The Immunological Basis for Immunization Series

Module 16: Mumps

Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals



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Abbreviations and acronyms

CI confidence interval

CMI cell-mediated immunity

CTL cytotoxic T-cell

DNA deoxyribonucleic acid EIA enzyme immunoassay

ELISA enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay

F fusion protein

HLA histocompatibility leukocyte antigen

HN haemagglutinin-neuraminidase protein

Ig immunoglobulin

L large protein

M matrix protein

MMR measles, mumps, and rubella

NP nucleoprotein

P phosphoprotein

PAHO Pan American Health Organization

RNA ribonucleic acid

RT-PCR reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction

SH short hydrophobic protein

USA United States of America

WHO World Health Organization

Preface

This module is part of the series *The Immunological Basis for Immunization*, which was initially developed in 1993 as a set of eight modules focusing on the vaccines included in the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI)¹. In addition to a general immunology module, each of the seven other modules covered one of the vaccines recommended as part of the EPI programme, i.e. diphtheria, measles, pertussis, polio, tetanus, tuberculosis and yellow fever. These modules have become some of the most widely used documents in the field of immunization.

With the development of the Global Immunization Vision and Strategy (2005–2015) (http://www.who.int/vaccines-documents/DocsPDF05/GIVS Final EN.pdf) and the expansion of immunization programmes in general, as well as the large accumulation of new knowledge since the original papers were published, the decision has been taken to update and extend this series.

The main purpose of publishing vaccine-specific modules is to give immunization managers and vaccination professionals a brief and easily understood overview of the scientific basis for vaccination, and background information upon which the WHO policies on immunization published in the WHO Vaccine Position Papers are based. (http://www.who.int/immunization/documents/positionpapers intro/en/index. html).

WHO would like to thank all the people who were involved in the development of the initial *Immunological Basis for Immunization* series, as well as those involved in its updating, and the development of new modules.

This programme was established in 1974 with the aim of providing immunization for children in developing countries.

1. Mumps disease and virus

1.1 Mumps disease

Mumps is an acute viral illness characterized by unilateral or bilateral tenderness or swelling of the parotid or other salivary glands. Mumps is transmitted through person-to-person contact or by direct contact with respiratory droplets or saliva from an infected person. By comparison to measles and varicella, which can be transmitted by aerosol spread, mumps is less infectious (Hope-Simpson, 1952). The mumps virus replicates in the nasopharynx and regional lymph nodes, with a secondary viremia occurring late in the incubation period. During those three to five days of viremia, the virus spreads into the major target organs. Although the salivary glands are most commonly affected, the central nervous system, pancreas, liver, spleen, kidneys and genital organs can also be involved. The average incubation period is 16 to 18 days, with a range of 12 to 25 days (Hope-Simpson, 1952). Mumps is believed to be most infectious around the time of onset of parotid swelling. However, mumps virus has been isolated from saliva as early as seven days prior to, and as late as eight days after, onset of parotitis (Utz et al., 1957; Ennis & Jackson, 1968).

The clinical presentation ranges from asymptomatic infection or nonspecific, mainly respiratory symptoms, to complications with or without parotitis. Parotitis is the most common manifestation, occurring in approximately 60% to 70% of mumps infections, but can range between 50% and 95% depending on age and immunity of the population (Philip et al., 1959; Reed et al., 1967). Parotitis typically lasts seven to ten days, and may be initially unilateral, but becomes bilateral in about 65% of cases (Sullivan et al., 1985a). Prodromal symptoms are nonspecific, consisting of myalgia, anorexia, malaise, headache, low-grade fever and vomiting. Inapparent infections may be more common in young children and older adults than in school-aged children (Philip et al., 1959).

Complications of mumps vary with age and sex, and can occur without parotitis. Severe complications, including deaths, are rare (Azimi et al., 1969). The rate of complications increases markedly in those above 15 years of age and, predominately due to orchitis, is generally higher in males than in females (Falk et al., 1989). Complications involving the central nervous system, in the form of aseptic meningitis, are common. The meningitis is generally benign and resolves without sequelae. Asymptomatic meningitis occurs in up to 55% of patients in studies where lumbar punctures were performed routinely (Bang & Bang, 1943; Brown et al., 1948), whereas clinical symptoms suggestive of meningitis occur in 0.02% to 10% of mumps cases (Laurence & McGavin., 1948; Russell & Donald, 1958; Reed et al., 1967; Witte & Karchmer, 1968; Falk et al., 1989). Encephalitis occurs in 2–4 per 1000 mumps cases, and can be fatal (Witte & Karchmer, 1968; Hayden et al., 1978).

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In males, orchitis is the most common complication, occurring in approximately 30% of postpubertal men (range: 19% to 44%) (Laurence & McGavin., 1948; Philip et al., 1959; Association for the Study of Infectious Diseases, 1974; Beard et al., 1977; Arday et al., 1989). There may be some degree of testicular atrophy, but sterility is rare. In postpubertal women, mastitis occurs in up to 30% and oophoritis in approximately 5% of cases (Philip et al., 1959; Reed et al., 1967; Sullivan et al., 1985a).

Less common complications include pancreatitis, deafness, myocarditis, arthralgias, arthritis, thyroiditis, nephritis, endocardial fibroelastosis, thrombocytopenia, cerebellar ataxia, transverse myelitis, and ascending polyradiculitis. Transient, high frequency deafness occurs in 4% of cases, with permanent deafness in approximately one per 20 000 cases (Vuori et al., 1962; Westmore et al., 1979; Bitnun et al., 1986; Hall & Richards, 1987; Okamoto et al., 1994; McKenna, 1997; Doshi et al., 2009).

