to light, neck stiffness and sometimes confusion or altered consciousness.

b) How is it spread?

The disease spreads from person to person in droplets released when sneezing and coughing. Healthy children carrying the virus in their noses and throats can also infect others.

c) How is the disease prevented?

By vaccinating children with Hib vaccine as per the Immunization schedule (contained in Pentavalent vaccine), we can prevent infection and its complications

2.8 Rotavirus gastroenteritis

Rotavirus gastroenteritis is a highly infectious diarrhoeal disease caused by rotavirus infecting the small intestines. It causes severe diarrhoea in infants and young children. Infants between three and 12 months of age may die due to severe dehydration.

a) How to recognize the disease?

Clinical symptoms and signs range from mild loose stools to severe watery diarrhoea and vomiting leading to dehydration.

b) How is it spread?

The disease spreads by the faecal-to-oral route. It is stable in the environment and can spread via contaminated food, water and objects.

c) How is the disease prevented?

By vaccinating children with rotavirus vaccine as per the Immunization schedule, we can prevent infection and its complications.

Remember to give ORS during any diarrhoea.

2.9 Pneumococcal disease

a) What is pneumococcal disease?

Pneumococcal disease is a group of diseases caused by a bacterium *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (also known as pneumococcus). The most serious of these diseases are pneumonia, meningitis, and blood stream infections. *Streptococcus pneumoniae* is the leading cause of bacterial pneumonia in children under 5 years of age.

b) What diseases does pneumococcus cause?

Diseases that are often caused by pneumococci include:

- Pneumonia,
- Bacteraemia, sepsis: bloodstream infection,
- Bacterial meningitis: infection of the membranes and fluid that covers and protects the spinal cord and brain
- Middle ear infection (otitis media)
- Sinusitis, Bronchitis

c) How is pneumococcal disease spread?

Pneumococcus spreads from person to person (coughing, sneezing or close contact). Many people have pneumococcus in their nasopharynx for days or weeks at a time. In most cases the pneumococcus disappears from the nasopharynx without causing any symptoms, but sometimes disease develops.

d) Who is at increased risk of pneumococcal disease?

Young children and elderly individuals are most at risk.

- The children most at risk of pneumococcal disease are:
 - Children under 5 years of age, especially those under 2 years of age
 - Immunocompromised children
 - Those with influenza or other respiratory virus infections can get a second infection with pneumococcus.
 - Malnutrition, lack of breastfeeding, exposure to indoor smoke and crowded living conditions.
 - Poor and marginalized populations with poor access to health care.

e) How is the disease prevented?

These diseases can be prevented by administering PCV in three doses - 2 primary doses and at 6 & 14 weeks and 1 booster dose at 9 months of age along with MR first dose.

2.9 Measles/Rubella

Measles is a highly infectious disease caused by a virus. It is an important cause of death among children who are poorly nourished and live in crowded conditions. Complications include dehydration due to severe diarrhoea, malnutrition, inflammation of middle ear, pneumonia, blindness and encephalitis (brain infection). Rubella is generally a mild disease in children but when infection occurs in early pregnancy, it has the potential to cause spontaneous abortions, fetal deaths, still

births and serious congenital defects (congenital rubella syndrome – CRS) in the child causing lifelong disabilities.

a) How to recognize the disease?

Any person with fever and maculopapular rash, i.e. non-vesicular **AND** cough, coryza (runny nose), or conjunctivitis (red eyes)

b) How is it spread?

The virus is spread through nose and throat secretions of infected people and in airborne droplets released when an infected person sneezes or coughs.

c) How is the disease prevented?

The measles containing vaccine (MR) is effective in preventing measles and should be given according to the immunization schedule.

2.10 Japanese Encephalitis

Japanese encephalitis (JE) is an infection of the brain caused by a virus. It is prevalent in certain geographical areas in some of the states. JE is fatal in 20-30% of cases, with young children (less than 10 years) having a greater risk of severe disease and death.

a) How to recognize the disease?

A person of any age, at any time of the year with acute onset of fever and change in mental status (including symptoms as confusion, disorientation, coma or inability to talk) **AND/OR** New onset of seizures (excluding simple febrile seizures)

b) How is it spread?

JE virus is spread by mosquitoes. The virus normally infects birds and domestic animals, especially pigs, which serve as its reservoirs. Humans may contract the disease when a mosquito that has bitten an infected animal then bites a person.

c) How is the disease prevented?

Following the campaigns targeting all children in the age group of 1-15 years in the high risk districts, the vaccine is integrated into the UIP of the district. Children between 9 months -2 years are targeted for two doses of JE.

Unit 3: National Immunization Schedule and Frequently Asked Questions

Learning Objectives

At the end of the unit, you should be able to:

- List vaccines administered in the National Immunization Programme, the due ages for vaccination, the number of doses along with the site and route of administration.
- Answer the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the Immunization schedule

Contents

- National Immunization Schedule (NIS)
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the Immunization schedule

The goal of Universal Immunization Programme is to administer vaccines safely to :

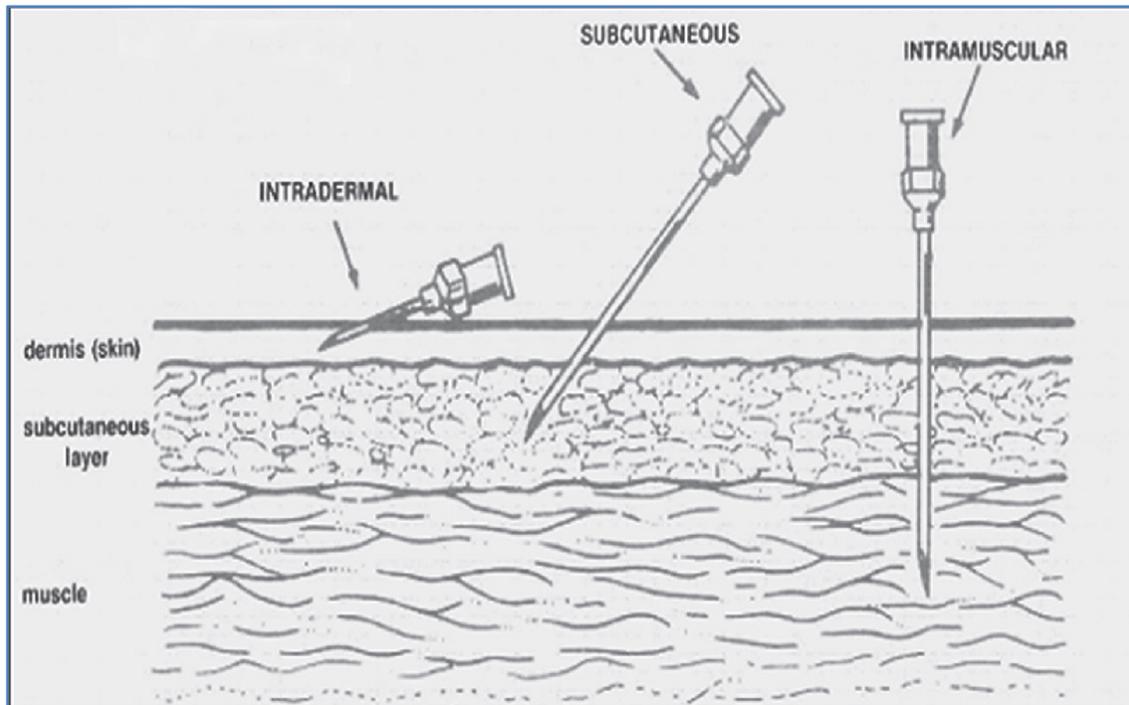
Pregnant women

- **As early as possible** - appropriate TT doses

Infants & children

- **At birth** - HepB, BCG, OPV
- **Before age 1 year - for Full Immunization**
 - 3 doses of OPV, 3 doses of Rotavirus (where applicable), 3 doses of Pentavalent, 2 doses of fractional IPV, 3 doses of PCV (where applicable), MR vaccine -1st dose , JE 1st dose (where applicable)
- **Before age 2 years - for Complete Immunization**
 - MR vaccine - 2nd dose, DPT booster, Polio booster and JE 2nd dose (where applicable)

Fig 3.1 Different needle positions for vaccine administration



3.1 National Immunization Schedule

Table 3.1. National Immunization Schedule for infants, children and pregnant women

Vaccine	Due age	Max age	Dose	Diluent	Route	Site
For Pregnant Women						
TT-1	Early in pregnancy	Give as early as possible in pregnancy	0.5 ml	NO	Intra-muscular	Upper Arm
TT-2*	4 weeks after TT-1*		0.5 ml	NO	Intra-muscular	Upper Arm
TT- Booster	If received 2 TT doses in a pregnancy within the last 3 years*		0.5 ml	NO	Intra-muscular	Upper Arm

Vaccine	Due age	Max age	Dose	Diluent	Route	Site
For Infants						
BCG	At birth	till one year of age	(0.05 ml until 1 month) 0.1ml Beyond age 1 month	YES Manufacturer supplied diluent (Sodium chloride)	Intra-dermal	Upper Arm - LEFT
Hepatitis B - Birth dose	At birth	within 24 hours	0.5 ml	NO	Intra-muscular	Antero-lateral side of mid-thigh - LEFT
OPV-0	At birth	within the first 15 days	2 drops	-	Oral	Oral
OPV 1, 2 & 3	At 6 weeks, 10 weeks & 14 weeks	till 5 years of age	2 drops	-	Oral	Oral
Pentavalent 1, 2 & 3** (Diphtheria+ Pertussis + Tetanus + Hepatitis B + Hib)	At 6 weeks, 10 weeks & 14 weeks**	1 year of age	0.5 ml	NO	Intra-muscular	Antero-lateral side of mid-thigh - LEFT
Fractional IPV (Inactivated Polio Vaccine)	At 6 & 14 weeks	1 year of age	0.1 ml	NO	Intra-dermal	Upper Arm - RIGHT
Rotavirus† (Where applicable)	At 6 weeks, 10 weeks & 14 weeks	1 year of age	5 drops	NO	Oral	Oral
Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) (Where applicable)	At 6 weeks & 14 weeks At 9 completed months - booster	1 year of age	0.5 ml	NO	Intra-muscular	Antero-lateral side of mid-thigh - RIGHT
Measles / Rubella 1st dose ##	At 9 completed months-12 months.	5 years of age	0.5 ml	YES Manufacturer supplied diluent (Sterile water)	Sub-cutaneous	Upper Arm - RIGHT
Japanese Encephalitis – 1 @ (Where applicable)	At 9 months-12 months@	15 years of age	0.5 ml	YES - Manufacturer supplied diluent (Phosphate Buffer Solution)	Sub-cutaneous	Upper Arm - LEFT
Vitamin A (1st dose)	At 9 months	5 years of age (1 lakh IU)	1 ml	-	Oral	Oral

* Give TT-2 or Booster doses before 36 weeks of pregnancy. However, give these even if more than 36 weeks have passed. Give TT to a woman in labour, if she has not previously received TT.

** Pentavalent vaccine is introduced in place of DPT and HepB 1, 2 and 3.

† Rotavirus vaccine is being introduced in phases.

MR vaccine introduced in phases replacing measles vaccine in the UIP schedule. **If first dose delayed beyond 12 months ensure minimum 1 month gap between 2 MR doses.**

@ JE Vaccine has been introduced in select endemic districts. **If first dose delayed beyond 12 months ensure minimum 3 months gap between 2 JE doses.**

\$ The 2nd to 9th doses of Vitamin A can be administered to children 1-5 years old during biannual rounds, in collaboration with ICDS.

-Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Vaccine – presently not in schedule.

-Td - Tetanus diphtheria to replace TT - to be added in schedule

3.2 Frequently Asked Questions on the Immunization schedule

a) General queries

Why are vaccines administered at specific sites on the body?

Vaccines are administered at specific sites on the body to maintain uniformity and for helping you or anyone in checking that the vaccine was given. e.g BCG on left upper arm.

Why should there be a minimum gap of 4 weeks between two doses of most vaccines?

There should be a minimum of 4 weeks gap between two doses because decreasing the interval between doses may not achieve the needed antibody production to give protection.

How long can a bottle of Vitamin A be used, once opened?

A Vitamin A bottle, once opened, should be used within 8 weeks. Write the date of opening on the bottle. It must be kept away from direct sunlight.

What is the dose of Zinc to be used along with ORS in the treatment of diarrhoea?

The dose of zinc for infants aged 2–6 months is 10 mg of dispersible tablet in expressed breast milk for 14 days. For children 6 months to 5 years of age, it is 20 mg of dispersible tablet for 14 days.

b) Vaccine schedule related queries

If a child is brought late for a subsequent dose, should one re-start with the first dose of a vaccine?

No, do not restart the schedule again; pick up where the schedule was left off. For example, If a child who has received BCG, penta1 and OPV1 at 5 months of age returns at 11 months of age, then vaccinate the child with penta 2, OPV2, measles, Rotavirus vaccine (where applicable) and JE (where applicable).

If a child who has never been vaccinated is brought in at 9 completed months but before 12 completed months of age, then, can all the due vaccines be given to a child on the same day?

Yes, all the due vaccines can be given during the same session but **at recommended injection sites**, using separate AD syringes. It is safe and effective to give BCG, penta, OPV, IPV, MR, RVV (where applicable), PCV (where applicable) JE (where applicable) vaccines and Vitamin A at the same time to a 9-month-old child who has never been vaccinated. **If more than one injection has to be given in one limb then ensure that the distance between the two injection sites is at least 1 inch apart.**

If a child who has never been vaccinated is brought in immediately after completing 12 months of age, (beyond one year) what vaccines would you give?

As per the national immunization schedule this child need not be given – BCG, Hepatitis B, Rotavirus, Penta and IPV. This child should be administered DPT 1, OPV 1, Measles 1, JE 1(if applicable) and also Vitamin A solution. The subsequent doses of DPT and OPV should be given at an interval of 4 weeks. Administer Measles 2, JE 2 (If applicable), Vitamin A and a booster dose of DPT at recommended age as per national immunization schedule.

Which vaccines can be given to a child between 1 and 5 years of age who has never been vaccinated?

Such a child will not receive BCG, Hepatitis B, Rotavirus, Penta and IPV.

Give DPT1, OPV1, measles 1, JE 1 (where applicable) and 2ml of Vitamin A solution.

Then follow with the second and third doses of DPT and OPV at 1-month intervals. Give

Measles 2 as per the schedule /1 month later*. Give booster dose of OPV/DPT at a minimum of 6 months after administering OPV 3/DPT 3. Also give Vit A at 6 months interval till 5 years of age.

*Note: In an unvaccinated child more than 16 months of age remember the interval between Measles 1 and Measles 2 is 4 weeks and for JE 1 and JE 2 (where applicable) the interval is 3 months.

Which vaccines can be given to a child between 5 and 7 years of age who has never been vaccinated?

Give of DPT 1, 2 and 3 at 1-month intervals. Give booster dose of DPT at a minimum of 6 months after administering DPT 3 up to the age of 7 years.

Why are the DPT, HepB (birth dose), IPV and pentavalent vaccines given in the anterolateral mid-thigh and not the gluteal region (buttocks)?

This is done to prevent damage to the sciatic nerve. Moreover, vaccine deposited in the fat of the gluteal region does not bring about the appropriate immune response to protect the child.

c) BCG

Why is BCG given only up to 1 year of age?

Most children acquire natural clinical/sub-clinical tuberculosis infection by the age of 1 year. This protects against severe forms of childhood tuberculosis, e.g. TB meningitis and miliary disease.

If no scar appears after administering BCG, should one re-vaccinate the child?

There is no need to re-vaccinate the child even if there is no scar.

Why do we give 0.05 ml dose of BCG to new borns (below 1 month of age)?

This is because the skin of newborns is thin and an intra-dermal injection of 0.1 ml may break the skin or penetrate into the deeper tissue and cause local abscess and enlarged axillary lymph nodes. Dose of 0.05 ml is sufficient to elicit adequate protection.

d) Hepatitis B

What is the “birth dose” of hepatitis B?

This refers to the dose given within 24 hours of birth. A child vaccinated with Hep B after more than 24 hours of birth is not considered to have received the birth dose.

Why is the birth dose of hepatitis B vaccine given only within 24 hours of birth?

The birth dose of hepatitis B vaccine is effective in preventing peri-natal transmission of hepatitis B only if given within the first 24 hours.

Why is hepatitis B vaccine given only till 1 year of age in the UIP schedule?

Hepatitis B vaccine is given till 1 year of age because infections during first year of age have a 90% chance of becoming chronic as compared to 30% during 1–5 years and 6% after 5 years. Persons with chronic infection have 15–25% risk of dying prematurely due to HBV related liver cirrhosis and cancer.

Adult Hep B vaccination is not part of the UIP.

e) Pentavalent vaccine

What is pentavalent vaccine?

Pentavalent vaccine is a vaccine that contains five antigens (diphtheria + pertussis + tetanus+ hepatitis B + Haemophilus influenzae type b).

How is pentavalent vaccine more advantageous?

- The addition of Hib vaccine provides protection against Haemophilus influenzae type b related diseases (bacterial meningitis, pneumonia and others)
- The number of injections administered under UIP during the first year of life reduces from ten to seven (not including IPV).
- It does not require reconstitution.

What vaccine will be given to a child who has received at least one dose of pentavalent vaccine before his/her first birthday?

If a child has received at least one dose of pentavalent vaccine before his/her first birthday, the child should be administered the due pentavalent doses at a minimum interval of 4 weeks, at the earliest available opportunity.

After introduction of pentavalent vaccine, will DPT and Hep B be required?

Yes, Hep B birth dose (within 24 hours) for institutional deliveries and DPT boosters at 16–24 months and 5–7 years will continue as before introduction.

f) Rotavirus vaccine – Introduced in Feb 2016 – roll out in phases

How effective is the Rotavirus vaccine?

The available Rotavirus Vaccines are observed to be effective in preventing severe rotavirus diarrhea by 54-60%. The protective effect of Rotavirus vaccine lasts through 2nd year of life.

Will vaccination with Rotavirus vaccine prevent all diarrheas?

No it does not prevent all diarrheas. Diarrhea is caused by many organisms of which Rotavirus is one of the leading causes for diarrhea in children. Rotavirus vaccine is effective in preventing diarrhea due to Rotavirus only. So the child may still get diarrhea due to other germs and causes even after receiving Rotavirus vaccine.

What is the maximum age limit for giving the first dose of Rotavirus vaccine?

The upper age limit for the first dose of Rotavirus vaccine is one year of age. If a child has received only the first dose of Rotavirus vaccine by 12 months of age, two more doses of the vaccine should be given at an interval of 4 weeks between the two doses to complete the course.

Is a booster dose required for Rotavirus vaccine?

No booster dose of Rotavirus vaccine is recommended. Only three doses at 6, 10 and 14 weeks are required to complete the schedule of vaccination for a child.

Should Rotavirus vaccine be given to children who have already received first dose of OPV and Pentavalent vaccine?

No, during the initial period of Rotavirus vaccine introduction, only the infants coming for the first dose of OPV and pentavalent vaccine will be administered Rotavirus vaccine. These children will be given 2nd and 3rd doses in subsequent visits as per the schedule. Infants, who are coming for their second or third dose of OPV and pentavalent vaccine, will complete the schedule with OPV and pentavalent vaccine only. Rotavirus vaccine is not to be started with second or third dose of OPV and Pentavalent vaccine.

What should be done if a child has received one or two doses of Rotavirus vaccine in a private facility?

If the parents want to vaccinate their child from the public sector after receiving one or two doses of Rotavirus vaccine in a private facility, a new course of Rotavirus vaccine must be started with all three doses at one month intervals provided the child is less than one year old.

g) Inactivated Poliovirus vaccine

What is IPV?

IPV refers to Inactivated Polio Vaccine administered by injection. Evidence suggests that this vaccine, when used along with OPV, increases the protection to the individual as well as the community. IPV together with OPV prevents re-emergence and reinfection of wild poliovirus (WPV).

Will IPV (injection) replace OPV (drops)?

No, IPV (injection) will not replace OPV (polio drops), since IPV is recommended for administration in addition to OPV.

Is it safe to give IPV and OPV together?

Yes, it is absolutely safe to give IPV and OPV together. It is also important – and best – for a child to receive both IPV and OPV. Together, these two vaccines provide safe and strong protection against polio. If a child only receives one of the vaccines it will not be as well protected as the child that has received both the vaccines. Primary doses of OPV (OPV1, OPV2 and OPV 3) should be completed as per schedule.

When is IPV to be administered?

IPV has to be administered as a two-dose fractional intradermal schedule at 6 & 14 weeks.

How should you vaccinate if a child has not received the vaccine at 6th week?

If missed, the Fractional IPV 1st dose should be given as early as possible after the 6th week. The 2nd dose must be given with 8 weeks interval.

h) Measles / Rubella

What are Measles / Rubella diseases?

Measles is a highly infectious disease causing illness and death due to complications in the form of diarrhea, pneumonia or brain infection mostly among the children less than five years of age. Rubella is a mild disease but when infection occurs in early pregnancy, it has the potential to cause spontaneous abortions, fetal deaths, still births and serious congenital defects in the child causing lifelong disabilities.

What is CRS?

CRS, (Congenital Rubella syndrome) is a set of serious congenital defects a child may be born with when a pregnant women gets Rubella infection in early pregnancy , causing blindness, deafness, heart defects, mental retardation, liver disorders and other hematological disorder, incompatible with normal living.

Why is Measles-Rubella vaccine given?

This Measles –Rubella vaccine is given for preventing both measles and rubella disease in the child, as these diseases can be only prevented by vaccination.

Does a child need to be vaccinated if she or he has history of any fever-rash illness including measles or rubella disease?

Yes, every child must be vaccinated with two doses, as per the national immunization schedule with MR vaccine at the recommended ages, irrespective of any past fever-rash illness or measles/rubella disease.

If a child has received the Measles Rubella vaccine before 9 months of age, is it necessary to repeat the vaccine later?

Yes, the Measles Rubella vaccine needs to be administered, according to the National Immunization Schedule, after the completion of 9 months until 12 months of age as 1st dose and at 16-24 months as 2nd dose in RI.

If a child comes after 2 years for the first dose, then can he/she get the second dose?

All efforts should be made to immunize all children at the right age i.e. first dose at completed 9 months to 12 months and second dose at 16-24 months. However if a child comes late (beyond 2 years), then two doses of the vaccine can be given at one month interval until 5 years of age under UIP.

If a child has received all vaccines as per the national immunization schedule, dose she or he need to be vaccinated during supplementary MR campaigns?

Yes, in addition to the recommended national immunization schedule the child (if eligible as per age group targeted) must be vaccinated with supplementary MR vaccines during campaigns.

As measles and JE vaccine doses are recommended for the same age group, can they be given together?

Yes, two live injectable vaccines can be administered simultaneously at different sites.

Remember – if two live injectable vaccines are not given together as per schedule there must be a minimum interval of 28 days.

i) Japanese Encephalitis

What if someone misses receiving JE vaccine during catch-up campaigns?

Those children aged 9 months to 15 years who have missed receiving JE vaccine during the catch-up campaigns can receive it at the nearest PHC/CHC or district hospital.

If a child more than 9 months but less than 24 months who has never received any JE vaccine comes for immunization, how should JE vaccine be administered?

The first dose should be given at first contact and the second dose should be given with an interval of 3 months following the first dose.

J) Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV)

What should be done if a PCV dose is delayed?

The two primary doses and one booster dose of PCV should be given during the first year of life.

If the doses are delayed within the first year,

Doses (both primary and booster) must be separated by a minimum interval of at least 2 months, to be given at the next scheduled immunization visit.

In delayed cases beyond 1 year of age,

due doses can be given to a child only if a child has received at least one dose of PCV before his/her first birthday.

For those with at least one previous PCV dose, the series should be completed at the earliest available opportunity.

Can only two PCV doses be given?

No, two PCV doses are not sufficient to confer long lasting immunity, especially for protecting against pneumococcal colonization which is essential for the full public health benefit.

The benefit of the PCV booster dose is not only in providing additional duration of immunity against pneumococcal disease, but it also serves to reduce carriage, thus having an indirect benefit for the other community members.

Can PCV be given to a sick child?

Yes, PCV can be safely administered to a child with immunodeficiency (e.g., HIV/AIDS, congenital or acquired immunodeficiency, sickle cell disease), malnutrition, or other underlying illnesses, using the same schedule as for any other child.

These children are in particular need of PCV because their risk of pneumococcal disease is high.

Children with mild acute illnesses can and should be immunized with PCV on time

Are there any contraindications for use of PCV?

The pneumococcal vaccine should not be given to the following persons:

- those who have had severe allergic reactions to a prior dose.
- those who are known to have had a severe reaction to another vaccine containing diphtheria toxoid.
- those who have a severe illness; vaccination should be delayed until the condition improves in part so as to not mistakenly attribute any clinical changes with the vaccination.

Unit 4: Micro-planning for immunization services

Learning Objectives

At the end of the unit, you should be able to:

- Describe the components and activities involved in developing RI microplans
- Describe the utility of formats in RI microplanning
- Prepare sub-centre/urban area micro-plans including maps

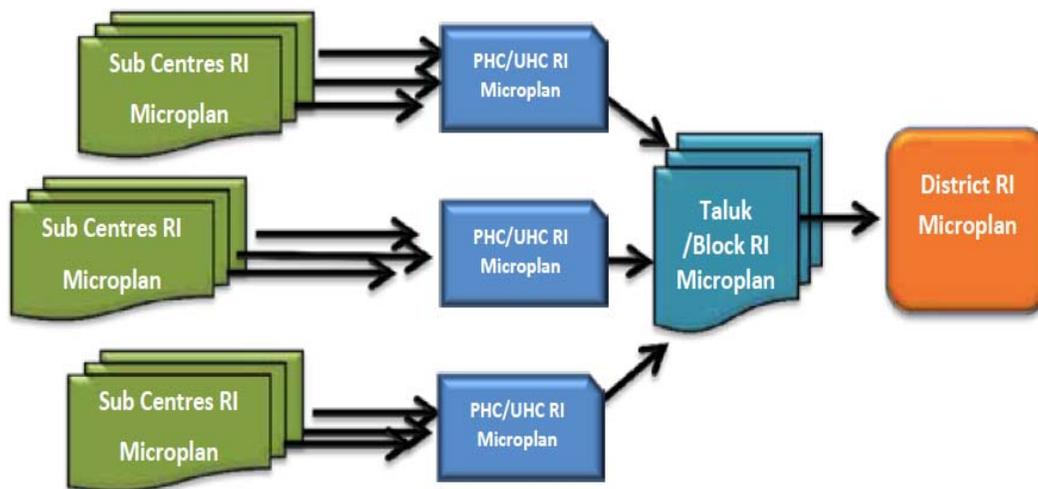
Contents

- Importance of RI microplanning
- Components of RI microplan at SC level
- RI microplanning tasks for ANMs with time-lines
- Process/steps of Microplanning
- Overview and utility of RI microplanning formats

4.1 RI microplanning – Importance

Microplanning ensures that the immunization services reach every community. It starts at the Sub Centre (SC) level. This is the most important component and forms the base for the planning and management of immunization services. Microplans from the subcentres are compiled to prepare the PHC microplan. Information from PHCs is consolidated at the district or may be at the taluk and then to the district level in some states. Fig 4.1 shows the RI microplanning from subcentre to district level.

Fig. 4.1. RI microplanning from subcentre to district level



As an ANM you are responsible to prepare the SC-microplan in coordination with ASHA and AWW, for a population of 5,000 in rural and 10,000 – 12,000 in urban areas.

4.2 Subcentre RI microplan

A microplan at the subcentre should have the following components:

- a) Map of area under SC with names of villages, urban areas including all hamlets (tola), subvillages, sub-wards, sector, mohalla, hard to reach areas, etc.
- b) Demarcation map – allocating areas for each ANM if more than 2 ANMs are present in a SC. It can also show the exact boundaries and areas for ASHAs and AWWs
- c) Master list of the area – this list includes all villages/tolas/HRAs/wards/mohalls
- d) An estimation of beneficiaries (who has to be vaccinated and with which antigen)
- e) An estimation of vaccines and logistics (for each planned session)
- f) ANM work plan including mobilization plan

HRAs and urban areas form an important component of the master list of the areas for preparing RI-Microplan.

