

মন্ত্রণালয়



Impact of COVID-19 on Routine and Campaign Immunization in Bangladesh

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Immunization History of Bangladesh

- **Immunization programme in Bangladesh was launched on 07 April 1979 with 6 vaccines against 6 infectious and vaccine preventable disease**
- **HepB vaccine introduced in 2003**
- **AD syringes introduced in 2004**
- **Pentavalent vaccine introduced in 2009**
- **MR vaccine and measles vaccine second dose introduced in 2012**
- **PCV introduced in 2015**
- **At present, 6 vaccines are given against 10 infectious disease**

Immunization Schedule of Bangladesh

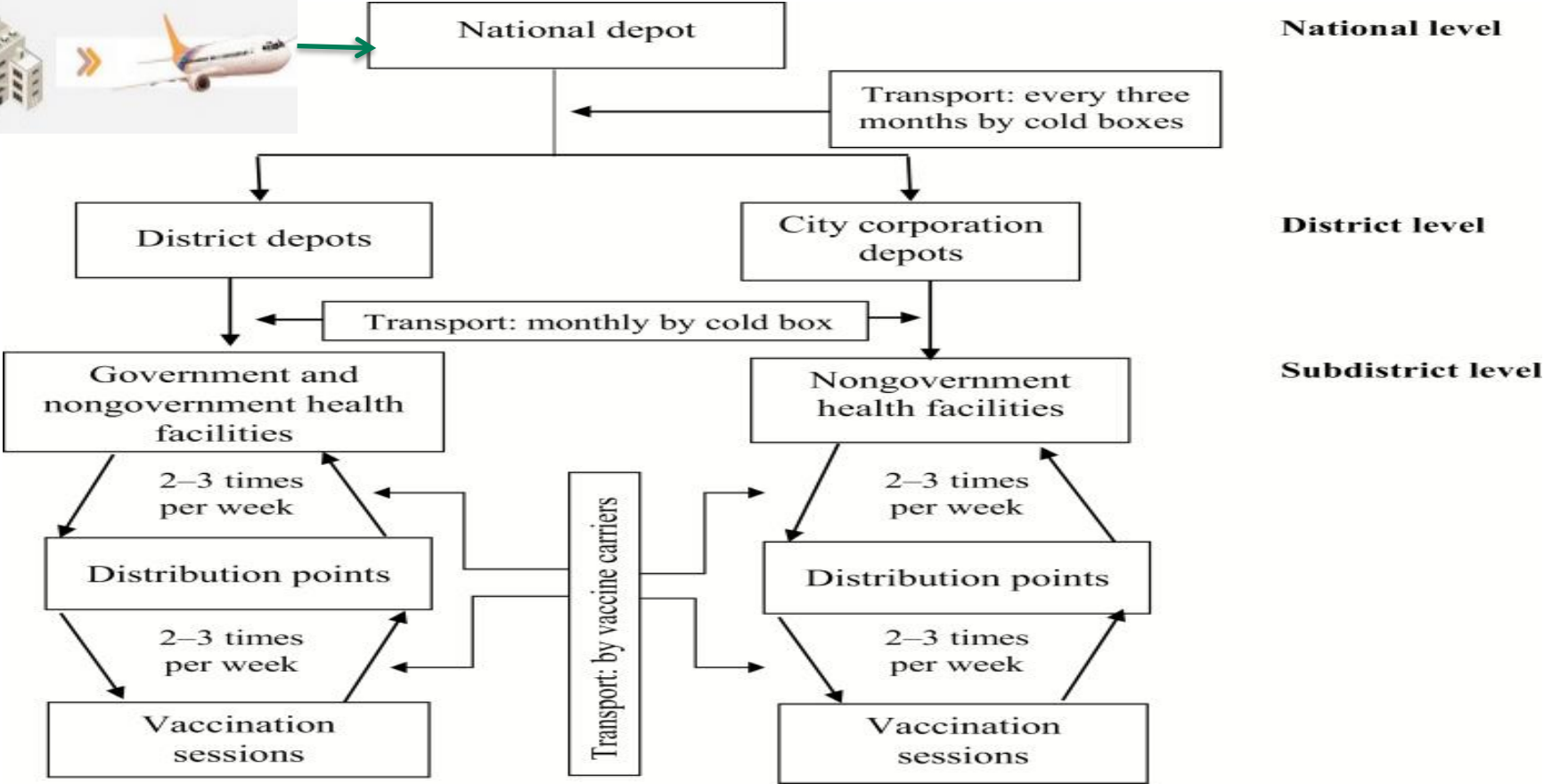
Disease	Vaccine	Dosage	Number of dose	interval	Age of Administration
Child Tuberculosis	BCG	0.05 ml	1		At birth
Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, HepB, HiB	Pentavalent	0.5 ml	3	4 weeks	6 weeks 10 weeks 14 weeks
Pneumococcal Pneumonia	PCV	0.5 ml	3	4 weeks	6 weeks 10 weeks 14 weeks

