HPV Vaccination as a Single Dose



Opportunity for Impact in Indonesia

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is the world's leading cause of cervical cancer and the second most common cancer among women in Indonesia. Each year, more than 36,000 women in Indonesia are diagnosed with cervical cancer, and more than 21,000 women die from the disease. A WHO-led global strategy to eliminate cervical cancer aims to save millions of lives by focusing on the most important strategies for cervical cancer elimination by 2030. One critical pillar of this strategy is to achieve 90% HPV vaccination coverage of girls by the age of 15.

Indonesia has taken the first important step to achieve this goal by committing to nationwide introduction of HPV vaccine for adolescent girls in 2023. Current plans for the National Immunization Program for HPV in Indonesia include delivery according to a two-dose schedule as part of the country's strong national immunization program under Universal Health Coverage. HPV vaccine would be delivered through schools to girls in grades 5 and 6 during National Child Immunization Month (BIAS). However, since Indonesia's Ministry of Health first announced the addition of HPV vaccine to the national program in April 2022, WHO has released an update to the HPV vaccine recommendations that now provide an option to implement a single-dose HPV vaccine schedule for 9–14-year-old girls. The revised recommendation, published in December 2022, was based upon new scientific findings from clinical trials in several countries which have demonstrated that a single dose of HPV vaccine provides similar protection against HPV infection as multi-dose schedules.



There are several benefits to adopting a single-dose schedule for HPV vaccine delivery:



Ability to reach and protect twice as many girls with the same resources, potentially increasing coverage rates and accelerating progress toward a 90% coverage goal



Lower costs – fewer doses to produce or procure and distribute around the country



Reduced administrative burden by eliminating the need for follow-up and simplifying the tracking process for vaccine delivery



Decrease in the demand or requirement for human resources to support implementation

As of June 2023, more than 20 countries around the world have already switched to adopt a single-dose HPV vaccine schedule, including Australia, Mexico, and Myanmar. As Indonesia plans to roll out HPV vaccines in 2023, the advantages of switching to a single-dose schedule are important to consider. A streamlined strategy could strengthen the launch of the country's HPV immunization program and facilitate expansion of vaccine coverage, offering rapid and efficient protection to more girls and women from cervical cancer. This option could ultimately save more lives and represents an invaluable opportunity for greater impact.

Sources

Barnabas RV, Brown ER, Onono MA, et al. (2022). Efficacy of single-dose HPV vaccination among young African women. NEJM Evidence, 1(5), EVIDoa2100056.

Basu P, Malvi SG, Joshi S, et al. (2021). Vaccine efficacy against persistent human papillomavirus (HPV) 16/18 infection at 10 years after one, two, and three doses of quadrivalent HPV vaccine in girls in India: a multicentre, prospective, cohort study. The Lancet Oncology, 22(11), 1518–1529. Bruni L, Albero G, Serrano B, et al. ICO/IARC Information Centre on HPV and Cancer (HPV Information Centre). Human Papillomavirus and Related Diseases in Indonesia. Summary Report 10 March 2023. Accessed 5 June 2023. Lei J, Ploner A, Elfström KM, et al. HPV Vaccination and the Risk of Invasive Cervical Cancer. N Engl J Med. 2020;383(14):1340-1348.

World Health Assembly adopts global strategy to accelerate cervical cancer elimination. World Health Organization, 2020. Published 19 August 2020. Accessed 1 June 2023.



IVAC International Vaccine Access Center