



# Rota Talk

## NEWSLETTER

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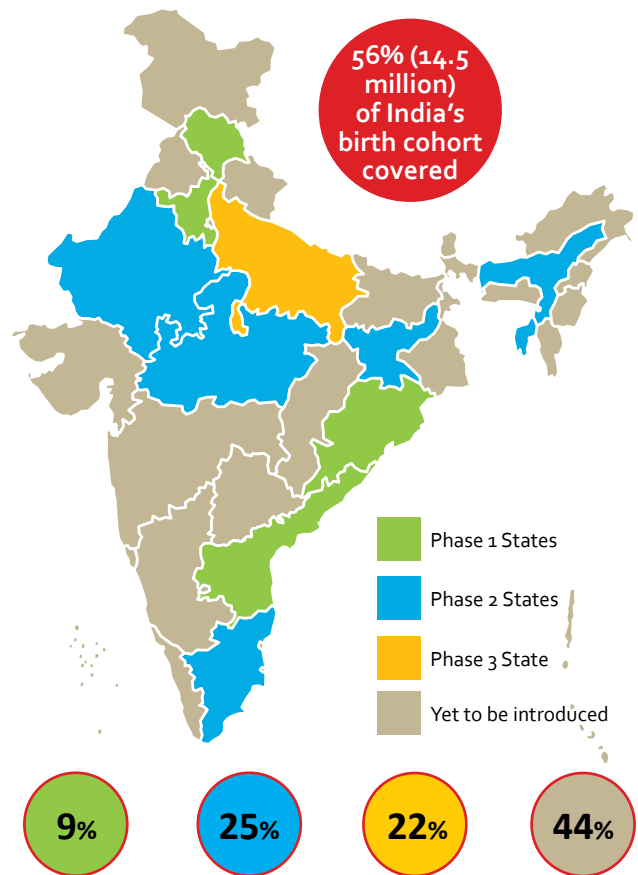
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### Key Highlights

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Government of India (GoI) has planned to introduce Rotavirus vaccine under Universal Immunization Programme in the rest of India by 2019.



## Rotavirus vaccine to be expanded to remaining states of India

India has been the first Asian country to launch indigenous Rotavirus vaccine (RVV) in the Universal Immunization Program (UIP) in March 2016. With the introduction of the Rotavirus vaccine in Uttar Pradesh an estimated 56% of the annual birth cohort of the country is now covered. Now the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW),

Date of Roll out of RVV	State	Phase
1. Himachal Pradesh	15 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	I
2. Odisha	06 <sup>th</sup> April 2016	
3. Haryana	13 <sup>th</sup> April 2016	
4. Andhra Pradesh	22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2016	
5. Tripura	18 <sup>th</sup> February 2017	II
6. Rajasthan	23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2017	
7. Madhya Pradesh	02 <sup>nd</sup> April 2017	
8. Assam	14 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	
9. Tamil Nadu	17 <sup>th</sup> September 2017	
10. Jharkhand	07 <sup>th</sup> April 2018	
11. Uttar Pradesh	04 <sup>th</sup> September 2018	III

Map Showing the phase wise introduction of RVV

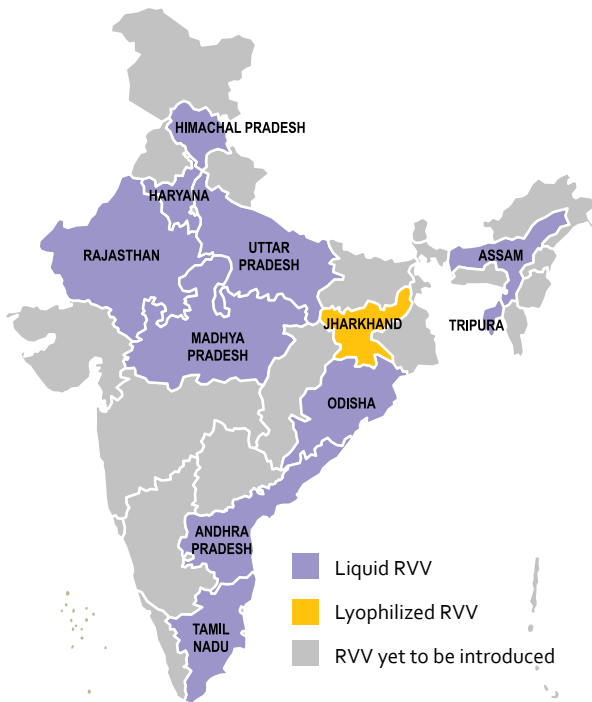
For the first time in the history of UIP in India, two types of Rotavirus vaccines, the oral liquid and oral freeze-dried, are being used. Both these vaccines are being introduced in the final phase of introduction in the remaining 18 States and 7 Union Territories of the country. Currently, the oral freeze-dried vaccine is being used in Jharkhand while the oral liquid vaccine is used in the other 10 states.



