

Rota Talk NEWSLETTER



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Immunization Catch-up Drive

IMI 3.0

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India (GoI) conducted two rounds of Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI 3.0) in January and March 2021. In these two rounds of IMI 3.0, close to a million children who had missed their routine doses, including Rotavirus vaccine, were vaccinated. The coverage of Rotavirus vaccine, along with other antigens, improved in the last quarter (January to March 2021) of the year 2020-21. Adherence to COVID appropriate behaviour (CAB) during the immunization sessions was strongly emphasized.



PLEASE

Wear a Mask

Wash your hands with soap

20 sec

6 feet

Maintain Social Distancing

Field stories Supervisor

A motherly responsibility and selfless care

*“The children of my area are like my own children and I enjoy being a vaccine-aunty to them”-
Aparna Banerjee.*

She is a FTS in UPHC 7 in Kamarhati Municipality area of North 24 Parganas district in West Bengal. First Tier Supervisors (FTSs) are a unique group of health workers under the Honorary Health Workers' Scheme in West Bengal. She joined the health work force more than 20 years back and has worked tirelessly to ensure more and more children get their vaccines on time.

Her hard work is now showing results and the coverage of all antigens including Rotavirus vaccine has improved in her area. So this year, in the IMI rounds no sessions were required in her catchment area as there were no missed children.

For last one year she has been actively involved in all COVID

related activities including tracking of migrant workers, contact tracing, SARI surveillance, co-morbidity survey. With her dedicated team of HHWs she is educating community about COVID 19, motivating symptomatic people to go for test, removing social stigma through awareness generation. Now she

is conducting COVID vaccination sessions everyday even on Sundays and other holidays.

Aparna feels immensely satisfied that she has gained the trust of the community and feels blessed to serve the community, especially the children.



“Amar nijer kono santan nei, tai amar sob cheye anondo tokhon hoi jokhon ami choto choto sishuder vaccine dei ar oderke vaccine preventable diseases theke surakshya dite pari” (“I don't have kids, I enjoy vaccinating the children most as these vaccines will protect them from vaccine preventable diseases”).



Protecting children from rotavirus diarrhoea

Message from
Addl. Director



**Dr. Preetha P.P.,
Additional Director of Health
Services (FW)**

The state of Kerala, along with the rest of the country was also severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Amidst the resurgence of cases in the past few months, the state health administration has taken all measures to ensure that the routine immunization services are not adversely affected. The frontline health workers have been vaccinated on a priority and they have been trained to provide the immunization service following all COVID appropriate behavior. All this has led the frontline health workers to work confidently and with increased motivation and dedication.

The outreach and fixed immunization sessions are being held in the state regularly except in containment zones. In the period January till April 2021, 55,097 immunization sessions were held across the state. The COVID pandemic and the resulting awareness about vaccination in the community has resulted in a consistent good coverage of all antigens for children as well, including Rotavirus vaccine. In the period of January to April 2021, 1,22,559 doses of RVV 1; 1,38,292 doses of RVV2; and 1,50,890 doses of RVV 3 have been administered.

Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI 3.0 scheme had been rolled out to cover children and pregnant women who missed routine immunisation during the Covid-19 pandemic. 'In 2021, two rounds of IMI3.0 were conducted in five districts in Kerala and covered 7,857 children.

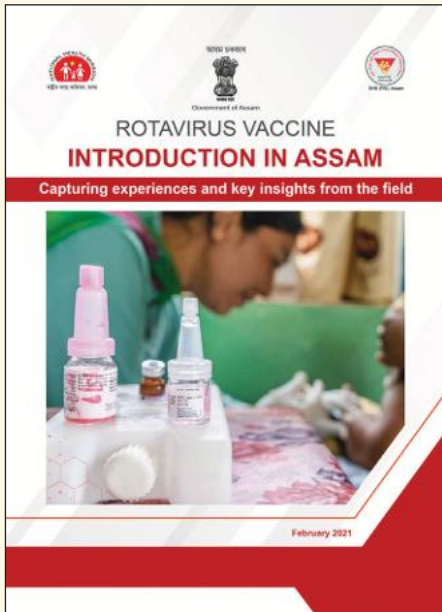
The state health department is taking all steps to ensure that all children who have missed any vaccination due to the pandemic or for any other reason are tracked and vaccinated in the catch-up sessions or catch-up drives.

