

Rota Talk

NEWS LETTER

Our Main News

Rotavirus vaccine expansion in 25 States/UTs
... Page no. 1

Regional and state workshops for Rotavirus vaccine expansion
... Page no. 2-3

Key Highlights

Stories from the field and field innovations
... Page no. 4- 5

Rotavirus vaccine coverage dashboard
... Page no. 6

Mind games
... Page no. 6

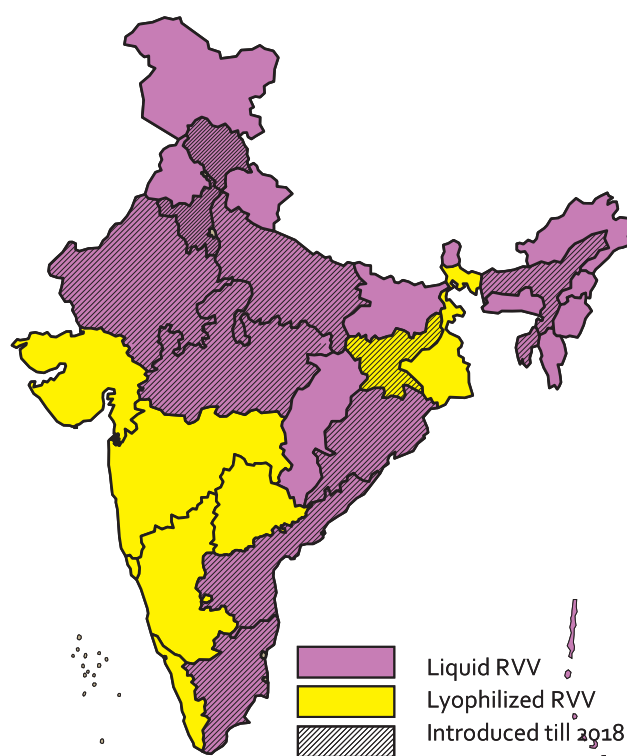


Rotavirus vaccine introduction – Phase 4

India introduced Rotavirus vaccine (RVV) in the Universal Immunization Program (UIP) in 2016 in a phased manner. In the first three phases (2016-18), the RVV was introduced in 11 states covering an estimated 56% of the country's birth cohort. In phase 4 (2019), the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India (GoI) expanded the coverage of RVV to the entire country. India thus joins 92 other countries who have already completed a national introduction.

As part of the rapid expansion of the RVV, an assessment of the preparedness status of the States/UTs was first done in standard MoHFW checklist. To ensure a high quality roll out of RVV, a massive cascading training plan was developed. For the first level of training, the states were grouped together based on the type of RVV to be introduced. There were four regional training of trainers (ToT) and three state ToTs. The first level ToTs were conducted by MoHFW and supported by JSI, UNICEF, WHO, UNDP, ITSU, NCCVMRC, GHS, BMGF, CMC Vellore, THSTI, INCLEN and others. The state program managers and the state level representatives of partner agencies were trained in these ToTs. Each of these ToTs were 2 days

residential workshops. The second level trainings were conducted at state level. In these, the district level program managers and supervisors were trained. The third level training took place at the district wherein the sub district/block level program managers and supervisors were trained. Finally, at the sub district/block the front line health workers got trained.

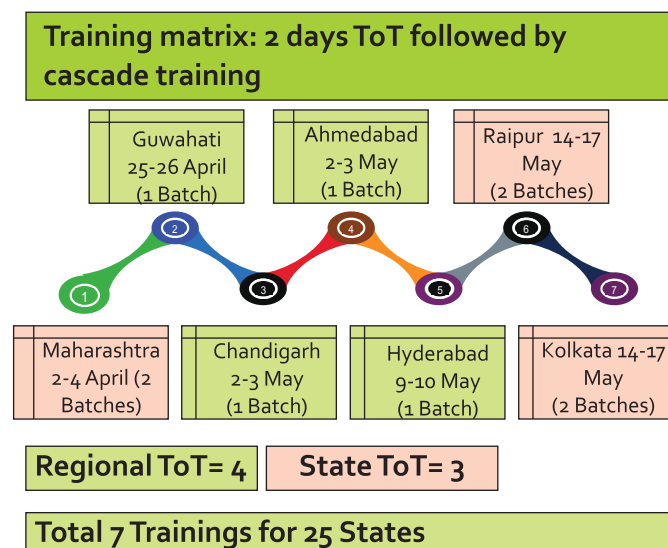


Map showing liquid and lyophilized Rotavirus vaccine (RVV)

