Cost and efficiency of the Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) immunisation program – March 2020

Facts:
- Launched in 1985, India’s immunisation programme is one of the largest health programs of its kind in the world, catering to a birth cohort of 26 million children annually.
- Despite being operational for over 30 years, only 62% of children in India receive complete immunisation during their first year of life. India has the largest number of children not immunised in the world.

Background:
- The Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) program was a strategic endeavour launched by the Indian government’s Ministry of Health & Family Welfare in October 2017 to achieve 90% full immunisation coverage by 2018 in districts and urban areas with persistently low levels of coverage.
- Special initiatives such as IMI require additional resources, however there is currently no information on the incremental cost of conducting the program.

Aims:
- To estimate the additional resources required to implement IMI, as well as the cost-effectiveness of the program.
- To evaluate the economic (opportunity) cost of IMI, which includes the monetary value of all incremental resources consumed in its delivery.
- To examine the efficiency and sustainability of the program.

Methods:
- This retrospective study collected data from five states (Assam, Bihar, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh) with a high concentration of IMI activity.
- Data was collected from financial and administrative records at the sub-centre, block and district levels. Total sample includes 40 districts, including six urban districts, 90 blocks and 289 sub-centres of five states.

Impact:
- The study will inform the actual resource requirements of a special initiative like IMI, which can be used for budgeting similar programs in the future.
- The efficiency and sustainability analysis of the program can inform policy makers for future planning.

Contact:
To find out more about this study, its principal investigators Dr Susmita Chatterjee or The George Institute for Global Health, please contact Kannan Krishnaswamy +91 11 4158 8091 or email kkrishnaswamy@georgeinstitute.org.in

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Project cycle:
2018-2020

Partners:
The George Institute for Global Health Harvard T Chan School of Public Health

Supporters:
The George Institute for Global Health Harvard T Chan School of Public Health

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