WHO Costing, Budgeting, Financing and Delivery of COVID-19 Vaccines

Q&A for Session 10: Gavi and UNICEF's Covid-19 Delivery Support: Everything you Need to Know About Needs-Based Applications

Wednesday, October 6, 2021

Thank you for attending the above webinar session. Many questions were submitted by participants during the webinar. In this document, we share the answers from presenters to each question that was asked during the corresponding Q&A session.

Links to the session recordings in all languages and presentations can be found on the TechNet-21 website.

More information on COVID-19 vaccine introduction can be found in the resources listed below.

- COVID-19 vaccine introduction toolkit in English, Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, and Spanish.
- Guidance on developing a national deployment and vaccination plan for COVID-19 vaccines
- TechNet-21 – The Technical Network for Strengthening Immunization Services

Webinar-related resources can be found in the following links:

- Partners Platform
- COVID-19 vaccine Delivery Support (CDS) Programme Funding Guidelines

In addition, TechNet-21 manages two Telegram channels supporting the webinar series participants. In these spaces you will be able to share your experiences, discuss key questions, and connect with experts from around the world. We'll also share new information and global guidance as it becomes available. Join us today:

- WHO Costing, Budgeting, Financing and Delivery of COVID-19 Vaccines (EN)
- OMS - calcul des coûts, budgétisation, financement et livraison des vaccins COVID-19 (FR)

Can you tell us about access to COVID-19 vaccination for community health workers? Since they may nto be considered "health workers" in the classification.
It depends on the country definition but if they are not considered health workers in the 'official' sense, they could be considered essential workers - those who are public-facing and help keep society functioning. So higher-risk public.

In addition to addressing CHWs, WHO - UNICEF have developed guidance on 'Community-based health care, including outreach and campaigns, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic'. Vaccination is a module (page 31), among other essential health services such as Nutrition, Neglected Tropical Diseases, Malaria control.

https://www.who.int/publications-detail/community-based-health-care-including-outreach-and-campaigns-in-the-context-of-the-covid-19-pandemic

According to plans, Peru will initiate a third booster dose of the vaccine with Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna, because the time of application of the two doses already has a time of 6 to 8 months. What will be its cost?
WHO has no recommendations on booster dose, attached the interim statement here:

https://www.who.int/news/item/10-08-2021-interim-statement-on-covid-19-vaccine-booster-doses

It is good that we have these donors supporting the LMICs however they are still very strict with approval despite the pandemic and emergency situation?
We intend to support AMC countries to the maximum amount possible with the CDS funds available. The short-term needs pathway will provide small amounts of funding for countries with urgent delivery needs and will not have any specific deadlines. For the full needs through end of 2022, we are asking for an updated costed NDVP with the intent to support any outstanding funding gaps (recognizing that there are a number of other donors providing support to COVID-19 vaccine delivery).

Is there any information on to what extent CHWs are being included in the vaccine roll out, or are they generally being left out?
Live answered at 39:38 - https://youtu.be/CTRUq3OxIBk?t=2378

We highly encourage countries to use the NDVP update and the CDS ask to expand the network of implementers that are leveraged for COVID-19 vaccine roll-out. This includes CHWs and other non-government actors that may not have been considered in the early planning.

The most explicit reference to CHW in the previous round of NDVPs was about their role to support surge in vaccination roll-out. High risk health workers were generally those considered to be treating COVID-19 patients.

How can we access the Gavi's budget template?
This will be published on our website and the WHO COVID-19 Partner's Platform on Monday, October 11th.

Nigeria received vaccines from different donors and the population is extremely large (>200million). How can a revised NDVP support in closing the gaps of operational fund which delays logistic support for personnels and further vaccine allocation might have negative consequence?

Through the CDS Needs Based window you are able to ask up to your full funding gap for delivery of COVID-19 vaccines through the end of 2022. Gavi will provide funding that is complimentary to other donor partners and cannot gaurantee that we will have funding for the full gap, but funding of logistic support and personnel is eligible for support through the window.

Can we inject COVID-19 vaccine to pregnant and lactating women?

WHO recommends that pregnant women may receive the vaccine if the benefit of vaccinating a pregnant woman outweighs the potential vaccine risks. The recommendations for pregnant and lactating women are in the NDVP 2,0 page 30.

https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Vaccine-deployment-2021.1-eng

WHO SAGE has also referred to immunization of pregnant women in their prioritisation map. Evidence suggests that pregnant people have a higher risk of severe outcomes from SARS-COV2 infection. COVID-19 infection in pregnancy has also been linked to an increased risk of preterm birth and newborn babies requiring intensive care. In line with other health conditions that put individuals at higher risk, pregnant women are now placed in Stage II of the epidemiological scenarios of the SAGE prioritization roadmap, in particular pregnant women of higher age, and those with comorbidities.

Can this partners platform be accessed by individuals working outside the governments and WHO?

Yes. To access the Partners Platform, you need to request access:

- If you belong to an organization that is already registered on the Partners Platform, then it is relatively quick
- If your organization is not registered on the Partners Platform, then you need to request to register it first.