All the good work has been possible with the combined efforts of the Health Department staff who along with immunization partners, have been working tirelessly to ensure protection of children from rotavirus diarrhoea and all other vaccine preventable diseases.



Assam Study Highlights

Capturing experiences and key insights from the field



Immunization programmes are a very crucial strategy for reducing the under 5 mortality through prevention of vaccine preventable diseases. Assam has consistently strived and tremendously improved in the coverage of different vaccines given under the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP). 'Despite a prompt scale up of rotavirus vaccine (RVV) in the state, analysis of NFHS-5 data showed that the coverage of RVV is lower than other antigens. This case study focussed on the enablers and barriers of RVV coverage in Assam. Seven key focus areas crucial for strengthening the RVV coverage were analysed and the key insights were discussed.

Key components of the RVV implementation analysed in the case study:

- Vaccine session planning and processes
- Training of Health Workers
- Communication for demand generation
- Tackling vaccine hesitancy
- Supervision and monitoring
- Data management
- Vaccine supply chain



Study report being released



Field data collection



Health care services on Boat Clinics in Assam

The Boat Clinic programme is implemented under Public Private Partnership mode with National Health Mission (NHM), Government of Assam and is operational in 13 districts of Assam.

The programme is rendering sustained primary healthcare services to the isolated difficult-to-reach island communities along the river Brahmaputra where health service delivery is challenging mainly due to its location and recurring floods every year.

The innovation of providing health care services including the immunization services on the Boat Clinics has contributed greatly towards the fulfilment of health demands of the masses and also improve the reach of health care delivery services. The benefits of public private partnership have also been reflected in a positive way through this unique programme.



