Activities in DD(Immunization) Division

Immunization is one of the safest and most effective methods of preventing childhood diseases. With the implementation of Universal Immunization Program (UIP), significant achievements have been made in preventing and controlling morbidity and mortality patterns from the Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPDs). Immunization has to be sustained as a high priority to further reduce the incidence of all VPDs. India has one of the largest UIP in the world in terms of quantities of vaccines used and manpower involved.

Under UIP, all the children in the U. T. of Puducherry vaccines are being provided to infants, children and pregnant women to prevent certain diseases are protected against the following deadly Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPD) namely Tuberculosis, Polio, Hepatitis B, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Hemophilus influenzae (type b) Meningitis, Pneumonia.

In U. T. of Puducherry the newer technology which is being used to uplift the quality of our programme to international standards. Enormous effort is being made to introduce newer technology in the programme so as to make it more reliable particularly in terms of temperature monitoring, supply of alternative power source, comprehensive monitoring and supportive supervision of the programme at various levels.

Full Immunization gives a child the best chance for a healthy life. Preventing disease before it occurs saves money, energy and lives.

The following activities are being carried out in the Immunization division, Health Department, U.T. of Puducherry.

Routine Immunization:

- Microplan Preparations, Calculation of Vaccine& Logistics requirement, Compilation & Consolidations from the Planning Units. (Total No. of CCP= 33+6 Pvt.)
- Collecting, Monitoring and evaluating Routine Immunization reports from the Reporting units and sending to GoI by every Month.
- Verifying the HMIS reports with the RI reports.

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School Immunization Program:

School Immunization program being carried out by the team of Health Inspector & Health Assistants in All Govt. & Private Schools throughout the U.T. of Puducherry for the age group of 5yrs, 10rs & 16yrs by DPT & TT.

After permission received from the schools, planned date is uploaded in the website of Health department & School Education department for the awareness of parents and general public.

Vaccine & Logistics:

This office receives vaccines viz., BCG, OPV, HEP B, PENTA, IPV, MR, DPT, & TT. at free of cost from the MoHFW, GoI as per our annual requirements supplied through the Medical Stores Depot, Chennai. This Office stores the vaccines received from MSD, Chennai and supplies them to various Cold chain points of U.T. of Pondicherry based on their monthly requirements. The PHCs/CHCs have enough storage facilities to store the vaccines.

As per guidelines from MoHFW, GoI, Vaccines & Logistics are being estimated, collected & distributed according to the Microplan from the cold chain points.

Providing technical guidance to the concerned staff on vaccine & cold chain arrangement and conduct periodic evaluation of cold chain for the purposes of repair and replacement.

Documentation and reporting of all vaccine and cold chain data including vaccine usage. Monthly and annual progress report is being sent to GoI.

AFP Surveillances:

A case of AFP defined as any child aged less than 15yrs who has acute onset of flaccid paralysis for which no obvious cause is found, or paralytic illness in a person of any age in which polio is suspected. Therefore to enhance sensitivity, all cases of flaccid paralysis should be reported and investigated & borderline cases should be included to allow testing of stool specimens.

AFP surveillance has been performing by the Health Inspectors of this administration in all the 22 reporting units identified in the Districts. Under the AFP surveillance the Health Inspectors collect the detailed investigation particulars, Immunization status, Onset of Paralysis, and collection of stool samples.

For each AFP cases CIF form filled & two stool samples collected within the interval of 24 hours after first one respectively from the concerned reporting units and being sent to King Institute, Guindy, Chennai by the Health Inspectors of the office of the DD Immunization. Nearly 45 to 60 stool samples are being taken for AFP every year.
Measles Surveillances:

To achieve the goal of Measles elimination and rubella control by 2020, the efforts for measles and rubella surveillance, immunization and response will be accelerated over the coming years. To document the progress of program over a period of time it is essential to strengthen the genetic data base of measles and rubella viruses circulating in India. The efforts of sample collection for genetic characterization of measles and rubella virus to strengthen surveillance data base on virus circulation in the country will also provide critical inputs for formulating future strategies, in order to achieve the goal of measles elimination and rubella control in the country.

