

Vaccine readiness

Training on delivering CAC Health Packages

Training Objectives

- 1 For Partner team to be able to have a clear understanding of the health packages
- 2 To have all the technical information needed to implement the packages
- 3 For Partner team to know all the support resources available to begin implementation
- 4 For the Partner team staff to understand what roles of different players are

What will be covered in this training?

- 1 Why these health packages and what is included in it?
- 2 Vaccines awareness and supportive registration : Technical overview and FAQs
- 3 Discussion with team on how to take this forward programmatically



Before we begin let's do a gut check:
How do you feel about taking the
COVID-19 vaccine?

Slido poll: <https://app.sli.do/event/dc9fkfke>



Why this health
packages and what
is included in it?

Problem statement...

The “Why” behind this project



Vaccines are now available to the general population in India. However vulnerable populations may still face issues in access due to various factors

- Vaccine Hesitancy: People not willing to take the vaccines due to various reasons such as lack of trust, information, fear of safety etc.
- Misinformation or false information about vaccines circulating in communities and no one to bust the Myths.
- Lack of trusted information: Many sources of information out there with many mixed messages. It is difficult to understand what is what.
- Not knowing how to access vaccines, where to go, how to register etc.
- Poor access to primary care and screening for basic illnesses such as diabetes, hypertension etc. this not knowing eligibility for vaccine and risk from COVID-19

Vulnerable Population end up last in line to get vaccines while being most at risk from impacts of COVID

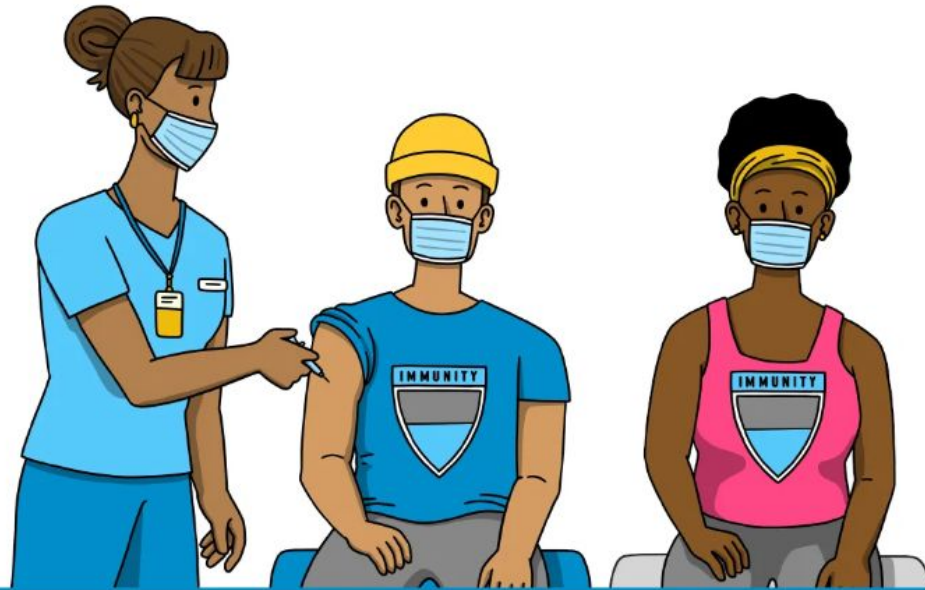
WHEN IT'S YOUR TURN, TAKE YOUR VACCINE

All approved COVID-19 vaccines have been thoroughly tested, and all provide a high degree of protection against getting seriously ill and dying from the disease.

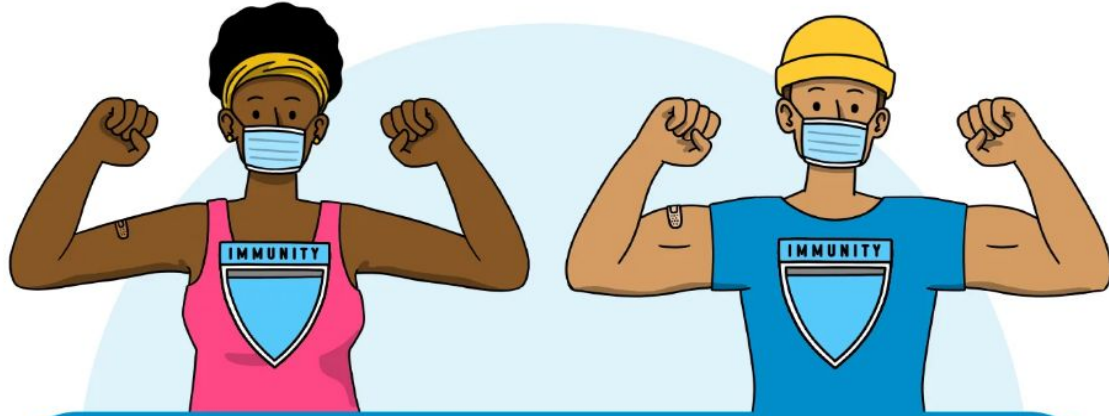


GET VACCINATED EVEN IF YOU HAVE HAD COVID-19

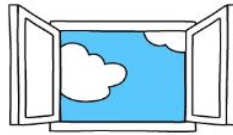
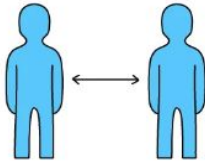
This is because we don't know how long the immunity from getting the disease lasts.



Think of the vaccine as a booster to protect you longer.



DOING IT ALL, PROTECTS US ALL



Always remember to follow these 5 precautions,
even after getting vaccinated.