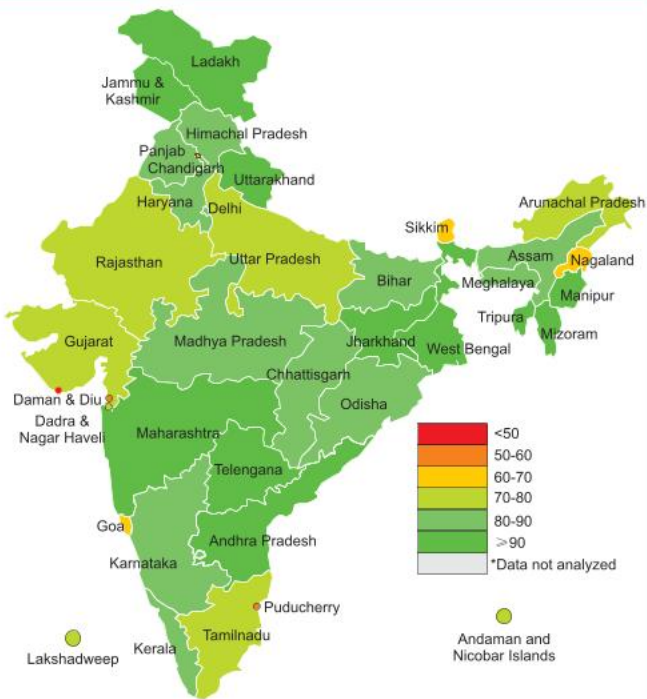
Switching to Rotasiil Liquid

PRODUCT SWITCH

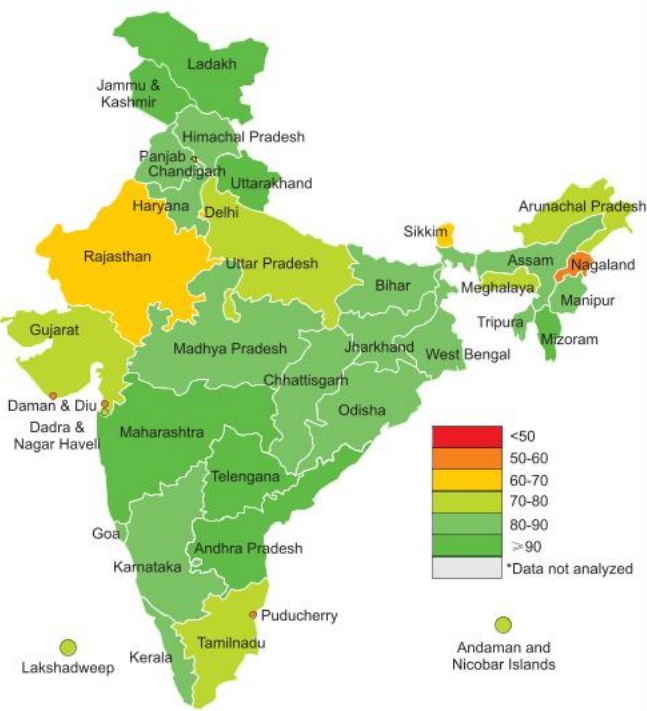
In the Universal Immunization Programme in India (UIP), two types of RVV products are administered – a frozen liquid RVV (Rotavac®) and a lyophilized RVV (Rotasiil®). Now, a new RVV product, liquid RVV (Rotasiil liquid) is going to be introduced in the UIP in 2021. This new RVV product will be administered to infants in the same schedule at 6 weeks, 10 weeks and 14 weeks. It is a single dose liquid vaccine to be stored at 2 to 8 degree celcius at all levels of the immunization supply chain.



Rotavirus vaccine coverage dashboard RVV-1 dose (April 2020 to March 2021)



RVV-3 dose (April 2020 to March 2021)



Cumulative doses provided during April 2020 to March 2021 (in millions)

RVV 1	22.4 million
RVV 2	21.9 million
RVV 3	21.8 million

Source: Provisional data

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Mind Power Game:

Search 6 immunization related words from the jumble.

H	X	C	Q	H	R	O	T	A	S	I	I	L	L	I
Y	S	O	I	C	G	V	L	S	J	N	S	C	P	M
A	N	U	I	I	O	P	Y	O	O	E	T	K	R	M
B	O	X	X	N	F	V	K	N	B	X	W	Z	E	U
U	F	I	E	I	D	J	E	P	G	K	L	F	V	N
Z	T	H	X	H	X	R	U	R	E	Z	U	P	E	I
A	L	I	B	X	O	D	A	I	A	S	M	A	N	Z
G	H	Z	J	P	W	H	M	D	S	G	J	R	T	A
U	C	Q	R	G	C	X	E	H	H	G	E	O	I	T
T	Q	H	Z	C	F	M	U	V	C	A	D	N	O	I
L	T	D	S	B	Y	B	B	E	P	L	N	A	N	O
D	R	B	S	V	T	J	I	C	W	H	G	U	U	N
U	G	U	R	E	O	K	R	Z	W	R	L	H	S	J
K	S	J	O	R	O	T	A	V	I	R	U	S	J	H
N	C	X	Q	J	L	M	E	Y	C	C	L	C	Y	H

For Answers

Please scan the QR code



ROTA QUICK FACTS

- ✓ Study showed a reduction in rotavirus diarrhea across five sites in India after Rotavac vaccine introduction. Changes in circulating strains with an increased rate of mixed infections were also seen in the post-vaccine period¹.
- ✓ Declining trend in the rotavirus positive AGE cases in the study area after introduction of Rotavac vaccine in the UIP².

1. Varghese T, Alokit Khakha S, Giri S, et al. Rotavirus Strain Distribution before and after Introducing Rotavirus Vaccine in India. *PLoS One* 16(4):416. Published 2021 Apr 1. doi:10.3390/pathogens10040416.

2. Badur, M., Pidugu, V.K.R., Kasala, L. et al. Acute Gastroenteritis in Children Below 5 Years of Age at Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, India Post Introduction of Rotavirus Vaccine into National Immunization Programme. *Indian J Pediatr* 88, 4–9 (2021).

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