High risk areas/populations

HRAs are special sites/areas, which may be one or more of the following types of areas:

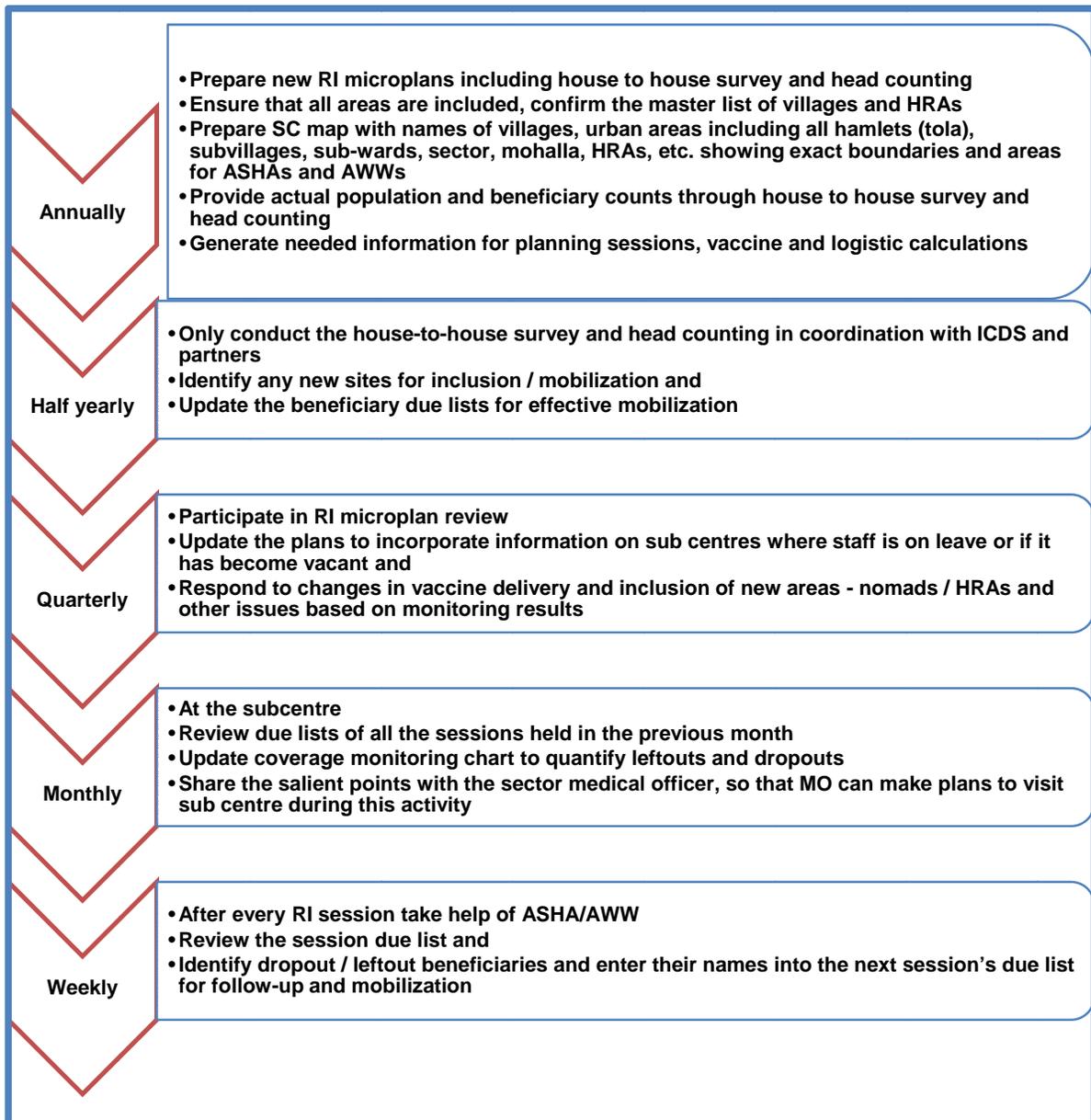
- Hard-to-reach areas
- Unserved or underserved areas/areas with shortage of health workers
- Urban areas, especially slums
- Migratory populations including temporary harvesters, brick kiln workers and construction labourers in large construction sites
- Security compromised areas.

Characteristics of urban areas – why they need special attention

Urban areas face a number of challenges and issues as follows:

- Large volume of transit / migrant population
- Expanding borders and peri-urban areas
- HRA with a higher number of construction and nomadic sites
- Manpower shortage
- Unrecognized slums

4.3 RI microplanning activities and timelines



4.4 Process/steps of Microplanning

For preparing a new RI microplan, you should plan the activity during March and conduct the house-to-house survey during April-May of every year (or as per timeline decided by State/district). The steps in the process of developing RI microplans are shown in Fig. 4.2 while Fig. 4.3 gives an overview of major activities in RI microplanning.

Fig. 4.2. Steps for developing RI microplans

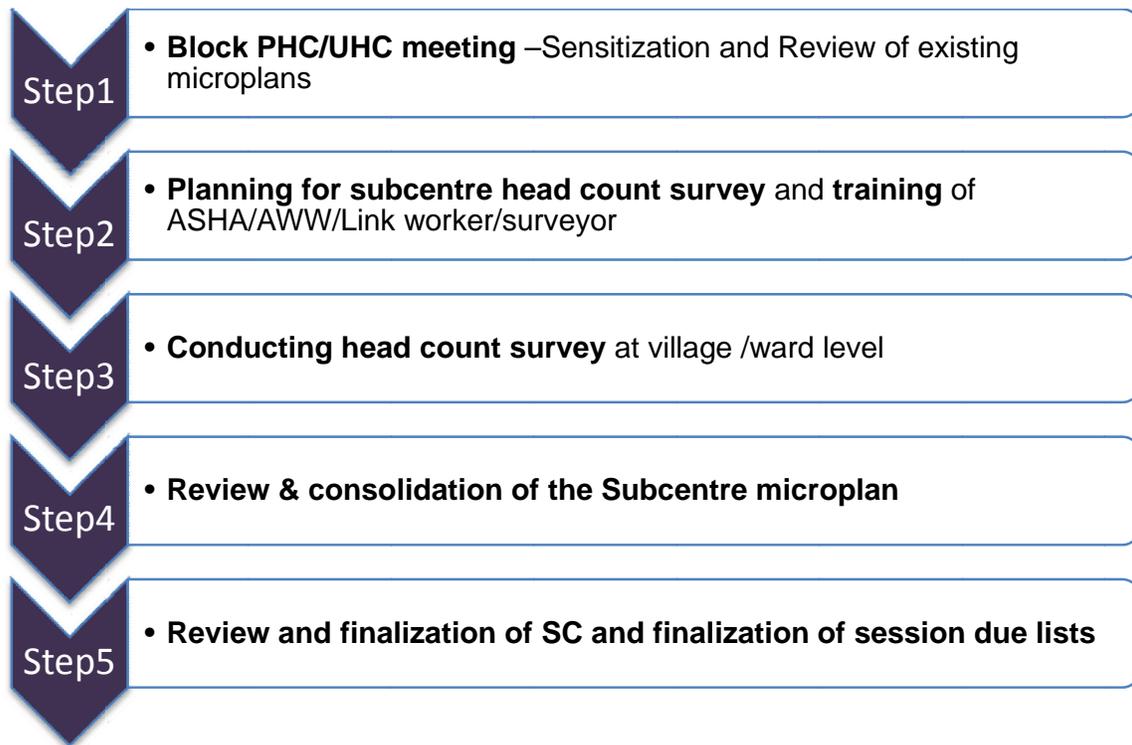
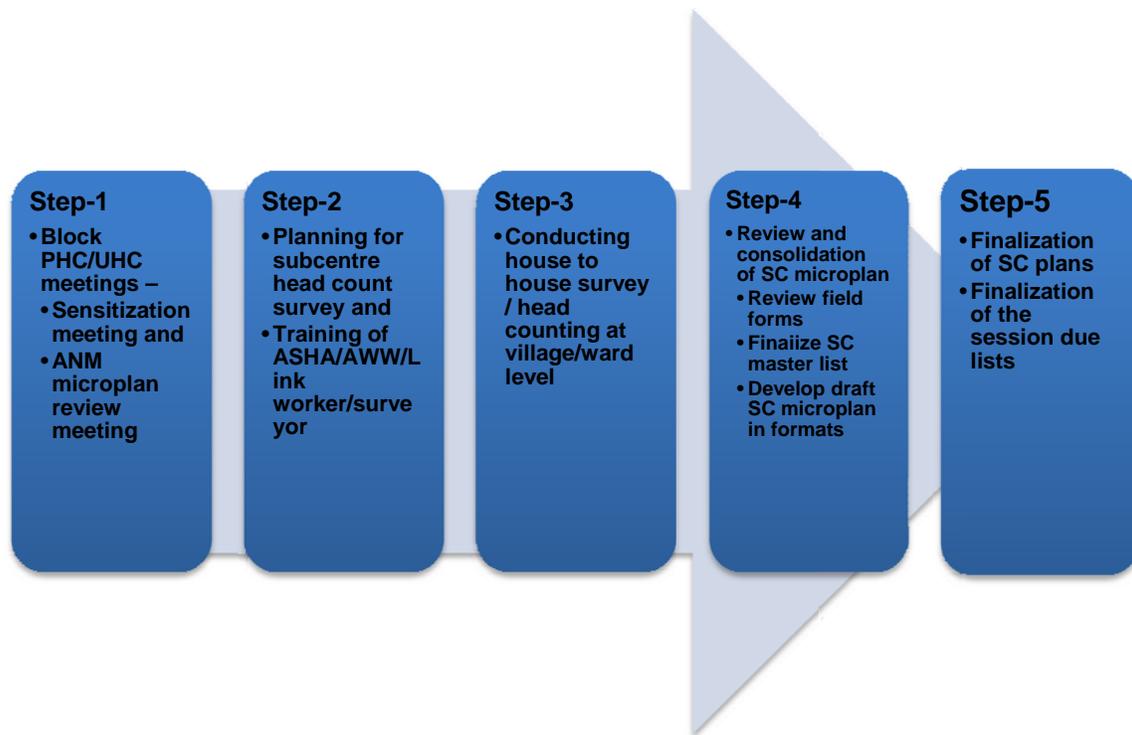


Fig. 4.3. Overview of major activities in RI microplanning





Step 1

- **Block PHC/UHC meeting** –Sensitization and Review of existing microplans

Step 1 of the process for developing/updating the RI microplans involves 2 meetings:

- a) A sensitization meeting of all ANMs and other staff
- b) ANM RI microplan review meeting

a) During the sensitization meeting with MO of PHC/UHC, you will be:

- Briefed on the process and your role in RI microplanning.
- Trained on the use of RI-Formats and conduction of head count / survey.
- Informed about dates and schedule for your next meeting with MO at PHC.

b) ANM RI microplan review meeting:

This meeting with MO PHC (small batches of 2 or 3 ANMs) will be conducted in to finalize the:

- Area demarcation for each subcentre and ANM area
- Master list of all areas for each sub centre in Form 1
- Plan for conducting house to house survey for each Sub centre
- Timeline for conducting the house to house survey / head counting

Prepare for the review meeting

- Work with your ASHAs and AWWs to generate the village list for your SC. Use the following sources of information for listing of areas and beneficiaries:
 - List & map of villages including hamlets /urban areas/wards (SC catchment area)
 - Total & beneficiary population (service records), migrants
 - Existing sub centre RI microplans, polio microplans, monitoring feedback, Mission Indradhanush microplans (where applicable), list of HRAs, VHND microplans
 - ASHA/ Mobilisers list
 - VPD data
 - Influencers, possible locations for session sites (if new or needed)
- Plan to address the following questions:
 - Are all areas identified and included in the SC plan?
 - Are there areas/villages with large population?
 - Border/peri-urban areas?
 - Where are the unreached populations?
 - Areas with highest number of unimmunized children
 - Areas with mobile/migrant populations
 - Areas with resistance
 - Where are the hard-to-reach populations?

- Low coverage areas
- Accessibility compromised areas
- Are there problems with access to immunization services?
 - Catchment areas with DPT<80%
- Where is utilization of services low?
 - Areas with high dropouts

4.5 Overview of RI microplanning formats

A set of formats have been developed to collect and collate data to prepare RI microplans for an area. The table 4.1 below enlists these formats and the information they collect.

Table 4.1. RI microplanning formats and use

Level of use	RIMP Form	Used for
PLANNING FORMS to be filled by ANM	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master list of all the villages in sub centre area • Plan for conduction of survey
	2	Sub centre map
SURVEY FORMS Used in the Survey by ASHA/ assessor area	3	Enlists all houses and occupants with focus on pregnant women and children in the age group of 0 to 2 years
	4	Enlists details of identified pregnant women
	5	Enlists details of infants / children identified
SUB CENTRE FORMS To be filled by ANM	6	RI Session beneficiary due list (to be made after SC microplan is approved by MO)
	7	RI session plan
	8	RI session injection load and vaccine distribution plan
	9	Per Session estimation of vaccines & logistics
	10	ANM work plan / roster
	11	Communication plan for SC

This format is to be used for each sub centre area. Each ANM should list the areas in her sub centre including **HRAs/nomadic sites in separate rows**. This format contains all the information needed to plan all activities including area demarcation.

Column A: Serial numbers are to be allotted to each area. Numbers are not to be repeated and must be in serial for one sub-centre area. If the areas per sub-centre need to be entered on more than one sheet, the numbering will continue until the last area for that sub-centre.

Column B: Ensure all the Villages / Hamlets / Tolas / High Risk Areas (HRAs) details are entered. The classification of the HRAs is given as footer and the relevant number to be entered in brackets along with the name of HRA.

Column C: Enter the total number of houses as per information available. If information is not available an approximate number can be entered. For areas such as nomadic sites and brick kilns household numbers are important or approximations must be entered.

- For HRAs, (including brick kilns or nomadic/construction sites) **each site must be entered into a separate row**. Refer to existing polio microplans, census lists, maps, high-risk area lists, and interactions with ASHA / AWW or Panchayat Raj Institution (PRI) members to ensure the inclusion of all areas in the sub centre area. This will form the **master list** for each sub centre. **This is a very important activity**.

Column D: If the entered area is an HRA then encircle yes.

Column E: Enter the name of the ASHA responsible for the area.

Column F: Enter the name and contact number of the person who will conduct the survey. If the area does not have an ASHA or the position is vacant then, name of the person who will conduct the survey should be entered.

Column G: The survey can be done by the local AWW / link worker / others in consultation with the Medical Officer (MO) and only after they have been trained to do the survey. Enter their relevant designation.

Column H: The area survey is to be completed in seven to 10 days. The dates for conducting this activity will be decided by the ANM and the persons who will conduct the survey in consultation with the MO. The **“From”** and **“To”** dates are to be entered here.

Columns I: The last shaded columns are for the use **AFTER** the survey.

RI Form 2– Sub-centre map

This form provides space for drawing a map of the SC area. A sample map is also given and health workers are encouraged to put forward simple drawings. The maps should be able to show at least the following:

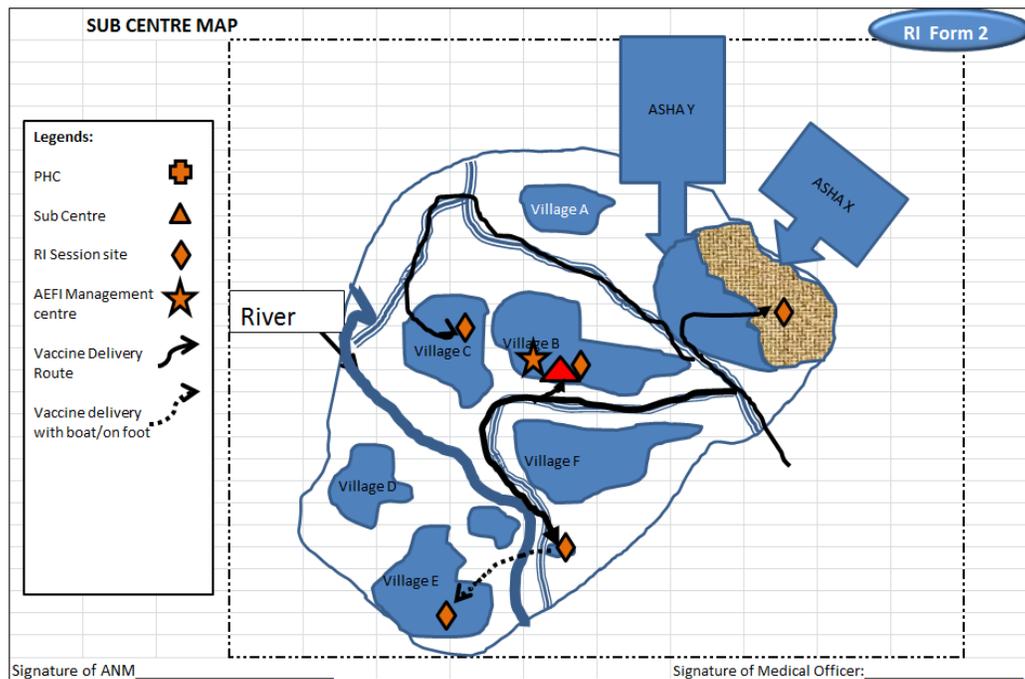
- All the villages in the SC area, with names
- Shading of parts of a village to demonstrate the ASHA demarcation areas
- Location of the SC
- Location of all RI session sites

- Major roads
- Rivers streams.
- AEFI management centres

Each SC should have a map, which helps to clearly demarcate the villages and areas to ensure that the frontline workers have clarity in operations, and avoid overlap or loss of services to the beneficiaries.

In urban areas discuss with your medical officer on how to use maps from the internet to easily print out the areas.

RI Microplan Form 2 – Sub centre area map (Sample)

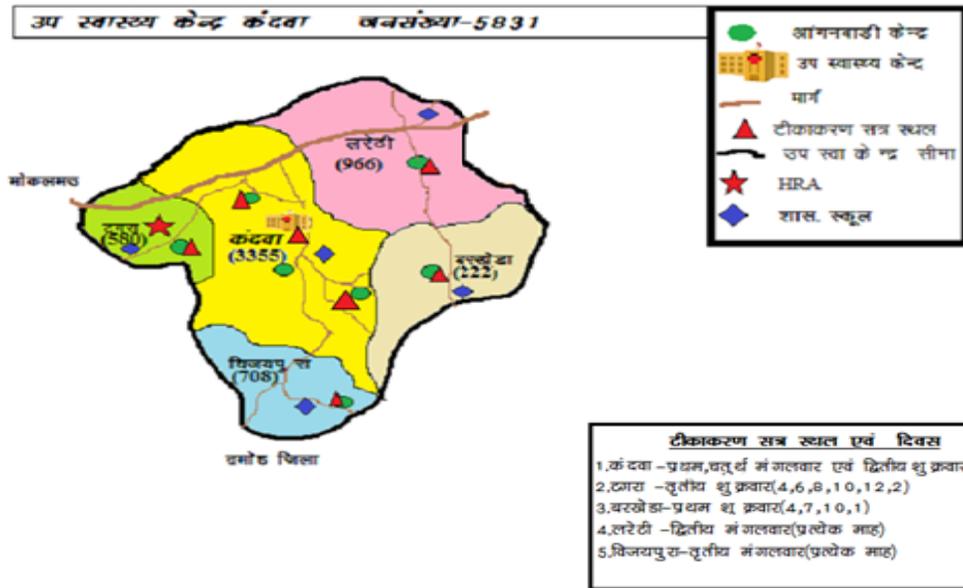


Making maps: updating maps made simple

Maps help to identify borders and areas of administration. They also help to identify areas and bring clarity to each SC boundary lines. In RI, simple maps are required (See Fig. 4.5 and 4.6). A good start for making maps begins with already existing maps. You should access the following sources:

- Polio maps
- Maps from local administration, e.g. municipal corporation, land department, election section, local panchayat
- Local area maps from other sources (e.g internet / other agencies)

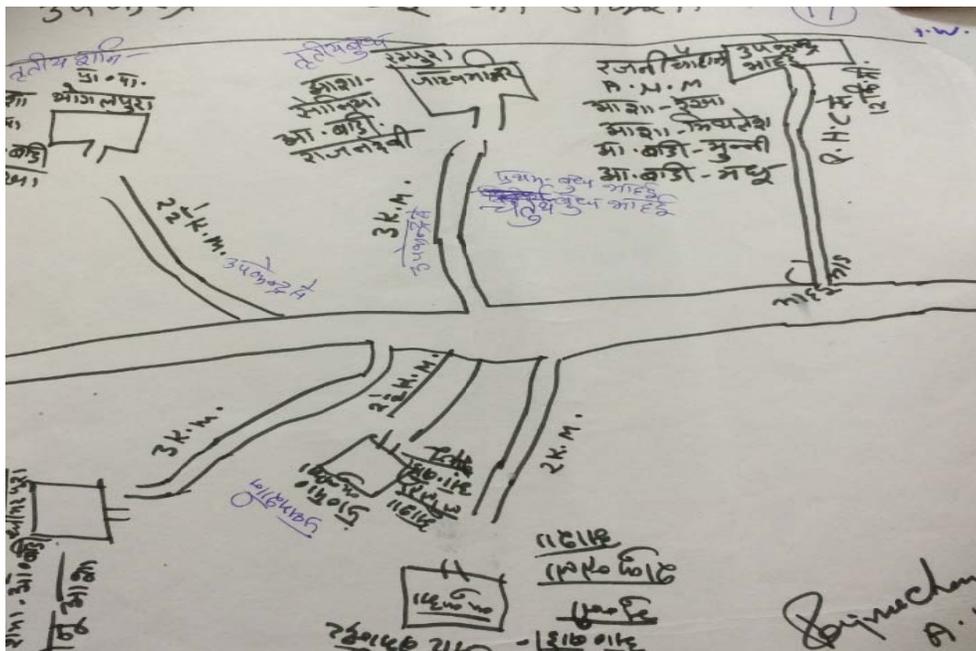
Fig. 4.5. Sample map showing area demarcation



Update the map of SC/urban health centre to show the following :

- SC, villages, areas, hamlets and HRAs
- Anganwadicentres, session sites and session days
- Distance from the ILR point and the mode of transport
- Landmarks such as panchayat bhavan, schools, roads, etc.

Fig. 4.6. A simple line diagram map



Step 2

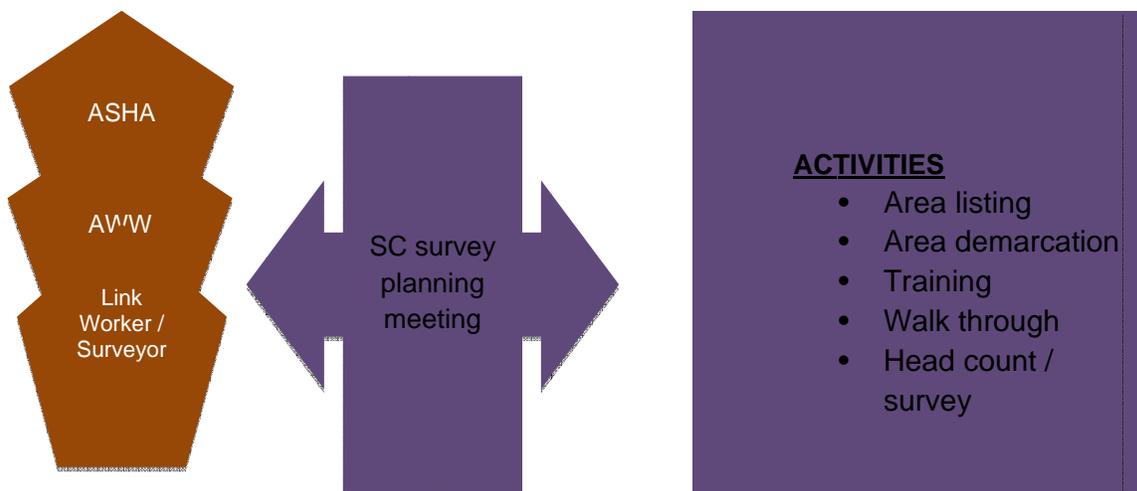
• Planning for subcentre head count survey and training of ASHA/AWW/Link worker/surveyor

The finalization of the head count survey plan and the training of the ASHAs/AWWs/Link workers/surveyors is the second step in the process for developing RI microplans. Your role as an ANM is to guide the ASHAs and AWWs of the area in order to conduct the survey effectively and to use of their close ties with the community to identify all beneficiaries. This meeting can take place at any of the following places:

- PHC for 2 to 3 sub centres at a time– about 15 to 20 ASHA/AWW/Link workers in each batch, OR
- Additional PHC, OR
- The Sub centre.

ANM is required to take a lead role in this step with support of medical officer.

Sub centersurvey planning meeting– Who is to attend and what is to be done?



Who will attend? :Sector medical officers, sub centre ANM, ICDS- lady supervisor, all ASHAs,AWWs, link workers, mobilizers as well as ASHA facillitator of the villages in the sub centre. This may be conducted in batches if attendes are many especially in urban areas.

Key activities for this step include:

- Review area demarcation between ASHA, AWW & surveyors as per Form 1
- Share dates of survey and finalize with ASHAs/AWWs/link workers
- Create working maps for each area
- Train ASHAs/AWWs/link workers to undertake head count & generate beneficiary list
- If required plan to walk through areas to ensure clear area demarcation/HRA identification

Prepare for the survey-planning meeting

- Share the information and requirements for the meeting with respective ASHAs/AWWs/link workers at least a week in advance. Encourage them to identify any new areas that may not have been included or any new nomadic or construction sites in their areas.
- Ask each ASHA and AWW to prepare a list of villages/areas as per the available information. This list should also include the HRAs and any other identified populations that require special services. Cross check and finalize the master list.
- Discuss and plan for logistics for the survey – have enough number of formats (Forms 3, 4, 5); chalk for house marking.

On meeting day

Start the meeting by sharing the status of RI in your area. Explain the importance of RI microplanning and conduct the following activities:

a) Area demarcation between ASHA, AWW, link worker and mobilizer: Ask each ASHA/link worker to readout the list of villages/urban areas she visits/has been allocated. The AWWs of these areas can refer to the list they have prepared and add to or clarify the list of the ASHA. In some urban areas where AWW workers are not available, other key local persons can be approached for listing of areas.

Identify areas in each SC for a walk-through to verify demarcation and that all HRAs are included in the list of areas.

Take Form 1 used in the PHC meeting. Finalize the personnel who will conduct the headcounting and the approximate dates of completion (if not already done). Allow for corrections of the master list at all times. Any information is important and will benefit the area.

b) Train ASHA/AWW to undertake head count: Distribute copies of Forms 3, 4 and 5 to each ASHA/AWW. Explain the process (use SOPs of each form) for conducting the house-to-house survey of the areas, the process for filling up Forms 3, 4 and 5 and the information they will collect.

Develop a practical timeline considering that a maximum of 25 houses are to be covered in one day. This will ensure quality and allow the workers to collect detailed information on each family. Do not rush through this process as good quality survey will ensure a good quality of planning for immunization.

c) Create working maps for each area: Working maps are simple maps that need not be to scale, but provide a bird's eye view of the areas and also show the demarcations in areas with more than one HW. These maps should be developed before going out into the area. Finer details may be added to this map during or in the next part of the process.

d) Walk through areas to ensure clear area demarcation/HRA identification:

Once the training is completed you, MO and the ICDS LS should visit some areas where confusion of demarcation exists or in HRAs. A walk through will ensure demarcation is verified and all HRAs are included in the list of areas. If there are a large number of areas, or the identified areas are accessibility compromised, the field visit can be covered as per a practical timeline over a few days.

Before closing the meeting, confirm the dates for the area survey by each person as per Form 1 and clear any doubts of the participants. Coordinate with ICDS supervisors to ensure monitoring and oversight. Working maps generated can be strengthened with additional information during the survey. Any changes should be intimated to the concerned ANM and ICDS supervisors.