1.2 Mumps virus

Mumps virus is a single-stranded, negative sense, enveloped ribonucleic acid (RNA) virus in the Paramyxoviridae family, Paramyxovirinae sub-family, genus Rubulavirus. Mumps virions are pleomorphic but generally spherical structures, and range in size from 85 nm to 300 nm in diameter (Cantell, 1961). The viral genome is 15 384 nucleotides in length and encodes nine proteins from seven genes. The mumps genome is encapsidated by nucleoprotein (NP) and the phosphoprotein (P) and large (L) protein are associated with the encapsidated RNA to comprise the ribonucleoprotein complex. The envelope is a lipid bilayer membrane and contains the two surface glycoproteins — a haemagglutinin-neuraminidase (HN) and fusion (F) hemolysin protein as well as a matrix (M) and a short hydrophobic (SH) membraneassociated protein (Wilson et al., 2006). The function of the SH protein is unclear. However, the gene encoding the SH protein is highly variable and has been used as the basis of genotyping mumps viruses for molecular epidemiological purposes (Jin et al., 1999; Muhlemann, 2004). Genotypes show nucleotide variation of 2% to 4% within genotypes, and 6% to 19% between genotypes (Johansson et al., 2002). There is one mumps virus serotype; 12 genotypes A to L have been described. A thirteenth genotype, M, has been proposed, but not officially adopted (Jin et al., 2005). The last two proteins, V and I, are nonstructural proteins. The V protein plays a role in interferon signaling and production, while the role of I protein is not known.

1.3 Mumps vaccines

The first mumps vaccine was developed in 1946 (Habel, 1946). It was based on formalininactivated virus, but was discontinued because immunity was short-lived (Habel, 1951). Since then numerous mumps vaccine strains have been developed and used in vaccines throughout the world. These vaccines have varied efficacy and safety profiles.

1.3.1 Jeryl Lynn

The first live attenuated mumps vaccine using the Jeryl Lynn strain was developed in the United States of America (USA) using an isolate from a child with mumps, and passaged in embryonated hens' eggs and chick embryo cell cultures (Buynak & Hilleman, 1966). Vaccines containing the Jeryl Lynn strain contain two distinct, but genetically related viruses (Afzal et al., 1993). The Jeryl Lynn vaccine is distributed worldwide and has been used exclusively in the USA since it was licensed in 1967.

1.3.2 RIT 4385

A mumps vaccine using the strain RIT 4385 was developed from the dominant virus component in the Jeryl Lynn vaccine strain. Vaccines containing this strain appear to have safety and efficacy profiles similar to vaccines containing the Jeryl Lynn strain.

1.3.3 Urabe Am 9

Another widely distributed mumps vaccine uses the Urabe Am 9 strain. The vaccine was developed in Japan from an isolate obtained from the saliva of a child with mumps, and passaged in chick embryo amniotic cavity and quail embryo fibroblasts. The strain contains at least two variants, one potentially more neurovirulent than the other (Yamanishi et al., 1973; Brown et al., 1996). Vaccines containing the Urabe Am 9 strain were primarily used in Canada, European countries and Japan; however, it has been withdrawn from Canada, Japan, the United Kingdom, and several other countries due to the increased incidence of aseptic meningitis following vaccination. There has been one report of transmission of the vaccine virus from a vaccinated child who developed parotitis 19 days after vaccination of a sibling. The deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) sequence isolated from the child was specific to the Urabe Am 9 strain (Sawada et al., 1993).

1.3.4 Rubini

The isolate for the mumps vaccine containing the Rubini strain was attenuated in WI-38 (human diploid cell line) hens' eggs, and MRC-5 cells (Gluck et al., 1986). The vaccine containing the Rubini strain was introduced in some countries that had discontinued the use of vaccines containing the Urabe Am 9 strain. However, increased mumps incidence, including outbreaks in highly vaccinated populations (Toscani et al., 1996; Chamot et al., 1998; Goncalves et al., 1998; Goh, 1999; Schlegel et al., 1999; Pons et al., 2000), and reports of high attack rates among children vaccinated with the Rubini vaccine strain (Goh, 1999; Ciofi Degli Atti et al., 2002; Montes et al., 2002) in countries using vaccines containing the Rubini vaccine strain (Italy, Portugal, Singapore, Spain and Switzerland), indicated low efficacy of the vaccine. Subsequent investigations confirmed the vaccine to have little or no efficacy, and the World Health Organization recommended that the Rubini strain vaccine should not be used in national immunization programmes (WHO, 2001). The vaccine was consequently withdrawn.

1.3.5 Leningrad-3 and Leningrad-Zagreb

The mumps vaccine containing the Leningrad-3 strain was developed in 1967 in the former Soviet Union. It was obtained from a combination of five isolates of mumps viruses, and attenuated through passages in chick embryos and Japanese quail embryo cultures (Smorodintsev et al., 1965). A further attenuation of the Leningrad-3 mumps vaccine strain, Leningrad-Zagreb (L-Zagreb) vaccine strain, was developed in the 1970s in Croatia (formerly Yugoslavia). It was passaged on specific pathogen-free chick embryo fibroblast cell cultures (Beck et al., 1989). Several cases of transmission of L-Zagreb and Leningrad-3 vaccine strains have been reported, including a mumps case complicated by aseptic meningitis after transmission (Atrasheuskaya et al., 2006; Kaic et al., 2008; Vukic et al., 2008).

1.3.6 Other mumps vaccines

Many more mumps vaccines have been developed using additional vaccine strains, but have more limited distribution. They include: Sofia 6, developed in Bulgaria; S-12; BBM-18, a strain derived from the S-12 strain; S₇₉, derived from the Jeryl Lynn vaccine strain and licensed in China; PAVIVAC, used in the Czech Republic; and the Japanese strains, Hoshino, Torii Miyahara, and NK-M46 (Makino et al., 1976; Saskai et al., 1976; Fedova et al., 1987; Odisseev & Gacheva, 1994; Feiterna-Sperling et al., 2005; Fu et al., 2008; Plotkin & Rubin, 2008).

1.3.7 Mumps vaccine formulations

The trivalent measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine formulation is the most commonly- used formulation for the mumps vaccine. However, the mumps vaccine is also available in monovalent, bivalent (measles and mumps), and tetravalent (measles, mumps, rubella and varicella) formulations.