Oral lyophilized vaccine



Oral liquid vaccine



Map showing the distribution of type of RVV under UIP

## Training package for RVV introduction

Two sets of training materials have been developed for the two types of RVV. These includes Operational Guidelines (OG), Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Medical Officers, FAQs for Health Workers and Mobilizer Pamphlets. All of them have been updated and revised in March 2019 for use in the upcoming trainings. The two sets of guidelines are colour coded. The trainings for the two types of RVV are also being done separately. A one pager comprising of Dos and Don'ts for bundling approach as well as the steps of administration of the lyophilized RVV has been developed and will be used in the RVV training.



Print material for the oral freeze-dried Rotavirus vaccine

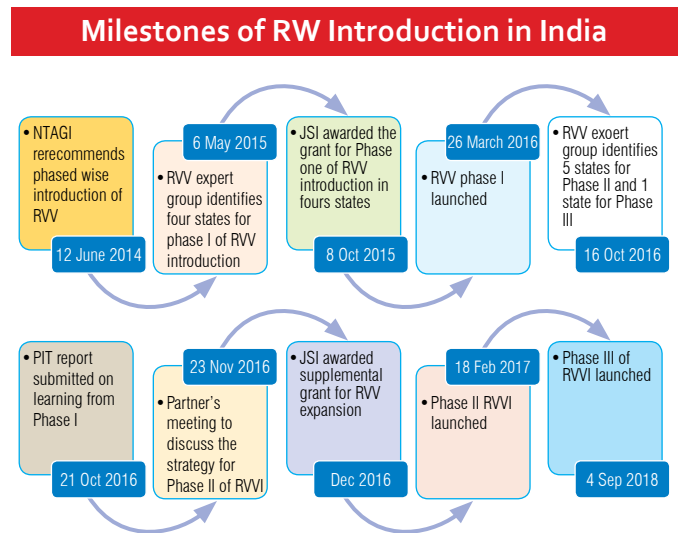


A one pager of Dos and Don'ts for bundling approach



Print material for the oral liquid Rotavirus vaccine

## Milestones of Rotavirus vaccine introduction in India



## Rotavirus Vaccine Introduction Multi-Country Workshop at Bangkok, Thailand, 15-17 January 2019

Rotavirus Accelerated Vaccine Introduction Network (RAVIN), is a partnership between the International Vaccine Access Center (IVAC) at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health



Dr. Arup Deb Roy, Sr. Program Manager, JSI-India making a presentation at RAVIN Workshop

(lead institution), JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. (JSI), and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Dr. Arup Deb Roy, Sr. Program Manager, JSI India was invited to share the experience of the process of roll out of Rotavirus vaccine in India at the RAVIN workshop in Bangkok, Thailand, 15-17 January 2019. India's experience with the two different types of Rotavirus vaccines created interest amongst the participants from various countries, who are planning to introduce RVV in the coming years.

## **IPHACON at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh, India, 31 January - 3 February 2019**

The 63rd Annual National Conference of the Indian Public Health Association (IPHA) has been organized by Department of Community Medicine,



*Dr. Arup Deb Roy moderating the sessions*



*The Panellists Dr. Sanjay Gandhi (GSK), Dr. S N Bagchi (JSI), Dr. Danish Ahmed (WHO-NPSP) and Dr. T S Rao (DBT)*

Rangaraya Medical College, Kakinada Smart City and AP State Branch of IPHA from 31st January to 3rd February, 2019. The IPHA is the most prestigious association of the Public Health professionals of India working for the promotion and advancement of public health and allied sciences in their different branches in India, protection and promotion of public and personal health of the people of the country and promotion of co-operation and fellowship among the members of the Association. The conference offered a wonderful opportunity to discuss various health issues, exchange ideas and share information on recent advances in the field of public health. JSI was invited in a panel discussion which was scheduled on the 3rd of February. The topic of discussion was "Recent initiatives in Universal Immunization Program (UIP) with special focus on new vaccine introduction". The panellists were Dr. S N Bagchi (JSI), Dr. Danish Ahmed (WHO-NPSP), Dr. T S Rao (DBT) and Dr. Sanjay Gandhi (GSK). The session was moderated by Dr. Arup Deb Roy (JSI). Dr. SN Bagchi spoke about the Rota virus vaccine introduction in India. The current scenario in the states that have already launched the vaccine was discussed. The panellists mentioned about how for the first time in the history of UIP in India the 2 types of RVV is in use and specially mentioned about the Jharkhand experience where the lyophilized Rotavirus vaccine was successfully introduced for the first time under the UIP with the technical assistance from JSI. They also spoke about the history of the clinical trial of indigenous Rotavirus vaccine in India, and the issues and challenges for consistent supply of new vaccines in the UIP of the country. The session was greatly appreciated by the audience in the hall. Several questions, especially on Rotavirus vaccines, were asked by the audience which were promptly answered by the panellists to their satisfaction.