Outputs expected

- Confirmed plan for area survey with timelines and names mentioned in Form 1.
- Refined master list of all areas in the SC
- Simple area maps for each ASHA area

Roles and responsibilities

Personnel	Activities to be performed	Supervisor
ANM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area demarcation for ASHAs/AWWs • Develop a reasonable timeline for survey • Will support the ASHA/AWW for survey • Supervise the survey with field visits 	Sector MO/LHV/ designated ANM
ASHA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to finalizing the master list • Conduct the house-to-house survey 	SC ANM/ASHA facilitator
AWW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct/assist in the house to house survey • Identify beneficiaries/HRAs/missed areas/dropouts/leftouts 	SC ANM/LS

Step 3

• Conducting head count survey at village / ward level

The head count survey or house-to-house survey is the third step of the RI microplanning process. The survey will ensure enrolment of all beneficiaries in an area. It is to be conducted by the ASHA/AWW/ Link worker / surveyor (after training) as specified in Form 1. You will have a list of the SC areas and the dates for conduct of the visits, share with the LHV/ICDS supervisors to allow them to support during their field visits and monitoring.

Key activities to be conducted:

- ASHA/AWW will conduct the survey as per the plan in Form 1. Support may be sought from local residents while conducting the survey. This survey is NOT to be done on RI days.
- During the survey
 - A maximum of 25 houses should be covered per day.
 - Information of ALL households to be entered in Form 3.
 - On identifying a pregnant woman in a household, enter her information into Form 4
 - On identifying infants and children up to 2 years of age, enter information in Form 5.
 - Process to be completed in 7 to 10 days per area.
- Monitoring of the process by ANM/ LHV/ICDS supervisors (LS)/Sector Medical Officer/Medical Officer In-charge / DIO.
- Involve other departments (e.g. education, PRI, etc.) and block/district administration in supervision of this activity.

Who will attend?

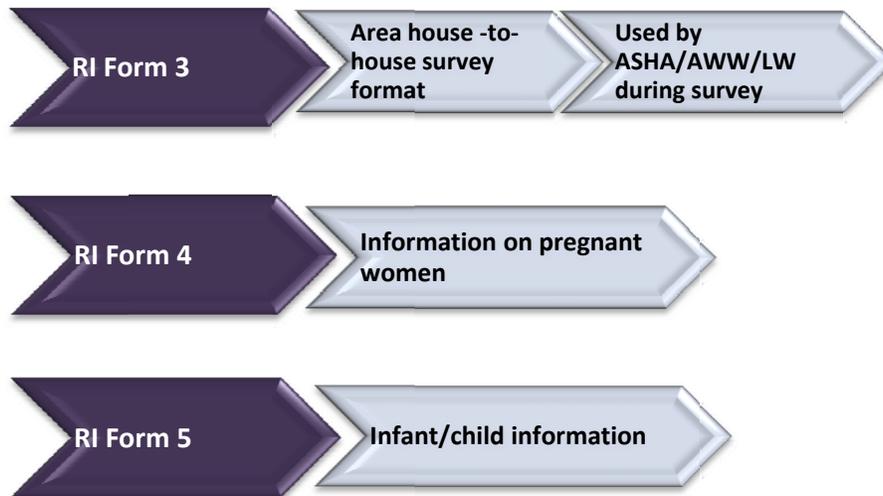
Designated ANM, ASHA, AWW or identified person for conducting the survey, Sector MO, ASHA supervisor, ICDS supervisor, others.

Prepare for the head count/survey

- Review the available lists and maps from Step 2 before beginning Step 3.
- Involve the mobilizers and encourage other influencers in the village to participate in the survey activity.
- During the period of survey, along with LS (ICDS), make coordinated visits to ensure that the ASHAs/AWWs/surveyors conduct the activity as per the training given.
- You (ANM)/ASHA facilitator/LS should verify at least 5 households.
- Keep adequate number of formats to allow for maximum use of available resources in the field.
- Address all queries at the earliest.

An overview of Forms 3, 4 and 5 is given in Fig. 4.8.

Fig. 4.8. Overview of RI Forms 3 to 5



Outputs expected

- ASHA/AWW/others conducting the survey as per training
- Completion of house-to-house survey
- Forms 3, 4 and 5 identifying all beneficiaries for each area.

Roles and responsibilities

Personnel	Activities to be performed	Supervisor
ANM	Supervise with field visits	Sector MO/LHV/designated ANM
ASHA	Conduct survey and fill Forms 3,4,5	SC ANM/ASHA facilitator
AWW	Conduct survey and fill Forms 3, 4 and 5/assist in survey	SC ANM/LS

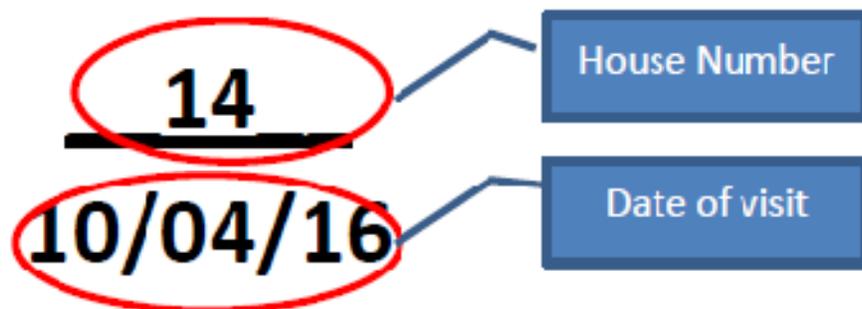
SOPs for using RI Form 3

- Form 3 is to be used when conducting the house-to-house survey.
- Each sheet must have the area name and number as given in Form 1. The ANM must instruct the surveyor to enter this. This information will help to easily identify the sheet.
- This assessment is not to be done on RI days.
- A household is defined based on “Kitchen“ or “Chullah” (like in polio microplans)
- Each sheet has information for 15 households. Multiple sheets for each area will be required and must be made available.
- A maximum of 25 houses should be covered per day.

Details of the first house visited and the last house on each sheet must be entered in the space provided. When multiple sheets are used in an area, each sheet must be numbered in the space provided at the bottom right of the form. The working map of the area prepared will help in identifying the roads and location of houses. Changes to this map can be made during the survey.

All houses in the area must be visited and information entered into the form. Each household is to be identified by a number (**Column A**). **This is the household identification number.** The numbering of households is to be continuous until the area is completed. The assessment of the area may take more than one day but the **numbering of the houses will be in serial order for the entire area.** Restart of numbering will be done when the same person is assessing a new area. House marking should be done with *chalk/geru* indicating the serial No of the household and date of survey, as shown in Fig. 4.9.

Fig.4.9. House marking during house-to-house survey for RI



Interview each household and gather information on the head of household (**Column B**), father’s name (**Column C**) and the total number of members in each household (**Column D**). This must include all newborn children.

Next, enquire if there is any **currently pregnant** woman in this household. This does not depend on if she is a resident / visitor to the area. Include all pregnant women, as

Column A: The number in Column A must be the same as that used to identify the household in Form 3. **If there is more than one child in a house, the same number will have to be entered for each of these children.**

Columns B, C, D and E: These columns are used to collect identification information of each child. Attempt to collect the latest mobile number from the parent/household.

Column F: Enquire if the infant/child has been issued an RI/MCP card. If not, information should be shared with the ANM of the area to ensure that a card is issued at the earliest.

Column G: This records detail of vaccines administered at birth. Dates are to be entered of when BCG, OPV zero dose and Hepatitis B (within 24 h) were administered.

Column H: Dates of administration of Penta 1, Rotavirus 1 (where applicable) and OPV 1

Column I: Dates of administration of Penta 2, Rotavirus 2 (where applicable) and OPV 2

Column J: Dates of administration of Penta 3, Rotavirus 3 (where applicable), OPV 3 and IPV

Column K: Enter the dates of administration of vaccines due between the age of 9 months and 1 year – measles/MR first dose, Vitamin A and Japanese Encephalitis (where applicable) vaccines.

Column L: Record whether the ASHA has received the incentive for the child who is fully immunized – encircle “Yes” or “No”. A child is to be considered as **fully immunized** if s/he has received all the due vaccines up to 1 year of age.

Column M: Dates of administration of vaccines due for a child between the ages of 1 and 2 years are to be entered in column M. This includes measles/MR second dose, OPV booster dose and JE vaccine, where applicable.

Column N: Whether the ASHA has received the incentive for the child who is completely immunized – encircle “Yes” or “No”. A child is to be considered as **completely immunized** if s/he has received all the due vaccines up to 2 years of age.

Step 4

• Review of all survey forms & consolidation of Sub centre microplans

You will get forms 3, 4 and 5 from each ASHA/AWW after completing the area survey.

Step 4 should be done at the SC and is to review and collate this information. This meeting may be in batches if needed.

As the SC ANM you should organize this meeting. Inform participants about the venue, date and time 2–3 days in advance so that they attend the meeting with completed survey forms.

Facilitator: Sector MO/LHV/health supervisor

Participants: ANM, ASHA, ASHA facilitator, AWW

Key activities to be conducted:

- Finalize area demarcation on the map.
- Review and refine RI plans as per actual head count and identification of any missed (migratory/ settled) pocket in sub centre area.
- Ensure functional tagging – areas tagged to existing RI sites should be practical.
- Consolidate the RI Microplan at sub centre – Forms 6,7,8 and 9.
- Develop mobilization plans.
- Update the map of sub-centre/urban health centre if needed

Prepare for the meeting

- Review and finalize the information in forms 3, 4 and 5 collected during the house-to-house survey with the ASHA/AWW/link workers.
- Prepare a simple map of the SC from the information and experiences of the workers who have completed the survey. This map need not be to scale, but should include **area demarcation** for ASHA/AWW/mobilizers and other information as mentioned above.

Outputs expected

- Number of new areas identified
- Number of beneficiaries
- Consensus on listing of areas and HRAs
- Consensus on demarcation of areas
- Formats collected after cross check and attestation
- Availability of maps.

List of documents after conduct of the SC meeting:

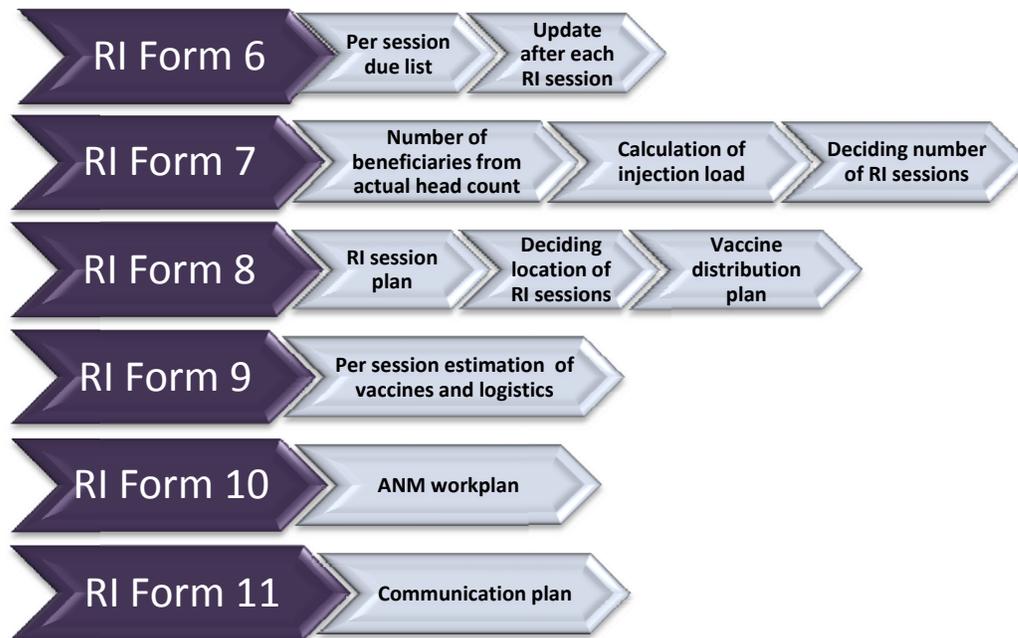
1. Completed RI Form 3,4 and 5 for each area
2. RI Form 7– proposed sessions planning for SC
3. RI Form 2 - Map of the SC showing demarcation of areas for ANMs (if applicable), ASHAs and AWWs

Roles and responsibilities

Personnel	Activities to be performed	Supervisor
ANM	Conduct the meeting at SC Finalize area listing and draft of plan for conducting RI sessions in the areas	MOIC, Sector MO
ASHA	Contribute to final forms	SC ANM/ASHA facilitator
AWW	Contribute to final forms	SC ANM/LS

An overview of RI Forms 6 to 11 used in the SC RI microplan is given in Fig. 4.10.

Fig. 4.10. Overview of Sub Centre RI Microplan – Forms 6 to 11



RI Microplan Form 6 – Session beneficiary due list

RI SESSION DUE LIST								PHC: _____				
Name of Sub-Centre : _____				Block : _____				RI Form 6				
Name Session Site : _____				Name & No of ANM : _____				Name & No of ASHA : _____				
Details of Pregnant Women / Children due for vaccination for RI session								After the RI session				
Sl. No.	MCTS Registration No.	Name of Child / Pregnant Woman	Date Of Birth / Expected date of Delivery	Age	Sex M / F	Name of Father/Husband	Vaccines due in this session	Did the pregnant woman / child arrive today? (Yes/No)	Vaccines which were administered to pregnant woman / child (if not given mention reason)	*Incentive money Rs. 100 will be payable to ASHA under Part C.S.A. for Full Immunization	**Incentive money Rs. 50 will be payable to ASHA under Part C.S.B. for Complete Immunization	
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	
1												
2												
3												
4												
5												
6												
7												
8												
9												
10												
11												
12												
13												
14												
15												
16												
17												
18												
								Total amount received				
Number of beneficiaries who did not attend				Out of Village		Sick		Refused		Vaccinated outside		Other
Have these beneficiaries been included in the next session?				Y/N		Y/N		Y/N		Y/N		Y/N
Signature of ANM				Signature of ASHA				Signature of AWW				
								Total Number of Pregnant women as per the due list				
								Total women vaccinated				
								Total number of children as per due list				
								Total children vaccinated				

Page 1

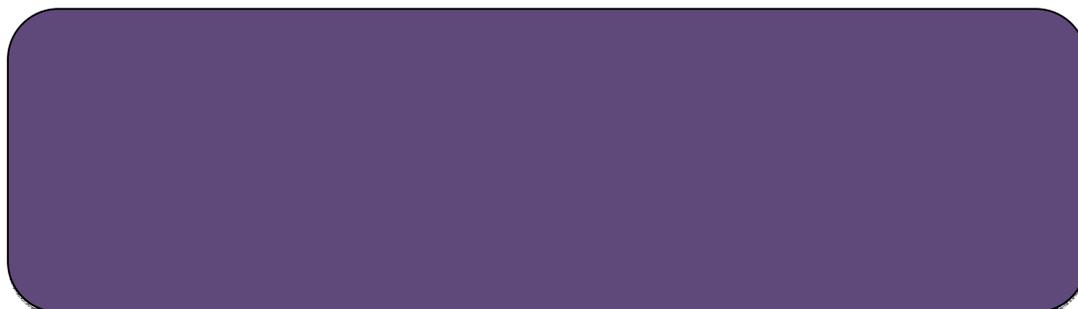
This form is to be filled only after finalization of SC microplans with medical officer

SOPs for using RI Form 6

This form is the session due list. It identifies the number of beneficiaries per session and the vaccines for which they are eligible during the RI session. This is also the record of payment of ASHA incentives.

This format is to be prepared by the ANM with support of the ASHA/AWW/LW after the proposed microplan is approved by the medical officer during step 5 of the microplanning process.

This session due list will help the ASHA in mobilizing beneficiaries to the session/s. Use a calendar and share the dates of upcoming sessions with ASHA/AWW/LW in advance to allow for mobilization.



SOPs for using RI Form 7

Columns A and B: Enter the serial number and name of the villages keeping the same order as in Form 1. **New areas /identified missed areas should be entered towards the end with clear marking that this is a new area, using an asterisk (*).**

Column C: Using Form 3 Column D, enter the individual areas actual population (from the survey).

Calculating annual target population

Beneficiaries in the UIP are the PW and the children of an area who are eligible for any vaccinations. The cardinal numbers of these beneficiaries is obtained by conducting the area and house-to-house survey. Once the survey is completed, these figures will be available from Form 3. However, for calculation of the yearly and monthly number of beneficiaries it is necessary to do the following:

Column D:The survey will give the number of PW identified in an area at the time of conducting the survey.

The annual target of PW = actual number of PW as per head count X 2

Column E:The house-to-house survey also identifies child beneficiaries. For the calculation of the annual target the actual number identified is considered.

The annual target of children = actual number of children as per headcount

Columns F and G:

Monthly target of PW = Annual target divided by 12

Monthly target of children = Annual target divided by 12

Column H:Enter the monthly **injection load for each area.**

Calculating injection load (only for determining the number of sessions)

This calculation is to be used only as a planning tool and ***not for estimation of vaccines or logistics.***

Firstly, determine the total number of injections needed per beneficiary.

This gives a multiplying factor of **15 injections.**

- BCG – 1 injection
- DPT – 2 booster injection
- HiB containing Pentavalent – 3 injections
- fIPV – 2 injections
- MR Vaccine – 2 injections
- PCV – 3 injections (where applicable)
- TT– 2 injections (for pregnant women)

For districts where JE is included in the schedule **add 2** to the above number, giving themultiplying factor of **17 injections**.

Monthly injection load = Monthly target of children from **Column G** multiplied by the above factor

Column I: Based on the monthly injection load the number of RI sessions to be conducted for each village/area is to be entered as per the guideline below.

Frequency of RI sessions depending on injection load –

- 1 to 25 injections – 1 session every alternate month
- 26 to 50 injections – 1 session every month
- 51 to 100 injections - 2 sessions every month

For hard to reach areas or less than 1000 population, where not tagged, plan for sessions every quarter for a minimum of 4 sessions a year

Column J describes the location of the vaccination site. It is important that the exact location be entered, preferably with a landmark. This helps to collate the information and makes it easier to develop the overall plan for RI sessions under the SC area.

Column K:Enter the name of the mobilizer. Mobilizers play an important role in mobilizing beneficiaries to the RI session site.

Column L describes the type of terrain, as this is a factor that contributes to determining the number of sessions in the area and the method of vaccine delivery. The areas may be as follows:

- Plain – flat and accessible with no compromise in accessibility
- Hilly – hilly area
- Riverine – area divided by a river or rivulets making access difficult
- Inaccessible –hard to reach due to absence of roads or is approachable only by foot.

Column M describes the type of session. Sessions can be:

- **Fixed.** These sessions are held where vaccine storage is possible because of availability of ILR and deep freezer (DF), i.e. the sessions conducted at PHC/CHC
- **Outreach.** All sessions conducted where vaccine has to be taken by vaccine carrier
- **Mobile.** Sessions conducted using a vehicle which moves from site to site along with the immunization team and vaccine
- **Tagged.** Site/area, which does not have a session but is linked to the nearest session site.

Ensuring “**Same day, Same site, Same time**”policy will help to increase community acceptance and in turn the utilization of services provided.

Distribution plan – Form 8

The form contains detailed information on each RI session site in the SC. It also contains details on frequency of sessions; the villages/areas covered or tagged with each site; the injection load per antigen and the vaccine distribution plan for each session.

SOPs for using RI Form 8

Column A: Enter the serial number.

Column B: Enter the name of the RI session site. **Enter each RI session site in a separate row.** It is important that the exact site location be entered. **This will give the exact planning of sessions for the SC on a single page.** If the site is located in an Anganwadicentre, also include the centre number and location. If the site is located in private premises, the house owner's name should also be entered. Include a landmark where possible.

Column C: This contains the names of areas to which a RI session site provides services. Enter the names of the village/s or areas as per **Form 1**. For multiple areas, write the names separated by commas into this column. e.g. Village XYZ.

Column D: Enter the frequency of sessions at this RI site. It may be entered as:

- Once in a quarter, i.e. once in three months
- Once in two months
- Twice a month
- Daily.

Columns E and F: The target of PW and infants per session is determined for each site. This is obtained from **monthly targets in Form 7** columns F and G. If the site caters to more than one area, add the targets. If there are two RI sites in a large village, then the monthly target is to be divided by 2.

Example – monthly target for each area from Form 7 columns F and G

- Village XYZ (3 PW & 5 infants) and tola XYZ (1 PW & 2 infants) for RI site no 1.
Thus for RI site 1 monthly target will be 4 PW & 7 infants.
- Village XYZ (8 PW & 12 infants) with RI sites 2 and 3
Thus for RI site 2, monthly target will be 4 PW & 6 infants and for RI site 3 also, it is 4 PW & 6 infants.

Note: For fixed site use daily average of PW and children vaccinated (number vaccinated per month/30)

Columns G to P: Enter the per session doses required for vaccines and vitamin A. Using the target from **Columns E and F**, calculate the individual antigen dose requirement using the formula in the boxes.

Column Q: The total injection load for each site is now available to enter into Column Q. This is calculated by adding the number of beneficiaries in **Columns G, H, I, K, M, N and O.** (Note that OPV, Rotavirus vaccine (where applicable) and Vit A should not be considered as injections.)

Columns R, S and T: Fill the exact time of RI site functioning in the next 3 months. Each column is for a month. The day is to be entered as follows:

- Days – Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
- Weeks – 1 to 5

E.g. If the session is held in Month 2 on the fourth Wednesday, the entry will be “Wed 4” in Column S.

Each state can customise this format for its own RI days and immunization schedule.

Method of vaccine distribution to each site is to be entered in the three **Columns U.**

- Information on the mode of transport – two wheeler/three wheeler/four wheeler with its registration number, if possible
- Name of the person transporting the vaccine and his contact number are to be entered.

RI Form 9 – Per Session estimation of Vaccine and logistics

Sub Centre area: Per Session Estimation of Vaccines & logistics																		RI Form 9		
District: _____												Block/PHC/Urban Planning Unit: _____			SC/UHC: _____			TO BE USED WITH FORMAT 8		
Name of Medical Officer /IC: _____						Mobile no.: _____			Name of ID / ICC: _____			Mobile No. _____								
Name of ANM: _____						Mobile no.: _____			Name of Supervisor: _____			Mobile No. _____								
Estimation of vaccine vials and logistics for each session (At least one vial of each vaccine in each session) This should be filled with the help of Format 8																				
S.No	Location of session site	TT	BCG	DPT	OPV	Penta	RVV	IPV	Measles /MR	JE	Vitamin A	ADS 0.1 ml	ADS 5 ml	Reconstituted syringes	Paracetamol tablet/syrup	IFA tablets	Zinc tablet /syrup	ORS packet	RI / MCP card	Family welfare materials
Calculations with help of columns in Format 8		G x 1.11 /10	H x 2 /10	I x 1.11 /10	J x 1.11 /20	K x 1.11 /10	L x 1.11 /10	M x 1.11 /10	N x 1.33 /5	O x 1.33 /5	(Px 1ml) + ((x 8) x 2ml) x 1.11	H x 1.11	(Total DPT/Penta/PPV/Measles/JE) x 1.11	no. of BCG, Measles & JE vials x 1.11						
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
1																				
2																				
3																				
4																				
5																				
6																				
7																				
8																				
9																				
10																				
TOTAL																				
Signature of ANM: _____										Verified by Medical Officer (Signature): _____										

SOPs for using RI Form 9

This format collates the exact requirement of vaccines and logistics for each session site. This information is calculated using data from **Form 8**.

Columns A and B should be in the same order as in **Form 8**.

Columns C through L: Enter the number of vials/units of vaccine and vitA required for each session site. For the calculations, use the information from columns mentioned from Form 8 for each session site.

Columns M, N and O: Calculate the requirement of syringes including reconstitution syringes. Calculation is based on the number of vials from **Columns C to K** of this format.

Remember – Calculate reconstitution syringes only for **BCG, measles/MR and JE**.

All wastage multiplication factors are given in the row below the names of antigens.

Columns P to U: Enter the requirement of other logistics for each session site.

Wastage multiplication factor (WMF) –

This is for use in estimation of vaccine and logistics. It is calculated using the following equation:

$$100 \text{ divided by } [100 - (\text{wastage rate } \%)]$$

E.g. if wastage rate is 15 %, then WMF is
 $100 / [100 - 15]$
 $100 / 85 = 1.18$

Permissible wastage rate percentage

	Number of doses	Permissible wastage %	WMF
Hep B	1	10	1.11
BCG	1	50	2
DPT	2 booster	10	1.11
OPV	3+2 booster	10	1.11
Rotavirus	3	25	1.33
IPV	1	10	1.11
Pentavalent	3	10	1.11
MR	2	25	1.33
PCV	3	10	1.11
TT	2	10	1.11
JE	2	25	1.33
Syringes	As per requirement	10	1.11

RI Form 10 - ANM work plan

This form will help you to plan your movement for the next 3 months. You should display your work plan in the premises of the subcentre. Enter the name of the session site and time against each month. The day columns may be customized for your state or district.

Sub Centre/ UHC - ANM's Workplan							
District: _____		Block/PHC/Urban Planning Unit: _____			SC/UHC: _____		
Name & Mobile no. of Medical Officer/IC: _____				Name & Mobile no. of IO/ICC: _____			
Name & Mobile no. of ANM: _____				Name & Mobile no. of Sector Medical Officer: _____			
Month	Week	Location of RI sessions with timing					
		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1						
	2						
	3						
	4						
	5						
	1						
	2						
	3						
	4						
	5						
	1						
	2						
	3						
	4						
	5						
Signature of ANM _____				Verified by Medical Officer (Signature): _____			

Page 1

RI Form 11 - Sub Centre Communication Plan

Sub centre communication plan for RI							
Name of Block:		Quarter- 1 / 2 / 3 / 4			Name of Subcentre:		
Name of Village		Name of ANM:			Name of Subcentre:		
Name of Session site		1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	
Name of Session site		6-					
Activities							
Miking / drum beating - Name and contact number							
Mosque announcement - Contact person and number - announcement time							
Meetings (Mothers meeting, AWW meeting, etc - Contact person and number - Monthly / weekly)							
VHSC meeting - contact person and number - location - attended by ANM Monthly / weekly -							
School Rallies - school name and contact person with number (once a month in villages on							
Celebrations / Special Days (eg Mothers day, health day etc) - contact person and number							
Wall paintings - locations							
Banners - identify 4 key locations - Ensure display at least one day before RI day							
Painting competition / Exhibition - (once a quarter - school name and contact person with number							
Posters - identify 5 key locations (other than Panchayat ghar, Ration store, AWW centre, Sub centre, Bus stand) - ensure display at least 2 days before RI day							
Pamphlets / Leaflets - available with - contact person name and number - distribute before RI session day							
Counselling aids / job aids (flip books etc.,) - available with - contact person name and number							
Other							
Manpower involvement - with contact number							
Name of ASHA							
Name of AWW							
Name of Mobilizer / CMC							
Name of community influencer							
Name of PRI member							
Date: _____		Sign of ANM: _____		Sign of MO: _____			

SOPs for using RI Form 11

Form 11 is the communication plan for SC. Information is to be filled for up to 6 session sites under a SC. Multiple formats may be used if needed.

In the first column, a number of activities have been identified; under the guidance of the medical officer, you have to identify the activities that can be conducted in your areas. It is important to firstly identify the **contact person** who will coordinate the activity such as a school principal or community leader.

Meetings such as **VHSC, mothers meetings, AWW meetings** are generally held regularly and the tentative dates should be entered in the columns. The medical officer can also support the visits by including them in MO plan.

For **IEC materials (posters / banners)** decide the appropriate locations and enter them in the columns.

Painting competitions / exhibitions requiresome planning but have a positive impact on the community. Conduct such activities once a quarter.

Pamphlets / leaflets / counseling aids are material that can be placed at the AWC or other locations and used during RI sessions / other meetings.

Having the **names and contact numbers** of frontline workers of each centre will help you to contact them in advance of RI session days. PRI / Community influencers can play a key role in RI and it is essential to identify them in a village or ward area.