1.3.8 Significant adverse reactions to mumps vaccination

Adverse reactions to mumps vaccination are rare, occurring 2-4 weeks after vaccination, and resolving without sequelae. The most common adverse reactions are parotitis and low-grade fever. However, post-vaccine aseptic meningitis does occur, but is generally mild to moderate and resolves within a week. Rates of reported post-vaccination aseptic meningitis are challenging to compare as they vary depending on vaccine strain, case definitions, ascertainment methods, clinical suspicion, age of the vaccine recipient, and whether the vaccine recipient received the first or subsequent dose (Bonnet et al., 2006). The rates of reported aseptic meningitis following mumps vaccination range from lowest with the Jeryl Lynn strain (<1 per 100 000 doses) to rates over 25 per 100 000 doses for vaccines containing the Urabe Am 9, Leningrad-3, Leningrad-Zagreb, Torii, Miyahara, or Hoshino strains (Table 1). The Urabe Am 9 vaccine virus has been isolated from several patients with meningitis within weeks of vaccination (Brown et al., 1991; Fujinaga et al., 1991), and an outbreak of aseptic meningitis occurred in Brazil following mass vaccination campaigns with MMR vaccine containing the Urabe Am 9 strain (Dourado et al., 2000). Although studies have reported incidence of aseptic meningitis following vaccination with L-Zagreb strain below one per 100 000 doses (Pan American Health Organization, 1999; Phadke et al., 2004; Kulkarni et al., 2005), several studies with baseline incidence data on aseptic meningitis found elevated incidence 2-4 weeks following mass vaccination campaigns with MMR vaccine containing L-Zagreb strain (da Cunha et al., 2002; da Silveira et al., 2002).

Furthermore, a prospective study in Croatia using virally confirmed cases of aseptic meningitis, found the incidence of aseptic meningitis 15 to 31 days following vaccination with L-Zagreb strain vaccine was 49 per 100 000 (Tesovic & Lesnikar, 2006).

Table 1: Incidence of aseptic meningitis following mumps vaccination

Reference	Country	Number of doses	Population vaccinated	Ascertainment of cases	Incidence per 100 000 doses
Jeryl Lynn/RIT 4385		1		,	
(Fescharek et al., 1990)	Germany	~5 500 000		Drug side-effect surveillance	0.1
(Schlipkoter et al., 2002)	Germany	1 575 936	≤15 years	National hospital surveillance system	<0.2
(Miller et al., 2007)	United Kingdom	>99 000	12–23 months	Hospital discharge diagnoses	<1
(Black et al., 1997)	United States	~300 000	12–23 months	Hospital discharge diagnoses	<1
Urabe Am 9					
(Al-Mazrou et al., 2002)	Saudi Arabia	2 412 078	6–13 years*	National, hospital, and school surveillance	0.3
(Jonville-Bera et al., 1996)	France		11 months – 10 years	Reports to regional pharmacovigilance centres or manufacturer	0.82 (95% CI: 0.77- 0.92)
(Furesz & Contreras, 1990)	Canada	250 000- 300 000		Laboratory reports	1.6
(Rebiere & Galy- Eyraud, 1995)	France	3 290 470	Children (mostly <24 months)	Vaccine manufacturer's surveillance system and laboratory surveillance	3.5 (95% CI: 1.5–5.6)
(Farrington et al., 1995)	England	77 200	12–24 months	Hospital discharge diagnoses	6.7
(Dourado et al., 2000)	Brazil	452 344	1–11 years	State surveillance and prospective hospital admission following mass-vaccination campaign	7.1
(Miller et al., 2007)	United Kingdom	49 585	12–23 months	Hospital discharge diagnoses	8.0 (95% CI: 2.2–21)
(Sugiura & Yamada, 1991)	Japan	630 157	1–6 years	Passive surveillance to Ministry of Health	12–15
(Miller et al., 1993)	United Kingdom	78 300	12–24 months	Public Health Laboratories and hospital discharge diagnosis	17
(Colville & Pugh, 1992)	United Kingdom	22 817	12–24 months	Laboratory records	26 (95% CI: 5.3–47)
(Fujinaga et al., 1991)	Japan	11 750	1–6 years	Hospital surveillance	110
(Ueda et al., 1995)	Japan	6542		Prospective surveillance following vaccination	110
Leningrad 3					
(Cizman et al., 1989)	Yugoslavia	115 253	≤15 years	Hospital records	100

Reference	Country	Number of doses	Population vaccinated	Ascertainment of cases	Incidence per 100 000 doses
L-Zagreb					
(Pan American Health Organization, 1999)	Bahamas	>100 000	4–40 years	Surveillance activities not mentioned (note: small proportion of doses were Jeryl Lynn mumps strain)	0.96
(Phadke et al., 2004)	India	190 723	Children	Post-marketing surveillance surveys to paediatricians (note: response rate 68%)	1.0
(da Cunha et al., 2002)	Brazil	845 889	Children†	Routine surveillance system and hospital records	5.2–16
(Arruda & Kondageski, 2001)	Brazil	590 609	2–39 years	National surveillance	17
(da Silveira et al., 2002)	Brazil	110 629	1–11 years	Passive surveillance	29
(Dos Santos et al., 2002)	Brazil	2 226	6–12 years	Active follow-up	45
(Tesovic & Lesnikar, 2006)	Croatia	96 994	12–46 months	Prospective hospital study	49 (95% CI: 36–66)
(Tesovic et al., 1993)	Croatia		10 months–6 years	Hospital records	90 (95% CI: 64–116)
Torii					
(Ueda et al., 1995)	Japan	961		Prospective surveillance following vaccination	107
(Kimura et al., 1996)	Japan	8600	1–6 years	Active surveillance	140
Hoshino					
(Kimura et al., 1996)	Japan	21 717	1–6 years	Active surveillance	126
(Ueda et al., 1995)	Japan	3603		Prospective surveillance following vaccination	187

^{*} Probable second dose.
† Campaign dose, irrespective of prior vaccination history.

2. Immunological response to natural infection

The immune response to mumps virus infection is likely to be the result of a complex interplay between both the humoral and cellular arms of the immune response, and no definitive correlates of protection have yet been identified. Studies on the immune response to mumps infection are quite limited in comparison to those described for measles and rubella infections.

2.1 Antibody response to mumps infection in unvaccinated individuals

In naive individuals immunoglobulin M (IgM) antibodies are measurable within a few days of symptom onset. IgM peaks about one week after the onset of parotitis or symptoms, and is detectable for weeks to months after parotitis onset (Ukkonen et al., 1981; Benito et al., 1987). Low avidity IgG may also be present at the time of symptom onset, although generally at a low level (Narita et al., 1998). IgG antibody increases rapidly and reaches maximum levels about three weeks after onset of symptoms. IgG antibodies remain at that level for about two to three months before they decrease again (Gotlieb et al., 1953; Ukkonen et al., 1981), and have been assumed to persist for life, though some more recent data question this assumption (see section 2.4). Mumps-specific salivary IgA antibodies can be detected up to five weeks after onset of illness before gradually decreasing, becoming undetectable around 10 weeks after onset (Chiba et al., 1973; Friedman, 1982).

