

Country Experiences with Home-Based Records (HBR)



Results from Africa Respondents

Survey of country immunization experts - to understand current HBR needs and processes

SurveyMonkey link sent via email to over 150 EPI Managers, as well as WHO and UNICEF Immunization Focal Points, in Gavi-eligible countries

25 multiple-choice questions, some including space for explanation of response

All responses kept anonymous



26 responses received from 18 countries in Africa

Organizations Represented

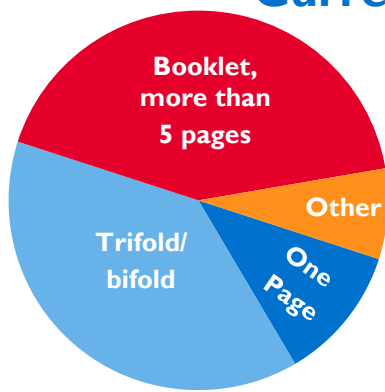
Government/MOH – 27%

UNICEF – 27%

WHO – 31%

Other Partners – 4%

Current HBR Format



More than 88% of respondents said that their **current HBR is integrated** with other programs (not just vaccination)

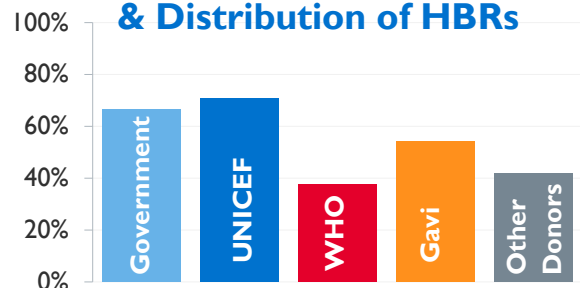
74% Has **sufficient space for health workers** to legibly write (or stamp) the date of vaccination, etc.

87% Can clearly show **which antigens have been given** and dates received

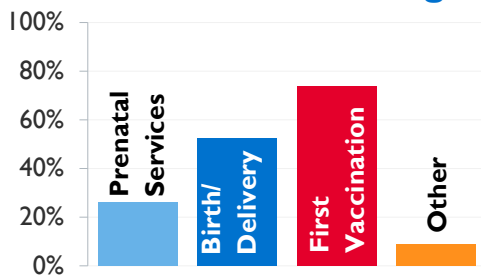
48% Enables viewers to easily identify which antigens have **not been received**

74% Includes a dedicated space for clearly **marking each return date** for next visit

Source of Funds for Printing & Distribution of HBRs



Contact when HBR is Distributed to Child/Caregiver



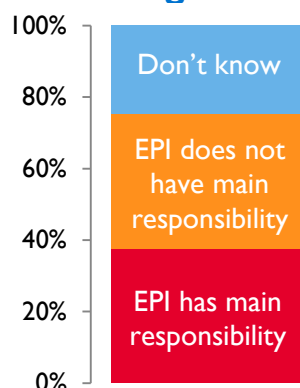
Only 15% said there is ongoing agreement with partners to fund activities each time a batch of HBRs are printed

Only 24% of respondents know about financing for updating or redesigning

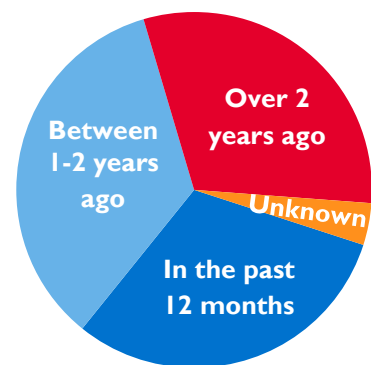
Almost 70% said **revisions are sometimes delayed** (e.g. due to other units within the MOH (or other partners) revising other sections of the HBR and/or due to the increased cost of production)

100% believe that additional advocacy is needed with the MOH/Government to **ensure long-term funding for printing and distribution of HBRs.**

