

Country experience from Maldives on delivery approaches.

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South Asia Regional Meeting

HPV Prevention and Control Landscape and the way forward.

13^h, 14^h and 15^h - Dec 2022– New Delhi, India.

Maldives

- Population 579330 (2022 forecast. Statistical bureau)
- 20 Atolls
- 187 inhabited islands
- Capital city Mal'e, 2 public hospitals (IGMH & HMH)
- 6 Regional hospitals
- Atoll hospitals
- Island health centers







Planning

- Working with MOE for data collection
- Process of procuring vaccines
- For Mass campaign to initiate HPA vaccination:
- Eligible population Denominator: girls aged 9-14yrs
 - Taken from Ministry of Education (mandatory for all children in Maldives to attend school)
- For continuation phase:
- Eligible population Denominator: girls aged 10yrs
 - Taken from Ministry of Education 3500 girls









Parental awareness

Worked with Ministry of Education/ HPA

• For teachers and parents awareness sessions were taken by Gynecologists &

pediatricians. Q&A sessions were opened

- All schools were covered.
- Web based sessions for atolls
- Spots on TV & Radio
- Leaflets were made and distributed









Training programs for the Health care workers

- More vaccinators were trained
- Knowledge empowerment was done, medical officers, public health officers, and nurses involved in the campaign
 - o -general knowledge of HPV & cervical cancer
 - o vaccine dosage & adverse reactions
 - O AEFI, first aid response
 - o -FAQs





Mass vaccination campaign

- 100 days pledge from current government
- Launched on 21st March 2019
- 2 months campaign for school children 10 -15 yrs.
- 92 % coverage achieved for 1 st

dosage













- School Halls were set up for vaccination
- First aid with emergency trolley was available onsite
- Trained medical officers & nurses stationed onsite for emergencies and answering queries.
- Data entered into a Google sheets
- Later data entered into each centers log books
- Data monitored by schools & HPA as well
- HPV added to routine schedule in 1st July 2019.





Vaccination

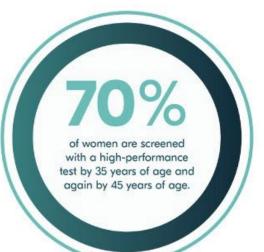
- Done in schools by the Health facilities (Hospitals & Health centers)
- Organized and monitored by HPA Immunization program
- Schedule was made to schools
- Number is each school was calculated & accordingly vaccines was distributed to the health facility
- Specific consent form made & distributed to parents via school
- Information leaflets were distributed to parents & children





Success-1st dose; 92 %













Challenges

- Maintaining the achieved rate 92%/ 1st dose
- 2nd dose 72 %
- HPV vaccine 1st dose 2021 is 77%
- Antivaccers / vaccine hesitancy











Steps taken to strengthen vaccination

- Added to routine immunization vaccination from 1st July 2019.
- Strengthening central monitoring / tracking systems
- Reaching out to the target children via schools from health facility
- Addressing to parental concerns / myths & mis informations by experts
- Ongoing efforts to increase awareness
- Plan to start HPV for boys





Thank you





