

Immunity for a Lifetime: Unravelling the long-term impact of neonatal immunization

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International Journal of Science and Research Archive, 2025, 14(02), 1280-1289

Publication history: Received on 28 December 2024; revised on 13 February 2025; accepted on 16 February 2025

Article DOI: <https://doi.org/10.30574/ijrsra.2025.14.2.0385>

Abstract

Because immunization offers early protection against infectious diseases that can be fatal, neonatal vaccination is essential for preserving long-term health. Vaccines given during the first few months of infancy stimulate the developing immune system, which aids in the formation of immunological memory and lifetime immunity. Beyond the advantages for the individual, newborn vaccinations have a major impact on population health through herd immunity, which lowers the spread of disease and supports efforts to eradicate it. Neonatal vaccination's long-term effects, however, also take into account antibody persistence, the requirement for booster shots, and possible links to autoimmune diseases or compromised immune responses. The long-term impacts of neonatal vaccination are examined in this review, with particular attention paid to the advantages, disadvantages, and implications for future studies and public health regulations.

Keywords: Immunity; Neonatal Immunity; Life Long Immunity; Vaccine Efficacy; Booster Doses; Autoimmune Disorders; Global Immunization Strategies

1. Introduction

1.1. Immunity

According to WHO, the body's ability to defend itself against infections, illnesses, and dangerous conditions is known as immunity. It involves a complex network of cells, tissues, and organs that work together to identify and neutralize pathogens, such as bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites.

1.2. Neonatal Immunization

According to WHO, A important public health measure to protect newborns from infectious diseases in their vulnerable early months is neonatal immunization. By stimulating the immune system to identify and fight germs, vaccines reduce the risk of developing serious illnesses. ⁽¹⁾

1.3. Statistical Data

According to the WHO By the end of 2023, Coverage for key vaccines included 77% for Hib, 83% for Hepatitis B (with 45% for the birth dose), 27% for HPV, 29% for MenAfriVac in Africa's meningitis belt, 83% for measles (first dose), and 65% for pneumococcal vaccines. Polio vaccination reached 83% globally, while rotavirus and rubella vaccines had 55% and 71% coverage, respectively. Despite advancements, regional disparities remain, with lower coverage in regions like WHO Western Pacific and WHO South-East Asia. Diseases like maternal and neonatal tetanus persist as public health challenges in 10 countries, highlighting the need for targeted immunization efforts. ⁽²⁾

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1.4. Purpose Of Neonatal Immunization

Neonates have to adjust to the transition from the protected intrauterine environment to the microbe-infested outside world during the early postnatal period. There, they will come into contact with a variety of antigens and microbes that will colonize them. Neonatal immune responses are regarded as underdeveloped at this delicate time and differ significantly from adult immunological responses. Deficits in the function and quantity of phagocytes and antigen-presenting cells are frequently reported, and they are relevant to innate immunity. Epigenetic immune cell reprogramming and the activation of effector and regulatory mechanisms that guarantee age-dependent immune system maturation and tissue damage prevention are linked to exposure to environmental antigens and microbial colonization. Furthermore, a crucial defense mechanism against pathogenic pathogens is the newborn's innate immunological memory. However, in neonates, serious immunopathological diseases like sepsis and neurodevelopmental problems are frequently linked to both inexperience with antigenic exposure and an increase in tissue-protective immunosuppressive systems. (3)

1.5. Health and Economic Outcomes of Vaccination

Immunization campaigns around the world have significantly reduced the occurrence of numerous serious illnesses. Vaccines save 750,000 children from impairment and save up to three million lives annually. When it comes to the impact of vaccines on our society, the success stories of smallpox eradication, the removal of wild poliovirus from the western and most of the eastern hemispheres, the elimination of *Hemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) in the United States, Canada, and other countries within a few years of the introduction of conjugate Hib vaccines, and the control of measles in North America are just a few examples. In addition to preventing a great deal of suffering globally, vaccinations are also more affordable for healthcare providers than the majority of routinely paid-for treatments. The eradication of smallpox alone has resulted in global savings of over US\$ 2 billion each year. (4)

