Teaching Vaccine Economics Everywhere

Immunization Financing, Financing, Resource Tracking & Affordability

Course Description
Immunization services are a cornerstone of primary health care that continues to grow as new vaccines are developed against persistent and emerging diseases. Despite their established benefits and cost-effectiveness, immunization requires considerable resources logistically and financially. Thus, governments must plan carefully to ensure adequate and sustainable financing for these programs. Strong immunization program performance depends on adequate financing of immunization specific activities at the national, regional and local level, including vaccine procurement and supply chains. This module provides information on the fundamentals of immunization financing, their sources, financing data systems, and using the analysis for policy change. We will learn how to identify relevant sources of financing, track resources in the system, analyze financing data and planning for long-term sustainability.

Learning Objectives
By the end of this module, participants should be able to:

1. Explain why immunization financing matters
2. Describe the cost components of immunization programs
3. Decide appropriately what vaccines and services get financed and how.
4. Describe sources of financing
5. Integrate immunization financing with universal healthcare coverage (uhc) financing
6. Track resources used in immunization
7. Calculate fiscal space and budget
8. Building support for immunization financing

Overall course expectations

- Complete pre-readings (Text Book and Papers) and prepare for class
- Complete all course assignments and milestones on-time
- Actively participate in class discussions

Required Reading:
Results for Development (R4D). Immunization financing: a resource guide for advocates, policymakers, and program managers. Washington D.C.: R4D; 2017

Lecture Topics and Assigned Readings

Part I – Immunization fundamentals

Learning objectives:
1. Why immunization financing matters
2. Link between Universal Health Coverage and immunization financing
3. What are the cost components of immunization programs
4. Vaccine finance decision-making

Exercises: Case-study – EPI in Pakistan
Readings:

- World Health Organization. Developing together the vision and strategy for immunization - 2021-2030: Immunization Agenda 2030 - A Global Strategy To Leave No One Behind. Draft One for Co-creation by 5 August 2019. Immunizationagenda2030@who.int
- EPIC [Internet]. EPIC immunization costing studies. Available from: www.immunizationcosting.org
- NITAG Resource Center [Internet]. NRC: About. Available from: http://www.nitag-resource.org/about

Part 2 – Sources of Financing

Learning objectives:

- Essentials of health financing
  - Assess financial flows in the health system & framework
- Sources of financing
  - Domestic Public Funding
  - Household Out-of-Pocket
  - Donor financing
Exercises:
1. Donor Architecture for EPI Financing
2. Donor Mapping for India
3. Donor Mapping for Uganda
4. Supply-side Interventions

Readings:

Supplementary Reading
Domestic/Public Financing Sources
• Brenzel L. What have we learned on costs and financing of routine immunization from the comprehensive multi-year plans in GAVI eligible countries? Vaccine. 2015 May 7;33:A93-8.

Earmarking & Trust Funds
• Joint Learning Network [Internet]. Earmarking for health. WHO and R4D working paper. Available from: http://www.jointlearningnetwork.org/earmarking
• Sabin Vaccine Institute [Internet]. Trust funds. Available from: http://www.sabin.org/search/content/Trust%20funds

Donor Financing Sources
• See the Gavi website for information on Gavi support (http://www.gavi.org/support/) and on Gavi policies. http://www.gavi.org/about/governance/programme-policies/

Part 3 – Understanding Financial Data Systems & Locating Relevant Sources of Financing

Learning objectives:
• How to Integrate Immunization Financing with Universal Healthcare Coverage (UHC) Financing
  ➢ UHC principals
• What is in it
• How to achieve it
  ➢ How to work with insurance and state mandates to do better planning and not duplicate
  • Tuning into your country's task force
  • Integrating vaccines with UHC and better planning
• Resource tracking
  ➢ Methods, application and challenges at the country level

Exercises:
1. Resource Tracking
2. System of Health Accounts

Readings:
• Ghebreyesus, T. A. All roads lead to universal health coverage. The Lancet Global Health, 5(9), e839-e840; 2017. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(17)30295-4
• Loganathan, T., Jit, M., Hutubessy, R., Ng, C. W., Lee, W. S., & Verguet, S. Rotavirus vaccines contribute towards universal health coverage in a mixed public–private healthcare system. Tropical medicine & international health, 21(11), 1458-1467; 2016.

Part 4 – Using Financial Analysis for Policy Change

Learning objectives:
• Strategies for policy change
  ➢ How to be a good policy change advocate, looking for funds and drive off the competition
  ➢ Building parliamentary support for immunization financing
  ➢ Immunization financing legislature and regulation
• Immunization planning and budget cycle
  ➢ Fiscal space & budgeting
  ➢ Fiscal gap calculation

Exercises:
1. Fiscal Space Analysis

Readings: