

COUNTRY: New Zealand

COMMITTEE: World Health Organization (WHO)

AGENDA: Improving access to immunization and halting the spread of vaccine-Preventable diseases



New Zealand is a developed island country in the southwestern Pacific Ocean, with 5 Million population. It is an epitome in controlling the spread of COVID-19 in an effective way. The world was in the quest for production of vaccines in the period, 2019-2020. During this period New Zealand prevented the spread of COVID-19 by introducing COVID - 19 Public Health Response Act 2020, establishing National Health Coordination (NHCC) and well used mass media to spread awareness among people of New Zealand.

The Global Vaccine Plan (GVAP) endorsed by the 193 member states of the World Health Assembly in May 2012 is a framework to prevent Millions of death by 2020 through more equitable access to existing vaccines for people in all communities.

GVAP aims to eradicate communicable diseases by means of immunization. The world had lost many people and many people are affected financially as they lost their job. Mental health of many people was also significantly got affected. Suicide is responsible for more deaths than malaria, cancers, war or even homicide, according to the WHO.

The report on improving childhood immunization was commissioned by the ministry in May 2019. It was produced by Allen + Clarke, the report explores the factor leading to declining immunization rates and evidence base for interventions and policy setting to improve rates.

Global Routine Immunization Strategies and practices (GRISP) 2016 released by WHO contains two components namely nine transformative investments to achieving better immunization outcomes and a comprehensive framework of strategies and practice for routine immunization.

Achieving adequate immunization for herd immunity against all vaccine preventable diseases is a key health target. The Ministry of Health, District Health Board (DHB'S) and the

health sector are committed in reaching a goal of 95 percent of New Zealand's 8-month olds having completed their primary course of immunization on time.

International and anecdotal evidence shows growing influence of a vociferous anti-vaccination lobby and it will be important to determine if New Zealand's rates are impacted by this.

The National Immunization Register (NIR) was introduced in 2005 and is a national computerized record of the immunization details for all New Zealand children. It is hoped that this will ensure that even when children move or change health care providers that their record can be accessed and checked by their new provider. The statistics available from the NIR is also valuable for planning initiatives targeting particularly vulnerable group of population with low rates of coverage. There are a considerable number of web-based information sources on immunization and readily available leaflets to use in general practices (GP's) or other such public spaces like library.

Immunization services do not address the social determinants of health. However, immunization programmes often consider these factors and adapt vaccine service delivery to meet the needs of all population to increase uptake. If not seen and designed through an equity lens, immunization programme activities can inadvertently increase inequity.

*“Inequities are not resolved by providing the same immunization services to all; they are resolved by providing different immunization services that satisfy the needs of all” (Boyce et al 2019)*

The main mission of New Zealand is to stop the spread of COVID-19 and return to pre COVID era. The Prime Minister of New Zealand, Jacinda Ardern, have got appreciation from people around the globe for effectively handling COVID- 19.

According to WHO official data, small pox is the disease eradicated from the world by vaccination. Like this, COVID-19 has to be eradicated from the world. This is possible only by uniting against COVID-19 and making vaccines available to all people around the globe.

DELEGATE:

S.ASWINI,

ADARSH VIDYA KENDRA.