Serum sample from every sporadic suspected measles cases investigated and from each investigated outbreak. For every suspected, Serum sample collected between 4 to 28 days after onset of rashes and being dispatched to King Institute, Guindy, Chennai by the Health Inspectors of the office of the DD Immunization.

AEFI Management:

In order to respond promptly, efficiently, vaccine safety issues, AEFI Surveillance is being done. Strengthening the surveillance of all Adverse Events following immunization by detecting, reporting and investigating such events to carry out further remedial actions and ensure smooth functioning of the program. Steps are being carried out for proper management and response to AEFIs leading to sustained vaccine confidence. Reports communicated to AEFI Secretariat with CRF (Case Reporting Form), PCIF (Preliminary Case Investigation Form), FCIF (Final Case Investigation Form) & Causality Assessment Report simultaneously. AEFI committee Meeting will be conducted if necessary. Experts in the committee help in timely classification and assessment of causal association between the vaccine and the event based. The committee members are Specialist, Programme officers, representatives of Professional bodies.

Intensified Pulse Polio Immunization (IPPI):

Under UIP program, as per directions of MoHFW, Routine Immunization Division, GoI, IPPI is being conducted among 0-5years children in the Union Territory in two phases every year since 1995.

- Microplan Preparations, Compilation & Consolidations from the Planning Units.
- Preparatory works being done like STF/DTF for Interdepartmental, Volunteer Organization & Cascade Trainings, Booth arrangements for Transit & Border Booths, Vehicle arrangement, Student volunteer arrangements, Control room arrangements & Food arrangements.
- Collecting, Monitoring and evaluating IPPI reports from the Reporting units and sending consolidated reports to GoI on daily till the Final day.
**Intensified Mission Indradhanush:**

Government of India Launched Mission Indradhanush on 2th December 2014 as special drive to vaccinate all unvaccinated and partially vaccinated children and pregnant women under the UIP. All the preparatory activities and implementation activities were based on strategic Operational Guidelines given by MoHFW, RI Division, GoI.

This campaign focused on reaching the unreachable and to overcome the challenges faced in immunizing children and pregnant mothers. While IMI house-to-house monitoring in rural areas revealed that beneficiaries were keen to get their children vaccinated and were aware about immunization and its schedule.

Organizing meeting for the supporting department officials and Planning Unit incharge Medical Officer’s & Paramedical staff regarding tracing the dropouts among pregnant women & 0-2 yr children and immunizing the dropouts.

**Implementation of New Vaccine Launching Program:**

Planning & Implementation of New Vaccine Lunching Program like Pentavalent, MR Vaccine, IPV & bOPV etc. STF Meeting, Cascade Training, Microplanning, Vaccine Procurement, Daily reporting and Post evaluations etc are being carried out with the inter departmental co-operations & co-ordination.

**International Traveler Certification:**

In order to minimize the risk of Polio virus importation, GoI has decided that international travelers from or to travelling to specific countries should received a dose of OPV irrespective of their age or previous vaccination status. Each traveler after OPV vaccination is issued a certificate which is valid for one year from the date of vaccination.

Quadrivalent vaccine against Meningococcal Meningitis is being done for Haj Pilgrims and issues certificates.

**ORT & Diarrhoeal Reports:**

ORT & Diarrhoeal Reports collected from the PHC/CHC, Compiled & Consolidate and reports being sent to GOI.

**Re-Orientation Training to Medical and Paramedical staff:**

Conducting re-orientation training like Vaccine & Cold chaining Handlers Training for Health personnel as per guidelines from GoI. Trainings are being given to the students from the Nursing collages from various Institutions.
**Immunisation IEC Activities:**

- Effective communication to all Press & Media’s.
- Assisting in preparations of Banner, Posters Flash cards etc and displaying in the appropriate places.
- Helping in Audio Visual Materials preparation about the universal Immunization program.