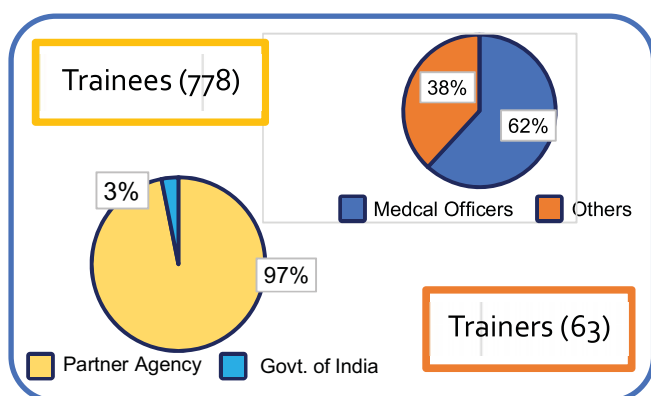
Dates	Location	State /UTs participation	Total attendees
25- 26 April	Guwahati	Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim	46
2-3 May	Ahmedabad	Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Gujarat, Daman & Diu	153
2-3 May	Chandigarh	J&K, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Chandigarh, A&N island, Delhi, Lakshadweep	45
9-10 May	Hyderabad	Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Puducherry, Telangana	60
Total		22 states/UTs	304

Dates	Location	State /UTs participation	Total attendees
2-3 April & 3-4 April	Pune	Maharashtra	162
14-15 May & 16-17 May	Kolkata	West Bengal	148
14-15 May & 16-17 May	Raipur	Chhattisgarh	164
Total		3 states	474

Details of the first level training : Regional and State ToTs



The first level trainings were conducted by the MoHFW with support from WHO, UNICEF, UNDP, ITSU, NCCVMRC, JSI, GHS, INCLIN, BMGF and others. Of the 778 participants in these trainings, 62% were Medical Officers.



Profile of trainers and trainees

First level training: Regional and State ToTs

There were seven first level trainings in 7 different cities located in the different regions of the country. The technical sessions in these workshops were facilitated by experts in program implementation, policy, research, supply chain, monitoring and evaluation, immunization safety, advocacy and communication. From MoHFW, Dr Pradeep Haldar, Deputy Commissioner I/C-Immunization attended and facilitated the technical sessions at the workshops held in Pune, Guwahati, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad and Kolkata. Dr Veena Dhawan, Assistant Commissioner-Immunization attended and facilitated a training session at the Guwahati workshop.

There was high level oversight from the State Governments and in each workshop senior health officials including Principal Secretary- Health, Mission Director-National Health Mission (NHM), Director-Health Services and others took an active part and attended the inaugural sessions.

The country level leadership from the immunization partner agencies also attended the workshops and facilitated few technical sessions. Dr. Raj Shankar Ghosh (BMGF), Dr. Arindam Ray (BMGF), Dr. Gagandeep Kang (THSTI), Dr. Manish Pant (UNDP), Dr. Rija (UNICEF), Dr. Danish Ahmed (WHO), Dr. Manoja Kumar Das (INCLIN) participated in the workshops.

Image Gallery : Rotavirus Vaccine Introduction Trainings

Regional Workshop at Guwahati



Dr. Veena Dhawan, Assistant Commissioner (Immunization), MoHFW, Gol, addressing the participants in the inaugural session



Dr. Arindam Ray, Senior Programme Officer, BMGF, taking the session on Rotavirus vaccines and their impact



Participants at the Guwahati Regional ToT



Dr. S N Bagchi, Tech. Director (Immunization), JSI, taking the session on RVV Introduction Overview

Regional Workshop at Hyderabad



Inauguration of the workshop by traditional lighting of the lamp.