**World Health
Organization**

#COVID
ActionCollab

**NEW WORLD
RESILIENCE NOW**

The solution



Information dissemination

- Provide a channel for trusted information
- Track mis-information and dispel myths
- Clarify doubts and allay concerns



Demand Generation and supportive registration and vaccination access

- Demand creation and supportive registration and handholding for access to vaccinations for vulnerable groups

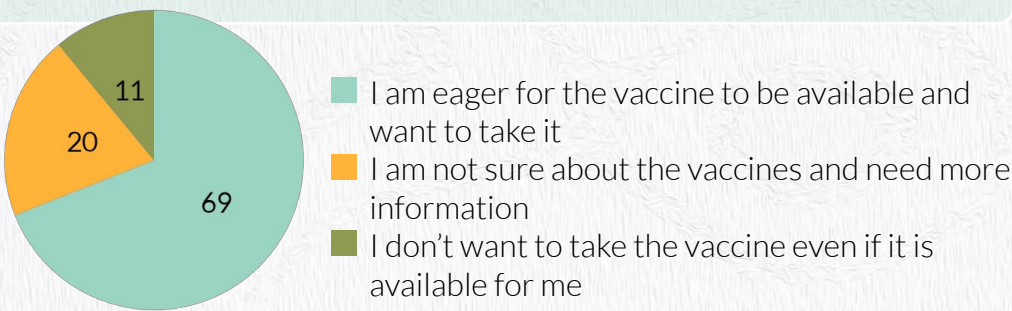
Understanding community sentiments:

In order to provide the right information and do effective demand generation it is very important to understand community sentiments and questions around the vaccination process

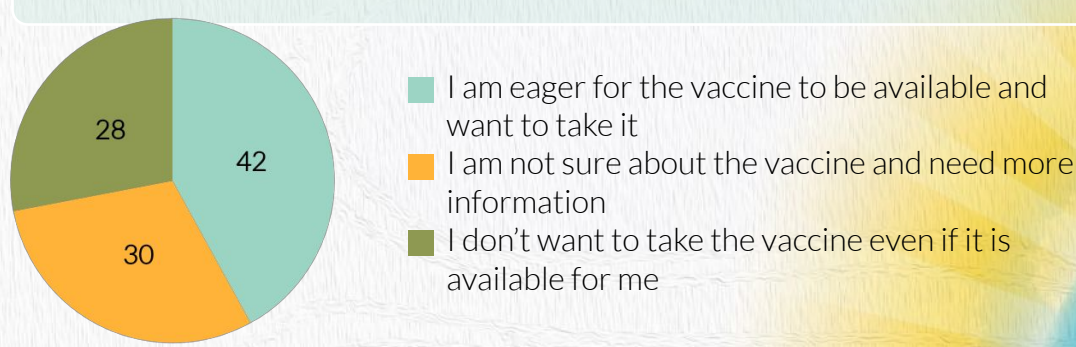
What do we know about the community sentiments so far?

	I am eager for the vaccine	%	I am not sure/have questions	%	I don't want to take the vaccine	%	Total
Farmer	99	68.13%	29	17.17%	15	14.70%	143
KARNATAKA	74	70.48%	25	23.81%	6	5.71%	105
TAMIL NADU	25	65.79%	4	10.53%	9	23.68%	38
Fishing Community	12	29.12%	17	43.04%	11	27.84%	40
KERALA	9	47.37%	3	15.79%	7	36.84%	19
MAHARASHTRA	1	6.67%	12	80.00%	2	13.33%	15
TAMIL NADU	2	33.33%	2	33.33%	2	33.33%	6

Farmer sentiments: How do you feel about taking the vaccine? (N=143)



Fishing community: How do you feel about taking the vaccine? (N=40)



Vaccine Survey: What messages resonated with the communities the most?



Why are people hesitant?

- I don't trust the government or health care providers
- I don't trust the vaccine is safe
- I have high immunity and I don't need a vaccine
- I fear I will be treated badly at the health center

What kind of information have you been hearing about the vaccines?

- Equal parts positive and negative messages
- I have not heard anything about vaccines from any source
- Mostly negative things raising questions about safety and effectiveness of vaccine
- Mostly positive things about how the vaccine works well



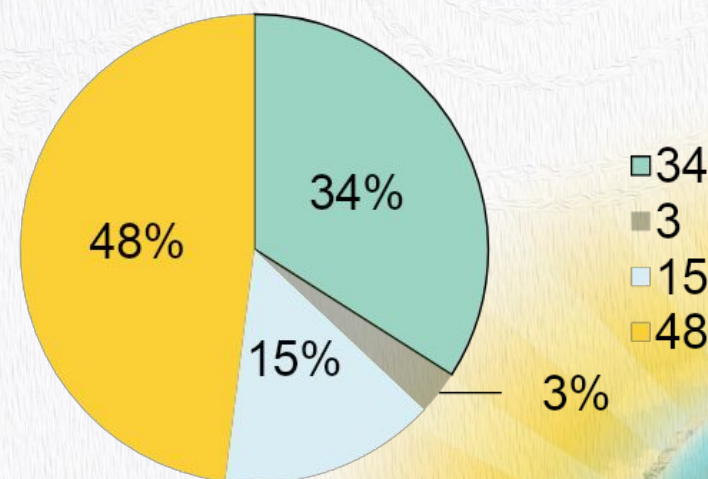
What information do people on the fence want most?

- Information about what are vaccines and how they help
- Trustworthy and detailed information on safety and side effects



Why do people say they want to take the vaccine?

