



Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Government of India

MEASLES & RUBELLA VACCINATION CAMPAIGN

Generally Asked Questions



FACT SHEET

Children of which age group are to be vaccinated with this vaccine?

Under the national MR campaign, this vaccine is to be administered as a single shot to children in the age group of 9 months to less than 15 years.

Why should children in the age group of 9 months to less than 15 years be vaccinated during the campaign?

It has been observed that the maximum number of cases of measles and rubella in the country were among children less than 15 years of age. It was decided to cover this age group in the campaign.

Where will this campaign be run?

This campaign will be run at all schools, across communities, at government hospitals and health centres, where the children in the age group of 9 months to less than 15 years are to be vaccinated. All the children in this age group should participate in this campaign.

Will there be availability of medical aid at the vaccination point?

The children will be vaccinated by a trained health worker. All immunization sessions – whether in schools or outreach session sites – are linked to fully equipped health centres to handle any adverse event.

Will any children be excluded from vaccination?

Yes, the following category of children will not be given the vaccine if they are:

- Suffering from high fever or any other serious disease (like unconsciousness, have fits, etc.)
- Admitted in hospital.
- Susceptible to serious allergies as a result of measles-rubella vaccination in the past.

Why is measles-rubella vaccination being carried out in schools instead of health centers?

The MR campaign shall be conducted both in schools as well as hospitals and health centres. School-going

children will be vaccinated at schools and non-school going children shall be covered through outreach activity in the community. It is possible to ensure complete coverage if the measles-rubella vaccination is undertaken collectively.

In case any child has already been vaccinated for measles/MR/MMR, is it necessary for him to have another measles-rubella vaccination?

Yes, it is important that all children in the 9 months to less than 15 years age group are administered this vaccine, irrespective of whether the child has suffered this ailment earlier or has been vaccinated in the past. The campaign dose is in addition to the routine vaccine dose. This additional dose means additional protection which will help to knock out the diseases from the susceptible population.

What happens if the child doesn't get MR vaccination in this campaign?

If the child has not been vaccinated, there remains the danger of the child contracting measles and rubella. The child should be vaccinated in this campaign, even if he/she has already been given MR/MMR vaccine. This will enable him/her to fight against measles and rubella.

How safe is the MR vaccine given in this vaccination campaign? Is this vaccine being used in other countries as well?

The MR vaccine given in this campaign is very safe and effective and has been in use for the last 40 years worldwide. The private doctors in the country are using the MR/MMR vaccine for children since many years. Presently, MR/MMR vaccine is being given in 149 countries throughout the world.

What are the plans for the presence of parents of school-going children during the vaccination?

The vaccination at the schools will be done in the presence of teachers. However, the parents may accompany their wards at the time of vaccination if so desired.

