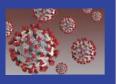


Medicines Technologies and Pharmaceutical Services Country Progress Report 2021

Bangladesh

April



COVID-19 2021 CN210

Contact for any Questions and Clarifications: mtaps-hqcovid19@mtapsprogram.org

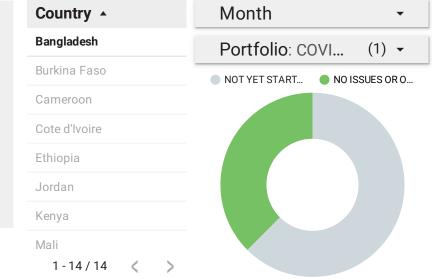
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Technical Area •

Pharmacovigilance: Vaccine safety monitoring

Policy, coordination, and planning

Procurement and supply chain management

Duo avono en Antivitios		
Progress on Activities		
Action Area* (Technical area)	Activity Description	April
Pharmacovigilance: Vaccine safety monitoring	Strengthen spontaneous surveillance system and AEFI reporting	In April, MTaPS facilitated a meeting of the national expert review committee to discuss the current sitation in the country, and reported AEFIs from the COVID-19 vaccine. Thirteen (13) serious AEFIs have been registered to date, including eight deaths. The committee has reviewed the cases and made the following determinations: coincidental (6), vaccine product-related reaction (2), post-vaccination anxiety (2), inconclusive (1), one report was sent back for further assessment of causality (1). The committee also decided to investigate a second death case in a vaccination center, and recommended tests and diagnostic examinations (e.g., chest x-ray, RBS, CBC, CT scan, RT PCR for COVID-19, ECHO, ECG, etc.) for serious AEFIs. The committee also recommended to create/increase public awareness that vaccination should be not be given to active COVID-19 cases (symptoms or a positive test) and vaccinations should be postponed for at least one month following infection.
IPC	• Support/develop IPC guides/SOP/job aids for health facilities, immunization service delivery points, and other facilities	MTaPS visited two COVID-19 vaccination sites and used the National COVID-19 vaccination supervision checklists to assess site readness in preparation for the adaptation of the related IPC training module. We found that sites were not compliant with a number of IPC requirements, including hand hygiene, sitting arrangements to maintain a "safe distance", glove changing and disposal. We also noted violations of the aseptic non-touch technique for vaccine administration. The findings will be used for adapting the tool and IPC training materials.
IPC	 Provide training on IPC for Covid-19 for HCW and other staff 	This activity has not yet started.
Procurement and supply chain management	Strengthen human capacity	This activity has not yet started.
Procurement and supply chain management	 Support development of national and regional PSM and distribution plans for Covid-19 commodities and vaccines 	This activity has not yet started.
Policy, coordination, and planning	 Support coordination mechanisms, working groups, stakeholders 	This activity has not yet started.
Pharmacovigilance: Vaccine safety monitoring	 Establish/strengthen electronic reporting and data management for PV 	MTaPS is providing technical assistance (TA) to the Pharmacovigilance & COVID-19 Safety Surveillance cell. The TA includes regular communication and coordination with the relevant stakeholders,

(AEFI) reporting system, compilation of AEFI reports and investigation and causality assessment documents, line listing of serious AEFIs, development of case summaries, etc.

Pharmacovigilance: Vaccine safety monitoring

 Support development/adaptation of policy, frameworks, guiding documents, briefs, SOPs, strategies, tools, or systems MTaPS subject matter experts have reviewed the draft active surveillance protocol for adverse events of COVID-19 immunization in Bangladesh developed by the Institute of Epidemiology Disease Control And Research (IEDCR) and the DGHS (MOH) providing recommendations for improvement, including adverse event definitions, signals, reporting forms and data manageent procedures. The team is in discussion with government counterparts regarding arrangements for a virtual workshop on the active safety surveillance protocol to be held in May. The workshop participants will include relevant pharmacovigilance and public health experts.