

# **Optimal adolescent vaccination schedules**

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*Vaccines are not just for  
Babies !*



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*Adolescents need the their  
shots too !!*



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# Adolescence

- It's a time of dynamic development
- Around 1.2 billion adolescents (10-19 yrs) worldwide and every year 1.2 million die largely from preventable causes.
- While health of younger children remains a priority for many countries deaths in adolescents are now greater than children 1-4 years in many countries.

[https://www.who.int/maternal\\_child\\_adolescent/adolescence/universal-health-coverage/en/](https://www.who.int/maternal_child_adolescent/adolescence/universal-health-coverage/en/)

# Significance

- Disease may have higher morbidity – Hep A, Varicella
- Disease may have higher incidence – mumps, Meningococcal
- Epidemiological age shift of many infections – Diphtheria, Measles, Japanese encephalitis
- Need to boost waning immune response – D, T, P
- Diseases which appear during adulthood → HPV

**What do you mean by optimizing?**

Understanding the epidemiology and current vaccine recommendations in the adolescent schedule is important to optimize health care for adolescents.

Familiarity with this information should enable health care providers to create better implementation strategies to enhance vaccine coverage.

# **Immunization- a challenge and an opportunity**

- Every encounter should be viewed as a an opportunity to immunize.

# **A note from the school**



# Overcoming vaccine hesitancy

- **Strongly** advocate all universally recommended vaccines as important for adolescents health
- **Answer** parents questions and concerns and remain firm on the vaccination
- Explain the **benefits** of the vaccine
- Increase the parents trust in the vaccine by mentioning that they give same vaccine to their **families**
- If parents refuse, **again** offer the vaccine at the next most appropriate time

# Pediatrician -Adolescent Ambassador

- Listen, evaluate and categorize
- Recognize legitimate concerns
- Provide context
- Refute misinformation
- Provide valid information
- Educate about potential consequences
- Make a clear recommendation



Halperin SA. How to manage parents unsure about immunization. *Can J CME*. 2000;12(1):64.

Bernstein HH, Bocchini JA, AAP COMMITTEE ON INFECTIOUS DISEASES. Practical Approaches to Optimize Adolescent Immunization. *Pediatrics*. 2017;139(3):e20164187

# **The school as an alternative vaccination site**

- Extends the equitable benefits of vaccination to all children and adolescents
- Overcomes the barrier of access to adolescent health care
- With increasing school enrollment in developing countries the scope of using school immunization to enhance the coverage is promising
- Ensures Optimal utilization of the resources

# **Assessing the countries capacity to vaccinate in school**

- Before implementing school based vaccination programmes countries need to assess the capacity, strengths and weaknesses of their schools and health systems to support such programmes
- School vaccination readiness assessment tool

# Concurrent administration of vaccines

- Concurrent administration of meningococcal vaccine (MenACWY) with Tdap and quadrivalent HPV vaccine (HPV) yielded similar immune responses when compared with the response of each individual vaccine given independently. There also was no increase in adverse effects when all 3 vaccines were administered together.
- Concurrent vaccinations and combination vaccines increases the compliance, reduces the cost, protects against multiple disease.

# **Pregnancy as an opportunity to improve the vaccination**

- Many countries which have low vaccination coverage in older children have excellent TT vaccine coverage in pregnant women
- Pregnancy offers an excellent opportunity to optimize the vaccination for vaccines which are considered safe – Td/Tap, Inactivated Influenza
- By replacing TT with Td both mothers and newborn can be protected without much additional costs/logistics issues

# Role of Professional Pediatric Organizations and NGOs

Maintain the tempo...avoid speaking anything contrary to the govt. strategy..we are all partners...love the partner..

- Listen
- Overlook
- Vibe
- Encourage & Advocate
- Respect

# Pramod's Pearls

- Adolescent friendly health services
- Offer vaccines in multiple settings
- Immunizeindia app. (IAP initiative)
- Send reminders to both, parents and adolescents.



# Involve celebrities and their children



# PRAMODIFY

- **P**- Positive ( Overlook 'Wrinku's)
- **R**- Rational academic information
- **A**- Advocate
- **M**- Motivate PTA ( Parents, Teachers and Adolescents)
- **O**- Obstetricians
- **D**- Dedicate