2.2 Cell-mediated immunity following natural mumps disease

Lymphocytes are known to play an important role in host response to viral infections, and are believed to have a significant function in the immune response to mumps and recovery from mumps infection. While the presence of a plaque reduction neutralization titre to mumps appears to be associated with the development of mumps immunity, less is known about the development, significance, and function of mumps-specific cell-mediated immunity (CMI). Specific lymphocyte mediated cytotoxicity has been shown to correlate well with the presence, or absence, of detectable humoral responses to mumps, but failed to correlate with the magnitude of the antibody response (Rola-Pleszczynski et al., 1976). Mumps-specific cytotoxic T-cell (CTL) activity has been observed in individuals with natural mumps disease, with a peak response at 2–4 weeks after disease onset, and was associated with an antecedent lymphocyte proliferative response (Tsutsumi et al., 1980).

2.3 Maternal antibody

Maternal antibody (IgG) to mumps following natural infection is transferred across the placenta and is believed to provide protection to infants against clinical mumps. Clinical mumps occurs less frequently in infants aged less than one year (12% to 17%) compared to children aged one to four years (68%) (Philip et al., 1959; Meyer, 1962; Reed et al., 1967). Also, during an outbreak, two out of three infants under 12 months of age born to mothers with no history of clinical mumps developed mumps after exposure, while no infants under 12 months of age born to 10 mothers with prior history of clinical mumps developed disease (Meyer, 1962). In a separate study among 18 infants, most infants had detectable neutralizing antibodies at age two months (94%) and five months (66%), but by age 12 months none of the infants had detectable antibodies (Hodes & Brunell, 1970). Similarly, two other studies found 4% of 74 infants (Leineweber et al., 2004) and 25% of 32 infants (Sato et al., 1979) with detectable neutralizing antibodies at age 12 months.

2.4 Duration of immunity to natural mumps infection

Natural mumps virus infection is generally believed to provide long-lasting immunity. Twenty or more years after their mumps illness, most (82%) individuals still had detectable haemagglutination-inhibiting antibodies (Levitt et al., 1970). However, cases of clinically apparent mumps reinfection that have been confirmed with epidemiological links or laboratory tests have been reported (Meyer, 1962; Gut et al., 1995; Crowley & Afzal, 2002; Yoshida et al., 2008), and may be more common than previously thought.

3. Immunological response to vaccination

3.1 Antibody response following vaccination

In general, over 90% of infants and children develop detectable antibodies against mumps following vaccination with mumps vaccines (Table 2). Seroconversion rates are comparable for vaccine combinations with Jeryl Lynn, RIT 4385 and Urabe Am 9 strains (Isomura et al., 1973; Vesikari et al., 1983b; Usonis et al., 1998; Usonis et al., 1999; Usonis et al., 2001; Lee et al., 2002) except for one study that suggested higher serconversion for children receiving vaccines containing Urabe Am 9 than those receiving Jeryl Lynn-containing vaccines (Vesikari et al., 1983a). However, serological tests available for mumps antibodies are not consistent and rates vary depending on the method used. As a result, seroconversion rates vary widely from 74% to 100% for vaccines containing the Jeryl Lynn strain, 88% to 98% for vaccines containing the RIT 4385 strain, 79% to 100% for vaccines containing the Urabe Am 9 strains, 35% to 95% for vaccines containing the Rubini strain and 89% to 98% for vaccines containing the Leningrad-3 strain (Table 2). There is no difference in seroconversion between monovalent, bivalent, trivalent, or tetravalent formulations of the mumps vaccine (Weibel et al., 1973; Lerman et al., 1981; Shinefield et al., 2005; Bernstein et al., 2007).

Vaccination with the mumps vaccine induces relatively low levels of antibodies compared with natural infection. The mean neutralizing antibody titres detectable after vaccination were over five times lower than those produced after natural infection (Weibel et al., 1967; Hilleman et al., 1968). Similarly, haemagglutination-inhibiting titres after natural disease were 1:9 compared to 1:5 after vaccination (Weibel et al., 1967).

Six month old infants who were vaccinated in the presence of maternal antibody had lower neutralizing antibody titres and seroconversion rates compared to infants vaccinated at 9 and 12 months of age. Lower seroconversion was not only seen when vaccinated in the presence of passive antibody but also in the absence of maternal antibody, suggesting an intrinsic deficiency in young infants in antiviral antibody production (Gans et al., 2003). Seroconversion rates did not differ between infants vaccinated at nine months, 12 months, or 15 months of age (Schoub et al., 1990; Forleo-Neto et al., 1997; Klinge et al., 2000; Redd et al., 2004).

Table 2: Seroconversion following mumps vaccination

	Number	Seroconversion (%)				
Strain	of studies	Median	Range	References		
Jeryl Lynn, monovalent	6	95.9	74.2, 99.6	(Weibel et al., 1967; Hilleman et al., 1968; Sugg et al., 1968; Brunell et al., 1969; Vesikari et al., 1983b; Fedova et al., 1987)		
Jeryl Lynn, bivalent	3	90.0	83.5, 90.6	(Weibel et al., 1973; Vesikari et al., 1983a; Popow-Kraupp et al., 1986)		
Jeryl Lynn, trivalent	11	94	89, 97	(Borgono et al., 1973; Ehrenkranz et al., 1975; Schwarz et al., 1975; Lerman et al., 1981; Popow-Kraupp et al., 1986 Schwarzer et al., 1998; Usonis et al., 1998; Usonis et al., 1999; Klinge et al., 2000; Redd et al., 2004; Feiterna-Sperling et al., 2005)		
Jeryl Lynn, tetravalent	4	99.5	98, 100	(Watson et al., 1996; Shinefield et al., 2005; Kuter et al., 2006; Bernstein et al., 2007)		
RIT 4385, trivalent	8	96.4	88, 98.6	(Usonis et al., 1998; Gatchalian et al., 1999; Usonis et al. 1999; Crovari et al., 2000; Lee et al., 2002; Nolan et al., 2002; Stuck et al., 2002; Lim et al., 2007)		
Urabe Am 9, monovalent	3	94.8	82.6, 97	(Isomura et al., 1973; Ehrengut et al., 1983; Vesikari et al., 1983b)		
Urabe Am 9, bivalent	2	84.2	78.7, 96.9	(Vesikari et al., 1983a; Popow-Kraupp et al., 1986)		
Urabe Am 9, trivalent	5	99	96.9, 100	(Berger et al., 1988; Robertson et al., 1988; Dunlop et al. 1989; Schoub et al., 1990; Forleo-Neto et al., 1997)		
Rubini	5	93.3	23.3, 95	(Gluck et al., 1986; Just et al., 1986; Berger et al., 1988; Schwarzer et al., 1998; Khalil et al., 1999; Crovari et al., 2000)		
Leningrad-3	4	93.5	89, 98	(Smorodintsev et al., 1970)		
Leningrad- Zagreb	2	89.4	88.1, 90.7	(Beck et al., 1989)		
BBM-18	1	84.8		(Feiterna-Sperling et al., 2005)		
Sofia 6	2	93.4	92.6, 94.1	(Odisseev & Gacheva, 1994)		
Hoshino	2	98.4	96.8, 100	(Makino et al., 1990)		
S-12	1	93		(Sassani et al., 1991)		