Responsibility for Redesign & Printing of HBRs



Last HBR Redesign



73% of recent updates were done for a **new vaccine introduction**

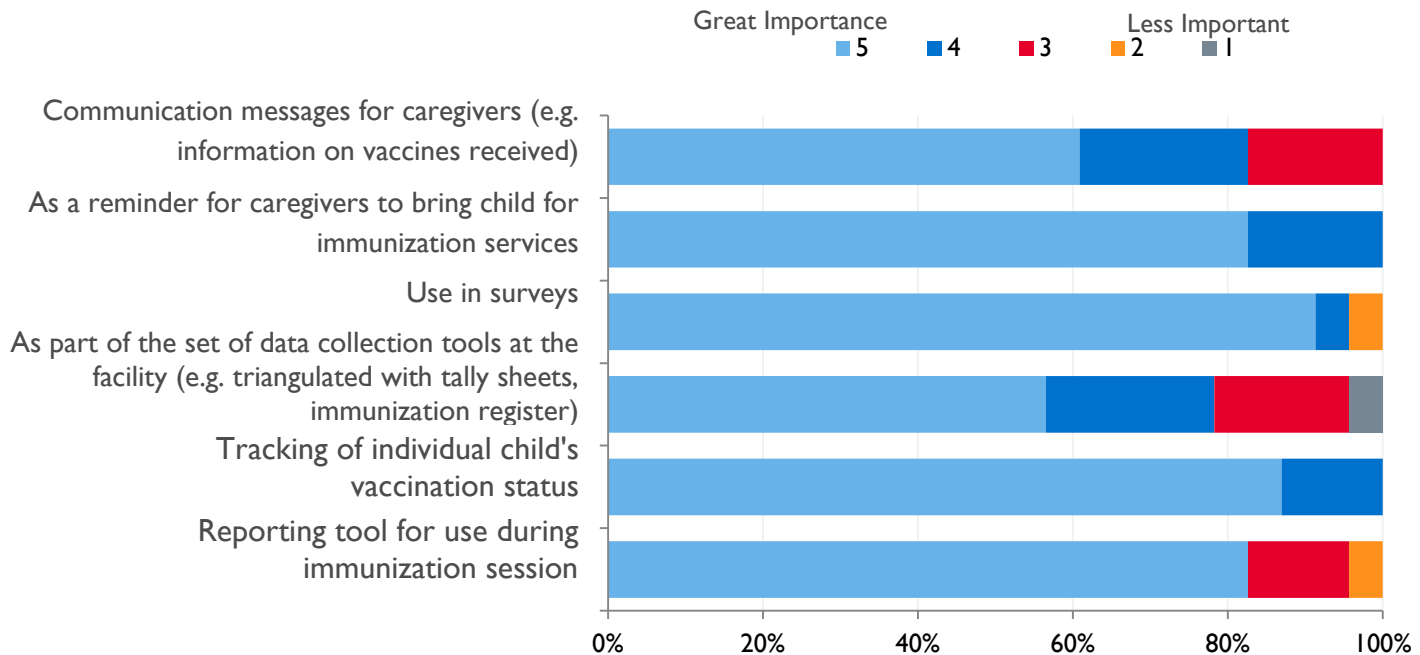
81% of respondents anticipate a new vaccine introduction in the next 2 years, necessitating an HBR update

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Survey respondents' views on the importance of the HBR as ...



Ease of Use

80% of respondents are satisfied that the current format of the immunization section is easy for health workers to use

76% of respondents are satisfied that the current format of the immunization section is easy for caregivers to use

Health workers

Area for Changes or Improvements

- No instructions
- Insufficient space to record information
- Unclear return date
- Designed for health workers and parents cannot understand its content

Area for Changes or Improvements

- Use local language & local disease names
- Include pictorial representation
- Simplify message (reinforce 5 visits)
- Clarify return date
- Clearly show vaccination schedule

Caregivers

Almost 90% of respondents expressed interest in having additional discussions on the possible redesign of their country's HBR & 56% noted interest in receiving assistance to redesign their HBR

Summary of Findings

1. Although the majority of respondents note that the HBR sufficiently shows the antigens given and dates, **the users cannot always easily identify which antigens have not been received, nor the return date for the next vaccination(s).**
2. 24% noted that the current format could be improved for use by caregivers.
3. Although the majority of respondents noted the importance of HBRs for surveys, reporting, and tracking, **less emphasis was given to the HBR within the set of immunization data tools and for communication with caregivers.**
4. Given new vaccine introductions and survey recommendations, **HBRs need to be updated and improved in the next two years**, and there is interest in discussion of their redesign.
5. As the majority of HBRs include more than immunization, **redesigns needed for the immunization section are often delayed** due to multiple partners involved and production costs.
6. There seems to be consensus among respondents that **advocacy for and assurance of long-term printing and distribution of HBRs are needed.**