1.6. Determinants of Vaccine Hesitancy

Globally, vaccines have significantly reduced the morbidity and mortality rates of numerous infectious illnesses. Despite this success, more and more parents are exhibiting hesitancy toward vaccinations, postponing or even refusing to provide them to their kids. This affects not just people but also society as a whole through epidemics of diseases like hepatitis A, chicken pox, and measles. The main vaccine-specific factors of vaccine hesitancy (VH) were found to be safety concerns, scepticism about the necessity of vaccines against rare diseases, and mistrust of new vaccines. A study was done to determine the determinants of Vaccine hesitancy as well as vaccine confidence and link them to the opportunities and challenges associated with vaccination in India. Hesitant parents frequently reported poor access to immunization facilities and a lack of information. Last but not least, Vaccine hesitancy in India has been characterized by socioeconomic status, educational attainment, and cultural peculiarities. The impression of the risks and advantages of vaccination has been significantly altered by the controversies and rumors surrounding some vaccines (such as the human papillomavirus). Opportunities to boost confidence are noted, along with the difficulties presented by customs and cultural behaviours, regional differences, sociodemographic inequalities, the healthcare system, and vaccine-specific characteristics. (5)

1.7. Future Prospectives

Neonatal immunization is widely practiced but has significant need for improvement. Collaboration with governments, funders, and the public is crucial to maximize its impact. Efforts should focus on understanding vaccine mechanisms, optimizing timing within the first 28 days, and addressing vaccine interactions. Integrating maternal and neonatal immunization strategies and leveraging tools like systems biology and in vitro models can help study immune development. These approaches will aid in developing vaccines for diseases like RSV, TB, and HIV, where current options are insufficient or unavailable. (6)

Table 1 National Immunization Chart

Age	Vaccine	Route	Purpose	Potential Side Effects
At Birth	Bacillus Calmette Guerin (BCG)	Injection (Upper Arm)	Protection against tuberculosis	Soreness, discharge, fever, headache, swollen glands
	Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV-0)	Oral	Protection against poliovirus (causes paralysis, mainly in children <5 years)	None

	Hepatitis B	Injection	Protection against Hepatitis B (liver infection)	Redness, soreness (rare)
6 Weeks	Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV-1)	Oral	Protection against poliovirus	None
	Pentavalent-1	Injection	Protection against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, hepatitis B, and Hib	Swelling, redness, pain, fever (1–3 days)
	Rotavirus Vaccine (RVV-1)	Oral	Protection against rotavirus (diarrheal disease in infants)	Rare, mild (diarrhea, vomiting, irritation)
	Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV-1)	Injection	Protection against pneumonia, meningitis, septicaemia	Redness, swelling, pain, fever, irritability, loss of appetite, headache, chills
	Inactivated Polio Vaccine (fIPV-1)	Injection	Protection against poliovirus	Soreness, fever
10 Weeks	Pentavalent-2	Injection	Protection against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, hepatitis B, and Hib	Swelling, redness, pain, fever (1–3 days)
	Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV-2)	Oral	Protection against poliovirus	None
	Rotavirus Vaccine (RVV-2)	Oral	Protection against rotavirus	Rare, mild (diarrhea, vomiting, irritation)
14 Weeks	Pentavalent-3	Injection	Protection against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, hepatitis B, and Hib	Swelling, redness, pain, fever (1–3 days)
	Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV-3)	Oral	Protection against poliovirus	None
	Rotavirus Vaccine (RVV-3)	Oral	Protection against rotavirus	Rare, mild (diarrhoea, vomiting, irritation)
	Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV-2)	Injection	Protection against pneumonia, meningitis, septicaemia	Redness, swelling, pain, fever, irritability, loss of appetite, headache, chills
	Inactivated Polio Vaccine (fIPV-2)	Injection	Protection against poliovirus	Soreness, fever
9-12 Months	Measles & Rubella (MR-1)	Injection	Protection against measles and rubella	Redness, swelling, fever, irritability, mild illness
	Japanese Encephalitis (JE-1)**	Injection	Protection against Japanese Encephalitis	Fever, headache, muscle aches, pain or swelling
	Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine - Booster	Injection	Protection against pneumonia, meningitis, bacteraemia	Redness, swelling, irritability, loss of appetite, fever
16-24 Months	Measles & Rubella (MR-2)	Injection	Protection against measles and rubella	Redness, swelling, fever, irritability, mild illness
	Japanese Encephalitis (JE-2) **	Injection	Protection against Japanese Encephalitis	Fever, headache, muscle aches, pain or swelling
	Diphtheria Pertussis & Tetanus (DPT-Booster 1)	Injection	Protection against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus	Soreness, swelling, fever, irritability, vomiting