- I am in a high risk group and the vaccine will protect me
- I need to take the vaccine to protect my family and people around me
- I want to get back to living my life and having fun

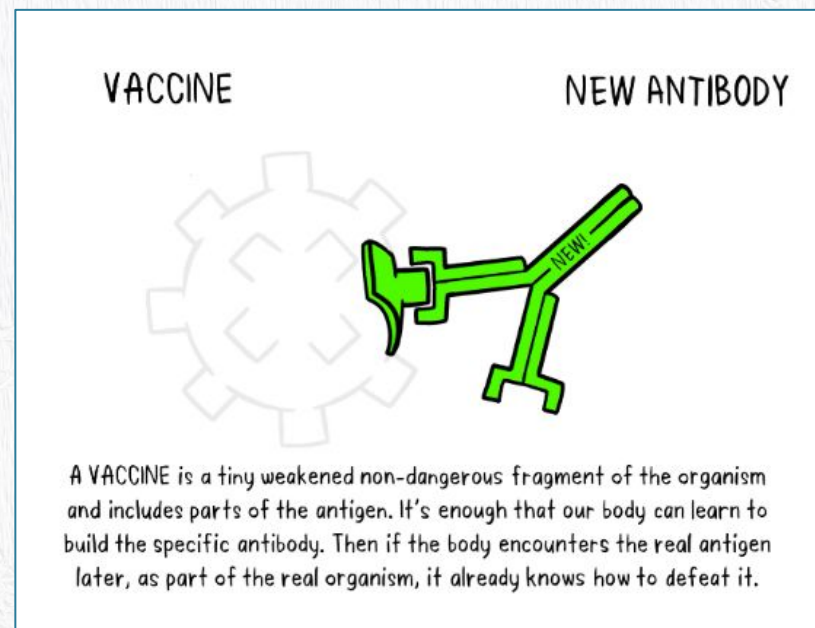
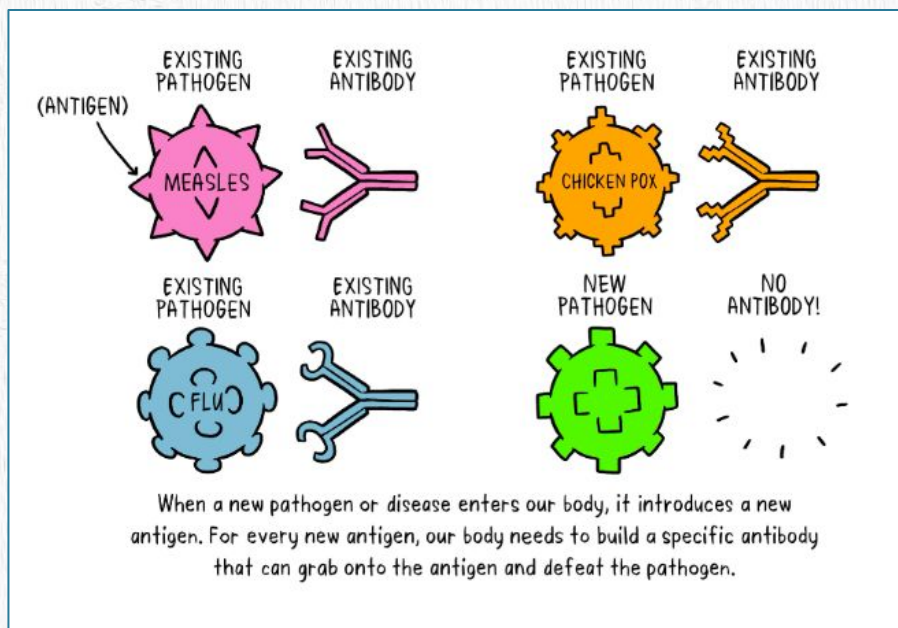




Vaccines awareness and supportive registration: Technical overview and FAQs

What are vaccines and how do they work?

Vaccines teach our body how to recognize and fight the infection before it happens





Source: <https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/how-do-vaccines-work>

What COVID vaccines are available in India?

- Two vaccines, Covishield and Covaxin manufactured have been licensed for emergency use in India
- Emergency Use Authorization is a process that helps facilitate the availability and use of medicines and vaccines during public health emergencies, such as the current COVID-19 pandemic.
- COVID-19 vaccines are being held to the **same safety standards** as all vaccines.



Key features of the two COVID vaccines

 Covaxin	 Covishield
Bharat Biotech	Serum Institute Pune (Oxford-Astrazeneca technology)
Technology: Inactivated vaccine	Technology: Viral vector vaccine
Efficacy: 81% (interim evidence)	Efficacy: ~70% (90% with half-dose full dose regimen)
Significantly reduces hospitalization	Significantly reduces hospitalization (100% as per interim evidence)
Size of vaccine phase 3 trial: ~25,800	Size of phase 3 trial: ~60,000 (UK and Brazil completed, bridging in India ongoing)

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Common mild side effects after getting a COVID-19 vaccine may include:

Soreness or redness around injection site



Mild fever



Tiredness



Headache



Muscle or joint aches



You can manage these side effects with rest and taking medicines for fever and pain, if needed.



World Health Organization
Western Pacific Region



Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Government of India



#LargestVaccineDrive

It is normal to have some minor side effects after taking the **COVID-19** vaccination



Mild Pain



Dizziness



Sweating



Heaviness



Red Rashes



Swelling



Mild Fever

Don't Fear! Get your shot to fight corona!



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What to expect after taking the vaccine?

Some mild symptoms may occur like:

- Injection site pain and swelling
- Headache
- Tiredness/fatigue and body ache
- Mild fever and chills
- Nausea and vomiting
- Abdominal pain
- Diarrhea,
- Dizziness-giddiness
- Tremor
- cold, cough

These should resolve in 2-3 days after taking the vaccine.



Paracetamol/dolo/crocin may be used to address side effects

These symptoms indicate that the body is learning how to fight the infection and are a good sign of immune response generation

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Very rare serious side effect:

Anaphylactic shock/ serious allergic reaction: Happens immediately after taking the vaccine. Individuals are asked to wait at the vaccine site for 30 mins and centers are equipped to handle this

If any other reactions such as serious rashes, breathing issues, allergies are observed individuals should report to the vaccine center immediately or contact the number provided

Why do we get symptoms after taking a vaccine?