3.2 Immune responses to revaccination

Studies have examined presence of antibodies prior to and following the second dose of mumps vaccine. In a prospective study, <1% of subjects were seronegative before a second dose of mumps vaccine and, following the second dose, IgM was detectable in only 2% of individuals, suggesting that most vaccine recipients had mounted a secondary immune response to revaccination (LeBaron et al., 2009). Although up to 30% of individuals were reported to be seronegative prior to revaccination in other studies, 75% to 97% seroconverted following the second dose of mumps vaccine. There was no assessment to determine if seronegativity was due to primary vaccine failure, or having antibody below the level of test detection (Broliden et al., 1998; Gothefors et al., 2001).

Among individuals with neutralizing antibodies prior to receipt of a second dose, an increase in antibody levels generally occurred following revaccination. More than 50% of those revaccinated had a four-fold increase in antibody titres (LeBaron et al., 2009). In addition, the proportion of individuals with low titres was significantly reduced.

3.3 Cell-mediated immunity following mumps vaccination

Following vaccination with live attenuated mumps vaccine, most, but not all children with anti-mumps antibody in their sera, demonstrated a lymphocyte proliferative response to mumps antigen (Ilonen, 1979; Ilonen et al., 1984). Unlike the humoral immune response to mumps, cellular responses were equivalent in all age groups and were independent of the presence of maternal antibody (Gans et al., 2001). In addition, associations of specific histocompatibility leukocyte antigen (HLA) haplotypes with higher or lower frequencies of mumps antigen reactive T lymphocytes, have been observed (Bruserud & Thorsby, 1985; Hyoty et al., 1986; Bruserud et al., 1987; Tan et al., 2001; Ovsyannikova et al., 2008), suggesting that host genetic factors may influence the immune response to mumps.

3.4 Duration of immunity to mumps vaccination

Data regarding long-term immunity against mumps after vaccination are limited. Studies indicate that one dose of MMR vaccine can provide persistent antibodies to mumps. Between 70% and 99% of individuals had detectable anti-mumps antibodies using enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) or neutralization tests approximately ten years after initial vaccination (Broliden et al., 1998; Gothefors et al., 2001; LeBaron et al., 2009) (Table 3). Differences in laboratory method may account for the wide variation in detection rates. In addition, among adults who were vaccinated in childhood, T-cell immunity to mumps was high (70%) and comparable to adults who acquired natural infection in childhood (80%) (Hanna-Wakim et al., 2008).

Table 3: Long-term persistence of mumps antibodies following vaccination with mumps Jeryl Lynn vaccine

Reference	Country	Years after vaccination	Number seropositive/ Number tested (%)	Serological method used			
1 dose	1 dose						
(LeBaron et al., 2009)	United States	10	304/308 (99)	Plaque-reduction neutralization			
(Gothefors et al., 2001)	Sweden	~10	230/299 (70)	ELISA			
(Broliden et al., 1998)	Sweden	~11	167/229 (73)	Neutralizing antibodies			
2 doses	,						
(LeBaron et al., 2009)	United States	7	17/189 (91)	Plaque-reduction neutralization			
(Date et al., 2008)	United States	≥11	134/146 (92)	Commercial EIA			
(LeBaron et al., 2009)	United States	12	146/154 (95)*	Plaque-reduction neutralization			
(Davidkin et al., 2008)	Finland	15	67/90 (74)	Commercial EIA			

^{*} All subjects were seropositive prior to receipt of second mumps vaccine.

In two-dose recipients, mumps antibodies were detectable in 95% and 74% of children 12 and 15 years after receipt of a second dose of MMR, respectively, but antibody levels declined with time (Table 3) (Davidkin et al., 2008; LeBaron et al., 2009). The geometric mean neutralizing antibody titre among persons vaccinated within five years was higher than those vaccinated 15 or more years ago, but increased time since receipt of second dose was not associated with having undetectable antibodies (Date et al., 2008). No clear advantage in terms of level of neutralizing antibody was seen in deferring the second dose MMR from kindergarten to middle-school students since, by age 17, both groups had similar levels of neutralizing anti-mumps antibody (LeBaron et al., 2009). However, loss of antibodies does not necessarily imply the loss of clinical protection. Mumps antigen-specific lymphoproliferative responses have been detected among vaccine recipients who have undetectable antibody levels (Jokinen et al., 2007; Vandermeulen et al., 2009). In a study among individuals with either seronegative (28%) or low antibody titres, 98% had a proliferative response to mumps antigen approximately 15 years after a second dose of mumps vaccine (Jokinen et al., 2007). Furthermore, a study in Belgium demonstrated that CMI responses were more persistent than antibody responses (Vandermeulen et al., 2009). The significance and function of mumps-specific CMI in protection against mumps disease has yet to be determined. Finally, the role of external boosting from exposure to wild mumps virus in maintaining immunity has not been studied.