	Oral Polio Vaccine – Booster	Oral	Protection against poliovirus	None
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Table 2 List of Vaccine Preventable Diseases

Disease	Description	Vaccine	Dosage Schedule
Polio	Debilitating viral disease-causing paralysis, spread through person-to-person contact.	IPV	4 doses: 1-2 months, 4 months, 6-18 months, and 4-6 years.
Tetanus	Causes severe muscle rigidity and lockjaw; can be lethal.	DTaP	5 doses: 1-2 months, 4 months, 6 months, 15-18 months, and 4-6 years.
Hepatitis B	Viral infection spread through blood and body fluids; high risk of chronic infection if transmitted from mother to child.	Hepatitis B	3 doses: soon after birth, 1-2 months, and 6 months.
Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b)	Affects children under 5 years old; can cause brain damage, hearing loss, or death.	Hib	4 doses: 1-2 months, 4 months, 6 months, and 12-15 months.
Pertussis (Whooping Cough)	Highly contagious illness causing severe coughing; can lead to breathing pauses in infants.	DTaP	5 doses: 1-2 months, 4 months, 6 months, 15-18 months, and 4-6 years.
Pneumococcal Disease	Causes ear infections, sinus infections, pneumonia, meningitis; bacterium can infect normally germ-free areas.	PCV13	4 doses: 1-2 months, 4 months, 6 months, and 12-15 months

Table 3 Summary of Reported Functional Characteristics of Cells of Neonatal Immune Systems

Cell Type	Characteristics	Species	Age	Tissue
Dendritic cells	Neonatal DC are ineffective in mediating T cell responses to allogeneic or mitogenic stimuli	Human	Birth	Umbilical cord blood
Dendritic cells	Decreased IFN response to CpG by plasmacytoid DC	Human	Birth	Umbilical cord blood
Stromal cells	Failure to support persistence of plasma blasts	Mice	2 weeks	Bone marrow
FDC precursor cells	Lack of FDC network	Mice	2 weeks	Spleen, lymph node
Peripheral blood mononuclear cells	Limited IFN responses to mitogenic stimulation, compared to adults	Foals	0–4 weeks	Peripheral blood
T cells	Bias to Th2 type responses	Mice	1 week	Serum antibody response
T cells	Th2 type bias in spleen, but balanced Th1/Th2 in lymph node	Mice	Neonatal	Spleen, lymph node
T cells	Export of mature T cells to lymph nodes begins at birth, with a high proportion of CD3 cells	Mice	Birth	lymph node
T cells	Neonatal T cells activated by anti-CD3 antibodies were less effective than adult T cells in inducing Ig secretion by B cells	Human	Birth	Umbilical cord blood