19

Play WHO video by clicking on above picture
To read more [click here](#).



Who is the vaccine contraindicated for?



Vaccine should not be taken if:

- If you are pregnant or might be pregnant (pregnant women not included in studies/trials)
- If you are allergic to any products in the vaccine
- If you have ever had a severe allergic reaction to any pharmaceutical products or medications, or previous anaphylactic shocks from other vaccines
- If you are currently feeling sick or have COVID right now wait **atleast 30** days after you feel better to take the vaccine
- Vaccine is not advisable for extremely sick or hospitalized individuals currently
- The vaccine is not available for children (children were not included in the studies/trials but these trials are ongoing)

If your sugar or BP is not controlled:

Its advisable to take medication to control these vitals before taking the vaccine.

Who is eligible to get the vaccines in India right now and why?



The following individuals are eligible to get the vaccine in India:

- **Front line workers such as health, sanitation and civil defense staff**
These individuals are the most exposed to the virus and are at high risk of infection. (In Phase 1)
- **Individuals over 45 years of age**
Senior citizens are at higher risk of serious infection, hospitalization and death due to COVID-19 infection compared to young (In second phase)
- **Everyone 12 and older is eligible to get vaccine against COVID in India.**

What comorbidities put you at risk of severe disease from COVID-19?

Anyone with following types of issues, it is highly recommended for them to take the vaccine to protect themselves(GOI guidelines):

- Heart conditions
- Cancer
- Immunodeficiency like HIV or is on high dose steroids to suppress immune system
- liver problems and cirrhosis
- Kidney failure
- Diabetes/Sugar
- Hypertension
- Severe disabilities (that make you dependent on others for care and therefore increase exposure)

What is not known about the vaccines yet and why?



Efficacy for Covaxin:

It takes a long time to determine vaccine efficacy because we have to wait and watch if people get infected. Covaxin has not been around for that long, phase **3** trials started in Nov-Dec so we are only now seeing interim evidence on efficacy. However the vaccine does generate antibodies against the virus as per Biological studies which is an indicator that it works, while we wait for efficacy results. (Interim efficacy 81%)



How long the immunity will last?

Only time will tell, vaccine studies will follow individuals for the next 1-2 years and as time passes we will see how many of them get infected, get seriously ill, get hospitalized etc. For now we know that Covishield immunity lasts at least for **3** months.



Do the vaccines stop transmission?

It's possible for a vaccine to protect you from getting sick but you could still carry the disease. It will take time and bigger studies to show if people who got the vaccine give COVID-19 to people around them.

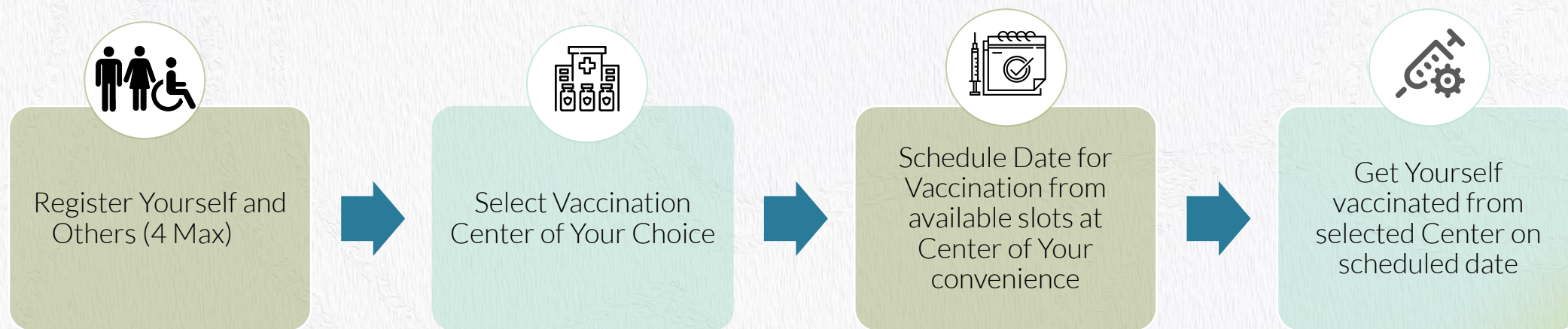
How much time does it take for vaccines to start working?

1. A robust immune response only develops 2-3 weeks after THE SECOND DOSE of the vaccine.
1. Currently timing of second dose depends on the type of vaccine taken:
 1. COVISHIELD: 12 Weeks /84 days (revised recently)
 1. COVAXIN: 4-6 Weeks / 28-42 days(remains same as previous guidance)
1. People must continue to wear masks and social distance because:
 - Vaccine is not 100% effective
 - You might still transmit disease to others around you even if you are protected

How can people access vaccines?

Register yourself on [Co-WIN website](#) using a photo ID if you are eligible as per current government guidelines

It is a website and not an App.



Detailed user guide can be found here:

<https://prod-cdn.preprod.co-vin.in/assets/pdf/user-guide-citizen-registration-ver-1.1.pdf>



What are some Key messages that should be given to people while talking to them about COVID-19 vaccines? 1/5

1. WHY SHOULD YOU TAKE A VACCINE?

A vaccine is now available to fight against COVID-19. Taking this vaccine will help protect you, your family and your community from the impact of the virus. The risk of serious disease and hospitalization from COVID-19 is much higher in those >**45** and those with other illnesses like heart problems, high or low BP, High sugar, cancer, HIV etc. So if you belong to these groups taking a vaccine is especially important for you.

2. WHO CAN TAKE THE VACCINE RIGHT NOW AND WHY?

Anyone over **18** years and any frontline worker (health, civil defense, sanitation). The government is implementing COVID-19 vaccinations in a phased manner prioritizing those at highest risk from the disease first. Both these groups are high risk - due to high exposure for frontline and health-care workers and high risk of severe symptoms for those over **45**.