3.5 Correlates of immunity

Humoral immunity is important in protection against mumps, and antibody measurements are often used as a surrogate measure of immunity to viral infections. However, there is poor correlation between assays that measure neutralization and less labour-intensive methods that measure the presence of mumps antibody (Pipkin et al., 1999). While no serological test available for mumps consistently and reliably predicts immunity, neutralizing antibodies appear to be a reasonable marker for immunity. Antibodies directed against haemagglutinin-neuraminidase protein (HN) have been shown to neutralize the infectivity of mumps virus, and animal models suggest that antibodies against F, the other mumps surface glycoprotein, may also be involved in neutralization (Orvell, 1978; Love et al., 1986; Houard et al., 1995). In several outbreaks among unvaccinated individuals, there have been correlations between neutralizing antibodies and susceptibility to mumps, where those with neutralizing antibody titres above 1:2 (Brunell et al., 1968) and 1:4 (Meyer et al., 1966; Ennis, 1969) were protected from mumps infection. In addition, the vaccinated children who developed mumps during pre-licensure studies had low (<1:2) or undetectable neutralizing antibodies after vaccination (Hilleman et al., 1968).

A seropositive response by ELISA may not necessarily represent protection, and decreased levels of anti-mumps IgG antibody, or lack of anti-mumps IgG antibody, does not necessarily translate to susceptibility. ELISAs can provide overestimates if all positive results are considered an indication of protection against disease, since both neutralizing and non-neutralizing antibodies give positive results (Christenson & Bottiger, 1990). In addition, false-negative results may be obtained because antibody levels to mumps following vaccination are frequently low, and may be missed. The level and specificity of antibody or neutralizing antibody necessary for protection is unclear, as is the role of cell-mediated immunity in facilitating or enhancing protection. It is worth noting that 41 out of 43 military personnel who developed mumps disease within three months to five years after joining the military

were positive for mumps IgG antibodies measured by ELISA at entry (Eick et al., 2008). Potential explanations for this include the possibility that total mumps IgG does not necessarily correlate with protection from mumps infection, or that immunity waned below protective levels during the time from blood screening to time of mumps infection. More studies are needed on correlates of immunity, including CMI markers, and whether presence of CMI enables a rapid enough initiation of immune response following exposure to prevent mumps.

4. Laboratory diagnosis of mumps

A clinical diagnosis of mumps is frequently made when parotitis is evident at the time of patient examination. However, since parotitis may be caused by other viral or non-viral diseases or conditions, laboratory confirmation using virological or serological techniques may be needed, especially as mumps disease becomes rare due to increased vaccination.

4.1 Virological methods

Mumps virus is stable for several days at 4°C. Stability increases with decreasing temperature and the virus can be stored indefinitely at -70°C. Specimen quality appears to greatly impact the ability to culture mumps virus and detect mumps RNA using reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) (Utz et al., 1958). Mumps virus and RNA can be detected from blood, saliva, cerebrospinal fluid and urine. However, the sensitivity of mumps RNA detection in urine is poor (Krause et al., 2006). Since mumps virus replication is transient, there is a limited timeframe for virus isolation which appears to be most successful immediately prior to, and within the first few days after, onset of parotitis (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2008). Mumps viral load and mumps RNA detection decreases over the first three days after onset of symptoms, and is lower in individuals who have been vaccinated or had prior history of disease (Okafuji et al., 2005; Bitsko et al., 2008; Rota et al., 2009). One study demonstrated highest isolation rates (64%) among unvaccinated cases, followed by vaccinated cases (41%) and cases with previous history of mumps (17%) (Yoshida et al., 2008). Detection of mumps RNA is generally more sensitive than culture-based methods (Poggio et al., 2000; Uchida et al., 2005).

4.2 Serological methods

Detection of mumps-specific IgM antibody in serum or saliva is a good diagnostic measure in unvaccinated patients. Timing of specimen collection is important to consider in interpreting laboratory results. Negative IgM ELISA results may occur when serum is collected prior to day four of clinical presentation (Cunningham et al., 2006; Krause et al., 2007). By contrast, patients who mount a secondary immune response, as occurs in the majority of vaccinated mumps cases, may not have an IgM response, or it may be transient and not detected depending on timing of specimen collection. Therefore, a high number of false-negative results may occur in previously-vaccinated individuals, and the absence of an anti-mumps IgM response in a vaccinated or previously infected individual presenting with clinically compatible mumps does not rule out mumps as a diagnosis. Failure to detect mumps IgM in previously-vaccinated individuals has been well documented (Ukkonen & Penttinen, 1981; Gut et al., 1985; Narita et al., 1998; Pebody et al., 2002; Krause et al., 2006; Rota et al., 2009).

The ability to detect IgM varies by vaccination status and is highest in unvaccinated cases (80% to 100%) (Sakata et al., 1985), intermediate in one-dose recipients (60% to 80%) (Briss et al., 1994; Narita et al., 1998) and lowest in two-dose recipients (13% to 14%) (Bitsko et al., 2008; Rota et al., 2009). IgM test methods and kits vary considerably in their sensitivity and specificity. The capture IgM ELISA is the most sensitive method, but has limited commercial availability.

When IgM is negative, a convalescent serum demonstrating seroconversion or a significant rise (four-fold) in IgG titre between the acute and convalescent serum sample can be used to confirm diagnosis of mumps. However, this rise in titre may not occur in vaccinated individuals. IgG avidity testing is an important tool that can be used to differentiate between primary and secondary vaccine failure (Narita et al., 1998; Sanz-Moreno et al., 2005; Park et al., 2007) and can assist in determining the role of waning immunity in current outbreaks. In the case of reinfection or mumps infection in previously vaccinated individuals, an elevated titre of high avidity mumps-specific IgG is observed (Gut et al., 1995) (Table 4).

Table 4: Immune response to mumps wild-type infection based on exposure history

Previous infection history	IgM	IgG	Avidity	Comments	References
Unvaccinated No history of mumps	+	+ or -	Low	IgM may be detected for weeks to months Low levels of low avidity IgG may be present at disease onset	(Meurman et al 1982; Sakata et al., 1985)
Previously vaccinated 1 dose	+ or -	Likely +	Low: primary vaccine failure High: secondary vaccine failure	Serum collected: 1–10 days: 50% lgM+ >10 days: 50%–80% lgM +	(Narita et al., 1998; Jin et al., 2004; Krause et al., 2007)
Previously vaccinated 2 doses	+ or -	Likely +	Low: primary vaccine failure High: secondary vaccine failure	Serum Collected: 1–3 days: 12%–14% lgM+	(Bitsko et al., 2008; Rota et al., 2009)
Wild-type mumps	+ or -	+	High	IgM infrequently detected	

4.3 Diagnostic challenges

Laboratory diagnosis of mumps in highly-vaccinated populations is challenging, and new laboratory tools and diagnostic approaches are needed to accurately identify cases and better understand the epidemiology of mumps in highly-vaccinated populations. During the 2006 mumps outbreak in the USA, the majority of patients who had received two doses of MMR and presented with symptoms that were clinically compatible with mumps could not be laboratory confirmed using the serological, virological, or molecular methods that have been so successful in confirming mumps in unvaccinated populations (Dayan et al., 2008). RT-PCR and cell culture are the best diagnostic tests currently available to detect mumps infection in previously vaccinated individuals (Bitsko et al., 2008; Rota et al., 2009).