• Finalization of SC plans and session due lists

The final step in the RI microplanning exercise at the PHC consists of review and finalization of the newly updated/ proposed SC RI microplans and finalization of formats and session due lists.

Review of the updated / proposed RI plans

The outputs are now focused on the finalization of SC microplans and the development of the PHC microplan. Each ANM presents her sub centre microplans focusing on the following points:

1. Total number of areas identified – any increase or decrease? Form 1
2. Total number of HRAs identified – any increase or decrease? Form 1
3. Demarcation of areas – who will be looking after which area? Form 1 and 2
4. Number of RI sessions planned? Form 7 and 8
5. Are the maps updated? RI Form 2
6. Is sub centreRI microplan now complete?

Finalization of SC microplan: You need to compile all the RI-Microplan information for your SC and present it to your sector medical officer. After review the MO approves your SC microplan including the number of sessions and the sites. **You can now develop the RI session due lists (Form 6) as per the RI sessions.**

Plan to spend enough time with medical officer for this activity as it requires relaxed environment

Who will attend? : Sector MO, ANM, LHV, Health supervisors

Activities at the final PHC meeting

- Review and finalization of SC plans for
 - Inclusion of all HRAs
 - Special plans for difficult areas
 - Adequate deployment of mobilizers
 - Adequate session planning
- Compile plans from all SCs to develop block plan
- Prepare vaccine delivery and supervision plan
- Recalculate vaccine and logistics requirement.

Outputs expected

Availability of the following documents after Step 5:

- Forms 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 for each SC

Roles and responsibilities

Personnel	Activities to be performed	Supervisor
MOIC	Coordination of the activity/reviewing each SC plan	DIO
Sector MO	Oversee/review the microplans submitted by ANMs	MOIC
Data manager	Clarify and finalize the names of villages. Data entry for generation of RIMP	MOIC
ANM	Generate SC forms and suggest changes to the reviewing officer Finalize the session due lists	Sector MO

Table 4.2. Checklist for RI microplan components – at SC

SN	Components of Routine Immunization Microplan at SC	Available	
		Yes	No
1.	Map of area -with name of village, urban area including all hamlets (tola), sub-villages, sub-wards, sector, mohallas, hard to reach areas, etc.)		
2.	Demarcation Map - This map allocates areas for each ANM if more than 2 ANMs are present in a SC. It can also show the exact boundaries and areas for ASHA and AWW.		
3.	Master list which includes all villages/areas/HRAs		
4.	Estimation of beneficiaries and injection load per area		
5.	Estimation of beneficiaries and injection load per HRA		
6.	Estimation of beneficiaries, injection load and mobilizers per RI session site		
7.	Estimation of vaccines and logistics		
8.	ANM work plan including mobilization plan		
9.	Beneficiary list - PW and children aged 0-2 years		
10.	Session due list		
11.	Vaccine coverage chart		

Planning in HRAs

1. High-risk population groups/areas need special attention as they often miss routine and supplementary immunization and pose a risk for polio and other VPDs. HRAs are categorized as migratory and non-migratory (settled).

- **Migratory HRAs:** These are slums with migration, Nomads, Brick kilns and construction sites etc.
- **Non-migratory HRAs:** These are areas with settled population with no migration and poor immunization coverage. These include hard-to-reach areas and misinformed communities that refuse vaccination due to misplaced beliefs.
- **Hard to reach areas:** Accessibility compromised areas i.e. due to geographical / topographical reasons and in areas where security is a concern poses a different challenge to delivering RI or any other services.

Provision of services in HRAs: RI microplanning should be flexible to respond to local situations and needs e.g.

a) For areas with multiple pockets of nomads or construction sites:

- Ensure identification of each area or pocket
- Identify a key person in each – eg. Manager, supervisor, group leader
- Explore use of mobile session for such areas

b) For hilly regions:

- Prepare microplan including maps to reflect the ground realities
- Use available telecommunication/sending messages through school children returning home or through other agencies for mobilizing the beneficiaries
- Use alternate vaccine delivery options which may include pack animals or other modes of transport
- Prepare to stay overnight in some areas; arrange for extra vaccine carriers with extra ice packs to ensure maintenance of cold chain
- Plan for immunization waste to return to the centre for further management

Planning in Urban Areas

Urban areas are changing because of expansion of cities; as areas are added mainly on the outside border of cities HRAs - higher number of construction and nomadic sites; manpower shortages; large volume of transit / migrant population and unrecognized slums.

Provision of services to tackle challenges in urban areas:

- a) Area demarcation:** Prepare maps with clear demarcation of areas for AWW/ASHA/link worker. Superimpose ANM area on the map. Plan for field verification where boundaries are not well defined.
- b) Accessibility:** Identify local solutions based on the needs e.g.
 - Use three or two wheelers to access narrow lanes;
 - Seek support from local key influencers and community leaders;
 - Get support from local civil service organizations – Rotary, Lions, professional bodies, etc.
- c) Infrastructure for providing RI services:**
 - **“Same day, Same site, Same time” provision of services:** This should include all anganwadicentres, dispensaries, clinics and maternity homes in the public sector; all NGOs, private institutions /practitioners engaged in providing health care in urban areas.
 - **Urban outreach:**Expand the network of urban service provision points e.g. in every urban slum .seek help from local bodies / shops / organizations.
 - **Communication:** Use various channels to inform the community about the timing of local immunization services; local service delivery points; the vaccines and schedule of immunization and the benefits of immunization.
- d) Multiple departments / NGOs / organizations / coordination:** Support the medical officer to identify and coordinate with the multiple agencies already working in the area. Joint planning will help to reduce duplication and improve the coverage of immunization services.

Unit 5: Managing the cold chain and the vaccine carrier

Learning Objectives

At the end of the unit, you should be able to:

- Define and describe the importance of the cold chain
- Describe which vaccines are sensitive to heat /light and freezing
- Demonstrate how to check vaccines for exposure to heat or freezing
- Demonstrate how to condition frozen ice packs and pack a vaccine carrier properly

Contents

- Cold chain and Vaccine Sensitivities
- Checking vaccines for correct maintenance of cold chain
- Guidelines for use of open vaccine vials in immunization programme
- Cold chain equipment

5.1 The cold chain

Cold Chain is a system of storing and transporting vaccines at recommended temperatures from the point of manufacture to the point of use. The key elements of the cold chain are:

- Personnel: to manage vaccine storage and distribution (vaccine and cold chain handler at each cold chain point).
- Equipment: to store and transport vaccine and monitor temperature.
- Procedures: to ensure correct utilization of equipment and ensure vaccines are stored and transported safely.

As a health worker, you are responsible to manage the cold chain at the session site and sometimes at the cold chain point also.

5.2 Vaccine sensitivities

Vaccines lose their potency due to exposure to heat (temperature above +8⁰ C), cold (temperature below + 2⁰ C) and light. The loss of potency due to either exposure to heat or cold is permanent and cannot be regained.

Reconstituted BCG, measles/MR and JE vaccines are the most heat and light sensitive. Since these live vaccines do not contain preservatives, there is risk of contamination with staphylococcus aureus leading to toxic shock syndrome and, therefore, they should be used **within 4 hours of reconstitution**. These light sensitive vaccines are supplied in amber-coloured vials.

Implementation of **Open Vial Policy (OVP)** allows reuse of partially used multi-dose vials of applicable vaccines under the UIP in subsequent sessions (both fixed and outreach) up to 4 weeks (28 days) subject to meeting certain conditions. This policy contributes to the **reduction of vaccine wastage**. (See guidelines under section 5.4)

Open Vial Policy	YES	NO
VACCINE	Hep B, OPV, DPT, pentavalent, TT, PCV and IPV.	BCG, MR, RVV

Only those diluents that are provided with the vaccine by the manufacturer should be used. **Keep diluents in an ILR at +2°C to +8°C at least 24 hours before use** to ensure that the vaccine and diluent are at the same temperature when being reconstituted. Keep diluents with the vaccines in plastic zipper bag inside the vaccine carrier during transportation.

Sensitivity of various vaccines to heat, light and freezing is given in Table 5.1.

Table 5.1. Sensitivity of vaccines to heat, light and freezing

Vaccine	Exposure to heat/light	Exposure to cold
Heat and light sensitive vaccines		
OPV	Sensitive to heat	Not damaged by freezing
Measles/MR	Sensitive to heat and light	Not damaged by freezing
BCG, RVV and JE	Relatively heat stable, but sensitive to light	Not damaged by freezing.
Freeze sensitive vaccines		
HepB/Penta/PCV	Relatively heat stable	Freezes at -0.5°C (Should not be frozen)
IPV, DPT and TT	Relatively heat stable	Freezes at -3°C (Should not be frozen)
At the PHC level, all vaccines are kept in the ILR for a period of one month at temperature of +2°C to +8°C		
<u>Vaccines sensitive to heat</u> ▪ BCG (after reconstitution) Most ▪ OPV ▪ IPV ▪ Measles, MR ▪ Rotavirus ▪ JE ▪ DPT ▪ BCG (before reconstitution) ▪ TT, ▪ Penta, HepB, PCV Least		<u>Vaccines sensitive to freezing</u> Most ▪ HepB ▪ PCV ▪ Penta ▪ IPV ▪ DPT ▪ TT Least

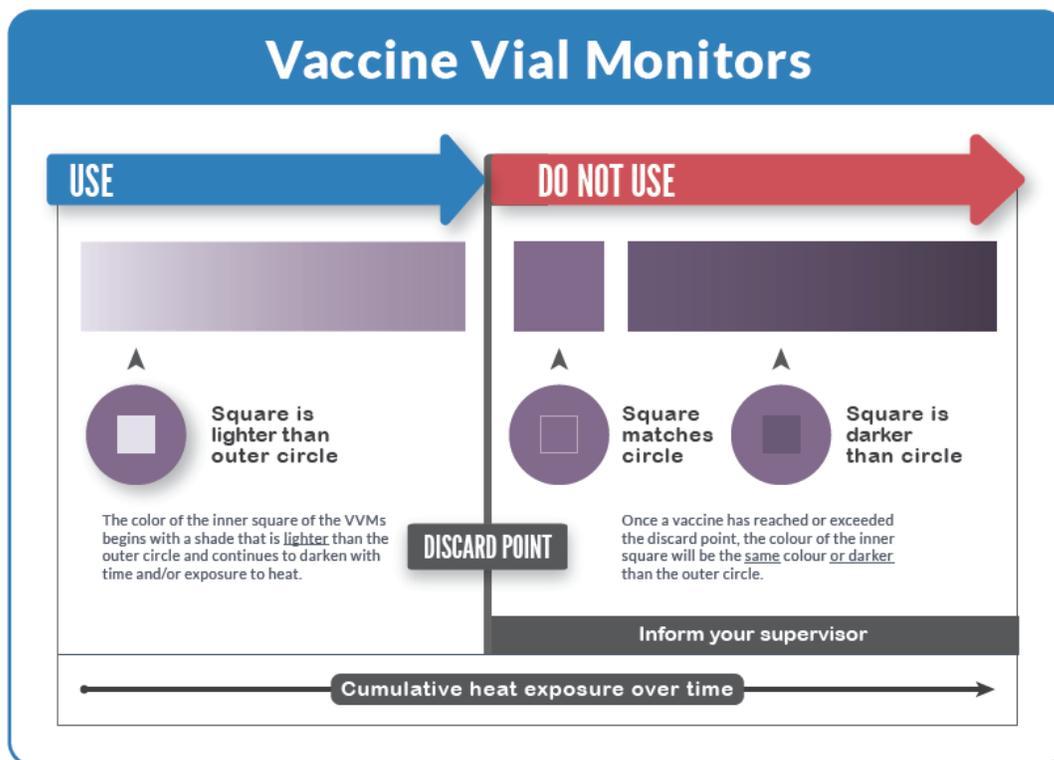
5.3 Checking vaccines for correct maintenance of cold chain

Vaccines need to be checked both for damage from excessive heat as well as from freezing. However, the physical appearance of a vaccine may remain unchanged even after it is damaged.

Checking vaccines for heat damage

Vaccine Vial Monitor (VVM) is a label containing a heat sensitive material to record cumulative heat exposure over time. The combined effect of time and temperature cause the inner square of the VVM to darken gradually and irreversibly. Before opening a vial, check the status of the VVM (Figure 5.1). If the VVM shows change in colour to the end point, then discard the vaccines.

Fig. 5.1. Checking the vaccines for heat damage



Checking vaccines for cold damage (freezing)

DPT, TT, IPV, HepB, PCV and Penta vaccines lose their potency if frozen. Moreover, the risk of adverse events following immunization, such as sterile abscesses, may increase. Discard the vial if it is frozen or it contains floccules after shaking.

Shake Test is not applicable for IPV

Do not keep in the cold chain, any vials that are expired, frozen or with VVM beyond the end point, as they may be confused with those containing potent vaccines.

Vaccines returned from RI session should be kept in separate and clearly marked bags/containers as per the guidelines

Table 5.2. Dos and Dont's in cold chain and vaccine sensitivities

Dos	Dont's
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Keep all vaccines in ILR at +2 to +8°C at PHC ✓ Use diluent provided by the manufacturer with the vaccine ✓ Keep diluents in ILR at +2°C to +8°C atleast 24 hours before use ✓ Use reconstituted Rotavirus vaccine, BCG, Measles/MR and JE vaccine within 4 hours ✓ Discard all damaged vials for disinfection and disposal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Do not keep in the cold chain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Expired vials, ○ Frozen vials or ○ Vials with VVM beyond the end point ➤ Do not use reconstituted Rotavirus vaccine, BCG, Measles/MR and JE vaccine after 4 hours.

5.4 Guidelines for use of open vaccine vials in immunization programme

Open Vial Policy is only applicable to DPT, TT, Hep B, OPV, Hib containing pentavalent vaccine (Penta) and injectable inactivated poliovirus vaccine (IPV).

Conditions that must be fulfilled for the use of open vial policy

Any vial of the applicable vaccines opened/used in a session (fixed or outreach) can be used at more than one immunization session up to 4 weeks (28 days) provided that:

Use if-

- The expiry date has not passed;
- The vaccines are stored under appropriate cold-chain conditions both during transportation and storage in cold-chain storage point;
- The vaccine vial septum has not been submerged in water or contaminated in any way;
- Aseptic technique has been used to withdraw vaccine doses, i.e. needle/septum has not been contaminated in any way;
- The VVM has not reached/crossed the discard point.
- Date and time is written on vial

Discard vaccine vial in case any one of the following conditions are met:

- Expiry date has passed;
- VVM has reached/crossed discard point (for freeze-dried vaccine, before reconstitution only) or vaccine vials without VVM or disfigured VVM;
- No label/partially torn label and/or writing on label not legible;
- If date and time is not mentioned on vial

- Any vial thought to be exposed to non-sterile procedure for withdrawal;
- Open vials that have been under water or vials removed from a vaccine carrier that has water;
- Vaccine vial is frozen or contains floccules or any foreign body;
- There is breakage in the continuity of the vials (cracks/leaks);
- There is any AEFI from any of the vials; if so, do not use it, and retain it safely. Inform MO and/or supervisor.

-

Open Vial Policy does not apply to measles/MR, Rotavirus, BCG and JE vaccines.

Cold-chain maintenance during vaccine distribution

- Maintain temperature of ILR between +2⁰C and +8⁰C for storage of vaccines and diluents. Monitor temperature twice daily regularly including on Sundays/holidays.
- Note the name of the manufacturer, batch number and expiry date of the vaccine and diluent in the stock register.
- Ensure proper recording and reporting of vaccine distribution and usage.
- Keep stock up to date, do not over-stock or under-stock vaccines and diluents.
- Multi-dose vials from which at least one dose has been removed may be at risk of contamination of the vial septum. Never allow these vials to submerge in water (from melted ice for example) to keep the septum clean and dry.

Note: Well-sealed conditioned ice packs should be used in vaccine carriers and water should not be allowed to accumulate where the vials are stored. Vaccine vials must be transported in properly locked plastic zipper bag.

- Keep the “returned, partially used” vials in a separate box and label these accordingly.
- Observe early expiry first out (EEFO) policy for issuing vaccines. If the vaccines are of same expiry date, the partially used vaccine vials should be re-issued. The vial opened earlier, as recorded on the label of the vial, should be issued first.
- Contingency plan has to be in place in case of any exigency like power failure, equipment breakdown, etc.

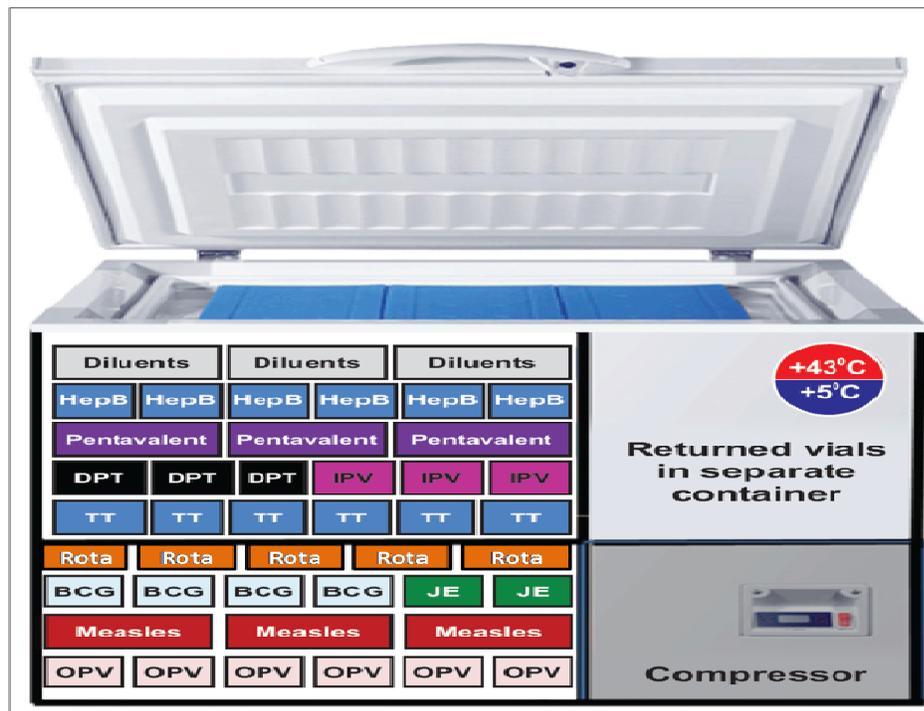
5.5 Cold chain equipment

Cold chain equipment, both electrical and non-electrical, is used for storing vaccines and/or transporting them at appropriate temperatures.

ILR point or Cold Chain point: An ILR or cold chain point is a health centre (PHC or CHC) with an Ice Lined Refrigerator for storage of vaccines and a Deep Freezer for preparation of frozen ice packs. There is usually a generator as power back up. The function of the ILR point is to receive, store and further distribute vaccines, diluents and other logistics to another ILR point or directly to the session sites.

Ice Lined Refrigerator (ILR): maintains a cabinet temperature between +2°C to +8°C; is used to store UIP vaccines at the PHC and district. ILR with top opening lid prevents loss of cold air during door opening; can keep vaccines safe with as little as 8 hours electricity supply in a 24-hour period. (See fig. 5.2)

Fig. 5.2. Storing vaccines in the ILR



In case basket is not available, two layers of empty ice packs can be laid flat on the bottom of the ILR to avoid contact with the inside floor of the cabinet; **Vaccines should never be kept on the floor of the ILR.**

Table 5.3. Dos and Dont's for ILR use

Dos	Dont's
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Keep all vaccines including those returned under open vial policy, in the basket supplied along with the ILR. ✓ Store diluents at +2 to +8°C at least 24 hours before use ✓ Leave space in between the vaccine boxes. ✓ Place a thermometer in the basket in between the vaccines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Do not store any other drugs/Non-UIP vaccines in the ILR. ➤ Do not open the ILR frequently ➤ Do not keep food or drinking water ➤ Do not keep vaccines, which have expired and have crossed the discard point of VVM. ➤ Do not disturb the thermostat setting frequently.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Keep freeze sensitive vaccines at the top of the basket. ✓ Keep heat sensitive vaccines in the bottom of the basket. ✓ Arrange vaccines as per their expiry dates. (Early expiry should be above the further expiry ones). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Do not place heavy weight on ILR. ➤ Do not store excess stock of vaccines i.e. more than the maximum stock. ➤ Do not store any reconstituted vaccine vials.
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Deep Freezer (DF): maintains cabinet temperature between -15°C to -25°C. Unlike the ILR the DF has little or limited holdover time, dependent on the number of frozen icepacks in it and the frequency of opening. At the PHC level, Deep freezer is used only for preparation of icepacks. See fig. 5.3 on the guidelines to keep the icepacks.

Fig. 5.3. Freezing Ice-packs in Deep Freezer

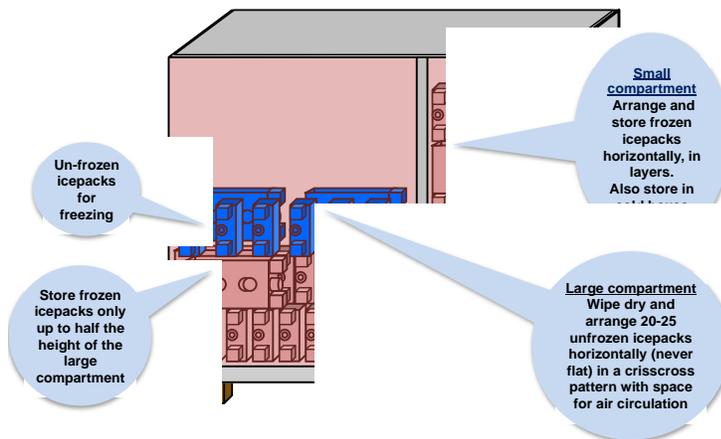


Fig. 5.4. Brick layered ice packs in deep freezer



Table 5.4. Dos and Dont's for DF use

Dos	Dont's
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Use DF only for preparation of icepacks at the sub-district level cold chain points (PHC / CHC / Sub-Centre) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Do not keep any vaccine in the DF at subdistrict level. ➤ Never keep diluents in the deep freezer.

Voltage Stabilizer: electronic equipment that ensures a constant output voltage of 220 Volts, whatever the input voltage, thus safeguards equipment from excessive voltage variation. Each ILR or DF should be connected to the mains through its own independent voltage stabilizer with proper earthing.

Cold Box: an insulated box, used for transportation and emergency storage of vaccines and icepacks. It is available in 2 sizes, large and small. It is used to:

Fig. 5.5. Packing a Cold Box



- Collect and transport large quantities of vaccines.
- Store vaccines for transfer up to five days, if necessary for outreach sessions or when there is power cut.
- Store vaccines in case of breakdown of ILR as a contingency measure.
- Also used for storing frozen icepacks, e.g. during emergency and before campaigns.

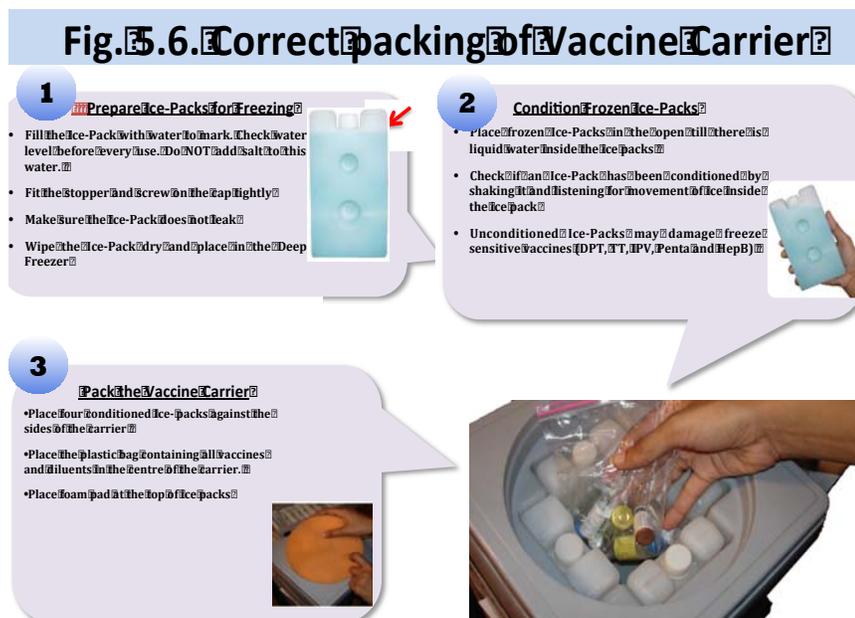
Packing a cold box:

- Place conditioned icepacks at the bottom and sides of the cold box.
- Load the vaccines in cardboard cartons or polythene bags.
- Never place freeze sensitive vaccines in direct contact with the icepacks. Surround them with OPV/BCG/JE vaccines.
- Keep a thermometer in the cold box.
- Place 2 rows of conditioned icepacks above the vaccine vials.
- Place plastic sheet to cover the icepacks kept on top to ensure full hold over time.
- Securely close the lid of the cold box.

Vaccine Carrier: It is an insulated box used for carrying vaccines (16-20 vials) and diluents from PHC/Cold chain point to session sites and to bring back the open vials (under the open vial policy) from the session sites to the cold-chain point on same day after the session for storage and subsequent use. Vaccine carrier (with 4 conditioned icepacks) maintains the inside temperature between +2°C to +8°C for 12 hours, if not opened frequently.

Packing a vaccine carrier:

- ✓ Confirm that there are no cracks in the walls of the vaccine carrier.
- ✓ Take out the required number of icepacks from the deep freezer and wipe them dry.
- ✓ Keep them out side for conditioning before placing into carrier.



- ✓ Place four conditioned icepacks into the vaccine carrier along the sides.
- ✓ Wrap vaccine vials and ampoules in thick paper (e.g. plain white paper) before putting in polythene bag so as to prevent them from touching the icepacks. Place some packing material between 'T' series vaccine and the icepacks to prevent them from touching the icepacks.
- ✓ Place the plastic bag in the centre away from the icepacks. This will prevent labels from peeling off from the vials.
- ✓ Place foam pad on top of the icepacks.
- ✓ If more than one vaccine carrier is being carried, keep the whole range of the vaccines required for the day's use in each carrier so that only one carrier is opened at a time.

Table 5.5. Dos and Dont's in using a vaccine carrier

Dos	Dont's
✓ Place vaccines & diluents in cartons or polythene bags to ensure labels are protected.	➤ Never use day carriers, which contain 2 icepacks or thermos flasks for routine immunization.
✓ Use well-sealed conditioned icepacks in the vaccine carrier.	➤ Never use any screwdriver or any other sharp shaft to open the lid of vaccine carrier.
✓ Ensure that some ice is present in the icepacks while conducting immunization session.	➤ Do not drop, knock or sit on the vaccine carrier.
✓ Ensure collection of vaccines in the vaccine carrier on the session day itself.	➤ Do not leave the vaccine carrier in the sunlight.
✓ Close the lid tightly and securely.	➤ Do not leave the lid open once packed.
✓ Keep the interior of the vaccine carrier clean and dry after every use.	

Icepacks: are plastic containers filled with water. These are hard frozen in the deep freezer. They are placed inside a vaccine carrier and cold box to improve and maintain the holdover time; also used in ILR as inside lining to improve & maintain holdover time during electricity failure.

About 20-25 icepacks (8-10 Kg. Ice) and 35-40 icepacks (12-14 Kg. Ice) can be frozen in one day in small and large deep freezers respectively. Standard icepacks used in UIP for cold box and vaccine carrier are of 0.4 litre capacity.