What are some Key messages that should be given to people while talking to them about COVID-19 vaccines? 2/5

3. IS THE VACCINE 100% SAFE?

No medicine or vaccine is 100% safe. Even the polio vaccine that has been around for decades has rare side effects. There is a very small possibility of rare serious side effects but the vaccines have been rigorously tested and are safe for majority of the population. The risk of serious disease from COVID-19 is much higher, especially for those over 45 and those with co-morbidities so it is important to take the vaccine. It is safe for those with co-morbidities to take the vaccine.

4. HOW EFFECTIVE IS THE VACCINE IN PROTECTING ME?

The vaccines have shown 70-80% effecting in reducing risk of infection in studies. The vaccines are also highly effective in reducing risk of severe infection, so reducing hospitalization and serious symptoms and lung and organ damage by COVID is reduced by taking a vaccine.

What are some Key messages that should be given to people while talking to them about COVID-19 vaccines? 3/5

5. WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT AFTER TAKING THE VACCINE?

Some minor symptoms such as mild fever, fatigue, soreness, body ache, injection site soreness is normal. It is actually good as it means your body is mounting an immune response to the vaccine, do not mistake this with COVID or bad side effects. Serious side effects are rare but if you have any serious reaction, rashes or other side effects please contact the number given by the vaccination site to report this and get support.

6. WHEN WILL I BE PROTECTED?

Body takes a few weeks to produce immune response against COVID after taking the vaccine. You must take 2 doses to be fully protected – you are still at risk of COVID after taking the vaccine till 2-3 weeks after the second dose. The vaccine is not 100% effective so you must continue to take all precautions, frequent handwashing with soaps and sanitizers, wear a mask and maintain 2 gaj ki doori.

What are some Key messages that should be given to people while talking to them about COVID-19 vaccines? 4/5

7. WHO SHOULD NOT TAKE THE VACCINE?

If you are pregnant or breastfeeding right now the vaccine is not recommended for you as the studies that were conducted on vaccines did not include pregnant women. If you currently have covid or feeling sick / have flu its better to wait till you are feeling better- wait 15 days after healing to go get the vaccine.

8. ADDRESS MYTHS CIRCULATING IN YOUR COMMUNITIES

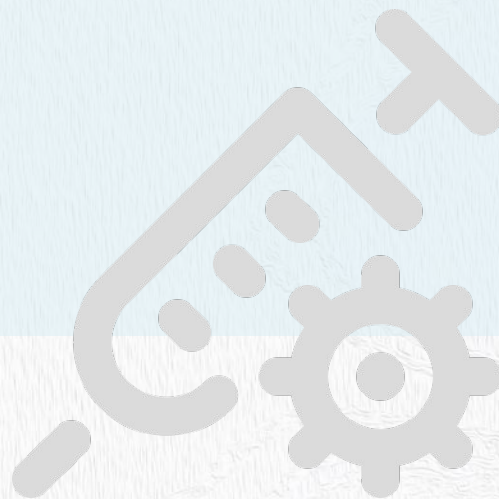
Example:

- The vaccine does not affect fertility
- If there are rumours about what happened to someone's -someone who took the vaccine and had some serious reaction, investigate and find out what really happened. Address concerns appropriately
- Please reach out if you have questions or doubts about things you hear in the field as vaccine roll out happens

What are some Key messages that should be given to people while talking to them about COVID-19 vaccines? 5/5

9. ALWAYS END WITH WHERE PEOPLE CAN TAKE THE VACCINE AND NEXT STEPS

- Take the vaccine at a location near you
- Ensure you carry your original photo ID
- Register yourself on Co-WIN using your ID



Remember: Proactively explain side effects



Extremely important because

- New COVID-19 vaccines are reactogenic. They are likely to cause side effects, especially after the 2nd dose.
- Patients may confuse these side effects with COVID-19 or flu symptoms.
- Patients may worry that the vaccine gave them COVID-19



Things to emphasize:

- Side effects indicate a good immune response.
- Side effects are generally short-lived.
- It is important to return for second dose, even if the first dose has unpleasant side effects

Example counselling scripts



English version:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1IDuIS-kcZXE9bsMTU7u_1ZaNViCCcXzb/edit

FAQs



FAQs English

https://docs.google.com/document/u/1/d/1nuce_CcNTVKDDEhkhquMYLPdzVnIpkez/edit?usp=drive_web&ouid=115703945709968152714&rtpof=true

Co-WIN specific FAQs

https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1driDCzo48o9VtERrchOOH_HFAuANa6NX

Other tools that will be available



Noora Health whatsapp Bot: +91 96067 77650 (give demo)



GramVaani IVRS help line: Coming up

Common Myths on Ground

Myth : Can we take our vaccines during our period?

yes. The government has busted the myth and said it is perfectly safe to take your Covid-19 vaccine jab during menstruation.

Myth: Is there a relation between Covid vaccines and heart attacks?

There is absolutely no relation between Covid vaccines and heart attacks. There had been incidents of people having heart attacks in the period following the Covid vaccine but when it was investigated it was found that in a large population that gets vaccinated there will even naturally be certain people who will have incidents like heart attacks; this number was not much more than what was seen in the period before the vaccine.

Myth: Can people consume alcohol before or after being vaccinated?

There is no evidence so far of alcohol reducing the effectiveness of the vaccine or antibody production. Having said that, it's best to avoid alcohol intake post-vaccination as the mild flu-like illness or any reactions may be masked or exaggerated.