5. Vaccine performance

5.1 Vaccine efficacy

Prelicensure studies conducted in over 7000 children enrolled in nursery or elementary schools found a single dose of mumps vaccines containing the Jeryl Lynn strain to be approximately 95% effective in preventing mumps disease (Hilleman et al., 1967; Weibel et al., 1967; Sugg et al., 1968). However, duration of follow-up was short (up to 20 months). In a smaller study, with 193 children exposed to persons with clinical mumps, the efficacy of the mumps vaccine containing the Leningrad-3 strain was 94% (95% CI: 76% to 98%) (Smorodintsev et al., 1965). Additional studies using vaccines containing Leningrad-3 strain found efficacy between 97% and 99% (Smorodintsev et al., 1970).

5.2 Vaccine effectiveness

5.2.1 Vaccine effectiveness of one dose

In postlicensure studies, vaccine effectiveness estimates for prevention of mumps disease have been lower (Table 5). In 18 studies from outbreaks (primarily school children) in North America and Europe, the median estimate for vaccine effectiveness of one dose of the Jeryl Lynn mumps vaccine was 79% (range: 62% to 91%) (Lewis et al., 1979; Kim-Farley et al., 1985; Sullivan et al., 1985; Chaiken et al., 1987; Wharton et al., 1988; Hersh et al., 1991; Cheek et al., 1995; Toscani et al., 1996; Chamot et al., 1998; Schlegel et al., 1999; Richard et al., 2003; Harling et al., 2005; Ong et al., 2005; Sartorius et al., 2005; Cohen et al., 2007; Schaffzin et al., 2007; Marin et al., 2008; Castilla et al., 2009). Similarly, the median vaccine effectiveness estimates for vaccines containing the Urabe Am 9 strain in five studies was 73% (range: 54% to 87%) (Toscani et al., 1996; Chamot et al., 1998; Goncalves et al., 1998; Schlegel et al., 1999; Ong et al., 2005). Although there are several studies that include populations that may have received mumps vaccines containing the RIT 4385 strain (Harling et al., 2005; Cohen et al., 2007), no studies have examined vaccine effectiveness exclusively for mumps vaccines containing the RIT 4385 strain. The vaccine effectiveness of vaccines containing the RIT 4385 strain is expected to be similar to the Jeryl Lynn strain because it was derived from that strain.

Table 5: Mumps vaccine effectiveness

Reference	Country	Population	Number in study	Vaccine effectiveness (%)			
Jeryl Lynn — one dose							
(Chamot et al., 1998)	Switzerland	Close contacts		62 (95% CI: 0, 85)			
(Harling et al., 2005)	England	Population	353	64 (95% CI: 40, 78)			
(Toscani et al., 1996)	Switzerland	School		65 (95% CI: 11, 86)			
(Sartorius et al., 2005)	Sweden	Population	Screening method	65			
(Castilla et al., 2009)	Spain	Population (children)	1057	66 (95% CI: 25, 85)			
(Richard et al., 2003)	Switzerland	Population (young children)	324	70 (95% CI: 50, 80)			
(Lewis et al., 1979)	Canada	School	495	75			
(Wharton et al., 1988)	United States	School	385	78 (95% CI: 65, 86)			
(Schlegel et al., 1999)	Switzerland	Population (children)	44	78 (95% CI: 64, 82)			
(Schaffzin et al., 2007)	United States	Camp attendees and staff	67	80 (95% CI: 42, 93)			
(Sullivan et al., 1985)	United States	School	434	81 (95% CI: 71, 88)			
(Ong et al., 2005)	Singapore	Child care centre and school	1325	81 (95% CI: 58, 91)			
(Cheek et al., 1995)	United States	School	307	82 (95% CI: 77, 86)			
(Marin et al., 2008)	United States	College population	235	82 (95% CI: 0, 98)			
(Hersh et al., 1991)	United States	School	1721	83 (95% CI: 57, 94)			
(Kim-Farley et al., 1985)	United States	School	66	85 (95% CI: 39, 94)			
(Cohen et al., 2007)*	England	Population	Screening method	88 (95% CI: 83, 91)			
(Chaiken et al., 1987)	United States	School	165	91 (95% CI: 77, 93)			
Jeryl Lynn — two doses							
(Marin et al., 2008)	United States	College population	2141	79 (95% CI: 0, 97)			
(Castilla et al., 2009)	Spain	Population (children)	425	83 (95% CI: 54, 94)			
(Harling et al., 2005)*	England	Population	153	88 (95% CI: 62, 96)			
(Marin et al., 2008)	United States	Close contacts	74	88 (95% CI: 63, 96)			
(Sartorius et al., 2005)	Sweden	Population	Screening method	91			
(Schaffzin et al., 2007)	United States	Camp population	461	92 (95% CI: 83, 96)			
(Cohen et al., 2007)*	England	Population	Screening method	95 (95% CI: 93, 96)			
Urabe Am 9							
(Ong et al., 2005)	Singapore	Childcare centre and school	804	54 (95% CI: -16, 82)			
(Goncalves et al., 1998)	Portugal	Population	242	70 (95% CI: 25, 88)			
(Chamot et al., 1998)	Switzerland	Close contacts		73 (95% CI: 42, 88)			
(Toscani et al., 1996)	Switzerland	School		76 (95% CI: 36, 91)			
(Schlegel et al., 1999)	Switzerland	Population	48	87 (95% CI: 76, 94)			
Rubini							
(Pons et al., 2000)	Spain	School	422	-340			
(Ong et al., 2005)	Singapore	Childcare centre and school	2308	-55 (95% CI: -122, -9)			
(Schlegel et al., 1999)	Switzerland	Population	87	-4 (95% CI: -218, 15)			
(Goncalves et al., 1998)	Portugal	Population	369	1 (95% CI: -108, 53)			
(Chamot et al., 1998)	Switzerland	Close contacts		6 (95% CI: -46, 40)			
(Toscani et al., 1996)	Switzerland	School		12 (95% CI: -102, 62)			
(Pons et al., 2000)	Spain	School	124	40 (95% CI: -66, 78)			