Table 5.6. Dos and Dont's in using icepacks

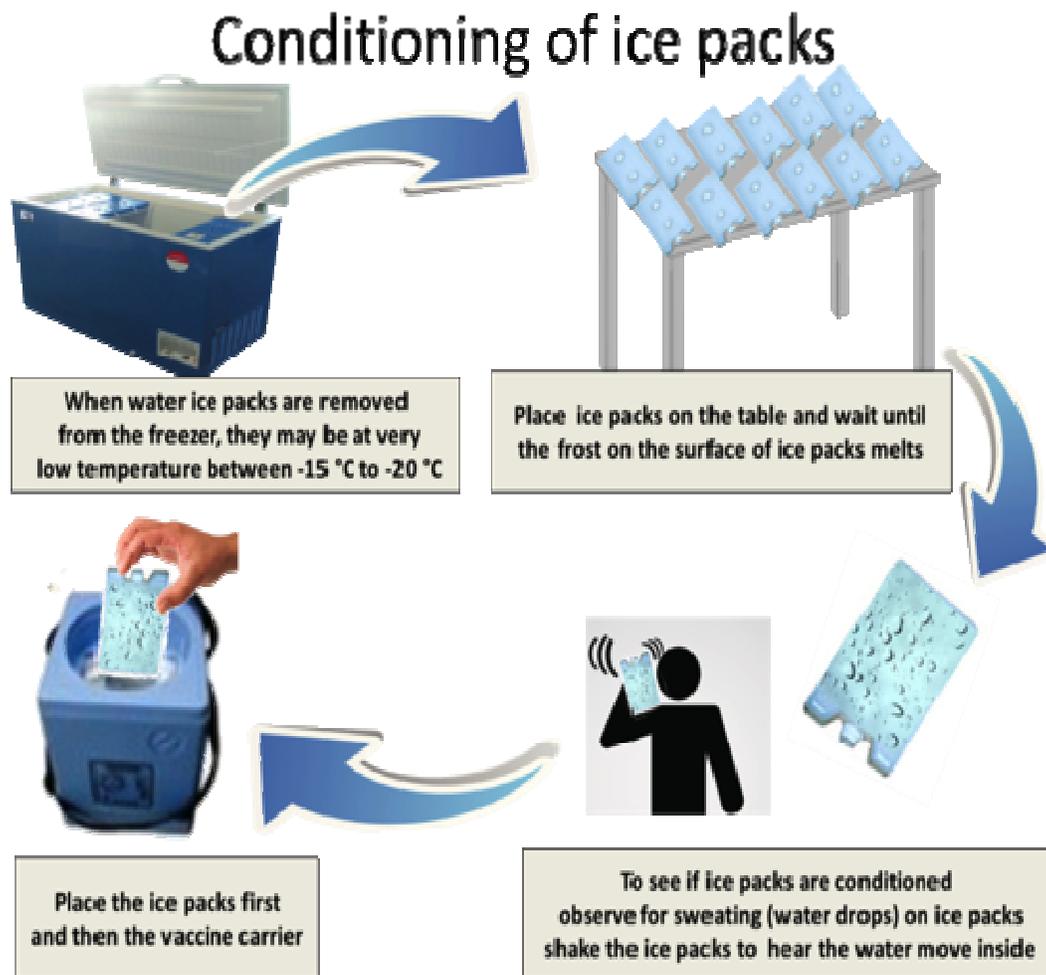
Dos	Dont's
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Fill water only up to the level mark on the side to leave 10mm room for expansion as water freezes. ✓ While filling, keep the ice pack vertically up wards under the tap so that it will overflow after reaching the desired level. ✓ Fit the stopper and screw on the cap tight. ✓ Check and ensure that icepack does not leak. ✓ Clean the outer surface of icepacks with dry cloth before putting into the deep freezer. ✓ Keep icepacks horizontally (not flat) in a ciss-cross manner in DF. ✓ Keep gap / breathing space between icepacks for freezing to be faster & uniform. ✓ Ensure that icepacks are frozen ROCK solid. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Do not use icepacks that are cracked and are without cap or cork. ➤ Do not use icepacks with leakage; discard them. ➤ Never add salt to the water as it lowers the temperature to sub-zero ice pack, which is not recommended. ➤ Do not refill icepack every time before use, same water can be used repeatedly. <div data-bbox="1117 491 1349 961" style="text-align: center;"> <p>The diagram shows a rectangular ice pack with a cap and cork at the top. A horizontal line indicates the 'Max water level' with a 10mm gap above it labeled 'Space for air'. Two circular vials are shown inside the pack, labeled 'Reconstituted BCG and Measles Vial'.</p> </div>

Conditioning of frozen Icepacks:Icepacks come out of the freezer at a temperature of about -20°C. They need to be kept at room temperature for a period of time to allow the ice at the core of the icepack to rise to 0°C. This takes at least 30-45 minutes in hot weather and much longer in cooler conditions – from 90 to 120 minutes at +20°C. This process is called 'conditioning'.

- Conditioning of icepacks prevents freezing of vaccines (freeze sensitive vaccines as Hep B & T series) during transport.
- Freeze sensitive vaccine can be damaged if it comes in direct contact with the frozen icepacks
- At start of session day, take all the frozen icepacks, you need from the freezer and close the door. Lay out on a table leaving a 5 cm space all round each icepack.
- Lay out icepacks, preferably in single rows but never in more than two rows
- Wait until there is liquid water inside the icepacks.
- Shake one of the icepacks every few minutes. The ice is conditioned as soon as ice cores move inside the packs.

Note: The personnel involved in preparing the vaccine carriers and “conditioned” icepacks may include other staff of the health center. It is essential to train these staff also, on the importance and method of conditioning icepacks.

Fig. 5.7. Conditioning of frozen icepacks



Temperature monitoring

Temperature recording is done in order to ensure that the vaccines are kept at recommended temperatures and the cold chain working properly. A break in the cold chain is indicated if temperature rises above +8°C or falls below +2°C in the ILR; and above -15°C in the Deep Freezer. Different type of thermometers and instruments are used to measure the temperature during storage and transport of vaccines e.g.

a. Alcohol Stem Thermometer

Alcohol thermometers are very sensitive and more accurate than dial thermometers. They can record temperatures from -50°C to +50°C and can be used for ILRs and deep freezers.

Fig. 5.8. Alcohol stem thermometer

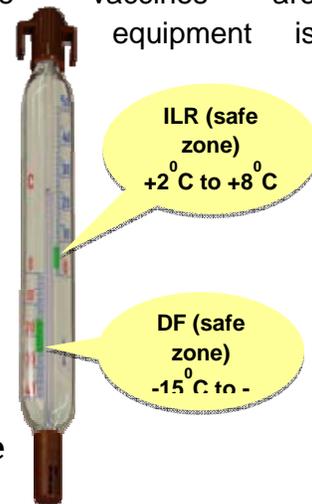


Table 5.7. Dos and Dont's in temperature monitoring of vaccines

Dos	Dont's
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Keep one thermometer in each ILR and each DF. ✓ Record the temperature twice daily for ILR/Freezer used for storage of vaccines. ✓ Keep the booklet of 12 monthly temperature-recording forms on the top of each unit. ✓ Write the serial number of ILR/deep freezer on the top of the temperature record book. ✓ Keep the thermometer in between the freeze sensitive vaccines inside the basket of the ILR. ✓ Sign on the temperature record book after recording temperature reading. ✓ Preserve the temperature logbook of cold chain equipment for minimum period of three years. ✓ Adjust the thermostat switch in different seasons to maintain the inside temperature of the equipment well within the prescribed range. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Do not take the alcohol stem thermometer out of ILR while taking reading, as it is very sensitive.

Unit 6: Safe injections and Waste disposal

Learning Objectives

At the end of the unit, you should be able to:

- Describe the importance of safe injections and ways to improve injection safety
- Demonstrate how to use AD Syringes correctly
- Explain the steps to ensure safe disposal of immunization waste

Contents

- Importance of safe injection practices
- Simple ways to improve injection safety
- Using AD syringes correctly
- Steps to ensure safe disposal of immunization waste

6.1 Importance of safe injection practices

A safe injection is one that -

- Does not harm the recipient
- Does not expose the health workers to any avoidable risks
- Does not result in waste, which is dangerous for the community

The most common, serious infections transmitted by unsafe injections are Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and HIV (the virus that causes AIDS). Poorly administered injections can also cause injuries or drug toxicity when the wrong injection site, vaccine, diluent, or dose is used. It is important to prevent the risks of accidental needle-stick injury, and necessary to dispose of used syringes and needles safely to prevent risks to the community at large.

The provision of auto disable syringes by the Government of India and the implementation of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) outlined waste management procedures are attempts to improve injection safety in the immunization program.

Fig. 6.1. - Impacts of unsafe injections



6.2 Simple ways to improve injection safety

- **Keep hands clean before giving injections**
 - Wash or disinfect hands prior to preparing injection material.
 - Avoid giving injections if the skin at the site of injection of the recipient is infected or compromised by local infection (such as a skin lesion, cut, or weeping dermatitis).
 - Cover any small cuts on the service provider's skin.
- **Use sterile injection equipment, every time**
 - Always use ADS for each injection and a new disposable syringe to reconstitute each vial of BCG and measles.
- **Prevent the contamination of vaccine and injection equipment**
 - Prepare each injection in a designated clean area where contamination from blood or body fluid is unlikely.
 - If the injection site is dirty, wash with clean water
 - Always pierce the rubber cap of the vial with a sterile needle.
 - Follow product-specific recommendations for use, storage, and handling of a vaccine.
 - Do not touch the needle or rubber cap of vial with your finger.
 - Discard any needle that has touched any non-sterile surface.
- **Assume all used equipment is contaminated**



- Cut the used syringe at the hub immediately after use.
- **Practice safe disposal of all medical sharps waste**
 - Used sharps (needles) must be collected in a hub cutter and then carried to the PHC for safe disposal.
- **Prevent needle-stick injuries**
 - Do not recap or bend needles.
 - Collect sharps in a puncture proof container (Hub cutter).
 - Anticipate sudden movement of the child.



6.3 Using Auto-Disable (AD) syringes

AD syringes have a fixed needle and are pre-sterilized in a sealed pack. They can only be used once, thus preventing reuse of non-sterile syringes. They are available in two sizes with vaccine drawing capacity of 0.1 ml and 0.5 ml.

Fig. 6.2. Correct use of AD syringes

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Select the correct syringe for the vaccine to be administered. BCG 0.1ml and all others 0.5ml. 2. Check the packaging. Don't use if the package is damaged, opened, or expired. 3. Peel open or tear the package from the plunger side and remove the syringe by holding the barrel. Discard the packaging into a black plastic bag.
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Remove needle cover/ cap and discard it into the black plastic bag. 5. Do not move the plunger until you are ready to fill the syringe with the vaccine and do not inject air into the vial as this will lock the syringe. 6. Take the appropriate vaccine vial, invert the vial, and insert the needle into the vial through the rubber cap. Insert the needle such that the tip is within the level of the vaccine. If inserted beyond you may draw air bubble which is very difficult to expel. 7. Do not touch the needle or the rubber cap (septum) of the vial.
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Pull the plunger back slowly to fill the syringe. The plunger will automatically stop when the necessary dose of the vaccine has been drawn (0.1 or 0.5 ml). 9. Do not draw air into the syringe. In case air accidentally enters the syringe, remove the needle from the vial. Holding the syringe upright, tap the barrel to bring the bubbles towards the tip of syringe. Then carefully push the plunger to the dose mark (0.5 or 0.1 ml) thus expelling the air bubble. 10. Clean the injection site (if dirty) with a clean water swab.



11. Administer the vaccine.
 - **BCG:** upper arm **LEFT**
 - **DPT and Hep B:** Anterolateral aspect (outer side) of mid-thigh **LEFT**
 - **Pentavalent:** Anterolateral aspect of mid-thigh **LEFT**
 - **fractional IPV:** Upper arm **RIGHT**
 - **PCV:** Anterolateral aspect of mid-thigh **RIGHT**
 - **MR:** Upper arm **RIGHT**
 - **TT:** Upper arm **RIGHT**
 - **JE:** upper arm **LEFT**.
 12. Push the plunger completely to deliver the dose. **Do not rub the injection site after vaccine is given.**
 13. **Do not recap the needle.** Cut the hub of the syringe immediately after use with a hub-cutter that collects the sharps in a translucent plastic container.
 14. Then collect the plastic portion of the cut syringes in a **red** plastic bag.
- Follow the guidelines for waste disposal as given in next section**

6.4 Steps to ensure safe disposal of immunization waste

Follow the steps as given below for disposal of the immunization waste.

Step 1: At the session site, cut the needle of the AD syringe immediately after administering the injection, using the Hub cutter that cuts the plastic hub of the syringe and not the metal part of needle. The cut needles will get collected in the puncture-proof translucent container of the hub-cutter.

Step 2: Store the broken vials in a separate white translucent sturdy and puncture proof container or in the same hub-cutter, in case its capacity is also able to accommodate broken vials.

Step 3: Segregate and store the plastic portion of the cut syringes and unbroken (but discarded) vials in the red bag or container. Both the containers should bear the biohazard symbol.

Step 4: Send the red bag and the hub cutter to PHC for disinfection and disposal by designated person at the PHC and dispose of the black bag as general waste. PHC may send the collected materials to the Common Bio-medical Waste Treatment Facilities (CBWTF). If the CBWTF doesn't exist, go to step 5.

Step 5: Treat the collected material in an autoclave. If unable to impart autoclaving, boil the waste in water for at least 10 minutes or provide chemical treatment (using at least 1% solution of sodium hypochlorite or freshly prepared bleach solution for 30 minutes). Ensure that this results in disinfection. However, the District Hospital/CHC/PHC etc. will ultimately make the necessary arrangements to autoclave on a regular basis.

Step 6: Dispose the autoclaved (or boiled/chemically disinfected) waste as follows:

- Dispose the needles and broken vials in a safety pit/tank

- Send the syringes and unbroken vials for recycling or landfill.

Step 7: Wash the hub cutters properly for reuse.

Step 8: Maintain a proper record of generation, treatment and disposal of waste at the District Hospitals/CHC/PHC/etc.

Fig. 6.3. Using the hub cutter correctly



Fig. 6.4. Pictorial flow chart – disinfection and disposal sharps waste from RI session



Fig. 6.5. Pictorial guide – segregation and safe disposal methods for immunization waste

Waste from Immunization Session



Cut hub of AD and disposable syringes broken vials and ampoules



Plastic part of Syringe, Empty unbroken Vials



Needle Cap/ Wrappers



Send to Health Facility at end of Session



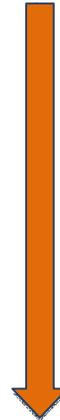
Disinfect in Sodium Hypochlorite Solution (for 30 minutes)

Dispose in Safety Pit



Disinfect in Sodium Hypochlorite Solution (for 30 minutes)

Recycle



Dispose as Municipal Waste



Unsafe immunization practices



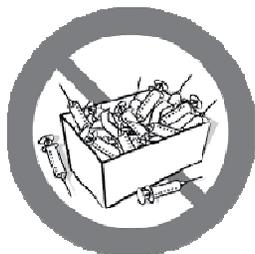
Do not recap the needle



Do not leave the needle inside the vial



Do not touch the needle



Do not dispose of used needles in an open cardboard box

Unit 7: Managing an immunization session

Learning Objectives

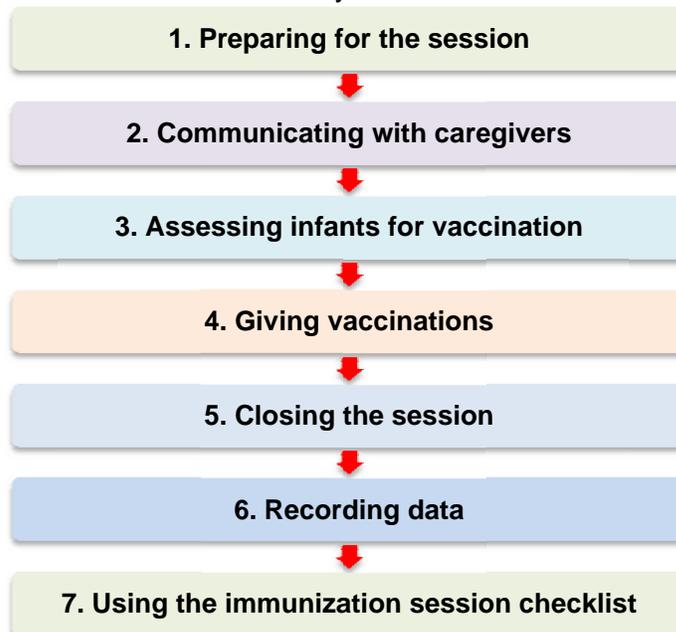
At the end of the unit, you should be able to:

- Make preparations for conducting the immunization sessions
- Conduct an immunization session using the correct communication, assessment and vaccine administration techniques

Contents

- Preparing for an Immunization session.
- Communicating with caregivers
- Assessing infants for vaccination and giving vaccinations
- Closing the session and Recording data
- Using the immunization session checklist

As a health worker, you need to perform a number of important tasks to ensure the quality of an immunization session. They are as follows:



7.1 Preparing for the session

During microplanning you have already planned for the number of sessions, location of session sites, number of beneficiaries expected and the vaccines and logistics required. You know the names of the ASHA/AWW responsible for mobilizing the beneficiaries to the session site. In addition, before every session day you need to perform the following tasks:

a) Select an appropriate session site

Ideally, it should be:

- easily accessible and identified - using the IEC posters / banner at a visible point;
- located at the same place each time;
- in a clean area, out of sun and rain – no open air sites;
- with adequate space to accommodate beneficiaries before and after being immunized; space for registration, immunizing and recording.
- quiet enough for health workers to be able to explain what they are doing and to give advice.

b) Arrange for the equipment and supplies required

- | | |
|--|--|
| • A table to keep vaccines and injection equipment | • Source of clean water and soap for hand washing |
| • A seat for a parent to sit while holding a child for vaccination and a seat for the HW | • Vaccine carrier with 4 conditioned ice packs |
| • MCH card/ Immunization card | • Vaccines, diluents and Vitamin A |
| • Counterfoils pertaining to the session Immunization register | • Metal file to open ampoules |
| • Immunization tally sheets | • AD Syringes |
| • Paracetamol liquid or tablets | • 5 ml disposable syringes (mixing or reconstitution syringes) |
| • AEFI management kit | • Cotton swabs |
| • BP apparatus* | • Hub cutter |
| • Weighing machine* | • Black and Red bags for waste disposal |
| | • ORS, Zinc and IFA tablets* |

* Items to be included when immunization session is part of Village Health and Nutrition Day (VHND)

c) Prepare due list of beneficiaries and share with AWW and ASHA to bring them for the session

Prepare the list of due beneficiaries by consulting the following documents:

- Counterfoils of immunization cards
- MCH / Immunization register
- Register of AWW and ASHA
- Newborn tracking booklets of polio rounds

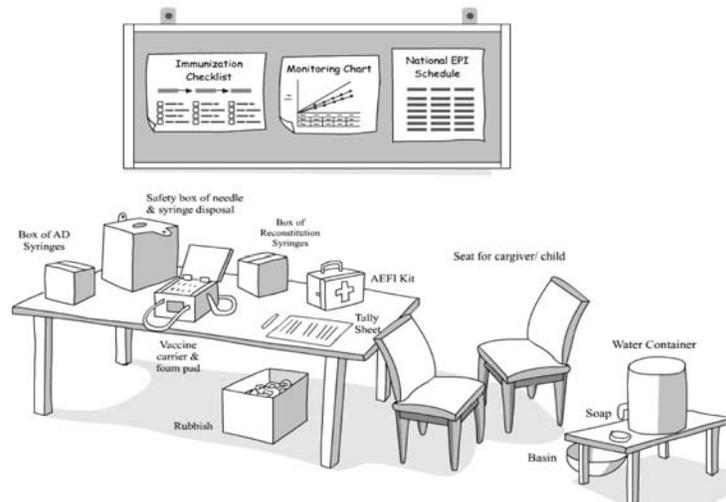
d) Arrange the vaccination session site

Place everything you need within reach. On the table you should keep:

- Vaccine carrier
- Hub Cutter
- Immunization cards and records
- Cotton swabs
- Clean water for cleaning the injection site

Keep red and black bags near the table, for disposing immunization waste. Also keep a bowl, water and soap for scrubbing your hands clean before beginning the vaccination session and every time your hands come in contact with any un-sterile surface.

Fig. 7.1. Layout of vaccination session site



e) Cold chain maintenance during the immunization session

- While receiving the vaccine carrier, open it and check for the presence of four well-sealed conditioned icepacks; diluents and usable VVM on all vaccine vials. In case of any gaps, inform the medical officer immediately to get the correct supplies.
- Inspect for and discard vaccine vials with visible contamination, i.e. check for any change in the appearance of vaccine, any floating particles or breaches of integrity such as cracks and leaks.
- **Mark all vaccine vials with date and time of opening at first use.**
- Note the name of the manufacturer, batch number and expiry date of the vaccine and diluent in the tally sheet.
- Always pierce the septum with a sterile needle for drawing vaccine from the multi-dose vials being used. OPV vial dropper should be recapped with stopper (small cap) after each use, and kept on the ice pack. Vials of DPT, Hep B, pentavalent, IPV and TT should not be kept on the ice pack.

Specific attention while implementing open vial policy

- OVP is **not applicable** to vials of measles/MR, Rotavirus, BCG and JE vaccine.
- **Measles/MR, Rotavirus, BCG, and JE vaccine should not be used beyond 4 hours of reconstitution/opening** under any circumstances.

- Rotavirus vaccine does not require reconstitution but must not be used beyond 4 hours of opening.
- Discard such vials after 4 hours of reconstitution or at the end of the session, whichever is earlier.

7.2 Communicating with caregivers

Communication involves giving information verbally (including the tone of voice) and non-verbally (body language). Most communication is non-verbal. It is conveyed in many ways: posture, facial expression, gestures, eye contact and attitude. For example, welcoming families to an immunization session with a smile and a calm manner will reassure the anxious, whereas arriving late can communicate a lack of respect.

Communication during each encounter

At the start

- Greet the caregiver in a friendly manner. Thank them for coming for vaccination and for their patience if they had to wait.
- Ask the caregiver if they have any questions or concerns and answer them politely.

During assessment

- Write the date of the vaccination(s) being given on the immunization card and explain the disease(s) against which the vaccination(s) protect(s) in simple terms (in the local language). If there is a poster or chart, use it to help your explanation.
- Mention possible adverse events and explain how to handle them.
- Explain the need for the child to return for each contact in the immunization schedule to be fully protected. Use the immunization card as an instructional guide, and congratulate the caretaker if the child has completed a series.
- Write the date for the next vaccination on the immunization card and tell the caregiver. If appropriate, associate the date with a well-known occurrence, such as a holiday or seasonal event that will help them remember to bring the child back.
- Ask the caregiver to repeat the date to be sure it is understood.
- Explain to the caregiver that if the child cannot come on the return date, they can obtain the next vaccination at another location or another date close to the due date.
- Remind the caregiver to bring the immunization card when they bring the child back for the next vaccination.

Proceed with vaccination, including explanation of positioning, as described later.

After vaccination

- Ask the beneficiary to wait for 30 minutes to observe for any AEFI.
- Remind the caregiver when to return with the infant.
- In the event of any out-of-stocks of vaccine at the time of the session, inform the caregiver where and when to return for the next doses.
- Remind the caregiver about other services given during immunization session; for example, vitamin A supplementation or tetanus toxoid for women.
- If immunization campaigns are planned in the coming months, inform the caregivers about the date of the campaign, what vaccination is being given, and where the vaccination site will be.
- Offer relevant print information to caregivers who are literate.
- Ask the caregiver if they have any questions or concerns and answer them politely

7.3 Assessing infants for vaccination

a) Assess eligibility for immunization

- Verify the infant's age on the immunization card or ask the caregiver in case the card is not available.
- Verify which vaccines the infant has received by reviewing the immunization card or ask the caregiver in case the card is not available. Fill a new card.
- Verify all vaccines the infant needs at this session to allow efficient preparation
 - If the infant is eligible for more than one type of vaccine, it is safe to give the different vaccines at different injection sites during the same session
 - Never give more than one dose of the same vaccine at one time.
 - If the vaccine is overdue, do not restart the schedule. Simply provide the next needed dose in the series.
 - If there is a delay in starting the immunization schedule, give the vaccine(s) and an appointment for the next dose at the interval as recommended in the national immunization schedule.

b) Assess possible contraindications

All infants should be immunized except in these situations:

- Do not give a vaccine if the infant has had anaphylaxis (a serious allergic reaction) or other severe reaction to a previous dose of the vaccine or a vaccine component.
- Do not vaccinate HIV-infected children with BCG vaccine. Do not give measles-

Remind parents about four key messages as follows:

1. What vaccine was given and what disease it prevents
2. When and where to come for the next visit.
3. What are the minor side effects and how to deal with them.
4. To keep the immunization card safe and to bring it along for the next visit

and/or mumps- and/or rubella containing vaccines to cases of symptomatic HIV infections/AIDS.

- High fever ($>38.5^{\circ}\text{C}$). Do not give a vaccine if the caregiver objects to immunization for a sick infant after explanation that mild illness is not a contraindication. Ask the caregiver to come back when the infant is well.

Vaccinate malnourished children as usual as they are more likely than well-nourished children to die from vaccine-preventable diseases.

7.4 Giving vaccinations

a) Preparing to vaccinate

Use aseptic technique to prepare vaccines:

- Start with handwashing – use soap and water and dry your hands thoroughly
- Work on a clean table
- Prepare vaccines individually for each child; do not prefill syringes.

Try to talk to the caregiver while preparing injections, as showing interest in the caregiver is reassuring.

Fig. 7.2. Placement of vaccines at the RI session site



b) Reconstituting vaccines

Vaccines that need to be mixed with diluent before use are **BCG, Measles/MR and JE vaccine**. Use these vaccines as per following instructions:

- Before reconstitution check that the vaccine is within the expiry date and that VVM has not reached/crossed the discard point.
- When reconstituting, do so **only with the diluent provided** by manufacturer for that batch of vaccine.
- Reconstitute the vaccine with diluent immediately before use.
- Reconstitute the vaccine even when only one eligible child is present.
- Write the **date and time of reconstitution** on the label of the vial immediately following reconstitution.

- Use the reconstituted vials **only for a single session**; do not carry them from one session to another, even if the session is close by.
- If any AEFI occurs following use of any vial, do not use that vial; mark it and retain safely for AEFI investigation.

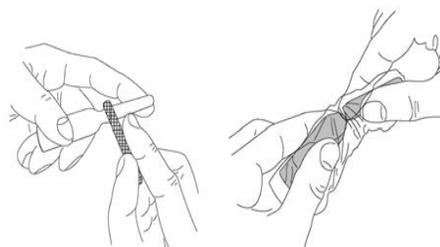
Steps for reconstitution

1. **Check for VVM on the cap of the vial.** This VVM indicates whether the dry vaccine is usable or not. Once reconstituted, VVM is of no use, as the vaccine has to be used within 4 hours.

Fig. 7.3. Scratching and breaking the neck of the ampoule

2. Double check each vial/ampoule to make sure it is not past its expiry date, and read the label carefully.

3. Open the vaccine vial. For a metal cap, use a file to lift the pre-cut centre and bend it back; for a plastic cap, flip it off with your thumb or slowly twist it depending on the specific instructions for the type of vial.



4. Open the glass ampoule (with diluent) by holding the ampoule between the thumb and middle finger and supporting the top with the index finger; scratch the ampoule neck with a file, then gently break off the top, taking care to avoid injury from the sharp glass (see Figure 7.3). If you injure yourself, discard the ampoule since the contents may have been contaminated. Cover the wound before opening a new ampoule.

5. Draw the entire diluent out with a **new disposable reconstitution (mixing) syringe and needle.**

6. Insert the needle of the reconstitution (mixing) syringe into the vaccine vial and empty all the diluent – depress the plunger slowly to avoid frothing inside the vaccine vial.

7. Remove the reconstitution needle and cut the mixing syringe at the hub with a hub-cutter.

8. To mix the diluent and vaccine, shake the vial gently by holding at the neck. Take care not to touch the rubber membrane or opening.