Dr. Riya Andriamihantanirina (Immunization Specialist, UNICEF, Delhi) addressing the participants



Dr. Gagandeep Kang (Executive Director, Translational Health Science and Technology Institute) taking the session on Impact of RVV



Dr. P Haldar, Deputy Commissioner, (In-charge Immunization), MoHFW, Gol and Dr. Bagchi, Technical Director, Immunization, JSI answering the queries on sticky notes

Regional Workshop at Ahmedabad



Dignitaries on the dais at Ahmedabad Regional ToT



Dr. P. Haldar, Deputy Commissioner (in-charge Immunization), MoHFW, Gol taking the session on Overview of UIP



Dr. N P Jani (SEPIO-Gujarat), Dr. Gaurav Dahiya (MD NHM-Gujarat), Dr. P Haldar (Dy. Commissioner-Imm. MoHFW, Gol), Dr. SN Bagchi (Tech. Director, JSI)



Dr. NP Jani, SEPIO addressing the participants

State Workshop at Kolkata



Inauguration of the workshop by traditional lamp lighting



Dr. SN Bagchi, Technical Director, Immunization, JSI, taking session on RVV Introduction



Dr. Mohan Gupte, Ex. Founder Director, National Institute of Epidemiology, Chennai and ICMR Chair in Epidemiology taking the session on RVV



Dr. Aparesh Bandyopadhyay, ADHS cum SEPIO, Govt. of West Bengal, taking the session on cascading training

Regional Workshop at Chandigarh



Dr. GB Singh (SEPIO-Punjab) setting the objectives of the workshop



Inauguration of the workshop by the dignitaries



Launch of the Training Material by Dr. Jaspal Kaur (Director-HS, Punjab), Dr. Nutan Mundeja (Director-FW Delhi), Dr. G Dewan (Director HFW cum MD NHM Chandigarh) and Dr. Avneet Kaur (Director-FW, Punjab)



State Workshop at Raipur



Dr. Amar Singh Thakur (SEPIO Chhattisgarh) taking the session on Overview of UIP



Dr. Manoj Das (Director INCLN) taking session on RVV and their Impact



Mr. Hitesh at the First Station (Dose, Schedule and Administration)



Dr. Rohan (ITSU) at the Third Station (AEFI)

Innovations in training

A number of innovative training methods were introduced during the workshops which were much appreciated by the participants. A few of them are highlighted below:

- 1 **Station Approach** : To make the technical sessions more interactive, the station approach was conceptualized. These were small group breakaway sessions wherein the participants were encouraged to raise queries and get the clarifications from the facilitators. There were four stations covering the four main areas of training- 1) dose, mode of administration and vaccination schedule, 2) cold chain and vaccine logistic management, 3) surveillance and management of AEFIs and 4) communication and social mobilization. In station 1, there was also a video demonstration of steps of vaccine administration and the participants were given hands on training on the administration of the vaccine, especially for the lyophilized RVV.



Station 1: Dose, Schedule and Administration



Station 2: Cold Chain and Vaccine Logistics Management



Station 3: AEFI : Surveillance and management.

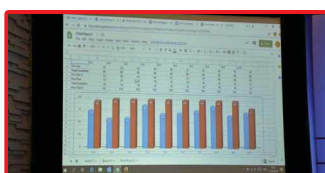


Station 4: Communication and Social Mobilization

2. **Online Pre / Post Test with live score**: The pre-test and post-test were administered in the hand held devices (smartphones) and the live scores were displayed. The shift from a pen and paper-based format to an online format generated much interest amongst the participants. The participants also shared their feedback on the training quality on an online format.



