

Rota Talk

NEWSLETTER



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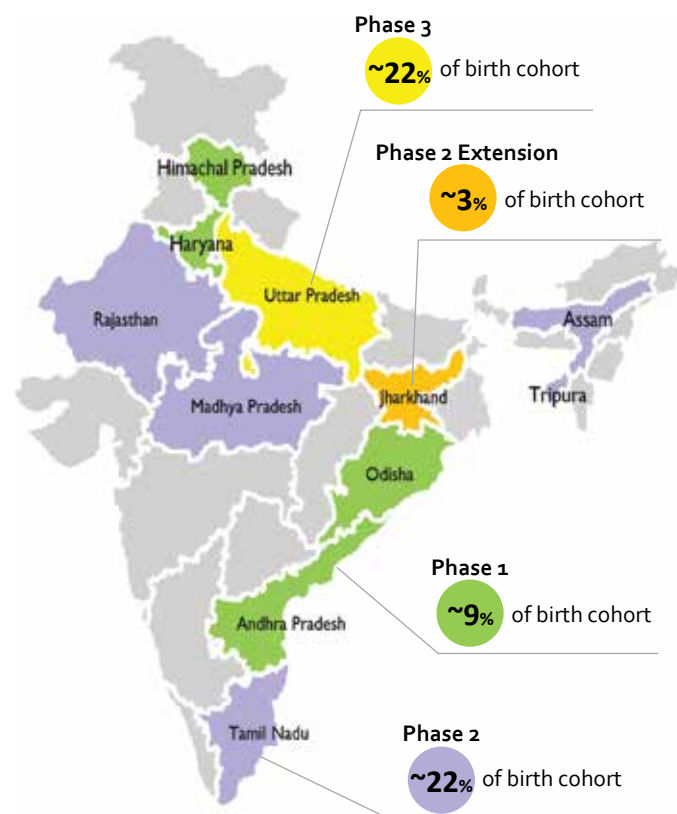
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Rotavirus vaccine expansion: Jharkhand introduces Rotavirus vaccine in the Universal Immunization Programme

In April 2018, Jharkhand became the tenth state to introduce Rotavirus vaccine (RVV) in the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP). The Honourable Chief Minister of Jharkhand, Shri Raghubar Das formally launched the vaccine by administering the first dose to a 6 weeks old infant. With the introduction in Jharkhand, a cumulative estimate of 34 percent of India's birth cohort is covered by RVV.



10 states have already introduced RVV and Uttar Pradesh will introduce in middle of 2018

Message of Principal Secretary - Health

I am delighted to know that this issue of "Rota Talk" mainly focuses on the launch of Rotavirus vaccine in Jharkhand. As we are all aware, Rotavirus diarrhoea is a major contributor of the deaths due to diarrheal disease in children. Available evidences confirm that Rotavirus vaccine is effective at preventing the most severe and life-threatening cases of rotavirus diarrhea. Jharkhand, with IMR of 29 is already ahead of National IMR (34) and with the introduction of Rota Virus Vaccine, we can expect further reduction in IMR.



The launch of Rotavirus vaccine in Jharkhand on 7 April 2018 by the Honourable Chief Minister is a major milestone in the efforts to reduce the under-five mortality. The vaccine has been introduced under the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) and is being provided free of cost at all immunization sites across the state. The implementation is being monitored at the highest level. JSI along with all other immunization partners are actively supporting the state in this introduction.

Ms Nidhi Khare, IAS
Principal Secretary-Health
Government of Jharkhand

Rotavirus vaccine introduction: Jharkhand

Training

Operational guidelines, frequently asked questions (FAQs) and leaflets were developed especially for the introduction of this new type of RVV. These



materials were printed and distributed to program managers, medical officers, cold chain handlers, health workers and mobilizers. Training video on the steps of vaccine administration was developed for the health workers.

