ENSURING QUALITY SERVICE DELIVERY OF PEDIATRIC IMMUNIZATIONS GLOBALLY

In the past 20 years, worldwide improvements in child healthcare delivery contributed to a 59% decline in under-five mortality. Vaccines, as one of the most successful and cost-effective health interventions in history, play a large role in this global success. However, challenges brought by global pandemics and immunization inequity have slowed recent progress. A total of 25 million children didn’t receive basic vaccines in 2021, the highest number since 2009.

We build partnerships and test innovations to increase demand and improve immunization services

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) is committed to collaboration that ensures all children receive the full benefits of vaccines.

A quality lens to immunization services includes: experience of the service itself by families and providers; evidence-based and correct communication about vaccines, disease prevention, and vaccine safety; and a mutual trust between providers and the children and their families they care for.

With our partners, we strengthen services and build demand by:

- Enhancing skills to support family autonomy and healthy decisions around immunization through innovative vaccine hesitancy simulation communication and interpersonal communication for immunization curriculums
- Building provider confidence in the ability to effectively and efficiently deliver immunization services through advocacy support and strengthening and locally-informed pre-service and in-service trainings
- Supporting dissemination of contextually-specific messages and resources building demand and combatting misinformation

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The AAP approach leverages current global strategies for immunization uptake and service experience improvement, but is **locally-led** by partners in **more than 17 countries** including:

- **Ethiopia**
  - Developed **culturally appropriate job aids to improve immunization counseling** and communication in 2 key regions
  - Created immunology training course for child health providers in concert with the Ministry of Health

- **Indonesia**
  - Developed **new electronic information system to collect private sector immunization data** and trained more than 140 providers in its use
  - Achieved **100% immunization rate** for basic vaccines (increase from 60%) and **97.1% MR immunization rate** (increase from 40%) in 1 key district
  - Bridged public and private sector divide by coordination national immunization campaigns

- **Japan**
  - Developed **innovative vaccine hesitancy simulation curriculum** adapted to the Japanese context for more than 50 child health providers
  - Developed context-specific vaccine information sheets which increased maternal knowledge of vaccination by 10% for newborn vaccinations

- **Kenya**
  - Piloted hospital course on immunization in 6 county hospitals which **increased immunization knowledge amongst providers** by 80%
  - Developed cross-cadre training on roles in immunization service delivery reaching 86% of the immunization workforce

- **Nepal**
  - Trained 100 frontline vaccinators in adverse event detection/reporting, vaccine preventable disease counseling, and referrals in 6 out of 7 provinces
  - Published updated immunization guidelines for public and private vaccines
  - Increased communication and contact between public and private sectors providing immunizations

- **Nigeria**
  - Developed radio jingles on timeliness which aired more than 1,000 times and resulted in an average of **49%** of surveyed caregivers reporting it influenced decision to seek vaccination
  - Held town halls for more than 2,000 caregivers in 6 geopolitical zones
  - **Successfully advocated for 1% funding increase** to support national immunization services

- **Philippines**
  - Developed **innovative vaccine hesitancy simulation curriculum adapted to the Filipino context** for more than 60 child health providers to further disseminate the training
  - Developed immunology course surrounding vaccine hesitancy and misinformation following Dengvaxia vaccine crisis
  - Trained **2,000 pediatricians** in immunization advocacy

- **Tanzania**
  - Promoted accurate knowledge dissemination by **training 20 religious leaders, 20 media outlet leaders**, and 6 nationally televised media engagements on routine vaccination
  - Trained 160 child health providers in immunization information and service delivery in 3 key districts

- **Uganda**
  - **Increased vaccinated children** in district of focus from 47% to 73% over 6 years
  - Trained over 200 private providers to improve quality of immunization service delivery and intrapersonal communication for immunization
  - Introduced more content on vaccination and vaccine administration into preservice training curriculums
  - Launched national-level media campaign for vaccine introductions

- **Regional collaboratives**
  - Developed African Regional Learning Collaborative to join together 10 countries for monthly meetings to address regional gaps in immunization service delivery
  - Created a **joint COVID-19 vaccination** campaign and CME series attended by 1,500 providers from 37 countries to unite regional messaging during the pandemic