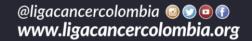
# Reinforcing the HPV vaccination program in Colombia.

From a beautiful dream to a nightmare...

But...with a promising dawn

Presented by: Dr. Carlos Castro
Medical Director
Colombian League against cancer
April 2021





#### The beautiful dream...

Launching the HPV vaccine program in Colombia – August 2012.

The President and the Minister of Health completely behind the campaign.

**VACCINATION COVERAGE:97%!** 

2013 Girls in 4<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> grade (9-17 years old)

Schedule:

0,6,60m









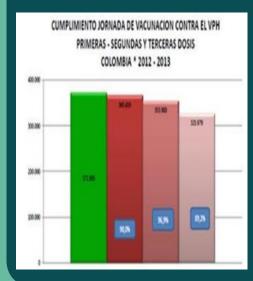


# The NIGHTMARE..! The disaster!!

Carmen de Bolívar - May 2014

The HPV vaccine:CULPPRIT













## HPV vaccine... Angel or Devil?

A significant proportion of health care providers do not have confidence in the vaccine.



In 2017, a lawsuit against the colombian goverment and MSD was filed for more than US\$400 million.

The local "health team" was not prepared to deal with the crisis.
The MoH reacted slowly...AND silently.

The TV and newspapers were the main source of "misinformation", and local politicians took advantage of the episode.

The NIH of Colombia carried out a very serious evaluation of what happened and ruled out any association with the HPV vaccine...but the study was never published in the mass media.

"Massive psychogenic event"

# Dos Quijotes... Nubia Muñoz- Xavier Bosch













#### **Objective of the Project:**



To develop a behavior change communication strategy conceived from a bio-psycho-social perspective with evidence-based support, to educate and sensitize the identified audiences regarding the importance of HPV vaccination as cervical cancer prevention.



# The key audiences are the ones involved in the decision making of vaccination

- ✓ Fathers of girls in vaccination age
- ✓ Mothers of girls in vaccination age
- √ Health providers
- √ Teachers of adolescents in vaccination age
- √ Adolescents in vaccination age





#### Reaching far away comunities in Arauca



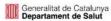




¿Do you have any questions regarding the safety of the HPV vaccine?

**ICO**(Institute Catala de Oncologia)/ **NCIC**(National Cancer Institute of Colombia)











## Health providers and teachers are well known leaders and the community listens to them!!

EDUCATION!
COMUNICATION!
COMPROMISE!





We need to recover **CONFIDENCE** in the vaccine, showing the roboust evidence on safety and efficacy



## The power of persuasion... SMILES... Our best allies, mother and child!













# ¡Back to "school-based" vaccination in Arauca!

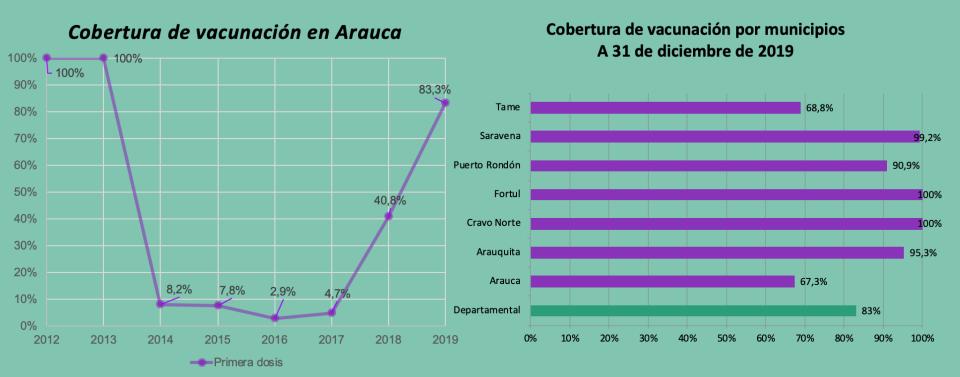








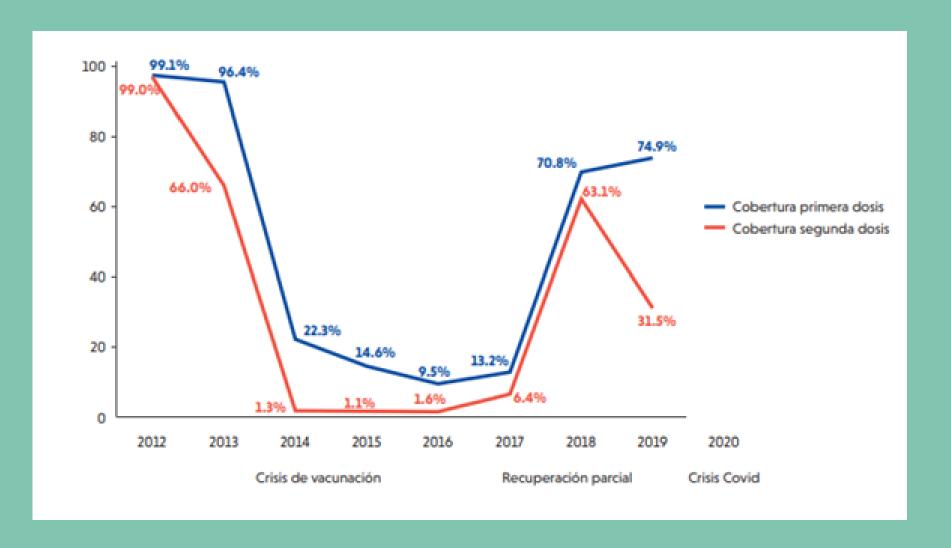
## Success in Arauca...!

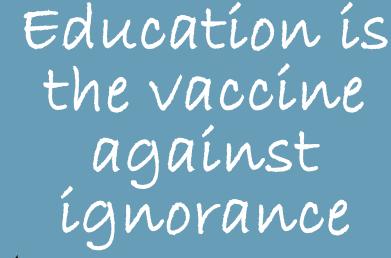






#### **HPV vaccination in Cali 2012 - 2019**













## HPV Prevention and Control Board







Directivos del HPV Board, de la Universidad de Antwerp, Dra. Nubia Muñoz, Dr. Xavier Bosch del ICO, Viceministro de Salud, Directora del INC., y representantes de Canadá, EEUU, Méjico, Irlanda, Perú, Costa Rica, Brasil, Bulgaria, Bélgica, Francia, y Chile.









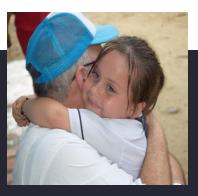


### **NEVER** give up!!

- 1. Creation of "Round table" for the elimination of Cervical Cancer(CLAC, Academia, Scientific Societies, Parent associations).
- 2. Lecturing across the country to **recover the confidence** in the vaccine.
- 3. Reactivation of school-based HPV vaccination program. (Unfortunately COVID19 showed up.. Schools closed).
- 4. Continue close partnership with MoH, UICC, ACS, IDB, and other stakeholders. "Arauca Project" (ACS, CLAC)...replicate this Project in other regions...(looking for financing).
- 5. Talking and listening the community...! **COMPROMISE...!**







#### **HPV** vaccination coverage in Colombia: 2012-2020.