The ANMs (vaccinators) were given hands on training on the mode of administration of the RVV



Message of MD - NHM

The introduction of Rotavirus vaccine (RVV) in Jharkhand will go a long way in bringing down the under 5 mortality rate. For the reduction in the morbidity and mortality due to Rotavirus Diarrhoea the coverage of the three doses of RVV should be ensured. The community should be made aware of the benefits of RVV.



The capacity building of the health system has been done to ensure a smooth introduction of the new vaccine. The RVV has been successfully incorporated in the immunization schedule under the UIP in Jharkhand. I appreciate the support extended by the development partners like JSI, WHO, UNICEF, UNDP and others.

Shri Kripa Nand Jha, IAS
MD (NHM)
Government of Jharkhand

Message of Director in Chief

Jharkhand is the first state in India to introduce an oral indigenous lyophilized Rotavirus vaccine in April 2018. Each vaccine vial is supplied with a diluent, an adapter and two 6 ml oral syringes. These have to be bundled together while supplying the vaccine to the session sites. So far, the Health staff and the Program Managers have successfully implemented the vaccine introduction overcoming the challenges.



Dr Sumant Mishra
Director in Chief, Health Services
Government of Jharkhand

Cold chain and vaccine logistic management

The RVV vaccine vial is delivered to the session site along with the diluent vial, adapter and two 6 ml-oral syringes following the "bundling approach". The vaccine is stored at +2 to +8 degree Celsius at every level of the supply chain.

Each dose of RVV with its diluent occupies 21.1 cm³ of cold chain space. A comprehensive cold chain review was conducted as part of the preparedness assessment and wherever required space augmentation was done.

Special initiative

A one day workshop for all state, divisional and district cold chain handlers was organised to sensitize them on the guidelines for the vaccine and logistic distribution.

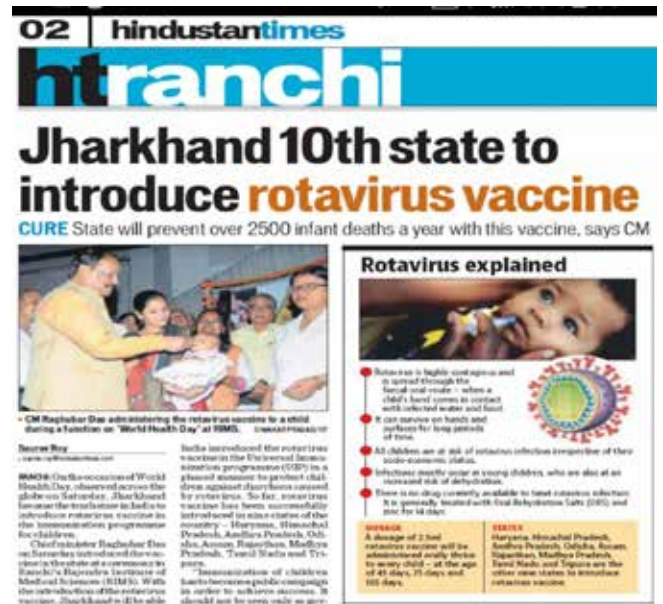


AEFI preparedness

The state and district AEFI committee meetings were conducted before the launch. This facilitated the sensitization of key stakeholders and also

contributed to the improvement in the system preparedness for surveillance and management of AEFIs.

News coverage



Communication

Communication plans were developed for improving community awareness and also to sensitize key stakeholders before the vaccine launch. Posters, banners, leaflets and info kits were developed. There was extensive coverage of the RVV introduction in the print and electronic media. Social media platforms like Twitter, Facebook and WhatsApp were also extensively used for information sharing.



»» Stories from the Field

Mohit Singh has been working as the state vaccine logistics manager for the last 7 years at state vaccine store, Ranchi. He is responsible for handling the distribution of vaccine and logistics for all vaccines under the UIP. He carries a huge responsibility of ensuring that vaccines and logistics are available at every session site in Jharkhand every week.



