Mass immunization campaign using TCV in Pakistan: Refusals and Interventions

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Outline

• Background
• Mass Immunization campaign
• Methods to identify refusals
• Strategies to address refusals
• Results
• Microbe literacy to improve vaccination coverage
• Conclusion
Background
Immunization campaign
Objectives

• To find out the vaccine refusals in the community for mass immunization with Typhoid Conjugate vaccine TCV
Vaccination Coverage before Strategies
Methodology

- Daily log for vaccine refusals faced by the team
- FGDs
- In depth Interviews
Identified through daily log

- Non acceptability of Indian made vaccine
  - Doubts regarding the vaccine

- Lack of commitment government officials

- Refusals due to SAEs due to other vaccine

- Lack of knowledge of Extremely Drug Resistance XDR

- Lack of awareness regarding TCV and non availability in general market
Refusals Identified through FGD

- Lack of confidence and lack of trust on the vaccinators
- Lack of awareness regarding typhoid illness in community
Refusals Identified through in-depth interviews

• Death of child due to other vaccine of aged 6 months in their community

• They should be given prior education of the respective vaccine benefits.

• Awareness session prior to vaccination with the community stakeholders including religious institution leaders, political office bearers, LHWs
Strategies to address refusals

• Involvement of Government LHWs
  • Multiple training sessions with LHWs

• Permission letters from government Authorities
Strategies to address refusals

• Increase Visibility
  • Hand bills
  • Banners on vehicles
  • Display of ID cards of staff
Strategies to address refusals

• Community stakeholder meetings by doctors

• Prior education and mobilization by team
Results

Vaccination coverage after Strategies
Results

Vaccination coverage after Strategies

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Vaccination Initially</th>
<th>Vaccination after 1st strategy (mass mobilization)</th>
<th>Vaccination applying second strategy (Visibility increased)</th>
<th>Vaccination coverage final (applying all interventions)</th>
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Microbe Literacy
Conclusion

• Systematic identification of vaccine refusals during mass immunization campaigns is essential.

• Customized strategies for vaccine refusals can be effective in improving vaccination coverage.

• Novel approaches like ML should be further studied to evaluate their effectiveness in reducing vaccine refusals.
## Acknowledgements

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Thank you