Country support activities for TCV introduction

TyVAC will work with local partners and officials to determine which activities are most advantageous in each country to most effectively and efficiently reach a decision on typhoid conjugate vaccine (TCV) introduction, and if appropriate, meet Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance application deadlines. When appropriate, TyVAC will identify partners to support and lead certain activities.

TyVAC also offers help to see countries through to the actual approval, including intermediary Q&A steps.

We divide these activities into three main phases:

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Phase 1: Scoping/Prep and Application

Phase 1 begins during the first conversation with decision-makers and partners in a country. This phase extends through formal approval of the Gavi TCV application, including responses to Independent Review Committee (IRC) clarifying questions.

- **Plan** a scoping mission to assess decision-maker interest, share initial information on typhoid burden and TCVs, and meet with key decision-makers and stakeholders.
  
  » Determine the level of support that the national immunization program requires to submit a TCV application to Gavi.

- **Outline** key personnel and timelines to collect data and information to complete the Gavi application.

- **Review** typhoid epidemiologic data and gaps to determine suitability for application.
  
  » Assess disease surveillance and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) capabilities.

- **Develop** specific advocacy materials to share information on typhoid burden, appropriateness of TCVs, health economic information, and relevant drug resistance concerns.

- **Support** national stakeholder forums that include key public health influencers and decision-makers from national and sub-national levels to discuss context-specific issues, concerns, and decisions.

- **Support** the decision-making process with the:
  
  » Provision of technical information, including details on disease surveillance, the World Health Organization (WHO) position paper on TCV, and other global policies.

  » Preparation of presentations and other materials for any subsequent stakeholder meetings, e.g. National Immunization Technical Advisory Group (NITAG), Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee, or other groups of physicians or immunization specialists.

  » Advocacy activities, as appropriate, to ensure decision-makers are accurately informed and receiving support.

  » Estimation of prospective vaccine program costs and/or cost of delivery study in select instances.

  » Assessment of country specific cost-effectiveness analyses in select instances.

- **Assist** countries with the portal application to Gavi.

- **Assist** countries with the draft Plan of Action (POA).

- **Assist** with Gavi planning and budget template, if requested.

- **Facilitate** post-application responses from the Gavi sub-team and IRC.
Phase 2: Introduction

Phase 2 extends from the time Gavi approves the application for TCV introduction to the actual vaccination via campaign and/or routine immunization. UP TO 12 MONTHS*

- **Support** microplanning activities based on WHO recommendations and new vaccine introduction lessons learned, with an emphasis on equitable access.

- **Collaborate** with Gavi and UNICEF to develop health care worker training and information, education, and communication (IEC) materials.

- **Work** with local organizations to ensure all relevant stakeholders, including sub-national level officials and pediatricians, are supportive of TCV introduction.

- **Ongoing** advocacy for TCV introduction stakeholder meetings, including relevant messaging for the local context and WASH, health, and immunization partners.

- **Support** local partners with social mobilization activities.

- **Support** adverse event following immunization (AEFI) surveillance training with local partners.

- **Conduct** site visits to support campaign monitoring.

- **Support** the post supplementary immunization activity (SIA) coverage survey with WHO.

- **Support** the vaccination coverage survey (administrative and limited sampling).

- **Support** countries with development of routine immunization transition planning.
Phase 3:

Post-Introduction

Phase 3 assesses the successes, the impact, and the lessons learned during TCV introduction. It also aims to collate lessons that can inform future vaccine introduction in other countries.

- **Assist** with post-introduction evaluation to determine the impact of new vaccine introduction on the national immunization program and on the delivery of other childhood vaccines.
- **Help** prepare for post-introduction evaluation.
- **Share** lessons learned from introduction in order to inform Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) programming more broadly and to improve policies, coverage, delivery, and equity
  - Host regional meetings for countries to share their experience and rationale for TCV introduction.
- **Determine** actual coverage and factors affecting coverage through post-routine introduction coverage surveys with other partners such as WHO and US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- **Compare** prospective cost estimates of vaccine delivery versus actual expenses in select instances.
- **Conduct** operational research, if appropriate, to identify factors affecting certain specific obstacles related to introduction of new vaccine and to provide evidence-based solutions.
- **Work** with countries to prepare for public health impact studies to sustain TCV influence on typhoid morbidity and mortality post-introduction.

* These are approximate time periods during which phased activities will be performed. Actual timelines will vary based on context, activities needed, capacity, and resources.