Drug-resistant typhoid strains are a growing problem in Cambodia, regionally, and across the globe.

Global data show that the multidrug-resistant (MDR) H58 typhoid strain prevalence has increased dramatically since 1992.

A study found that typhoid in Cambodian children is dominated by the H58 strain. Additionally, 85% of the isolates analyzed were MDR, leading the authors to conclude that drug-resistant typhoid is common in Cambodian children and therapeutic options are limited.

Another study found that the majority of isolates tested were MDR, and 80% had reduced susceptibility to ciprofloxacin, the standard treatment for typhoid in many parts of the world.

As drug-resistant typhoid becomes more common, it will become more difficult to treat and force the use of more expensive and less readily-available treatment options.
Typhoid conjugate vaccines (TCVs) in Cambodia

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends the introduction of prequalified TCVs be prioritized in countries with a high burden of typhoid disease or a high burden of drug-resistant typhoid. Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance support for introduction is available now. TCVs:

- Are highly effective and safe for children as young as **6 months** of age;
- Require a **single dose** to prevent 79-85% of typhoid cases in children;\(^5,6\)
- Offer strong protection for **at least 4 years**, and
- Can be **co-administered with measles-rubella** vaccine.\(^7\)

Findings from an economic analysis predict that, even in the absence of a Gavi subsidy, a catch-up campaign with TCV could be cost-effective in Cambodia.\(^8\)

- Typhoid is endemic in Cambodia, with more than **24,000** cases per year.
- Cambodia has a high burden of typhoid in children **younger than 15 years** old.
- Data show an increase in **drug-resistant typhoid** in Cambodia and globally.
- TCVs are 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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