When I first got the letter from MoHFW that a new type of RVV will be supplied for introduction in Jharkhand, I was initially anxious about the availability of additional cold chain space and also the challenge of ensuring that the diluent along with the required logistics namely oral syringe and adapter are available at all sessions. However, the extensive training and technical support from the state program managers enabled me to overcome all apprehensions and ensure that the supply chain is streamlined for ensuring 100% vaccine availability



FIELD INNOVATIONS

In training- the 'station approach'

To make the trainings more interactive and for better outputs, the 'station approach' was adopted. In this, the participants were divided into small groups to enable more interaction between the facilitators and the trainees. In each station, a standee with the key messages of a particular topic was displayed. Facilitators in each station engaged the participants in intense and meaningful discussions to clarify all doubts.



In supply chain management: Job aids

To support the cold chain handlers and the ANMs in managing the complexities of the supply chain and ensuring that the 'bundling approach' is followed in vaccine distribution, posters and stickers were developed for display at cold chain points and sub-centres.



Message of SEPIO

The successful introduction of Rotavirus vaccine in Jharkhand was possible due to a seamless partnership between all stakeholders. RVV introduction helped the state to relook the immunization activities and necessary action has been taken to further strengthen the immunization health systems.

I am thankful to the JSI team for their continued technical assistance in the implementation of the RVV in Jharkhand. The coverage is gradually increasing and we are targeting that every child in the state gets the doses of RVV along with the other co-administered vaccines.

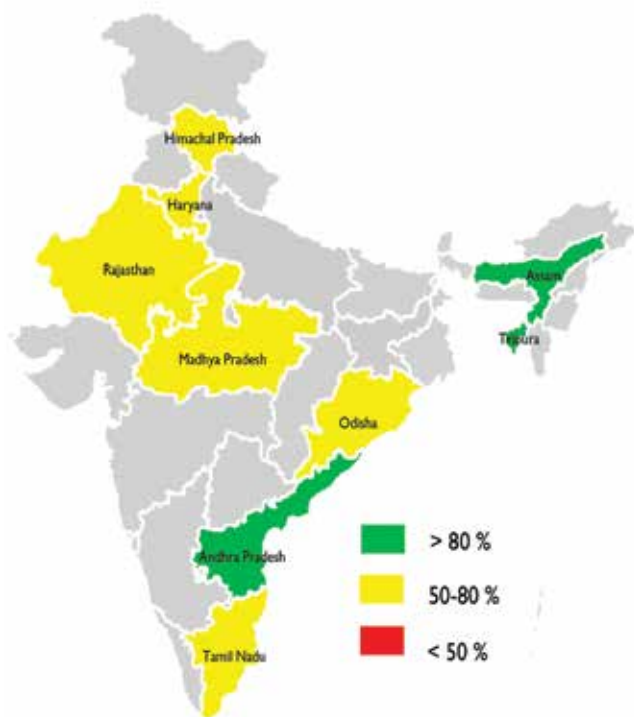


Dr Bina Sinha
Dy. Director cum SEPIO
Government of Jharkhand

Image gallery: Rotavirus vaccine introduction in Jharkhand



Rotavirus vaccine coverage dashboard



Doses	Coverage 2017-18 (in million)
RVV 1 st Dose	5.28
RVV 2 nd Dose	4.88
RVV 3 rd Dose	4.65
Total	14.81

Source: HMIS data

Rota quick facts

- ✓ As of April 2018, 95 countries have introduced and 22 countries are planning to introduce RVV in their National Immunization Programmes.
- ✓ Jharkhand is the tenth state in India to introduce RVV in the UIP
- ✓ MoHFW has decided on further expansion of RVV to Uttar Pradesh to cover another 5.6 million birth cohort

Mind Power Games

Word power

Rearrange the letters in the four-word jumbles, one letter in each square to make four meaningful words.

1. ZFEERE

2. ACVCENI

3. UNLTDEI

4. TREDAPA

Now, rearrange the letters in the circle to form the words to fill up the blanks in the below mentioned statement

5. The Rotavirus vaccine is administered to an in a 3-dose schedule at 6, 10 and 14 weeks

For answers:

Please scan the QR Code



Editorial Board

- Dr. Pradeep Halder, MoHFW
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