Burden of typhoid in Malawi

Malawi is a typhoid-endemic country, with more than 16,000 cases estimated per year.1

- While typhoid is rarely fatal, the recovery is long and difficult. The disease takes time, money, and productivity from those infected and their families and is associated with numerous, long-term complications.
  - A typhoid cost-of-illness study to quantify these impacts is currently underway.

- It is estimated that, in 2016, there were at least:
  - 16,144 typhoid cases (90 cases per 100,000);
  - 227 typhoid deaths; and
  - 16,733 disability-adjusted life-years lost to typhoid.1

Most typhoid cases in Malawi occur in children under 15 years old.

- An estimated 64% of typhoid cases and 67% of typhoid deaths occur in children under 15 years of age.2

- However, the burden in this age group may be even higher—in 2017, 97% of cases in Blantyre were in children under 15.

Drug resistance has likely caused typhoid incidence in Malawi to increase rapidly over the past years.2,3

- Data from Blantyre show that multidrug-resistant (MDR) typhoid strains became prominent in 2011.

- Starting in 2013, the incidence of typhoid has significantly increased.

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Typhoid conjugate vaccines and Malawi

Typhoid conjugate vaccines (TCVs) offer a promising new approach to typhoid prevention, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance support for introduction is available now.

**Tybar-TCV**, the first WHO-prequalified typhoid conjugate vaccine (TCV), is highly effective and safe for children as young as 6 months of age, and:
- Only requires one dose;
- May be more effective and longer-lasting than older typhoid vaccines; and
- Can be co-administered with measles vaccine.

Preliminary findings from an economic analysis predict that, even in the absence of a Gavi subsidy, a catch-up campaign followed by routine immunization with TCV would be potentially cost-effective in Malawi.

Let’s take on typhoid in Malawi:
- Typhoid is endemic in Malawi, with more than 16,000 cases per year nationwide.
- Malawi’s burden of typhoid is most heavily borne by children under 15 years of age.
- Data show a rise in cases following an increase in drug resistance.
- A new TCV is safe, effective, and WHO-recommended for routine immunization as part of a cost-effective, integrated approach to typhoid prevention and control alongside safe water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions.
- Gavi support for TCV introduction is available now.

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