## **Monitoring RVVI in Uttar Pradesh**

Since the launch of RVVI in UP on 4th September 2018, supportive supervision and monitoring of RI sessions and cold chain points have facilitated the introduction of Rotavirus vaccine into a large state like Uttar Pradesh with 75 districts. Monitoring has also improved the update of RVV coverage data by the state.

## »» Success Stories from the field

### Rotavirus Vaccine: Vaccinators priority.

Session Site: Nawadiya village, Block: Milak, District: Rampur

19th January 2019.

An outreach session at village Nawadiya was held on 19 Jan 2019. There were 13 beneficiaries for RVV in the due list. The ANM, named Nafis Bano, found that only 2 vials of RVV (5 dose vial of liquid RVV) were supplied from the cold chain point (CCP). With these 2 vials she was able to vaccinate only 10 children and for rest she needed one more vial.



ANM Nafis Bano vaccinating the child at outreach session

Immediately, she requested the alternate vaccine delivery (AVD) person to go and bring one more vial of RVV from the CCP. The AVD person went to the CCP immediately and brought back one vial of RVV. The ASHA went out to the village and mobilized the remaining 3 beneficiaries to the session site. All of them received RVV and none were left out. This proved the ANM's proactiveness and initiative to immunize all children on the vaccination day. She said "the children should not miss the due dose due to our mistakes". It is a lesson for everyone in the field who is providing health care services to community that little effort and proactiveness goes a long way in getting desired result and achievement.

## Capacity Building for Rotavirus vaccine introduction- Experiences and way forward

The extensive cascade of trainings have not only helped in the successful roll out of the RVV but also had a positive impact on the capacity building of the health staff on the overall immunization program. The major activities for capacity building of health staff is a key to successful vaccine introduction. Robust hands on training of medical officers, cold chain handlers, vaccinators (ANMs) and mobilizers (ASHAs and AWWs) has been the key to successful introduction of RVV till date in the 11 states.

Cadre	Trained in Phase 1	Trained in Phase 2	Trained in Phase 3	Total trained in all 3 Phases
Medical Officer	2,849	11,705	4,492	19,046
Cold Chain Handler	4,223	8,513	1,484	14,220
Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANM)	26,554	92,584	24,058	1,43,186
Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA)	90,525	1,37,222	1,43,925	3,71,692
Anganwadi Worker (AWW)	1,12,768	2,22,765	1,44,173	4,79,706

## State workshop for Rotavirus vaccine introduction in Maharashtra, Pune, India, 2-4 April 2019

The preparation for RVV introduction starts with the Regional/State training of trainers (ToTs). The Maharashtra state training of the trainers was held at Pune during 2-4 April, 2019. It was a successful training program with participation of govt officials from all districts and municipal corporations, and also representatives from all partner agencies. The updated operational guidelines for the lyophilized RVV were released at the inaugural programme. Dr. Pradeep Haldar, Deputy Commissioner (I/C Immunization), MoHFW, GoI, Dr. Anup Kumar Yadav, Commissioner of Health Services and MD-NHM, Government of Maharashtra, and Dr. Archana Patil, Director, Health Services, Government of Maharashtra addressed the participants and pointed out the importance of robust RVV training before launch of the vaccine. The participants were given hands on training on the steps of administration of oral lyophilized RVV during the ToT.