9. Write the date and time of reconstitution on the vial label.

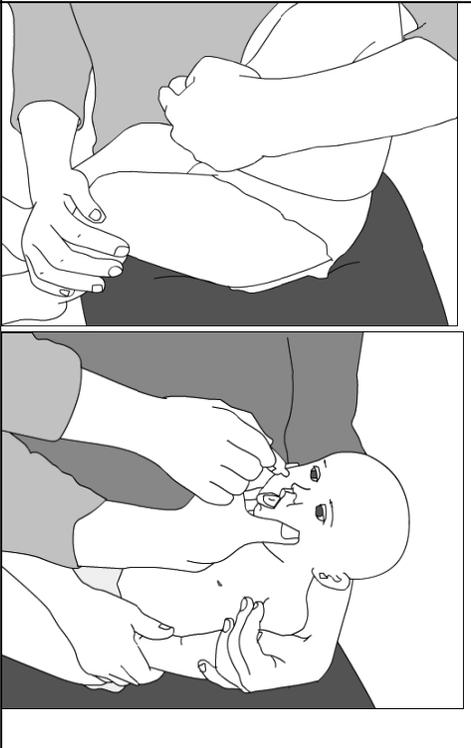
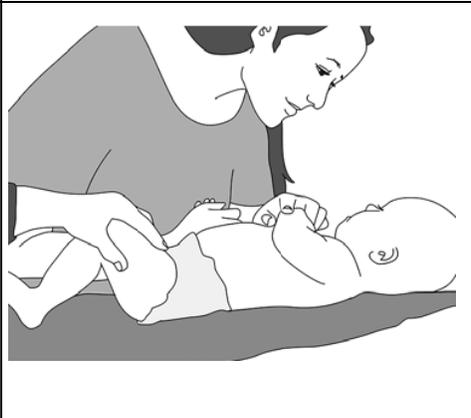
10. Put the reconstituted vaccine vial in the foam pad of your vaccine carrier.

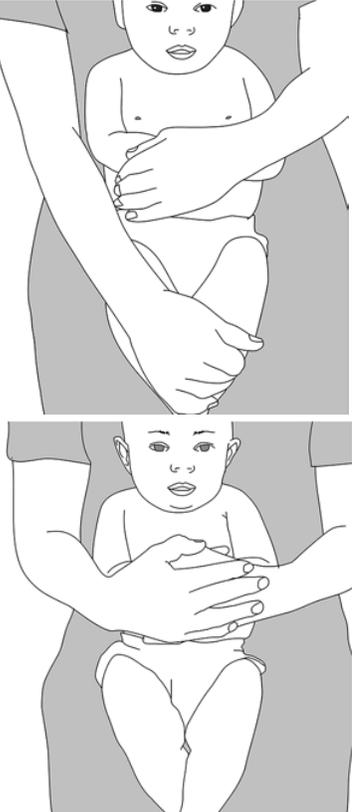
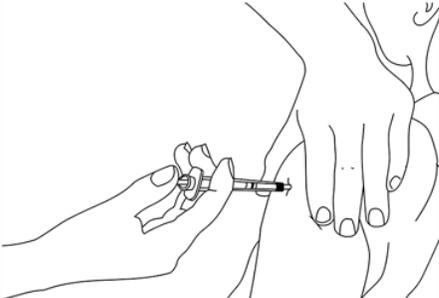
11. Use the reconstituted vaccine, within four hours of reconstitution. At the end of four hours, discard the vaccine and reconstitute a new one if required.

c) Positioning the child for vaccination

The aim of positioning is to keep the child still and the caregiver and vaccinator comfortable. The choice of position will depend on the number of vaccines to be given, the age of the child and the materials available.

Table 7.1. Different positions for vaccinating

Position	Illustration	Directions for caregiver	Advantages	Disadvantages
<p>Cuddle position: Semi-recumbent on caregiver's lap</p>		<p>Sit on a chair holding the infant sideways on lap with one arm behind infant's back.</p> <p>Tuck the infants's inside arm around their own back or against their body.</p> <p>Bring their arm around the infant's back to hug the shoulders and upper body close to their body.</p> <p>Tuck the infant's legs between their own to secure them or hold them with their other arm.</p> <p>Vaccinators should position themselves to avoid strain while giving vaccines at the correct angle.</p>	<p>Infant's arm and legs securely held by caregiver.</p> <p>Infant comforted by close contact and eye contact with caregiver.</p> <p>Leg and arm injections possible without position change.</p>	<p>Delay between injections if 2 IM injections given.</p> <p>Possibility that secure restraint may not occur after position change.</p>
<p>Bed position: Lying on back on flat surface</p>		<p>Lay the infant, with both legs bare, on a flat surface.</p> <p>Stand on the other side of the bed and hold the infant's hands and arms.</p> <p>Vaccinator should stand at the infant's feet and use non-injecting hand to gently cup the slightly bent knee of the leg to receive the vaccine.</p>	<p>Infant's arms held securely by caregiver.</p> <p>Infant comforted by close contact and eye contact with caregiver.</p> <p>Injection in both legs possible without change in position of infant.</p>	<p>Vaccinator responsible for restraint of the legs.</p>

<p>Upright position: Sitting upright on caregiver's lap, facing straight outwards</p>		<p>Sit on a chair holding the infant sitting facing straight outwards on their lap. Rest the infant's back against their chest. Encircle (hug) the infant's upper body and arms with one arm and use the other arm or their knees to hold the infant's lower legs (lower legs and feet one behind the other between the caregiver's knees). Vaccinator should stand on the side of the first injection and at the level where it can be given at a 90 degree angle.</p>	<p>Infant's arms and legs held securely by caregiver. Multiple injections possible without change in position.</p>	<p>Security of leg restraint dependent on caregiver – if too tight, muscles tense, if too loose leg may jerk out of restraint. No eye contact with caregiver.</p>
<p>Straddle position: Child >12 months of age vaccinated sitting upright on caregiver's lap, facing towards them with legs straddling over theirs</p>		<p>Sit on a chair holding the child facing them and sitting astride their knees. Encircle (hug) the child's upper body and arms with their arms. If necessary, use one arm to secure the child's leg. Vaccinator should stand on the side of the injection.</p>	<p>Child's arms tucked securely under caregiver's arms. Child comforted by close contact with caregiver. Multiple injections possible without change in position.</p>	<p>Thigh muscles may be tense. Vaccinator responsible for restraint of legs (unless caregiver helps).</p>
<p>Independent position: Adolescent/adult vaccinated sitting on chair</p>			<p>Good access to deltoid.</p>	<p>Restraint, if required, dependent on vaccinator.</p>

d) Good oral administration technique

Rotavirus vaccine and OPV are the oral vaccines in the national immunization schedule.

1. Position: Use the cuddle position on the caregiver's lap with the head supported and tilted slightly back. Vaccinator stands to one side (see Table 7.1).
2. Administration: Open the infant's mouth by gently squeezing the cheeks between your thumb and index finger using gentle pressure. Firm squeezing can cause distress.
 - For rotavirus vaccine, five drops and for OPV, let two drops of vaccine fall from the dropper onto the tongue. Do not let the dropper touch the infant.
3. Disposal: Discard the used oral vaccine vial into the red bag.

e) Good injection technique

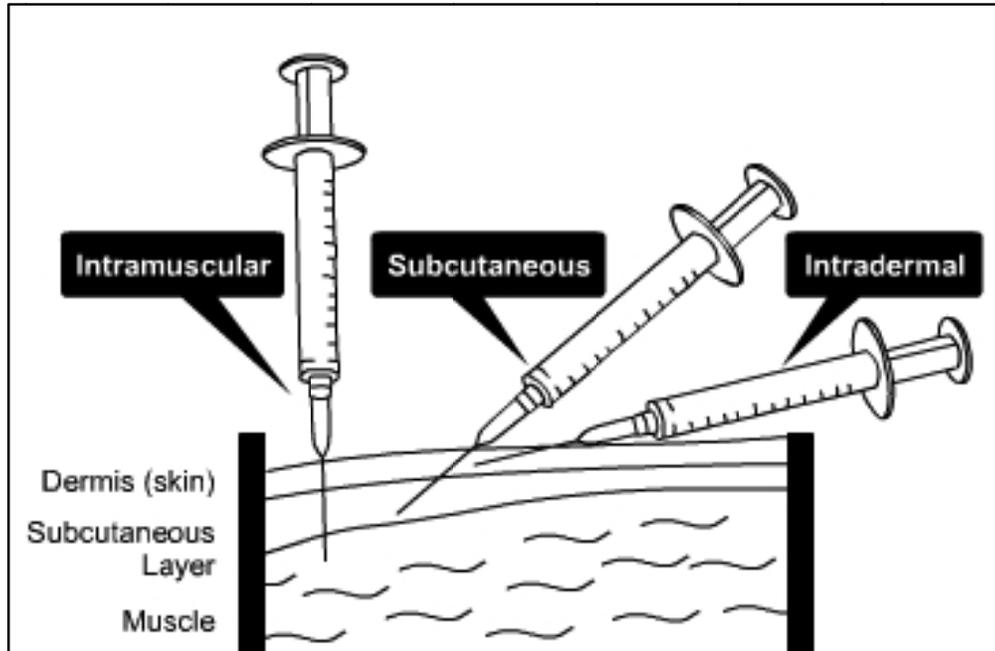
Good injection technique includes administering all injectable vaccines with an auto-disable (AD) syringe. To use AD syringes correctly, remember that the plunger of an AD syringe can only go back and forth once; so do not draw up air to inject into the vaccine vial when filling the AD syringe.

Summary of injection steps

1. Wash skin that looks dirty with water. Swabbing clean skin is not necessary. **Do not use alcohol to clean the skin before giving vaccinations.**
2. Hold the syringe barrel between the thumb, index and middle fingers. Do not touch the needle.
3. For intradermal (ID) injections, gently stretch and support the skin with the thumb and forefinger. Lay the syringe and needle almost flat along the infant's skin. Gently insert the needle into the top layer of the skin (see Fig. 7.4).
4. For subcutaneous injections (SC), gently squeeze the skin. Insert the entire needle at a 45-degree angle (towards the shoulder) with a quick, smooth action (see Fig. 7.4).
5. For intramuscular injections (IM), gently stretch and support the skin between thumb and forefinger. Push the entire needle in at a 90-degree angle with a quick, smooth action (see Fig. 7.4).
6. For all injections, depress the plunger slowly and smoothly, taking care not to move the syringe around.
7. For all injections, pull the needle out quickly and smoothly at the same angle that it went in.
8. For all injections, the caregiver may hold a clean swab gently over the site if it bleeds after injection.
9. For all injections, cut the hub of the syringe with hub cutter and put the plastic part of the syringe into the red bag immediately after each vaccination.

10. For all injections, soothe and distract the child when all the vaccines have been given.

Fig. 7.4. Needle positions for ID, SC and IM injections



f) Intradermal (ID) injection

BCG and IPV are injected intradermally (into the layers of the skin) for slow absorption. BCG - left upper arm and IPV - right upper arm. To measure and inject the very small dose (0.05 ml) accurately, a special syringe and needle are used (see Fig. 7.5)

How to give BCG intradermally

1. Position: Cuddle position on caregiver's lap

2. Administration:

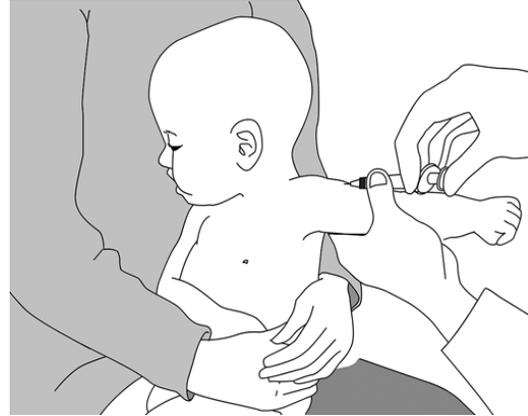
- Hold the syringe barrel with fingers and thumb on the sides of the barrel and with the bevel (hole) of the needle facing upwards.
- Lay the syringe and needle almost flat along the infant's skin.
- Insert the tip of the needle under the surface of the skin just past the bevel.
- Keep the needle close to the skin at the same angle as you inserted it.
- Place your other thumb on the lower end of the syringe near the needle to hold the needle in position, but do not touch the needle.
- Hold the plunger end of the syringe between the index and middle fingers. Press the plunger in slowly with the thumb. If you feel no resistance to the plunger, you are not in the right place and should reposition (see below).
- A pale flat-topped swelling with small pits like an orange peel should appear on the skin.

- Remove the needle smoothly at the same angle as it went in.
- The caregiver may hold a clean swab gently over the site if it is bleeding. Do not rub or massage the area.
- Soothe the infant.

3. Disposal: Cut the hub of the syringe with hub cutter and put the plastic part of the syringe into the red bag immediately after each vaccination.

Fig. 7.5. BCG injection

When an intradermal injection is given correctly, the syringe plunger is hard to push. If the plunger goes in too easily, the injection may be too deep. Stop injecting immediately, correct the position of the needle, and give the remainder of the dose, but no more. If the whole dose has already gone in, count the infant as having received a dose of vaccine, even though it was given subcutaneously rather than intradermally. Do not repeat the dose.



The risk of side effects, such as abscesses or enlarged glands, is greater if the vaccine is given incorrectly, so the technique is very important. It is better to ask for help from a supervisor or other colleague than to continue giving BCG incorrectly.

g) Subcutaneous (SC) injection in the upper arm

The injection is given into the layer below the skin on the upper arm. Right arm is used for measles vaccine and left arm is used for JE vaccine.

How to give a subcutaneous injection

1. Position: The position depends on the age of the child, the number of vaccinations to be given and what is easiest and most convenient for the vaccinator.

2. Administration:

- Hold the syringe barrel with fingers and thumb on the sides of the barrel and with the bevel (hole) of the needle facing upwards.
- Quickly push the needle into pinched-up skin; the needle should point towards the shoulder at a 45-degree angle. (See fig. 7.6)
- Depress the plunger smoothly, taking care not to move the needle under the skin.
- Pull the needle out quickly and smoothly at the same angle as it went in.
- The caregiver may hold a clean swab gently over the site if it is bleeding. Do not rub or massage the area.

Fig. 7.6. Subcutaneous



- Soothe and distract the infant.

3. Disposal: Cut the hub of the syringe with hub cutter and put the plastic part of the syringe into the red bag immediately after each vaccination.

h) Intramuscular (IM) injection in infants

The muscle on the upper outer part of the thigh is large and safe for intramuscular injections. (See Fig. 7.7)

In children aged less than 15 months the deltoid muscle of the upper arm is not safe to use since it is not developed enough to absorb the vaccine and the radial nerve is close to the surface. The deltoid muscle may be used in older children, adolescents and adults.

How to give an intramuscular injection to an infant

1. Position: The position depends on the age of the child, the number of vaccinations to be given and what is easiest and most convenient for the vaccinator.

2. Administration:

- Hold the syringe barrel with fingers and thumb on the sides of the barrel and with the bevel (hole) of the needle facing upwards.
- Gently stretch and support the skin on the upper, outer thigh with the other hand and quickly push the needle at a 90-degree angle down through the skin into the muscle.
- Depress the plunger smoothly, taking care not to move the needle under the skin.
- Pull the needle out quickly and smoothly at the same angle as it went in.
- The caregiver may hold a clean swab gently over the site if it is bleeding. Do not rub or massage the area.
- Soothe and distract the infant.

3. Disposal: Cut the hub of the syringe with hub cutter and put the plastic part of the syringe into the red bag immediately after each vaccination.

Fig. 7.7. Intramuscular injection



7.5 Closing the session

1. After immunization session is over

- Segregate the vaccine vials (used and unused) and keep these inside in a properly sealed zipper pouch/bag in the vaccine carrier under the cold chain and ensure carrier is picked up by the AVD mechanism to deliver at the designated vaccine/cold storage point.
- Under no circumstances will the vaccine carrier/vaccines be kept in the field at places other than the designated cold-chain point such as ANM/LHV/other HW/ASHA/AWW's house, etc. In such an instance, the vials should be discarded and not used for subsequent sessions.

2. At the vaccine storage/cold-chain point at the end of immunization day

Cold chain handler should ensure appropriate segregation of the vaccines into opened and unopened vials, and follow the instructions as below:

Unopened vials

- If VVM is intact and in usable stage, retain the vial in ILR as per guidelines, and issue accordingly.
- If VVM is not in usable stage or there is partial/complete defacement of the label, retain the vial in a plastic box clearly marked "Not to be used" in ILR. Discard such vial after 48 hours or before the next session, whichever is earlier.

Opened vials

- Segregate the vials on which Open Vial Policy (OVP) is not applicable such as measles/MR / Rotavirus /BCG/JE and retain in a plastic box clearly marked "**Not to be used**" in ILR. **Discard these vials after 48 hours or before the next session**, whichever is earlier. In case of any reported AEFI, they will not be discarded but retained for investigation.
- Segregate the vials for which OVP is applicable such as OPV/DPT/Hep B/pentavalent/PCV/IPV as below:
 - If VVM is intact and is in usable stage, retain the vaccine vial in ILR as per guideline, subject to the condition that the vial is used within 28 days of opening (as found from date marked on the vial) and re-issue in the next session after ensuring that it has not exceeded 28 days after opening the vial.
 - If VVM is intact and is in usable stage, but the vaccine vial has **exceeded 28 days** after opening (as found from date marked on the vial), **discard**the vials after ascertaining that these vials are not required for AEFI investigation.
 - If VVM is not in usable stage or there is partial/complete defacement of the label, retain in a plastic box clearly marked "**Not to be used**" in ILR. These vaccine vials should be discarded after 48 hours or before the next session, whichever is earlier.

- If there is any vial, which has been used, and there is a report of an AEFI, that vial (even if it is in usable stage) has to be kept separately in a properly sealed zipper bag earmarked “**For AEFI investigation**” in ILR under special custody and in the knowledge of the MO. This vial should never be issued to anyone unless authorized by DIO.
- The cold-chain handler should document the return of used (complete/partial) and unused vials in the vaccine distribution register.
- Wipe the carrier with a damp cloth and check it for cracks. Repair any cracks with adhesive tape and leave the carrier open to dry.

3. Dispose of immunization waste safely

Follow the guidelines for safe disposal of immunization waste as mentioned in unit-6.

4. Leave the site clean and tidy

Specifically after using an outreach site:

- Do not leave anything behind that might be a health threat to the community.
- Clean and return tables, chairs and other equipment to their owners.
- Thank the local people who have helped to organize the session and remind them of the date of the next session

7.6 Recording data

Accurate and reliable records are vital, not only for the individual child but also to track the immunization status of communities through monthly and annual reporting. During a session, individual immunization cards and health centre records – such as registers, counter foils and tally sheets – have to be completed. (**See unit 9**)

Analyse the session due list and tally sheet

After every RI session, try to address the following questions:

- Who are the children who were due for vaccination today but did not turn up?
- Why did they not turn up?
- Who are the children we did not list for today’s session?

Enlist all children **who had not come** in for the session conducted, irrespective of the reason. After these names, enter the names of children **who will be due** for any vaccine in the next session. Share this list with the ASHA/AWW/LW so as to give them sufficient time to visit these houses and use all possible methods to convince the parents or ensure that the children are vaccinated at the fixed site at the PHC or in the next session.

The reasons for not coming, once identified, must be addressed by the team. Seek support from local influencers/key persons to identify any children or beneficiaries before leaving the session site.

Remind the ASHA/AWW/LW on the next session date before leaving the session site.

7.7 Using the immunization session checklist

Immunization session checklist (Table 7.2) can help ensure safety before, during and after immunization. This checklist is a reminder of key points in preparation, vaccination and closure of sessions that are described above, and is meant to reinforce positive actions. A printed copy of this checklist can be posted on a wall in the immunization area for easy viewing throughout sessions.

Table 7.2. Immunization session checklist

Before the immunization session	For selected clients attending the immunization session	After the immunization session
<p>DID YOU:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CHECK if sufficient quantities of vaccines and diluents are available for the session? Y/N 2. CHECK vials for the following and take appropriate action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expiry dates? Y/N • Open vial date/time? Y/N • VVM status? Y/N • Freezing status? Y/N 3. PLACE vials in the appropriate place in the immunization area? Y/N 4. ENSURE sufficient supplies are available for the session including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auto-disable (AD) syringes? Y/N • Reconstitution syringes? Y/N • Hub cutter? Y/N • Black and red bag? Y/N • Immunization register? Y/N • Immunization tally sheets? Y/N • Blank immunization cards? Y/N 5. WASH your hands with soap? Y/N 	<p>DID YOU:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. GREET the client and caregiver? Y/N 2. REVIEW the client's immunization card? Y/N 3. DETERMINE eligible vaccinations based on the national schedule, client's age and possible contraindications? Y/N 4. RECONSTITUTE each vaccine with its matched diluent (for lyophilized vaccines)? Y/N 5. FILL syringes just before administration using aseptic technique? Y/N 6. ADMINISTER each vaccine according to recommended technique and correct injection site? Y/N 7. IMMEDIATELY cut syringes with hub cutter after each injection? Y/N 8. RECORD all vaccinations in register, tally sheet and immunization card? Y/N 9. COMMUNICATE key messages, including potential AEFIs and date of next visit? Y/N 	<p>DID YOU:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CORRECTLY ASSESS if open vials can be used in the next session in accordance with open vial policy? Y/N 2. DISCARD open vials that should not be used? Y/N 3. RECORD date and time of opening on vials that can be used and PLACE them in the "use first" box in the ILR? Y/N 4. RETURN unopened vials to the ILR? Y/N 5. COMPLETE Session due-list cum Tally sheet? Y/N 6. LIST the names of children who missed vaccination and require follow up? Y/N 7. HANDLE immunization waste correctly? Y/N 8. TAKE appropriate action to ensure sufficient vaccine stock for the next session? Y/N 9. INFORM COMMUNITY of date and time of next session? Y/N

Unit 8 Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFIs)

Learning Objectives

At the end of the unit, you should be able to:

- Identify common adverse events.
- Manage an adverse event when it occurs
- List the responsibilities of health service providers in minimizing AEFIs

Contents

- Adverse events following Immunization (AEFIs)
- Types of AEFIs
- Managing AEFI when it occurs
- Responsibilities of health service providers in minimizing AEFIs
- Reporting of AEFIs

8.1 Adverse events following immunization

Adverse event following immunization (AEFI) is defined as any untoward medical occurrence which follows immunization and which does not necessarily have a causal relationship with the usage of the vaccine.

The adverse event may be any unfavorable or unintended sign, abnormal laboratory finding, symptom or disease.

Majority of the adverse event are coincidental i.e unrelated to vaccine or vaccination process but have to be reported as the symptoms or signs have occurred after vaccination.

8.2 Types of AEFIs

In 2015, revised classification relevant to cause-specific categorization of AEFIs has been introduced (Table 8.1).

Table 8.1. Cause-specific categorization of AEFIs

	Cause-specific type of AEFI	Definition
1	Vaccine product-related reaction	An AEFI that is caused or precipitated by a vaccine due to one or more of the inherent properties of the vaccine product
2	Vaccine quality defect-related reaction (Both 1 & 2 were earlier categorised in Vaccine Reaction)	An AEFI that is caused or precipitated by a vaccine that is due to one or more quality defects of the vaccine product, including its administration device as provided by the manufacturer
3	Immunization error-related reaction (formerly “programme error”)	An AEFI that is caused by inappropriate vaccine handling, prescribing or administration and thus by its nature is preventable
4	Immunization anxiety-related reaction (formerly “injection reaction”)	An AEFI arising from anxiety about the immunization
5	Coincidental event	An AEFI that is caused by something other than the vaccine product, immunization error or immunization anxiety

a) Vaccine reactions

Vaccine reactions may be classified into common, minor reactions; severe reactions; or serious reactions. Most vaccine reactions are minor and settle on their own. More severe and serious reactions are very rare and in general do not result in long-term problems.

Common minor vaccine reactions

A vaccine induces immunity by causing the recipient’s immune system to react to the vaccine. Therefore, local reaction, fever and systemic symptoms can result as part of the immune response. In addition, some of the vaccine’s components (e.g. aluminium adjuvant, stabilizers or preservatives) can lead to reactions.

Local reactions (pain, swelling and/or redness at the injection site) and fever can be expected in about 10% of vaccinees, except for those injected with DPT, or tetanus boosters, where up to 50% can be affected. BCG causes a specific local reaction that starts as a papule (lump) two or more weeks after immunization, which becomes ulcerated and heals after several months, leaving a scar. Measles/MR vaccine

causes fever, rash and/or conjunctivitis, and affects 5–15% of vaccinees. It is very mild compared to “wild” measles.

Serious and severe vaccine reactions

An AEFI will be considered serious if it results in death, requires hospitalization, results in persistent or significant disability/incapacity or a cluster (two or more cases) of AEFIs occur in a geographical area.

AEFIs that are not minor but do not result in death, hospitalization or disability are categorized as severe. Examples include non-hospitalized cases of seizures, hypotonic hyporesponsive episodes (HHEs), persistent screaming, anaphylaxis, severe local reaction, injection site abscesses, intussusception, etc. Anaphylaxis, while potentially fatal, is treatable without leaving any long-term effects.

Recognition of anaphylaxis

Anaphylaxis is a very rare but severe and potentially fatal allergic reaction. You should be able to distinguish anaphylaxis from fainting (vasovagal syncope), anxiety and breath-holding spells, which are common benign reactions (Table 8.2).

Table 8.2. Distinguish anaphylaxis from fainting (vasovagal reaction)

	Fainting	Anaphylaxis
Onset	Usually at the time or soon after the injection	Usually some delay, between 5 to 30 mins, after injection
Systemic		
Skin	Pale, sweaty, cold and clammy	Red, raised and itchy rash; swollen eyes, face, generalized rash
Respiratory	Normal to deep breaths	Noisy breathing from airways obstruction (wheeze or stridor)
Cardiovascular	Bradycardia, transient hypotension	Tachycardia, hypotension
Gastrointestinal	Nausea, vomiting	Abdominal cramps
Neurological	Transient loss of consciousness, relieved by supine posture	Loss of consciousness, not relieved by supine posture

Signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis are given in Table 8.3. In general, the more severe the reaction, the more rapid is the onset. Most life-threatening reactions begin within 10 mins of immunization. **That is why it is advised that the beneficiary be kept under observation for at least 30 mins after the injection.**

Table 8.3. Signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis

Clinical progression	Progression of signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis
Mild, early warning signs	Itching of the skin, rash and swelling around injection site. Dizziness, general feeling of warmth.
	Painless swellings in parts of the body e.g. face or mouth. Flushed, itching skin, nasal congestion, sneezing, tears.



Late, life-threatening symptoms	Hoarseness, nausea, vomiting
	Swelling in the throat, difficult breathing, abdominal pain.
	Wheezing, noisy and difficult breathing, collapse, low blood pressure, irregular weak pulse.

b) Immunization error-related reactions

An adverse event can occur as a result of inappropriate handling, prescribing or administration of a vaccine. It is very important to identify and correct these errors, as they are preventable (Table 8.4).

Immunization error-related reactions

Immunization error	Examples	Related reaction (AEFI)
Error in vaccine (and diluent) handling	Exposure to excess heat or cold (using hard frozen ice packs in RI) as a result of inappropriate transport, storage or handling of the vaccine (and its diluent) where applicable Use of a product after the expiry date	Systemic or local reactions due to changes in the physical nature of the vaccine, such as agglutination of aluminium-based excipients in freeze-sensitive vaccines Failure to vaccinate as a result of loss of potency or non-viability of an attenuated product
Error in vaccine prescribing or non-adherence to recommendations for use	Failure to adhere to a contraindication Failure to adhere to vaccine indications or prescription (dose or schedule)	Anaphylaxis, disseminated infection with an attenuated live vaccine Systemic and/or local reactions, neurological, muscular, vascular or bony injury due to incorrect injection site, equipment or technique
Error in administration	Use of an incorrect diluent or injection of a product other than the intended vaccine Incorrect sterile technique or inappropriate procedure with a multidose vial	Failure to vaccinate due to incorrect diluent. Reaction due to the inherent properties of whatever was administered other than the intended vaccine or diluent Infection at the site of injection/beyond the site of injection

c) Immunization anxiety-related reactions (formerly “injection reactions”)

Immunization anxiety-related reactions are common in children over 5 years of age, resulting from fear or pain of injection rather than the vaccine. This reaction is unrelated to the content of the vaccine.