Common Myths on Ground

Myth : A vaccine may adversely impact your immunity

Vaccines are developed using a safe and small portion of a weakened or inactive pathogen-bacteria, virus, fungi and parasites. If you are ever exposed to the actual pathogen, your immune system's defense mechanism automatically kicks in to fight the infection, resulting in either preventing the onset of a disease or reducing its severity

Myth: I don't have to get vaccinated if there is herd immunity against Covid-19

Herd immunity is when most of the population becomes immune to a disease, providing indirect protection to those not immune. As the disease is very infectious, it has already overwhelmed the healthcare systems of more than one country. Also, the disease strain has shown signs of mutation, which means there is no guarantee of immunity even if you had the infection

Myth: You don't require the vaccine if you've already gotten and recovered from the virus

You don't require the vaccine for 60-90 days after the infection, however you will need to take the vaccine for further protection once this period is over. We do not know how long the immunity from having recovered from COVID-19 lasts

Q: Is it better to get natural immunity rather than immunity from vaccines?

- Explain the potential serious risk COVID-19 poses to them and their loved ones if they get the illness or spread it to others, adding that the disease can be serious even if they are not in a high-risk group.
- Explain that scientists are still learning more about the virus that causes COVID-19. It is not known whether getting COVID-19 disease will protect everyone against getting it again or, if it does, how long that protection might last.

"Both this disease and the vaccine are new. We don't know how long protection lasts for those who get infected or those who are vaccinated. What we do know is that COVID-19 has caused very serious illness and death for a lot of people. If you get COVID-19, you also risk giving it to loved ones who may get sick. Getting a COVID-19 vaccine is a safer choice."

Q: Will the shot hurt? Will it make me sick? What about the side effects?

- Explain that they cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine.
- Explain what the most common side effects from vaccination are, how severe they may be, and that they typically go away on their own within a week.
- Make sure patients know that a fever is a potential side effect.
- Provide a comparison if it is appropriate for the patient

"These side effects are signs that your immune system is doing exactly what it is supposed to do. It is working and building up protection to disease."

"Most people do not have serious problems after getting a vaccine. However, your arm may be sore or swollen. These symptoms usually go away on their own within a week. Some people report getting a headache, fever, fatigue, or body aches after getting a vaccine. "

Q: How do we know these vaccines are safe when they are so new? What about long-term side effects?

- Explain how ICMR and the government are continuing to monitor safety.
- Compare the potential serious risk of COVID-19 illness with what is currently known about the safety of COVID-19 vaccines.

"COVID-19 vaccines are being tested in large clinical trials to learn more about their safety and effectiveness. However, it does take time and more people getting vaccinated before we can learn about very rare or long-term side effects. That is why safety monitoring will continue. The government has an independent group of experts that reviews all the safety data as they come in and provides regular safety updates. Any possible problems will be quickly investigated to find out if the issue is related to the COVID-19 vaccine and determine the best course of action."

Q: How many doses are needed and why?

- Explain that two shots are needed to provide the best protection against COVID-19 for both vaccines. The first shot primes the immune system, helping it recognize the virus, and the second shot strengthens the immune response.

"Both COVID-19 vaccines available require two shots. The first shot starts building protection, but everyone has to come back a few weeks later for the second one to get the most protection the vaccine can offer."

Q: Do I have to continue to wear a mask and avoid close contact with others after I have been vaccinated?

- Explain that there is not enough information currently available to say if we can stop recommending that people wear masks and avoid close contact with others. Factors that are being considered include how many people get vaccinated and how the virus is spreading in communities.
- Explain that we don't yet know if the vaccine reduces transmission of SARS-CoV-2.
- Emphasize that these precautions will need to be observed until the vaccine is in widespread use and disease rates start to decline.

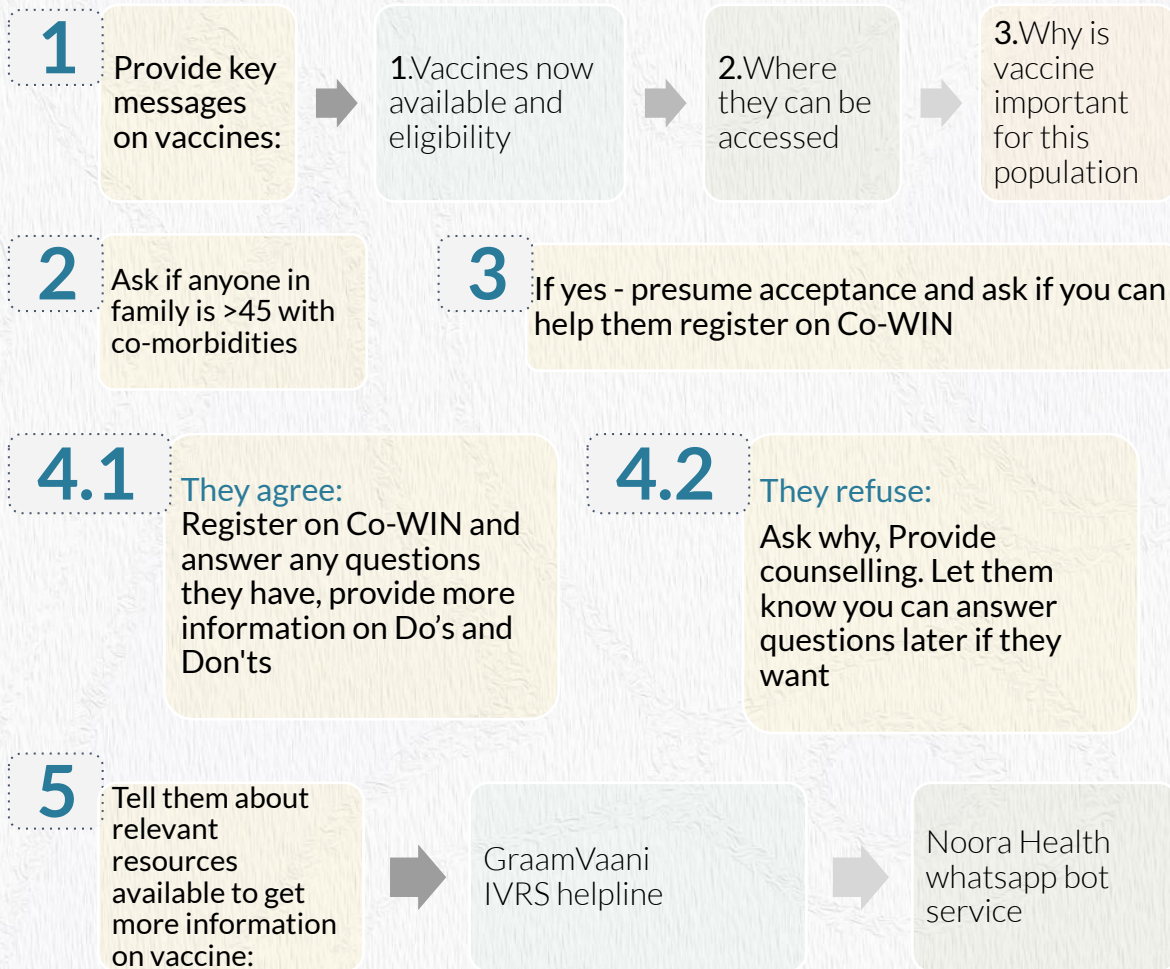
Right now, experts don't know how long the vaccine will protect you, so it is important to keep covering your mouth and nose with a mask, washing hands often, and staying at least 6 feet away from others after getting each dose of the vaccine. We also know not everyone will be able to get vaccinated right away, so it's still important to protect yourself and others. Everyone who gets vaccinated should continue taking these precautions until the vaccine is in widespread use and COVID-19 rates have declined.