Reference	Country	Population	Number in study	Vaccine effectiveness (%)			
(Richard et al., 2003)	Switzerland	Population (young children)	213	30 (95% CI: -30, 60)			
(Paccaud et al., 1995)	Switzerland	School	156	50 (95% CI: -19, 81)			
Leningrad-Zagreb							
(Beck et al., 1989)	Yugoslavia	Pre-school		97-100			
Leningrad-3							
(Smorodintsev et al., 1965)		School	193	94 (95% CI: 76, 98)			
S ₇₉							
(Fu et al., 2008)	China	Population (8 month–12 years)	937	86 (95% CI: 77, 92)			
(Fu et al., 2009)	China	Population (8 month–12 years)	366	83 (95% CI: 68, 91)			
Sofia 6							
(Odisseev & Gacheva, 1994) Bulgaria		Contacts		98			

^{*} Some of the study population may have received mumps vaccine containing RIT 4385 strain.

With regard to the Rubini strain mumps vaccine, several studies in outbreak settings indicated that the vaccine had little or no effectiveness against disease (Table 5). The vaccine effectiveness estimates from Portugal, Singapore, Spain and Switzerland ranged from -55% to 50% (Paccaud et al., 1995; Toscani et al., 1996; Chamot et al., 1998; Goncalves et al., 1998; The Benevento and Compobasso Paediatricians Network for the Control of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases, 1998; Goh, 1999; Schlegel et al., 1999; Pons et al., 2000; Richard et al., 2003; Ong et al., 2005). Mumps vaccine containing the Rubini strain is no longer licensed or available. Limited studies with the Leningrad-Zagreb (Beck et al., 1989), Leningrad-3 (Smorodintsev et al., 1965), S₇₉ (Fu et al., 2008; Fu et al., 2009) and Sofia 6 (Odisseev & Gacheva, 1994) strains, estimate the vaccine to be between 77% and 100% effective (Table 5). Data on vaccine effectiveness of other strains are not available in English peer-review publications.

5.2.2 Vaccine effectiveness of two doses

Studies on vaccine effectiveness of two doses have only been conducted for vaccines containing the Jeryl Lynn strain. Seven estimates of vaccine effectiveness of two doses of Jeryl Lynn mumps vaccine are available from six studies with a median estimate of 88% (range: 79% to 95%) (Table 5) (Harling et al., 2005; Sartorius et al., 2005; Cohen et al., 2007; Schaffzin et al., 2007; Marin et al., 2008; Castilla et al., 2009). Although five of the six studies had higher vaccine effectiveness for two doses compared to one dose, only one study reached statistical significance, and this was probably due to the large sample size (Cohen et al., 2007). Despite relatively high two-dose vaccine effectiveness, high two-dose vaccine coverage may not be sufficient to prevent all outbreaks (Cortese et al., 2008; Dayan & Rubin, 2008).

A number of studies documented increased risk of developing mumps with increasing time after vaccination (Vandermeulen et al., 2004; Cortese et al., 2008; Castilla et al., 2009), and data from the United Kingdom indicates vaccine effectiveness may decrease with age, which probably also reflects increasing time from vaccination (Cohen et al., 2007).

Antigenic variation among mumps viruses has been cited as a possible explanation for vaccine failure or reinfection, and reduced cross-neutralization between strains of different genotypes has been observed (Nojd et al., 2001; Crowley & Afzal, 2002; Orvell et al., 2002; Rubin et al., 2006; Rubin et al., 2008). The significance of these differences is unclear. While antigenic differences could lead to decreases in vaccine effectiveness, mumps vaccine (genotype A virus) has been highly effective in preventing mumps during outbreaks due to genotype G in Europe and the USA (Cohen et al., 2007; Schaffzin et al., 2007). Mumps vaccines manufactured from different strains/genotypes have also been highly effective in controlling mumps throughout the world. Differences in neutralization capability between mumps virus strains may become significant when levels of neutralizing antibody are already low and force of infection is high. Additional studies are needed to establish a link between protection and a particular level of neutralizing anti-mumps antibodies, and to investigate the role of heterologous mumps strains in decreased vaccine efficacy.

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The World Health Organization has provided technical support to its Member States in the field of vaccine-preventable diseases since 1975. The office carrying out this function at WHO headquarters is the Department of Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals (IVB).

IVB's mission is the achievement of a world in which all people at risk are protected against vaccine-preventable diseases. The Department covers a range of activities including research and development, standard-setting, vaccine regulation and quality, vaccine supply and immunization financing, and immunization system strengthening.

These activities are carried out by three technical units: the Initiative for Vaccine Research; the Quality, Safety and Standards team; and the Expanded Programme on Immunization.

The Initiative for Vaccine Research guides, facilitates and provides a vision for worldwide vaccine and immunization technology research and development efforts. It focuses on current and emerging diseases of global public health importance, including pandemic influenza. Its main activities cover: i) research and development of key candidate vaccines; ii) implementation research to promote evidence-based decision-making on the early introduction of new vaccines; and iii) promotion of the development, evaluation and future availability of HIV, tuberculosis and malaria vaccines.

The Quality, Safety and Standards team focuses on supporting the use of vaccines, other biological products and immunization-related equipment that meet current international norms and standards of quality and safety. Activities cover: i) setting norms and standards and establishing reference preparation materials; ii) ensuring the use of quality vaccines and immunization equipment through prequalification activities and strengthening national regulatory authorities; and iii) monitoring, assessing and responding to immunization safety issues of global concern.

The Expanded Programme on Immunization focuses on maximizing access to high quality immunization services, accelerating disease control and linking to other health interventions that can be delivered during immunization contacts. Activities cover: i) immunization systems strengthening, including expansion of immunization services beyond the infant age group; ii) accelerated control of measles and maternal and neonatal tetanus; iii) introduction of new and underutilized vaccines; iv) vaccine supply and immunization financing; and v) disease surveillance and immunization coverage monitoring for tracking global progress.

The Director's Office directs the work of these units through oversight of immunization programme policy, planning, coordination and management. It also mobilizes resources and carries out communication, advocacy and media-related work.

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