Minimize overcrowding by proper planning of the immunization sessions to reduce waiting time. Prepare vaccine out of recipient’s view and ensure privacy during the procedure to prevent anxiety.

d) Coincidental event

Coincidental event– this means that the event has occurred after immunization, and is not caused due to the vaccine or process of administration.

Vaccines are normally scheduled early in life when infections and other illnesses are common, including manifestations of an underlying congenital or neurological condition. It is, therefore, possible to encounter many events, including deaths, to be falsely attributed to vaccine through chance association.

A coincidental event is more likely if the same or similar events also affected others in the same age group around the same time but who did not receive the suspect vaccine(s). There may also be evidence showing that the event is not related to immunization.

Immediate investigation is important as in order to reply to the community’s concern about vaccine safety and to maintain public confidence in immunization.

It is important that all AEFIs are reported and communication with the Medical Officer be done immediately. The process of finding out the reasons for the AEFI will help the MO and you to understand why the event happened. This is not to find fault with any health worker but to guide and improve the quality of health services.

8.3 Managing AEFI when it occurs

When a serious or severe adverse event occurs, you should immediately:

- Provide immediate first aid: lay child flat; ensure airway is clear. If child is unconscious, put in semi-prone position.
- Refer to the MO (PHC) or nearest AEFI management centre for prompt treatment. Accompany the patient if needed.
- Inform the MO (PHC) at the health centre immediately by the fastest means possible e.g. telephonically.

- Report and assist in investigation of AEFIs.

Treat minor/non-serious AEFIs symptomatically as per Table 8.5 below:

Table 8.5. Minor reactions due to vaccines		
Minor vaccine reactions	Treatment	When to report
Local reaction (pain, swelling, redness)	Cold cloth at injection site Give Paracetamol	In case of an abscess
Fever > 38.5°C	Give extra fluids Give tepid sponging Give Paracetamol	When accompanied by other symptoms
Irritability, malaise and systemic symptoms	Give extra fluids Give Paracetamol	When severe or unusual

8.4 Responsibilities of health service providers in minimizing AEFIs

Community level

Anganwadi and ASHA/volunteers/frontline workers

- Follow up with beneficiaries to identify AEFIs after the vaccination session, using the beneficiaries' list provided by the ANM.
- Inform the adverse event immediately by telephone to concerned ANM, MO, etc.
- Assist in referral of any suspected cases
- Assist the team investigating the event
- Support in building community confidence.

Sub Centre level

ANM

- Screen each beneficiary for contraindications to avoid serious reactions. For example, vaccines are contraindicated if there is a possibility of serious allergy to a vaccine or its components. Live vaccines should not be given to immune deficient children.
- Follow best immunization practices. Prior to starting vaccination at the RI site, the ANM must note down (in vaccinator's logistics diary) the following particulars. This will help mitigate AEFIs at session site level:
 - Manufacturer's name
 - Expiry date
 - Batch number
 - VVM status (for new and partially used vaccines)
 - Date on the label of partially used vaccine (in case of OVP)
 - In case of reconstituted vaccines, date and time on the label.

- Ensure that vaccine vial septum has not been submerged in water or contaminated in any way.
- Use Measles, BCG and JE vaccine within 4 hours of reconstitution.
- Never carry and use reconstituted vaccine from one session site to another.
- Do not store other drugs or substances in the ILR. These refrigerators are only meant for vaccines.
- After injection, do not attempt to re-cap or bend the needle.
- Ask the beneficiaries to wait for half an hour after vaccination to observe for any AEFI.
- Provide a list of children vaccinated during the session to the AWW/ASHA and request them to be alert, follow up and report AEFIs (if any) to her and the concerned MO.
- Ensure reasons for dropouts are entered in the immunization card counterfoils.
- Share details of all AEFIs (serious/severe and minor) with the MOIC in the weekly block level meeting. Ensure details of all serious/severe and minor cases are entered in the AEFI case register maintained at the block PHC (see Annexure 1 for suggested format for AEFI Case Register).
- Assist in investigation of AEFIs and take corrective action in response to the guidance from the MO (PHC).

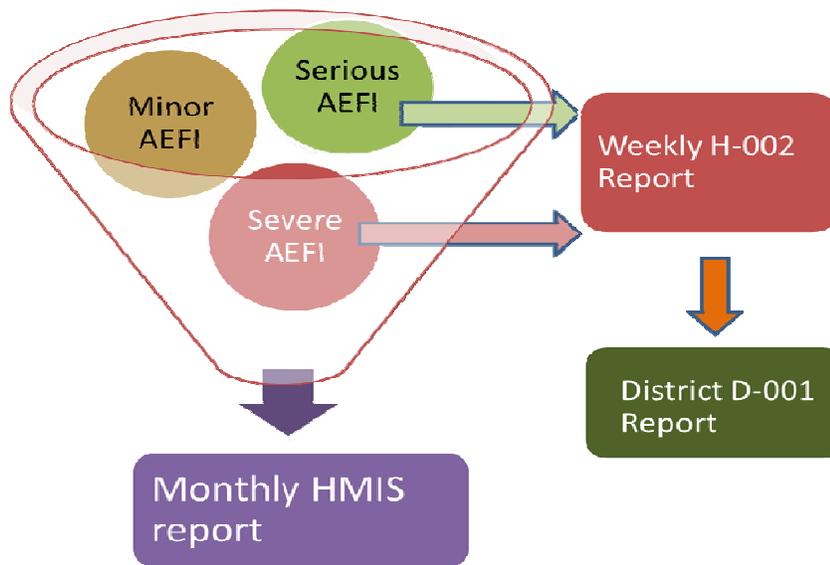
Health supervisors (HSs)

- Supervise and provide hands-on training to the ANMs/vaccinators in the field. This includes provision of information on referral transport and concerned officials in case of crisis.
- Monitor the community for adverse events during supervisory visits to immunization sites or SCs. Also monitor and ensure follow-up of beneficiaries by HWs. Ensure reasons for dropouts are entered in the counterfoils.
- Encourage the HWs to report AEFIs. Serious/severe AEFIs should be notified immediately by the fastest means possible.
- Analyze the reported AEFIs in the SC monthly reports and keep track of HWs who have not reported any AEFI over a period of time.
- Assist the investigation team in conducting the investigation.

8.5 Reporting of AEFIs(Fig. 8.1)

- Immediately inform all serious/severe AEFIs by telephone / in person.
- Provide details of all AEFIs in your area on a weekly basis. Submit weekly NIL report only after making efforts to look for these events in the children recently vaccinated.
- Notify detailed information of all serious, severe and minor AEFIs to be recorded in the block AEFI register.
- Communicate and share the results of investigation with the community whenever instructed by the medical officer.

Fig. 8.1. Reporting of AEFIs



Annexure 1 – Format for block AEFI register

FORMAT FOR BLOCK AEFI REGISTER

Week No	Name of sub-centre	Name of vaccinee	Father's Name	Age	Date of vaccination	Name of vaccines given	Batch number of vaccines given	AEFI noted (symptoms)	Category (Serious/ Severe/ Minor)	Case seen by Mo/lc (yes/no)	Entered in case reporting form (yes/no)

1. Kindly follow the AFP surveillance calendar to identify week number.
2. Information on serious and severe AEFIs should be shared weekly with the district along with the H-002 form.
3. The details of minor AEFI are to be maintained at block level and monthly cumulative data is to be entered in HMIS report.

Sample Block AEFI register – example on how to fill the information

AEFI REGISTER FOR FOCAL POINT/SECTOR PHC/BLOCK PHC / PHC LEVEL 2016 (Nandej PHC)											
Week No.	Name of sub-centre	Name of vaccine recipient	Father's Name	Age	Date of vaccination	Name of vaccines given	Batch number of vaccines given	AEFI noted (symptoms)	Category (minor/serious /severe)	Case seen by MO i/c (yes/no)	Case Reporting Format (CRF) filled? (yes/no)
1	Devdi	Monika	Prabakaran	21 days	01/06/2016	BCG, OPV	BCG 037G5047 OPV S-151	Abcess	severe	Yes	Yes
12	Nandej	Hari Prasanth	Sathya Prakash	20 months	23/3/2016	DPT, Measles	DPT TA627B/14 Measles 003F5084	Pain & swelling	minor	Yes	No
15	Barejadi	Baby of Kavitha	Venkaatesh	1 day	13/4/2016	BCG, OPV	BCG 037G5041 OPV 63AS10115201	Mild fever	minor	No	No
17	Harniyav	Sabari	Raja	75 days	27/4/2016	Penta, OPV	Penta 124P5056 OPV Pbv1505062	Sudden unexplained Death	serious	Yes	Yes
25	Devdi	Yashika Sree	Ranjith	17 months	22/6/2016	DPT, Measles	DPT 3A2696 Measles 003F5052	Mild fever	minor	No	No
28	Heerapur	Sivakasi	Selvaarasu	70 days	15/7/2016	DPT	TA651A/14	pain & swelling	minor	Yes	No
29	Nandej	Sanjay	Subramani	66 months	22/7/2016	DPT	TA651A/14	seizures, febrile	severe	Yes	Yes
29	Harniyav	Keethimalini	Selvaraj	66 months	22/7/2016	DPT	TA651A/14	Mild fever	minor	Yes	No
29	Nandej	Dhanusuya	Arumugam	67 months	22/7/2016	DPT	TA651A/14	Persistent cry	severe	Yes	Yes
33	Gamadi	Riyashudeen	Shapudeen	20 months	17/8/2016	DPT, Measles, OPV	DPT TA6518/14 Measles 003F5129 OPV PBV1505059	Rash	Severe	Yes	Yes
34	Heerapur	Kamalesh	Kumaravel	83 months	24/8/2016	DPT	15GTAG022A	High grade fe	severe	Yes	Yes
40	Gamadi	Vijaya Sri	Kumar	18 months	10/05/2016	DPT, Measle, OPV	DPT 15GTAG022A Measles 003F5129 OPV 68CV01276023	Seizures, Febrile	serious	Yes	Yes
43	Gamadi	Rakshan	Gururaj	45 days	26/10/2016	IPV, Penta, OPV	IPV 893C Penta PLU003A15 OPV 68CV01216023	Mild fever	minor	Yes	No
52	Heerapur	Sathya Priya	Gunasekaran	4 months	28/12/2016	IPV, Penta, OPV	IPV 894AA Penta PLU003A15 OPV 68CV01216023	pain & swelling	minor	Yes	No

First line Management of Anaphylaxis in Field Settings

SOP for administration of one dose of Intra-muscular Adrenaline by ANM

Q 1. What is Anaphylaxis? How does it manifest?

Anaphylaxis is an extreme and severe allergic reaction, that is potentially life threatening. The whole body is affected, often within minutes of exposure to the allergen (substance causing the allergic reaction), but sometimes after hours. It occurs because the immune system overreacts to an allergen, and causes secretion of chemical substances that cause swelling of blood vessels. Common allergens include foods such as peanuts, dairy products, eggs etc. and non-foods such as wasp or bee sting, medications, vaccines, latex etc. The symptoms of an anaphylactic reaction include generalized flushing of the skin, nettle rash (hives) anywhere on the body, swelling of throat and mouth, difficulty in swallowing or speaking, alterations in heart rate, severe asthma, abdominal pain, nausea and vomiting, sudden feeling of weakness (drop in blood pressure), collapse and unconsciousness.

Q2. How will you suspect a case of anaphylaxis?

In anaphylaxis, there is sudden onset of symptoms which rapidly worsens. Individual may complain of difficulty in breathing and/or giddiness/loss of consciousness, hypotension, skin changes such as generalized rashes, swelling of the lips and tongue (angioedema), hives (urticaria) and flushing. The person may have had a severe allergic reaction or anaphylaxis in the past. However, this may be the first time. Sudden onset and rapid progression of ≥ 1 signs and symptoms of any of the two systems (respiratory, cardiovascular and dermatological/ mucosal) should be suspected as a case of anaphylaxis.

Recognition of anaphylaxis case in field setting

Usually respiratory, dermatological and cardiovascular systems are involved in anaphylaxis. In most cases of anaphylaxis, skin and mucous membrane are affected. The case of anaphylaxis is suspected if the following criteria are met:
Rapid onset and progression of ≥ 1 signs and symptoms of any of the two systems (respiratory, cardiovascular and dermatological/mucosal) as illustrated in Figure 3 (clinical features).
In addition to the signs and symptoms given in Table 1, following features could also be observed: anxiety, diarrhea, abdominal cramps, nausea, vomiting and sneezing or rhinorrhea.

Table 1: Signs and symptoms of Anaphylaxis

System	Sign and Symptom
Respiratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Swelling in tongue, lip, throat, uvula or larynx• Difficulty in breathing• Stridor (Harsh vibrating sounds during breathing)• Wheezing (breath with whistling or rattling sound in the chest)• Cyanosis (bluish discoloration of arms and legs, tongue, ears, lips etc.)• Grunting (noisy breathing)
Cardiovascular	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Decreased level /loss of consciousness (fainting, dizziness)• Low blood pressure (measured hypotension)• Tachycardia (increased heart rate, palpitation)
Dermatological or mucosal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Generalized urticaria (raised red skin lesion, rash with itching)• Generalized erythema (redness of skin)• Local or generalized Angioedema- itchy/ painful swelling of subcutaneous tissues such as upper eyelids, lips, tongue, face etc.• Generalized pruritus (itching) with skin rash

Figure 3: Clinical features

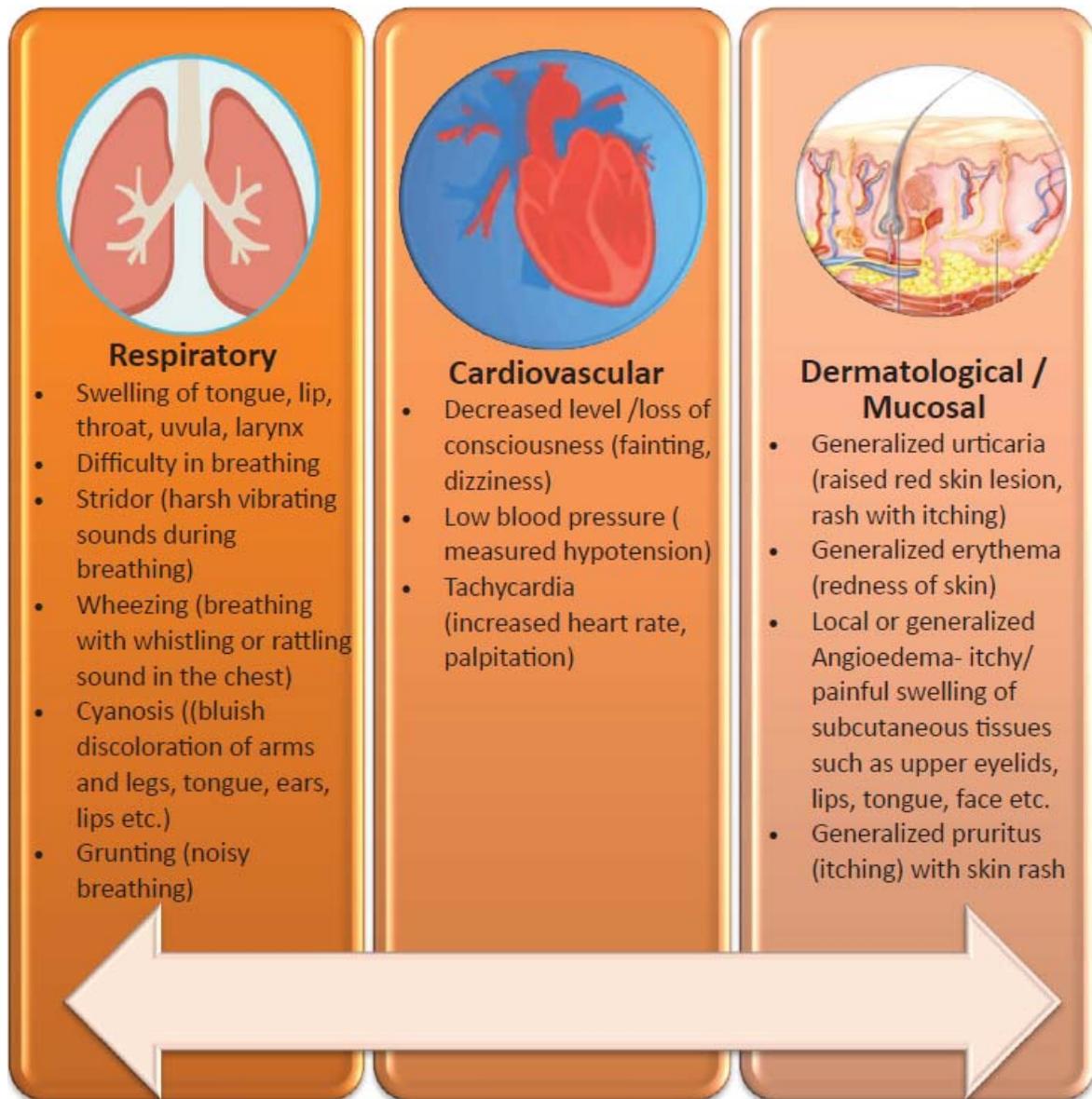


Picture 1: Angioedema

Picture 2: Cyanosis



Picture 3: Urticaria



The ANM should follow four steps for initial management of anaphylaxis cases.



Suspect Anaphylaxis in a case with following symptoms and signs

Rapid onset & progression of ≥ 1 signs & symptoms of any of the two systems (Respiratory, cardiovascular and dermatological / mucosal)

Respiratory:

- Swelling of tongue, lip, throat, uvula, larynx
- Difficulty in breathing
- Stridor (harsh vibrating sounds during breathing)
- Wheezing (breathing with whistling or rattling sound in the chest)
- Cyanosis ((bluish discoloration of arms and legs, tongue, ears, lips etc.)
- Grunting (noisy breathing)

Cardiovascular:

- Decreased level /loss of consciousness (fainting, dizziness)
- Low blood pressure (measured hypotension)
- Tachycardia (increased heart rate, palpitation)

Dermatological or mucosal:

- Generalized urticaria (raised red skin lesion, rash with itching)
- Generalized erythema (redness of skin)
- Local or generalized Angioedema- itchy/ painful swelling of subcutaneous tissues such as upper eyelids, lips, tongue, face etc.
- Generalized pruritus (itching) with skin rash

Assess Case

Manage anaphylaxis

- Reassure patient, parents/ relatives
- Immediately administer one dose of injection Adrenaline by deep IM route
- Seek help to immediately arrange for ambulance to transport the patient to the nearest health facility (PHC/CHC/District Hospital/Civil Hospital)
- Do not leave patient alone
- If patient is conscious, he/she should be kept in supine position with lower limbs raised higher than head
- If patient is unconscious, he/she should be kept in left lateral position

Give one dose of adrenaline deep IM

Referrals

Refer to higher center

- Call for ambulance
- Inform MO about the case for timely management

Document suspected anaphylaxis

Document suspected anaphylaxis on immunization card in block letters against vaccines administered

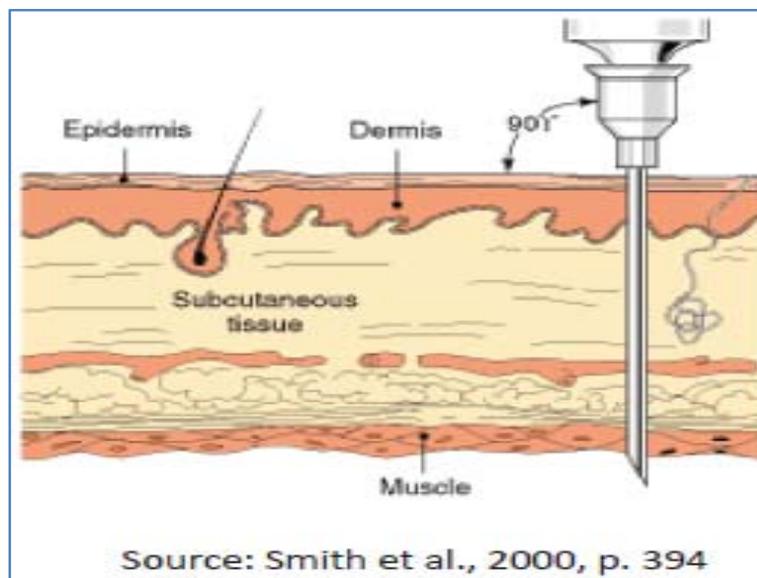
Steps for administration of injection Adrenaline by ANM

- Take one ampoule of adrenaline (1:1000) solution from the **Anaphylaxis Kit** and check name, dilution and expiry date on **label of vial** (not from kit label).
- Take a 1 ml syringe and 24/25 G needle of length 1 inch and load the required dose of adrenaline as per the age of the patient. [Table 2]
- Adrenaline ampoules are also labelled as Epinephrine. Epinephrine is another name for adrenaline.

Table 2: Age specific dosing chart of adrenaline (1:1000) for management of anaphylaxis

Age group (in years)	One inch needle gauge	Dosage (in mL) using 1 mL tuberculin syringe	Dosage (in units) using 40 units insulin syringe
0-1	24G/ 25G	0.05	2
1-6		0.1	4
6-12		0.2	8
12-18		0.3	12
Adults		0.5	20

- Use alcohol swab to clean the middle 1/3rd of anterolateral aspect of the thigh of the opposite limb to that in which vaccine is given.
- Hold the muscle mass on the anterolateral aspect of thigh with hands, stretch the skin (do not bunch) with fingers.
- Give deep intramuscular injection at 90 degree angle to skin in middle 1/3rd of anterolateral aspect of thigh.



Ensure appropriate syringes and Needle availability at sub centre

- States/districts should procure and supply anaphylaxis kits with the following syringes and needles:
Tuberculin syringe (1 ml) OR
Insulin syringe (40 units) (without attached needle) – 3 nos./ANM

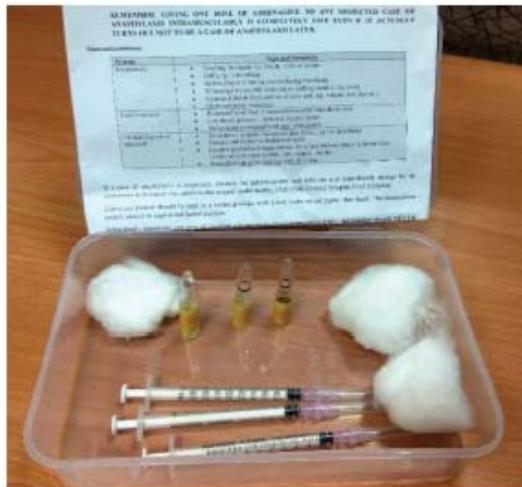
* 1ml tuberculin syringe comes with a detachable 0.5 inch needle. Procure 1 inch 24/25G needles separately and supply in anaphylaxis kit.

<u>Age group</u>	<u>mL</u>		<u>UNITS</u>
0-1 years	0.05	—	2.0
1-6 years	0.1	—	4.0
6-12 years	0.2	—	8.0
12-18 years	0.3	—	12.0
Adults	0.5	—	20.0
	1.0	—	40.0

TUBERCULIN SYRINGE – 1.0 mL

INSULIN SYRINGE – 40 UNITS

Anaphylaxis kit for ANM



Each kit should contain the following items:

1. Job aid for recognizing anaphylaxis and dose chart (taped to the inside of the box lid)
2. 1 ml ampoule of adrenaline (1:1000 aqueous solution) – 3 Nos. (adrenaline ampoules may also be labeled as epinephrine)

3. Tuberculin syringes (1ml) or insulin syringe (without fixed needle of 40 units) – 3 nos.
4. 24 / 25 G needles (1 inch) – 3 nos
5. Swabs – 3 nos
6. Updated contact information of DIO, Medical Officers of PHC / CHC, referral centre and local ambulance services.
7. Adrenaline administration record slips – 3 nos

The kit should be an air tight container. Ensure the drugs are not exposed to light. If exposed to light it can cause deterioration of the drugs. Ensure the contents of anaphylaxis kits are verified in advance of every session so as to replace the drugs before the expiry date.

Adrenaline Administration record

Name of Patient: _____ Age: _____
 Date: _____
 Adrenaline (1:1000 dilution) dose administered:
 dose Amount: _____ mL
 (if given) Time: _____ Site: _____

ANM should administer only one dose of adrenaline and refer the patient to referral center.

Record of the administration of Adrenaline should be entered in the card above, which must be provided with the patient when he/she referred to medical officer. These details must also be recorded in immunization session summary and available with the ANM after transferring the patient.

About adrenaline injection:

Adrenaline ampoules should not be exposed to temperature above 25 degree Celsius.

Key features of adrenaline are as follows:

- Description of drug: Adrenaline is a naturally occurring catecholamine.
- Dosage: 0.01ml/Kg body weight
- Route of administration: Intramuscular
- Site of injection: middle 1/3rd of anterolateral aspect of thigh in children and deltoid region of arm in case of adults.
- Preparation: injection adrenaline is available in 1 mg/ml preparation.
- Storage: Store in airtight containers, protected from light.
- Shelf life: 1 year

Unit 9 Records, reports and using data for action

Learning Objectives

At the end of the unit, you should be able to:

- List the records and reports to be maintained at the subcentre
- Explain the correct use of the Mother and Child Protection (MCP) card
- Demonstrate correct use of tracking bag to keep the counterfoils
- Record the information accurately in the registers and reporting formats
- Use coverage monitoring chart to track the progress

Contents

- Importance of record-keeping
- Mother and Child Protection (MCP) card with counterfoil
- Tracking Bag
- Immunization/RCH/MCTS Registers
- Name based list of due beneficiaries and Tally Sheet
- Monthly Progress Report
- Coverage Monitoring Chart

9.1 Importance of Record-Keeping

Systematic and regular recording of the vaccinations given at each session ensures that the immunization services reach all beneficiaries, identifies defaulters and helps to actively follow up all those who need to complete their vaccinations.

The following records and reports are the basis of all the information generated at the sub- center and higher levels:

- Mother and Child Protection (MCP) card with counterfoil
- Tracking Bag
- Mother and child register / Immunization Register
- Name based due list and Tally Sheet
- Coverage Monitoring chart
- Monthly progress report

9.2 Mother and Child Protection (MCP) card with counterfoil

The MCP Card is a tool for families to learn, understand and follow positive practices for achieving good health of pregnant women, young mothers and children. The card gives information on the immunization schedule and the doses of Vitamin A to be given to the child during the first five years. Boxes in the chart indicate each type of vaccine, date to be given, date when it was given and age.