Programmatic steps for implementing activities

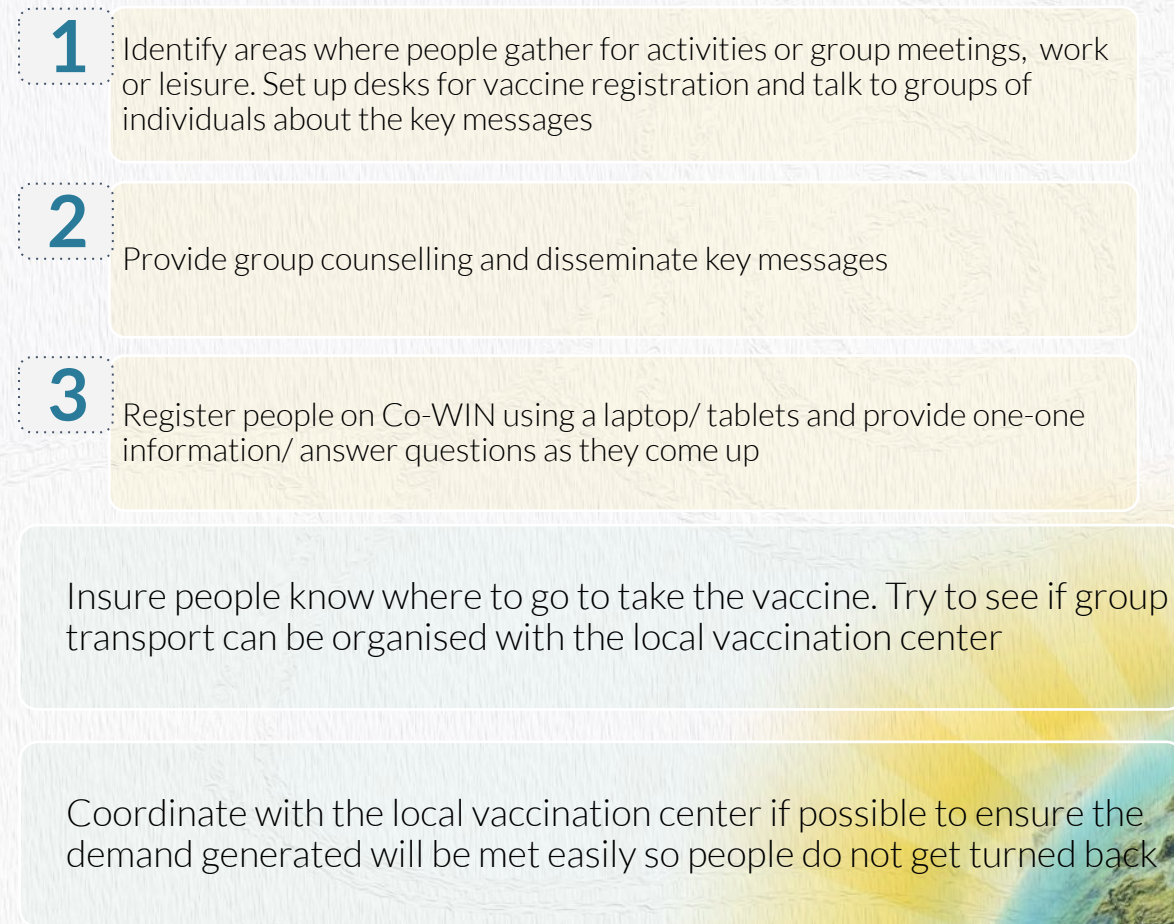
What Will the overall workflow look like?



Option 1. Home visit



Option 2. Disseminate information in gatherings



What are the services we will be providing beneficiaries under this package?



Awareness on availability, eligibility and usefulness of Covid vaccines



Understand how beneficiaries feel about taking vaccines (sentiment survey)



Risk profile for the family: Identify people over 45 years of age and support their registration on Co-WIN



For those that are hesitant, ask why and provide answers to any questions they might have about the vaccines



Facilitating vaccine access by liaising with local authorities (eg. PHCs, vaccine centers, panchayats, Ahas etc.)