Online pre & post-test with live scores



3. **Using sticky note for technical queries**: During the workshop, the participants were encouraged to write their queries in sticky note pads provided to them. The queries raised in these sticky notes

were then answered by the experts who were facilitating the technical sessions. These question and answer method ensured that a lot more participants, who otherwise would not have stood up during the sessions to ask a question, could get the clarifications on their doubts.



Queries on sticky note being answered by experts.



Training quality

The comparison of the pre test and post scores on 10 key questions was done to understand the extent of knowledge enhancement at the end of the ToTs. Those topics where the post test scores were found to be comparatively low were again discussed with the participants and their remaining doubts were clarified. The district and block level trainings were monitored by representatives from all partner agencies. Also, a post training telephonic assessment was conducted on a sample of participants by the JSI team. The findings were shared with state and district officials to identify centres where the training quality was sub-optimal. Refresher trainings were conducted in such centres.

Field innovations

An ingenious vaccine stand for keeping vaccines during immunization sessions is being used in the Maheshtala municipality area of South 24 Parganas district, West Bengal. A sun board with vinyl printing guides the vaccinator in keeping the ice pack and the vaccines in their designated positions and thus minimizes the chance of any program error. It is a simple and low cost local field innovation which ensures that the heat sensitive and freeze sensitive vaccines are kept at the session site as per the routine immunization program guidelines.

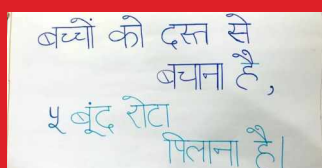
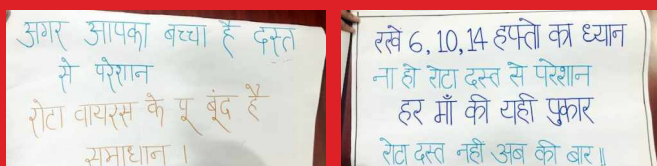


Vaccine Stand

»» Success Stories from the field

Slogan writing contest for medical students: Rotavirus vaccine introduction in Uttarakhand

On 9 July 2019, a sensitization session on Rotavirus vaccine introduction was organized at the Department of Community Medicine, Government Doon Medical College, Dehradun, Uttarakhand. Following the sensitization session, a slogan writing contest was organized amongst the undergraduate MBBS students of the medical college to create awareness in the medical fraternity on RVV introduction. The students enthusiastically participated in the contest and developed new slogans on RVV introduction.



Photographs of the event

SEAR-ITAG: Poster presentation on Rotavirus vaccine introduction in India

The 10th meeting of the South East Asia Regional Immunization Technical Advisory Group (SEAR-ITAG) was held from 9 to 12 July 2019 in New Delhi, India. In the meeting, there was a country poster presentation on Rotavirus vaccine introduction in India. In the presentation, the challenges faced, the innovations done and the lessons learned during the RVV introduction through the different phases was highlighted. JSI provided technical support to the MoHFW in developing the poster.



Media Coverage of trainings

State level workshop on Rota Virus Vaccine introduction inaugurated

Health Secretary Niharika Bank Singh during inauguration of workshop.

Dr. Anurag Singh Thakur, State Immunization Officer, proposed that the workshop would be a platform for health officials to discuss the challenges and solutions for RVV introduction. He also mentioned that the workshop would be a platform for health officials to discuss the challenges and solutions for RVV introduction.