Details that would be available from MCP Card are:

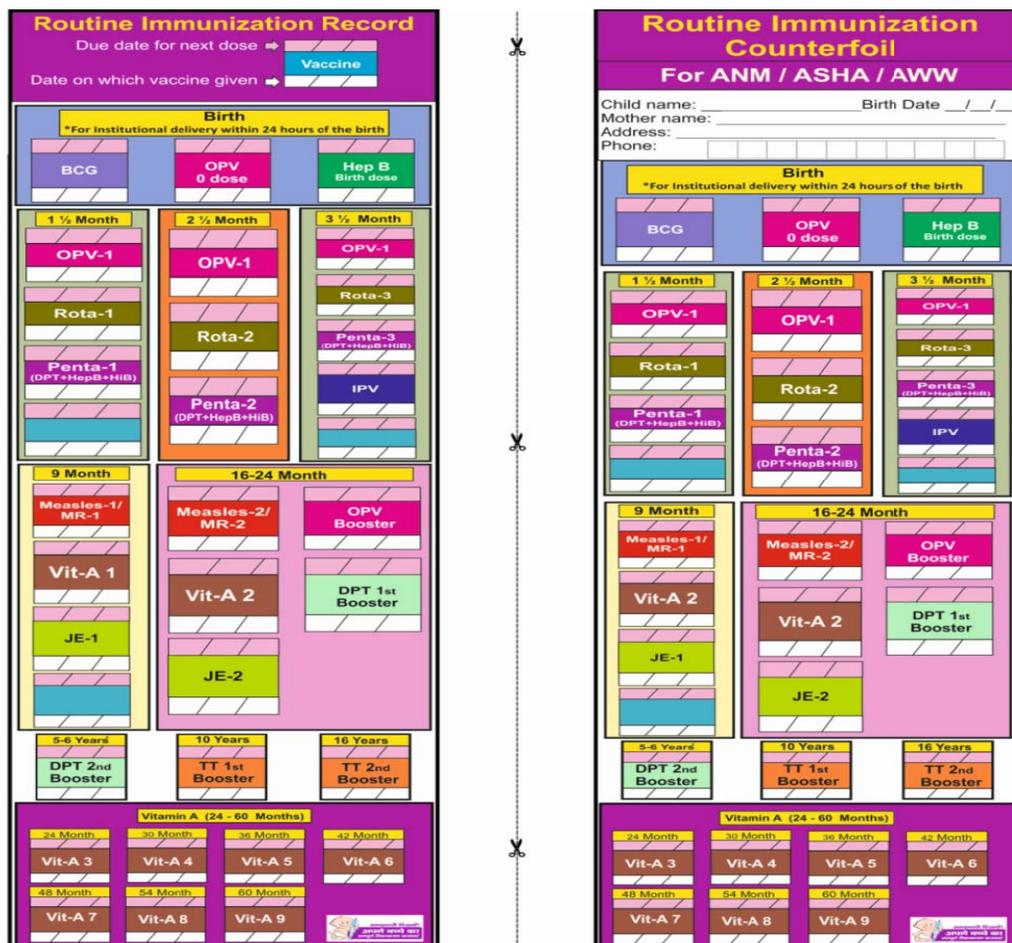
- Date in the pink box when the child is expected to come for next immunization

- Date in the white box when the child came for immunization.

How to use the card

- During the first visit, fill the information on the cover page on “Family Identification and Birth Record”.
- Record the date, month and year of all entries clearly.
- Explain the section on immunization by explaining which vaccines have been given and which vaccines are due, with dates.
- Do not leave any cells or columns blank.
- After filling up all the columns, retain the smaller portion of the card (counterfoil).
- Give the rest of the filled-in card to the parent of the child after immunization and ask her to bring the same card during her subsequent visits to the health centre.
- Advise families to keep the card in a safe place to prevent it from damage.
- Advise families to bring the card along when they visit the Anganwadi Centre (AWC), SC, health centre, private doctor or a hospital.
- At the end of each session, the counterfoils should be placed in the appropriate pocket of the tracking bag.
- Each month, look at the counterfoils in the tracking bag and make sure those children come for immunization. If they miss the session, ask the ASHA/AWW to follow up with those families and ensure that they attend the next session.

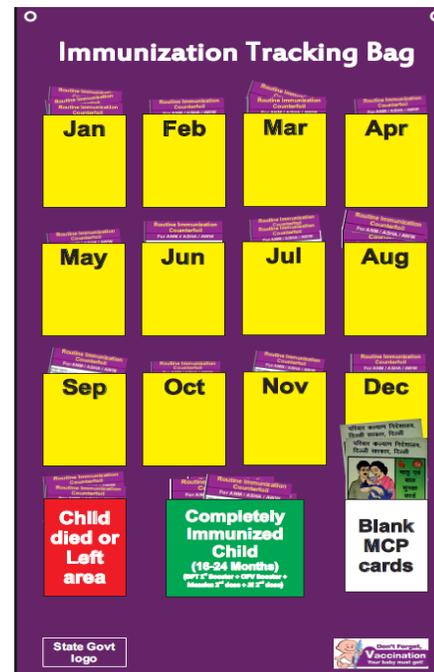
Fig 9.1 – Infant RI card and counterfoil



9.3 Tracking Bag

Keeping counterfoils in tracking bag helps in:

- Preparing a session-wise name-based list of due beneficiaries for sharing with the ASHA/AWW/mobilizer
- Estimating the vaccine requirement for the next session
- Tracking the dropouts
- Providing information, if the beneficiary/parent has lost the immunization card.

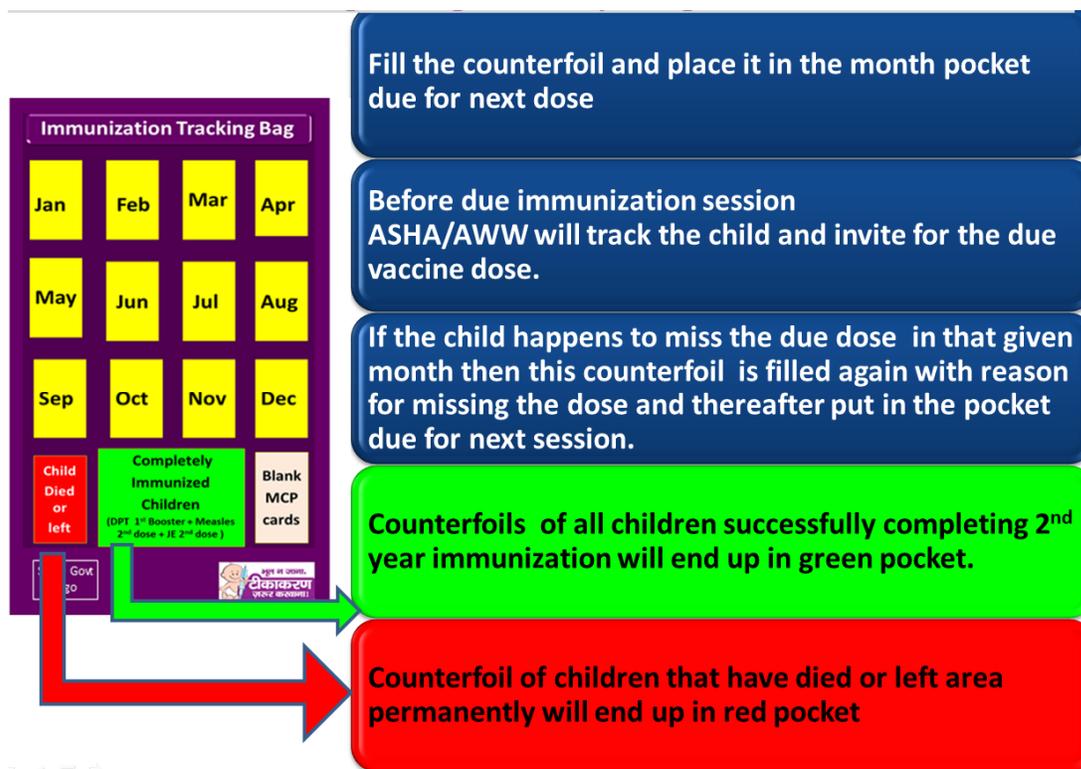


The counterfoils need to be filed separately for each session site. A cloth-tracking bag with 15 pockets is a simple, easy to use tool for filing the counterfoils (Fig.9.2). The first 12 pockets indicate each of the 12 months of the year. The thirteenth pocket is for those who left/died during the period, the fourteenth pocket is for fully immunized children and the fifteenth pocket is to store blank MCP cards.

Once a beneficiary is immunized, the counterfoil would be placed in the month (pocket) due for the next dose (see Fig 9.3). For example, if a child comes for Penta 1 in January, Penta 2 is due in February. Update and place the counterfoil in the February pocket. When the Penta 2 dose is given in February, update the counterfoil and move to the pocket for March. When the Penta 3 dose is given in March, then update and place the counterfoil in the September/October pocket since the child has to return for measles/MR vaccine.

- If some cards are left in the pocket at the end of the month, it indicates that the beneficiaries are the dropouts.
- Move these cards to the next month's pocket and track them.

In case no tracking bag is available, counterfoils for each month can be separately tied with different rubber bands and labelled. File counterfoils for each session site separately and do not forget to carry them to the session.



9.4 Immunization/RCH/MCTS Registers

Immunization / RCH / MCTS registers help to record and track each pregnancy and immunization. It should be:

- Updated to include new pregnancies and births from the records of AWWs and ASHAs before each immunization session;
- Updated after each session on the basis of counterfoils filled during the session;
- If the beneficiary is from outside the catchment area, the HW should issue a new card and give appropriate vaccination. Record should be entered in the non-resident column of the register;
- If the beneficiary receives vaccination from a private practitioner, the HW should record the same in the RCH register and the immunization card and write "P" after the date.

Ask the AWW/ASHA for the name of the new borns and record them in the register so that they are not leftout.

9.6 Monthly Progress Report

The Monthly Progress Report is a report of the SC submitted by the ANM at the end of each month. This report is based on correctly filled tally sheets, Maternal and Child Health (MCH)/ Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) registers and other records. Data must be recorded completely and correctly as follows:

- Yearly target of infants must be based on actual head count.
- Immunization with each antigen dose needs to be filled in correctly.
- All VPDs and AEFIs should be reported to the PHC for followup.

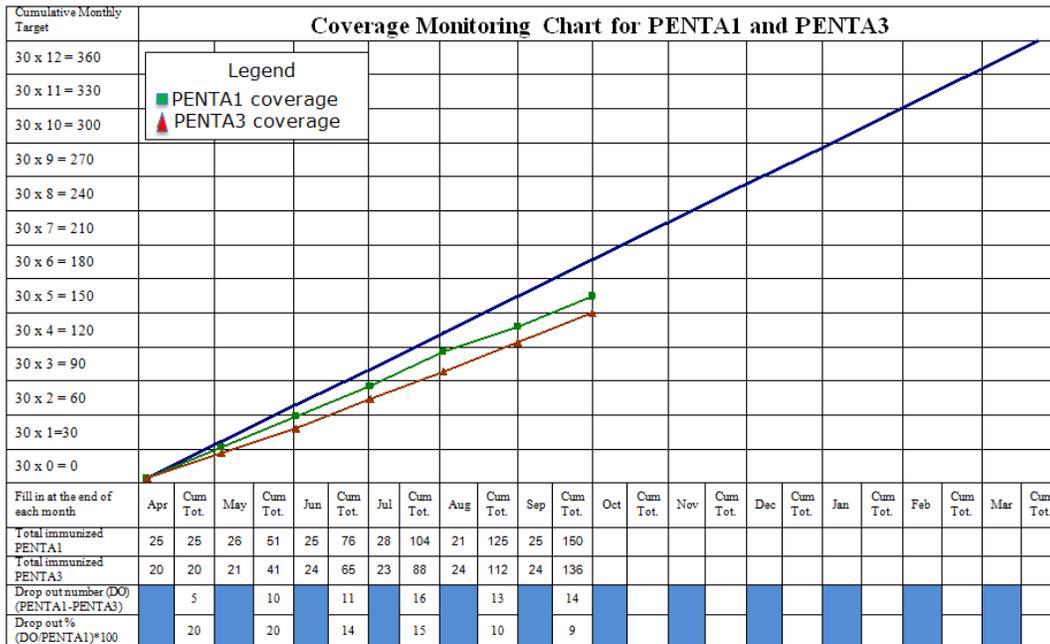
The cumulative coverage will enable you to calculate the coverage of each antigen and the dropout rates. Since this is the basis of obtaining all coverage and epidemiological data at state and national levels, the data must be recorded accurately.

9.7 Coverage Monitoring Chart

Coverage monitoring chart is a useful tool which provides information at a glance on target figures and the immunization coverage, particularly in terms of leftouts and dropouts. The supervisor should plot the immunization data on the chart during visits to the SC (as given in Fig.9.4). It should be updated every month.

Here is an example for calculating coverage, dropouts and leftouts for Penta1 and Penta3. A similar chart can be prepared for other vaccines.

Fig 9.4. Coverage Monitoring Chart



The coverage-monitoring chart has a vertical and a horizontal axis. Vertical axis is divided into 12 equal parts, each representing the monthly target. Write cumulative

target against each month. If the yearly target of infants in a Sub-centre is 360 children, then the monthly target is $360 / 12 = 30$ children. Therefore, the cumulative target for April will be 30; for May it will be 60 ($30 + 30$); for June it will be 90 ($30 + 30 + 30$); for July it will be 120 ($30 + 30 + 30 + 30$), etc.

On the horizontal axis, the months of the year are given starting from April to March. In the rows below each month, write the total number of children immunized with Penta 1 and Penta 3 during that month and also cumulative till that month. On the graph, plot the cumulative total of Penta 1 for each month (on the right side of the column). Similarly, plot for Penta 3 in a different colour in the same column.

Calculating coverage for an antigen at any time

$$= \frac{\text{Total Antigen administered}}{\text{Yearly target}} \times 100$$

Yearly target

Eg- Coverage for Penta 1 from Apr till July is:

$$104 / 360 \times 100 = 28.8\% \text{ rounded off} = 29\%$$

Calculate the total number of dropouts and the Dropout Rate (%) as follows:

$$= \frac{(\text{Penta 1 cumulative total} - \text{Penta 3 cumulative total})}{\text{Penta 1 Cumulative total}} \times 100$$

Penta 1 Cumulative total

Unit 10 Partnering with communities to increase coverage

Learning Objectives

At the end of the unit, you should be able to:

- Identify the reasons for children missing vaccinations (dropouts or leftouts) and possible interventions
- Involve community to support immunization
- Use effective IPC skills for communicating with caregivers
- Conduct an effective community meeting

Contents

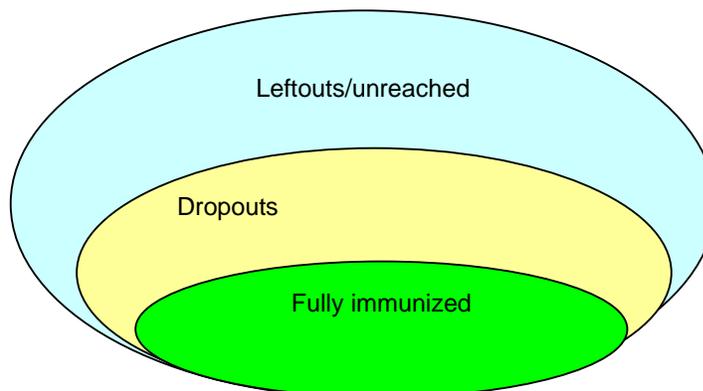
- Reasons for missed children and possible interventions
- Involving the community to support immunization
- Using interpersonal communication skills effectively
- Holding an effective community meeting

10.1 Introduction

As a health worker you are responsible for immunization services in your sub-center area. Your goal is to ensure that all children in your area are fully immunized before their first birthday.

The immunization-targeted community can be divided into three groups as shown in Fig.10.1. Your aim as a health worker is to expand the inner circle to cover the entire universe of eligible children in your catchment area.

Fig. 10.1. Three types of behaviour groups



From a service delivery perspective:

- **Leftouts** are those children who have never been vaccinated or reached (thus remaining unimmunized);
- **Dropouts** are those children who started vaccination but did not complete the schedule (thus remaining partially immunized).

From a behavioural perspective, a large percentage of dropouts is a serious problem because it reflects the poor perception of parents/caregivers' about the benefits of vaccination or of the immunization service delivery system, or both, combined with other barriers that forces them to place immunization on a low priority.

People who “dropout” of the immunization system are the easiest to reach and be convinced to return for full immunization.

10.2 Reasons for missed children and possible interventions

Table 10.1 below gives the common reasons for missed children (leftouts and dropouts) and the possible interventions to reach them.

Possible reasons	Possible interventions
Demand-side issues	
1. Parents not motivated to immunize children because of their poor understanding of its purpose and importance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with community leaders, school teachers, faith/religious leaders, youth networks, women's self-help groups (SHGs) and encourage them to talk to parents about the benefits of immunization. • Counsel and effectively communicate with parents and the community on the importance of immunization. • Disseminate information on the benefits of immunization at health fairs and other events and make people aware of immunization services. • Use other communication channels such as local cable television, wall paintings and posters, mosque and temple announcements, traditional and folk media.
2. Cultural or religious reasons for refusal of vaccination (myths, rumours and misconceptions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find out the reasons for reluctance by talking directly to communities/leaders. Try to address their misconceptions, doubts and fears by listening to them and offering support. • Involve community leaders (particularly the ones favourable to immunization) and other

	<p>staffworking within that particular community in order to encourage their fellow members to have their children immunized.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrange for an interaction between resistant groups and satisfied beneficiaries in the area to promote immunization.
3. Fear of side-effects or AEFI in the community discourages parents to immunize their children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involve religious leaders, village elders, school teachers and panchayati raj institution (PRI) members to accompany the field level workers (FLWs) during their house-to-house mobilization visits, organize folk shows to educate parents and communities on the importance of RI for children and dispel myths and misconceptions. • Remind to always tell parents/caregivers about common side effects that may occur and what to do should they occur. • Help investigate any AEFI and apprise the community of the details of the case, possible causes and action taken.
4. Financial or gender barriers to immunization, e.g. husbands disallowing wives to attend sessions because of time/lost labour, expense and/or fear of side-effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counsel opinion leaders and influential persons about the dangers of VPDs and the benefits of immunization. • Encourage peer counselling by fathers of children who accept immunization. • Publicize that immunization services are entirely free.
5. Refugees/families that fear contact with government, e.g. those who lack documents/scheduled castes or tribes/nomadic groups/homeless families/urban slums/street children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine where these populations reside. • Visit the communities and work with local mobilizers/educators/community groups/leaders to discuss reasons why they have never accessed immunization services. • Provide information on the importance of vaccination and date, time and place of the next nearest session. • Develop a list of children who have never accessed immunization services in the area and share it with HWs of the area for immunization and ensure follow-up.
Supply-side issues	
1. All newborns and infants not identified and listed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involve AWWs/ASHAs to identify and share lists of newborns and children.

<p>2. Sessions too infrequent or timings and days not convenient/not understood</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan sessions after consulting the community, e.g. early in the morning/late evening.
<p>3. Session site too far away, e.g. border populations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include all the areas in the microplan. • Reorganize the catchment area so that remote sites are visited at least once every 2 or 3 months (plan at least 4 immunization sessions a year). • Work with neighboring health facilities to coordinate services for border areas. • Improve outreach to communities through appropriate transport, additional staff and publicize outreach services.
<p>4. Parents do not return because sessions are not held as planned or vaccines are unavailable</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In case of HW being on leave, deploy alternate vaccinators. • Ensure alternate delivery of vaccines to session sites. • Encourage community groups to report problems regarding HWs' attendance on session days to the PHC. • Ensure adequate supplies of vaccines and logistics.
<p>5. HWs do not clearly explain to parents what vaccines are due, when they are due and why they are needed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HWs/AWWs/ASHAs to always convey the 4 key messages to parents in a simple and understandable language. • HWs to provide filled-in MCP cards to all beneficiaries and to write the next due date on the card. • Ask caregivers to repeat the information given to them in order to increase the chances that they will remember when to return. Praise correct answers. • Thank the parents for bringing the child. • Publicize the immunization schedule.
<p>6. HWs do not show respect towards parents or interest in the child's health, e.g. long waits, HWs shouting at mothers for forgetting the card or bringing the baby in late</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HWs, ASHAs and AWWs to communicate with and treat parents with respect, warmth, friendliness and should empathize with the parents' situation. Encourage and praise the parents for bringing their children for immunization. Encourage parents to ask questions. • HWs to visit dropouts before the next session to find out the reasons why they missed the session.
<p>7. HWs do not know which</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize tracking of children using RI Cards,

children are due and what vaccines are due	<p>immunization registers, counterfoils and tracking bags.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HWs can involve community teams (NGOs, community based organizations (CBOs), youth clubs, school teachers, volunteers, etc.) to identify children who are leftouts and dropouts • Remind parents about the importance of full immunization; inform them about the date and time of the next session and mobilize parents for immunization sessions.
8. HWs do not understand/explain to caregivers that immunization may be given to mildly ill children (false contraindication)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HWs should understand that immunization can be safely provided to mildly ill children and that they should convince parents about this fact.
9. Children and mothers are not immunized when coming to the HWs for curative care (missed opportunities)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When providing other services, always keep an eye on eligible children visiting the session with a parent or sibling. Enquire about their immunization status or refer to the list of due beneficiaries and provide services, as appropriate. • Put a reminder about immunization in the facility's waiting area.

10.3 Involving the community to support immunization

Involve the community members right from planning phase to build their confidence, trust and ownership of the immunization programme as given below.

Planning

HWs should:

- Consult communities about service locations and timings to ensure a convenient service, e.g. shifting vaccination hours from mornings to afternoons in areas where mothers are busy in the fields in the morning;
- Involve village elders, religious leaders and village youth to motivate the community to access the immunization sessions, dispel myths and misconceptions.

Implementation

Communities can assist with:

- Arranging a clean outreach site such as a school, club, panchayat bhawan, community meeting room;

- Informing families initially of scheduled outreach, and again when the HW has actually arrived;
- Educating the community regarding free availability of these services;
- Registering patients, controlling crowds, and making waiting areas more comfortable (by providing shade and organizing space and seating);
- Disseminating appropriate messages and answering questions (health education);
- Identifying and referring newborns and/or infants who have recently arrived in the community and sharing the list with the HW to include in the immunization register; facilitate transporting vaccines and HWs in some hard to reach areas;
- Motivating fellow community members to use immunization services and helping bridge cultural or educational gaps between HWs and caregivers;
- Identifying dropouts and leftouts. Making home visits when children are behind schedule to explain the importance of adherence to the immunization schedule and to motivate caregivers;
- Communicating with local people and informing HWs about suspected VPDs

Evaluation

Community leaders can contribute by responding to questions about the quality of services, including counselling provided by front-line workers.

10.4 Using interpersonal communication skills effectively

As a health worker you are in direct contact with parents and caregivers, you can play a very important role in increasing vaccination coverage through effective interpersonal communication skills.

Four key messages to be given to caregivers

1. What vaccine was given and what disease it prevents
2. What minor adverse events could occur and how to deal with them
3. When and where to come for the next visit
4. To keep the immunization card safe and to bring it along for the next visit

Tips for effective IPC skills for communicating with caregivers

Speak clearly

- Use encouraging/helpful non-verbal communication.
- Posture – keep your head level.
- Spend enough time; do not be in a hurry.
- Use responses and gestures to show interest.
- Listen carefully and repeat what the mother says.

Greet

- Smile. Speak in a pleasant voice and tone.
- Maintain eye contact.
- Introduce yourself and your organization.

Ask

- Ask open-ended questions—What? When? Where? Why? How? Who?
 - How many children do you have?
 - Why did you not vaccinate your child?
 - How did you know about the immunization session?

Tell

- What diseases are prevented by vaccination.
- Where and when will the session be held.
- What minor side-effects can occur after vaccination and how these can be managed.

Help: Encourage the parents to come for vaccination by telling them about how to manage AEFIs.

Explain: Use info-kits to explain the importance of immunization and the immunization schedule.

Repeat: Use your visit to find out reasons for leftouts and dropouts.

10.5 Holding an effective community meeting

1. Identify local community representatives who would participate in the meeting;
2. Hold the meeting at a convenient time and place, e.g. on market days, close to places of worship;
3. Be prepared with data on the coverage and dropout rates and a map of the health areas with low coverage;
4. Provide a comfortable and welcoming environment for the discussion;
5. Listen to the community; find out what the community already knows about VPDs and immunization;
6. Provide information, using basic language and non-scientific terminology, on the importance of immunization, the status of the immunization programme and where and when services are available. Dispel misinformation and doubts that sometimes surround immunization;
7. Encourage the participants to ask questions so that everyone can be better informed;
8. Use stories, short plays, songs and visual aids to hold the group's attention and make meetings interesting;
9. Involve as many group members as possible in the discussion and ask them to suggest solutions to problems;
10. Help mobilize resources for immunization.

Unit 11 Surveillance of vaccine preventable diseases

Learning Objectives

At the end of the unit, you should be able to:

- Describe importance of surveillance in the Immunization Programme.
- Describe how to conduct surveillance for the VPDs.

Contents

- The role of surveillance in the immunization program.
- Conducting disease surveillance.
- The surveillance report.

11.1 The role of surveillance in the Immunization Program

Surveillance means data collection for action. Disease surveillance is a regular system of collecting, analyzing and interpreting data and then using it to guide disease-control and immunization strategies. It helps in the following ways:

- To find out **What** disease is occurring
- To find out **Who** gets the disease – e.g. In a particular population or group of people
- To find out **Where** the disease is occurring- this helps to identify areas requiring special attention and where system performance is poor
- To understand **When** the disease is occurring and how many get the disease
- To understand **Why** the disease is occurring – eg due to less vaccination or due to
- To decide **How** the disease can be prevented, controlled or eliminated.

11.2 Conducting disease surveillance

Prerequisites for effective surveillance

- Standard case definitions (to ensure uniformity in reporting)
- Recording and reporting system (to ensure regularity in reporting)
- List of all the reporting units (to ensure completeness in reporting)

The quality of surveillance data depends upon correct diagnostic criteria, timeliness and completeness of reports.

Step 1: Learn to recognize the disease

As a health worker, it is important that you understand the definition of a disease and be able to match it up with what your village informant has told you.

Table 11.1. VPD case definitions

Disease	Lay Definition (suspect)
<i>Polio</i>	Acute flaccid paralysis is defined as sudden onset of weakness and floppiness in any part of the body in a child < 15 years of age, or paralysis in a person of any age in whom polio is suspected.
<i>Measles</i>	Any person with fever and maculopapular rash, i.e. non-vesicular AND cough, coryza (runny nose), or conjunctivitis (red eyes).
<i>Diphtheria</i>	An illness of the upper respiratory tract characterized by the following: laryngitis or pharyngitis or tonsillitis, and adherent membranes of tonsils, pharynx and/or nose
<i>Pertussis</i>	A person with a cough lasting for at least 2 weeks, with at least one of the following: a) paroxysms (fits of coughing); b) inspiratory whooping; c) post-tussive vomiting (vomiting immediately after coughing); d) without other apparent causes.
<i>Neonatal Tetanus</i>	Any neonate with a normal ability to suck and cry during the first 2 days of life, and who thereafter cannot suck normally between 3 and 28 days of age and becomes stiff or has convulsions/spasms (jerking of the muscles), or both.
<i>Tuberculosis</i>	A child with fever and/or cough for more than 2 weeks, with loss of weight/no weight gain AND history of contact with a suspected or diagnosed case of active TB disease within the last 2 years.
<i>Bacterial meningitis</i>	Any person with sudden onset of fever (> 38.5 °C rectal or 38.0 °C axillary) and one of the following signs: neck stiffness, altered consciousness or other meningeal sign
<i>Hepatitis B</i>	An acute illness typically including acute jaundice, dark urine, anorexia, malaise, extreme fatigue and right upper quadrant tenderness
<i>Japanese Encephalitis (AES)</i>	A person of any age, at any time of the year with acute onset of fever and change in mental status (including symptoms such as confusion, disorientation, coma or inability to talk) AND/OR new onset of seizures (excluding simple febrile seizures).

Step 2: Ensure all cases are reported

When you visit villages, ask about cases of measles, neonatal tetanus and polio, especially since they are often not reported to health centre staff. If you hear about cases, you should visit the patients (neonatal tetanus and polio) or encourage their parents to come to a health facility (measles and AES). If you recognize a case, then report it to the Medical Officer in charge at the PHC. The types of cases that should be included in your monthly report are:

- Cases that come to the health centre for treatment.
- All cases seen and diagnosed by you at outreach sessions.
- Cases that you hear about in the community and verify in person.

- Cases that are treated at non-government health facilities (for example, mission hospitals or private physicians).

Step 3: Avoid double counting

In order to use data effectively, it must be as reliable and accurate as possible. It is important that each case is counted once, and only once. Avoid “double-counting” through the following data collection standards:

- If a child makes two health-centre visits for the same disease episode, count it as one case only.
- Only count those cases that have been diagnosed/seen by you as a health worker. Do not count cases that have been reported to the health centre by community members without verification.

11.3 The Surveillance report

Monthly report of disease incidence and mortality should be prepared in the monthly reporting format. To find out the number of cases and deaths (if any) as a result of the diseases, you will:

- Count the number of VPD cases from your daily diary.
- Ensure that same case or same episode is not recorded more than once (which may happen if you have visited many times or because different informants told you about the same case).
- Fill up the number of cases in appropriate boxes of the report.
- If there are no VPD cases reported, write ZERO in the report.