## Image Gallery: State workshop for RVVI in Maharashtra



*Dr. Anup Kumar Yadav, Commissioner of Health Services and MD-NHM, Government of Maharashtra, addressing the participants*



*Dr. Pradeep Haldar, Deputy Commissioner (I/C Immunization), MoHFW, GoI, addressing the participants*



*Inauguration of the Training by the Chief guests and honourable dignitaries by lighting the lamp*



*Release of the revised Operational Guidelines for the oral freeze dried Rotavirus vaccine introduction at the workshop*



*Dr. Archana Patil, Director, Health Services, Government of Maharashtra, addressing the participants*



*Participants at the Maharashtra State ToT*



*Station approach: Demonstration of the steps of administration of oral freeze dried RVV*



*Station approach: Hands on training of the participants on the steps of administration of oral freeze dried RVV*

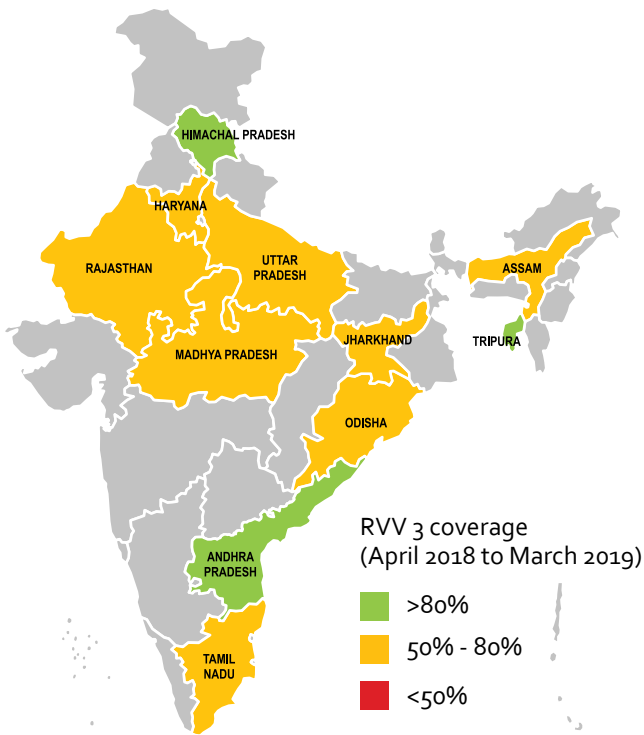
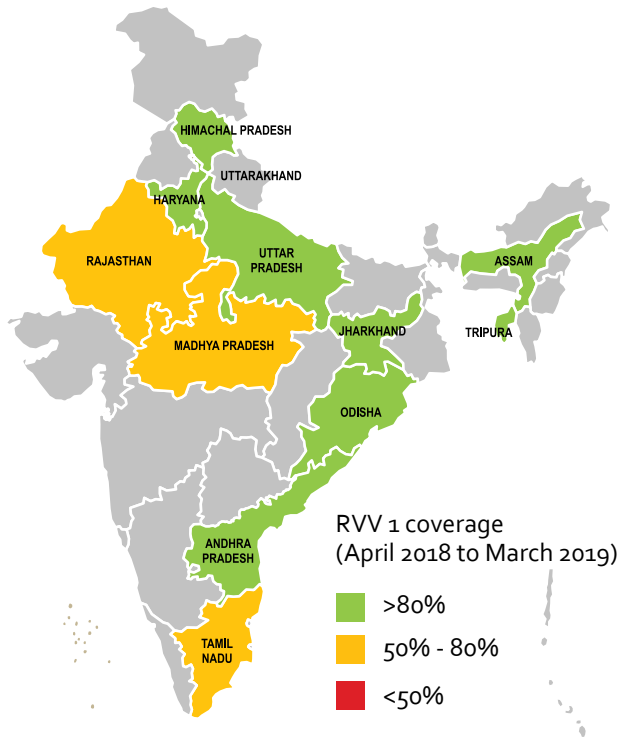


*Station approach: Cold chain and vaccine logistics management*



*Station approach: AEFI management*

# Rotavirus vaccine coverage dashboard



Doses	Coverage for 11 states (in million)
RRV 1	9.58
RRV 2	8.66
RRV 3	8.14
Total	26.38

Source: HMIS data

## Rota quick facts

### Do you know?

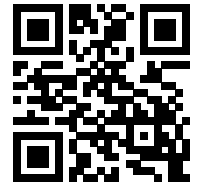
- ✓ Rotavirus vaccine has already been introduced in eleven states of India.
- ✓ India to introduce Rotavirus vaccine in the remaining 18 states and 7 union territories by 2019.
- ✓ Both the liquid as well as the lyophilized forms of Rotavirus vaccine are being used in the UIP of India.

## Mind Power Games Match the following:

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. Supply of the Lyophilized form of Rotavirus vaccine requires      | a. Rotavirus diarrhea |
| 2. Both the liquid and freeze-dried vaccines are available under UIP | b. MR vaccine         |
| 3. Vaccine administered at 9 months age                              | c. Bundling           |
| 4. Vaccine preventable disease.                                      | d. Td vaccine         |
| 5. Vaccine which prevents Tetanus and Diphtheria                     | e. Rotavirus vaccine  |

## For answers:

Please scan the QR Code



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