Immunization Schedule of Bangladesh

Disease	Vaccine	Dose	Number of dose	interval	Age of Administration
Poliomyelitis	OPV	2 drops	3	4 weeks	6 weeks 10 weeks 14 weeks
	IPV	0.1 ml	2	4 / 8 weeks	6 weeks 14 weeks
Measles and Rubella	MR1	0.5 ml	1		9 month
	MR 2	0.5 ml	1		15 month

BCG: Bacillus Calmette Guerin, OPV: Oral Polio Vaccine, PCV: Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine, IPV: Injectable Polio Vaccine, Pentavalent : diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis, haemophilus influenza type b, hepatitis B, NR: Measles and Rubella

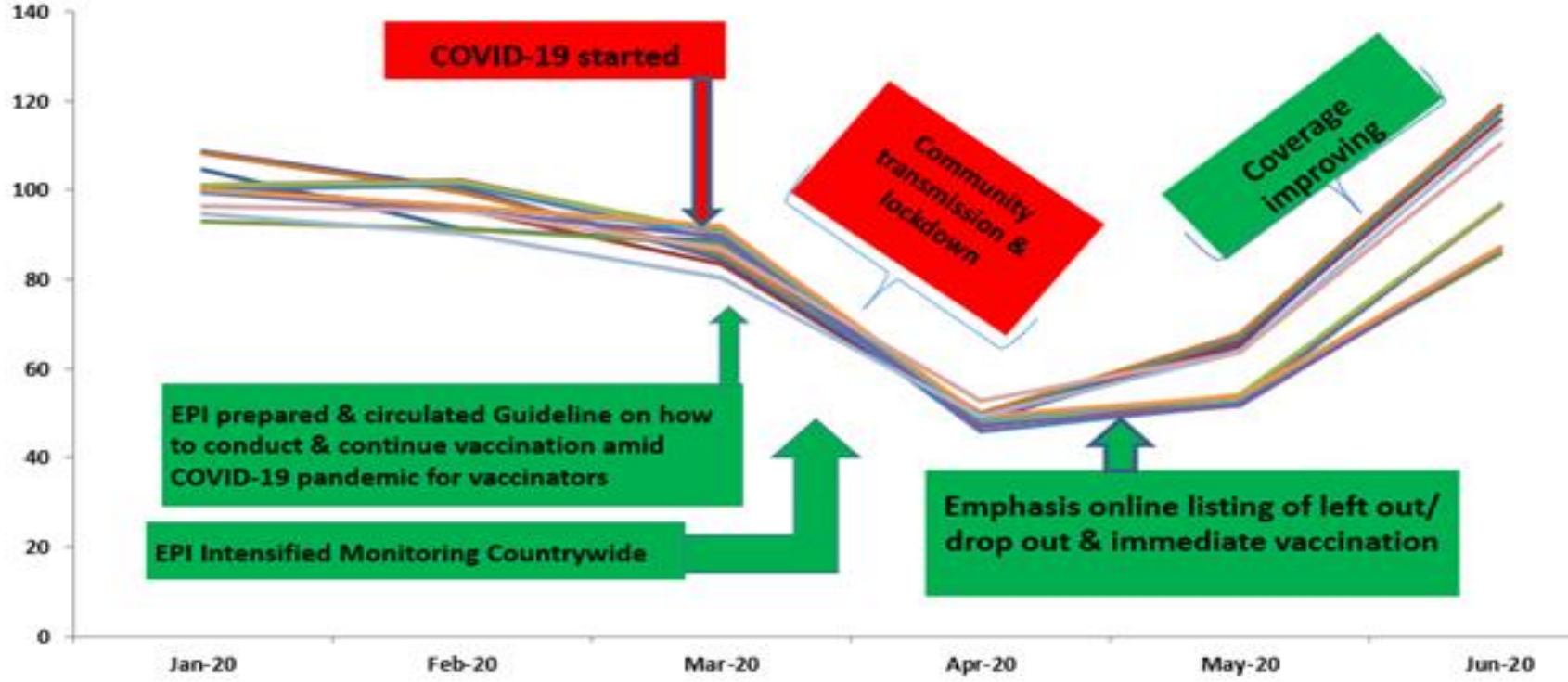
Vaccine cold chain and Logistics of Bangladesh



COVID-19 Vaccination Timeline

Date	Description
March 8, 2020	: First COVID-19 Case was detected in Bangladesh
December 13, 2020	: Signed Purchase Contract with SII
January 27, 2021	: Inauguration of Vaccination programme with Covishield
February 07, 2021	: Nation-wide vaccination roll-out started
April 25, 2021	: Suspension of Vaccination Programme
June 19, 2021	: Resumption of Vaccination programme with Sinopharm
July 13, 2021	: Resumption of Mass vaccination programme

Impact of COVID-19 on Routine and Campaign Immunization



Impact on Immunization programme

A. Impact on Routine EPI program:

Around 7% fixed and 28% outreach sessions were not conducted in 2020
Approx. 23% Routine EPI sessions were not conducted due to lockdown
Measles-Rubella Campaign was postponed in 2020