Key Challenges on ground

1. **Vaccine availability** : There is seen to be a shortage of supplied vaccines. With current production capacity, it would take a year and a half to fully vaccinate every citizen above 18 years.
1. **Access to vaccines because of second wave** : The ferocity of the second wave has led to serious lockdowns and restrictions on transportation, causing access issues for citizens.
1. **Registration on Co-Win**: The compulsory registration for 18-44 age group is a challenge for those without a mobile phone or the technological know-how of how to navigate the website. Moreover due to stock out issues, one has to check the portal multiple times in order to schedule an appointment.
1. **Controlling flow and crowd at vaccination centers** : Vaccination centers pose a serious risk of becoming covid-19 hotspots. Planning and controlling the flow to the vaccination centres will pose a greater challenge than the vaccinating costs

Do's and Dont's



Do's:

- Talk to the local PHC or Asha workers and local PHC before hand to understand vaccine availability and referral mechanisms
- Before beginning work debrief for 15 mins with service delivery team on roles, responsibilities and expectations of what the people we serve should get out of the service before starting so all staff are on the same page
- Ensure people understand that vaccination is a government program and you are only providing information and are not responsible for the vaccination and its after effects



Dont's:

- Organise in groups if there is an active COVID outbreak in the area
- Meet in closed spaces with poor ventilation
- Tell people that vaccines are compulsory (even if the local PHC is saying so)
- Take responsibility for vaccine side effects - this is a government program and its their responsibility to support individuals to get vaccine, manage side effects etc.

How can we move this forward programmatically?

- What opportunities/ activities within our program can we leverage to add on vaccine awareness?
- What will be needed in terms of man-power and other logistics for this?
- What other information, training or capacity building is needed?
- How will we collect data and show impact?
- Can we collect stories and testimonials from the field as we go about this?
- How do we create a feedback loop to improve the program and support other similar programs run by non Catalyst partners?

Programmatic Steps : Demand Generation and Community Mobilization.

Some idea for vaccine demand generation:

Usually people to people communication works better either 1:1 or in group setting. You could try following types of activities:

- a. Household visits (depending on the size of the community)
- b. Calls and Whatsapp sharing of posters
- c. Involve community leaders, elders, religious leaders
- d. Use Self Help Group meetings or other meetings already happening in the village
- e. Use Audio-visual materials as they are more effective
- f. In rural setting can use plays/ drum beating etc to create a buzz

Home visit - Do's and Dont's

1. Ensure permissions are in place for individuals to go door to door and do demand generation
2. Ensure infection control measures- wear good quality triple layered mask, maintain 6 feet distance, try to have conversations in the open or well ventillated area if possible
3. Carry a fully charged tablet for data collection. Ensure IEC material is stored on it incase you need visual counselling
4. Make sure individuals feel confident to deliver key messages and answer questions
5. If mis-information or particular types of messages circulating in community that you are aware of, be prepared to address those and answer questions around them
6. Provide written details on where to access vaccines, date of vaccination, date and place of health camp etc.

Roles and responsibilities and Operational Planning



Operational planning: Template

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1-YH_prE3eJizUrtSxRH_zHHGemYQMx4Z07p3AxfDD4tI/edit?usp=sharing

Operational planning: Template

Discussion on who will take on what support roles

- Training of Trainers: CAC (ongoing)
- Training on-ground staff on vaccine awareness in local language: Partner
- Translation of materials: Partner
- Partner's role in health camps: crowd control, set-up and permissions, vaccine help desk
- Other support needed?

Thank you



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What Comorbidities make people between 45-59 eligible?

- Heart Failure with hospital admission in past one year
- Post Cardiac Transplant/Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD)
- Significant Left ventricular systolic dysfunction (LVEF <40%)
- Moderate or Severe Valvular Heart Disease
- Congenital heart disease with severe PAH or Idiopathic PAH
- Coronary Artery Disease with past CABG/PTCA/MI AND Hypertension/Diabetes on treatment
- Angina AND Hypertension/Diabetes on treatment
- CT/MRI documented stroke AND Hypertension/Diabetes on treatment
- Pulmonary artery hypertension AND Hypertension/Diabetes on treatment
- Diabetes (> 10 years OR with complications) AND Hypertension on treatment
- Kidney/ Liver/ Hematopoietic stem cell transplant: Recipient/On wait-list
- End Stage Kidney Disease on haemodialysis/ CAPD
- Current prolonged use of oral corticosteroids/ immunosuppressant medications
- Decompensated cirrhosis
- Severe respiratory disease with hospitalizations in last two years/FEV1 <50%
- Lymphoma/ Leukaemia/ Myeloma
- Diagnosis of any solid cancer on or after 1st July 2020 Or currently on any cancer therapy
- Sickle Cell Disease/ Bone marrow failure/ Aplastic Anemia/ Thalassemia Major
- Primary Immunodeficiency Diseases/ HIV infection
- Persons with disabilities due to Intellectual disabilities/ Muscular Dystrophy/ Acid attack with involvement of respiratory system/ Persons with disabilities having high support needs/ Multiple disabilities including deaf-blindness

Are the available vaccines safe? Let's understand how vaccines are tested for safety and efficacy.

Phases of vaccine development/trial	Purpose
Pre-clinical	Vaccine development in laboratory animals
Phase 1 Clinical trial (small number of participants)	Assess vaccine safety, immune response and determine right dosage (short duration)
Phase 2 Clinical trial (few hundred participants)	Assess safety and the ability of the vaccine to generate an immune response (short duration)
Phase 3 Clinical trial (thousands of participants)	Determine vaccine effectiveness against the disease and safety in a larger group of people (duration 1-2 years)

The Covid-19 vaccines have been tried on a large number of participants in the different phases of vaccine trials. The people receiving the vaccine have varied conditions and backgrounds. Vaccines have been determined to be safe for use. Safety is being closely monitored during vaccine rollout as a form of post market surveillance.