

## Workshops on Harnessing Power of Immunization

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### Background

On 3 July 2014, the Prime Minister's Office's (PMO) website announced the inclusion of four new vaccines into India's Universal Immunization Programme (UIP). These include rotavirus; inactivated polio vaccine (IPV); rubella and Japanese Encephalitis (JE). Given this update, it is critical that the large community involved in delivery of vaccines is sensitized and prepared to address the various issues and challenges linked to the introduction of new vaccines.

Child Health Foundation in partnership with Global Health Strategies (GHS) and International Vaccines Access Centre (IVAC) at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health proposes to organize a series of five workshops for the pediatric and public health community to train them on evidence, program, media engagement and advocacy activities involved in new vaccine introduction. This is critical to ensure that life-saving vaccines are introduced smoothly and available to all citizens in need.

### Course Description

The course presents the new tools and skills to support new vaccine introduction in India, improve routine immunization coverage, strengthen VPD and AEFI surveillance, empower participants with advocacy tools and includes media training to deal with anti-vaccine lobby and negative reports in media. Topics include the evidence base for recent recommendations of New Vaccines by Govt of India, Polio End Game recommendations on IPV, preparation for Rotavirus Vaccine introduction, Hands on training on reporting of VPD and AEFI. There will be sessions on advocacy with practical examples and finally media training.

Intended Audience: Senior Pediatric consultants from IAP, state-level public health professionals and Government program officers, technical health advisors, Faculty from academic institutions.

**Course Format:** The course is divided into a series of lectures and participatory sessions led by experts in immunization, advocacy and media management from India and abroad with participant discussion highly encouraged.

Lectures will focus on addressing the following questions:

- ❖ What is the evidence base for recent new vaccine introduction by Government of India?
- ❖ What are the challenges in rolling out and scaling of these vaccines and vaccines already in RI? What are the potential barriers to implementation?
- ❖ What are different surveillance system for VPD and AEFI in country and how reporting and data can be harmonized by Government and Private providers?
- ❖ How Government immunization schedules and IAP immunization schedules can be best harmonized conveyed to parents?
- ❖ How best polio end Game policy can be implemented in India?
- ❖ How can the media be best engaged with regard to new vaccine introduction?

### Course Learning Objectives

At the end of this course a successful participant will be able to do the following:

- ❖ Will be able to understand and communicate evidence base for new vaccine recommendations by Government of India
- ❖ Develop a preparatory plan to facilitate new vaccine introduction and clear roles of different stakeholders including pediatricians
- ❖ Will be empowered as Resource Persons for district level workshops
- ❖ Will understand and communicate VPD and AEFI surveillance mechanisms
- ❖ Appraise the availability and quality of locally relevant disease burden and intervention effectiveness and safety data
- ❖ Evaluate and respond to epidemiology-related controversies and misconceptions
- ❖ Recognize the role of vaccines in preventing childhood pneumonia and diarrheal disease morbidity and mortality and Polio End game strategy
- ❖ Develop potential strategies for overcoming potential barriers in development and implementation of pneumonia and diarrheal disease prevention and control strategies
- ❖ Be able to interact with the media