Rotavirus Vaccine introduction workshop captured in the newspapers

एक लाख बच्चों को लगेगा रोटो वायरस टीका

एक लाख बच्चों को लगेगा रोटो वायरस टीका

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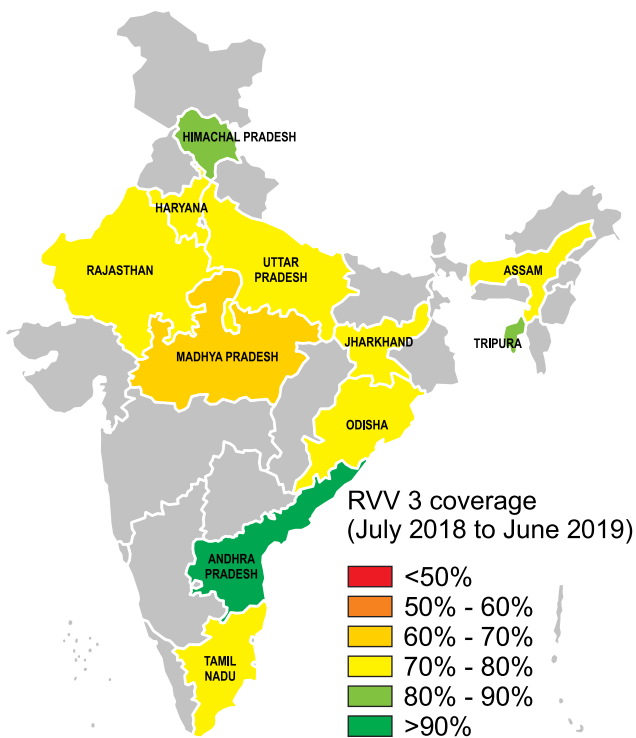
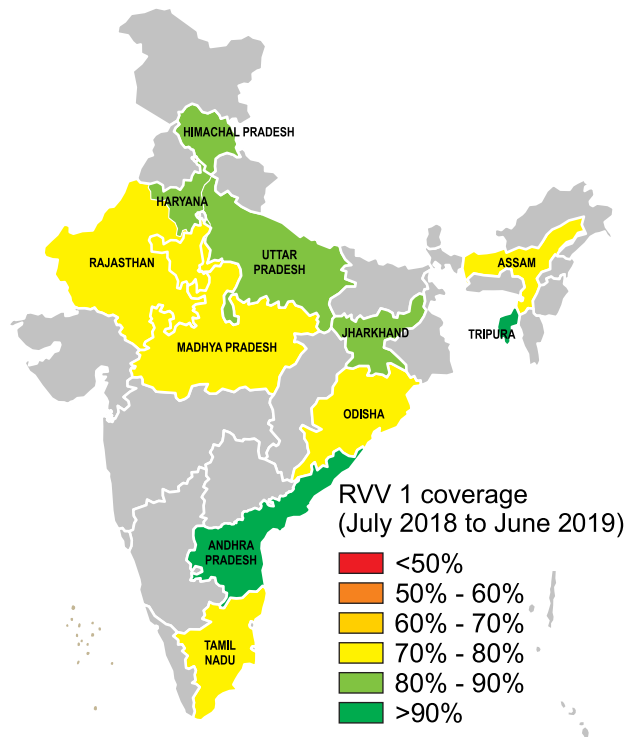
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Rotavirus vaccine coverage dashboard (HMIS report compilation July 2018 - June 2019)



Doses	Coverage for 11 states from July 2018 to June 2019 (in million)
RVV 1	17.39
RVV 2	16.07
RVV 3	15.37

Rota quick facts

Do you know?

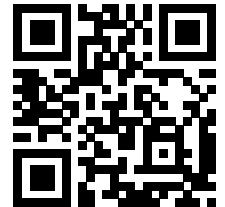
- ✓ All Rotavirus vaccine types are technically interchangeable under the UIP.
- ✓ Both the liquid as well as the lyophilized forms of Rotavirus vaccine being used in the UIP are produced indigenously in India.
- ✓ With the national roll out, India joins 92 other countries who have completed a national introduction of RVV.

Mind Power Games

Match the following

1 Dose of Freeze dried RVV	a Freeze dried RVV
2 Dose of Liquid RVV	b Td vaccine
3 6ml oral syringe used for administering	c Rotavirus vaccine
4 Vaccine administered at 10 and 16 years age	d 5 drops oral
5 No open vial policy	e 2.5ml oral

For answers:
Please scan the QR Code



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- Dr. Pradeep Haldar, MoHFW
- Dr. M K Aggarwal, MoHFW
- Dr. Arindam Ray, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Dr. S N Bagchi, JSI
- Dr. Mayank Shersiya, MoHFW

Field Reporters

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