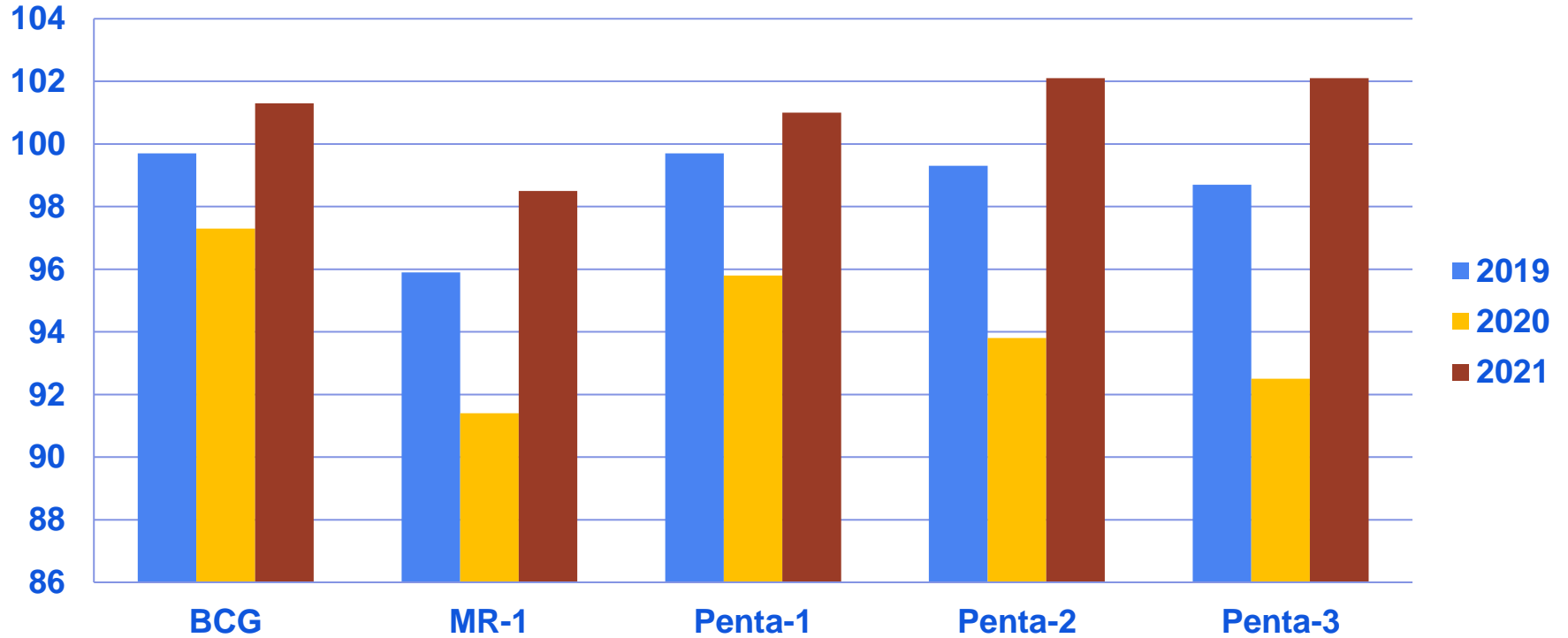
B. Impact on Routine immunization coverage:

In April 2020 Less than 50 % vaccination coverage in 36 out of 64 districts
In May 2020 Less than 50 % vaccination coverage in 26 out of 64 districts

C. Impact on general issues:

All surveillance performance indicators was below standard
In-person monitoring, on ground supervision was cancelled
Reduction in Demand for vaccine
Significant number of Health Workers were infected, quarantined and isolated
that reduced potential workforce

Impact on Immunization Coverage (%)



Causes of disruption in immunization programme

- Countrywide lockdown and shutdown
- Health workers got infected by COVID-19
- Fear of getting infected among community people
- House owners refused to organize Outreach sessions in their household premises
- Engagement of health workers in the COVID-19 pandemic response activities, such as sample collection, home service etc.

Actions Taken to mitigate the disruption

- **Developed and implemented Immunization Guidelines for Sustainable Vaccination Sessions in the context of COVID-19 which recommended line listing of missing children and strengthening immunization monitoring tools such as dashboard, vaccine alerts. Missing Children were vaccinated in the next vaccine session.**
- **Catch up campaign was implemented**
- **Uninterrupted supply of vaccine was ensured making stock availability for at least three months.**
- **Training on infection prevention and control (IPC) for nearly 26,500 health workers**
- **Civil Society platform was used for incensement of Routine EPI programme**
- **Developed and circulated SBCC materials**

Challenges to Immunization Programme

- **Disruption in Supply Chain**
- **Vaccinator**
- **Storage and cold chain**
- **Identification of missing children**
- **Keeping Vaccine sites open**

Thank You