T cells	Neonatal T cells are activated by anti-CD3 antibodies, but unlike adult T cells, are not activated by phorbol myristate or ionomycin, to express CD40-L	Human	Birth	Umbilical cord blood
T cells	Lower proportion of mononuclear cells are CD3 + ve and density of CD3 on T cells is lower	Human	Birth	Umbilical cord blood
B cells	Neonatal B cells secrete Ig less effectively than adult B cells when stimulated by adult T cell factors	Human	Birth	Umbilical cord blood
B cells	14% of B cells are CD35/21 (CR1/2) +ve 89% of B cells are CD32 +ve	Mice	7 days	Spleen
B cells	90% of B cells are CD21 (CR2) +ve 80% of B cells are CD32 +ve	Calves	2–5 days	Spleen
B cells	76% of B cells are CD21 +ve	Human	Birth	Umbilical cord blood
B cells	Higher intensity of expression of IgM on neonatal B cells than adult Lower intensity of expression of CD32 on neonatal B cells than adult	Human	Birth	Umbilical cord blood

2. Literature

Anne Keutler et al.(2024) is aimed to study about the in paediatric liver transplantation, live-attenuated vaccination against rubella, mumps, and measles Among immunocompromised transplant recipients, infectious illnesses are a recognised source of morbidity and death in paediatric transplant recipients. Vaccines can help avoid certain of these infections. The vaccine coverage of paediatric solid organ transplant (SOT) recipients is still inadequate, despite the best efforts. Measles infections in SOT recipients have been reported in the literature; the majority of these individuals were either unvaccinated or only partially vaccinated.⁵ Measles infections in paediatric SOT recipients are uncommon, but they nonetheless carry a substantial risk of death and morbidity. For instance, in one case series, five children who had not received a liver transplant were found to have contracted measles, which resulted in pneumonia, respiratory failure, acute respiratory distress syndrome, pneumothorax, and in one instance, death. Therefore, when SOT patients have symptoms that are clinically compatible, a high level of suspicion is justified. ⁽¹⁰⁾

Maarten M. Immink et al.(2024) is aimed to study about the Immunoglobulin G levels with maternal pertussis vaccination in preterm and early-to-late-term infants In 2021, 81% of infants globally (105 million) received three doses of the diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis vaccination, which protects them against vaccine-preventable diseases that can result in severe, even deadly, sickness and disability, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO).Pertussis is still common in many nations even with high vaccination rates. Severe problems are most likely to occur in newborns and infants who are too young to receive all recommended vaccinations. Since December 2019, all pregnant women in the Netherlands have been provided the opportunity to receive a tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine starting at 20 weeks of gestation. This is done to protect newborns and babies during the first few months of life. ⁽¹¹⁾

Idris, Israel Oluwaseyidayo, et al, [2022], is aimed to study about the About 30 million children under the age of five in Africa suffer from vaccine-preventable diseases (VPDs), and children, including newborns, pass away from these diseases before they turn five. Global mortality rates for vaccine-preventable illnesses such whooping cough (pertussis), polio, rubella, measles, mumps, diphtheria, and Haemophilus meningitis have dropped by almost 95% since the advent of immunisations. Therefore, if properly and honestly executed in their particular countries and circumstances, vaccination and immunisation programs are still necessary and extremely successful in reducing illnesses, impairments, and deaths among these age groups. Global immunisation governance must establish a resourceful environment and provide funds to carry out precise methodological studies that will concisely identify the predictors of MOI and immunisation defaulting with regard to particular age groups, geographic regions, and immunisation services delivery approaches in nations with extremely low immunisation coverage in order to improve immunisation coverage. ⁽¹²⁾

Florence Kauffmann et al, (2021) is aimed to study about the How can we prevent measles, mumps, and rubella? The highly contagious viral illnesses measles, mumps, and rubella (M, M, and R) place a heavy cost on both the afflicted individuals and healthcare systems. One of the most contagious illnesses in humans, measles can result in fatalities, severe illness, and long-term problems. Mumps can cause complications such orchitis, meningitis, encephalitis, and

deafness, even though its fatality rate is lower than that of measles. While infections in women during the early stages of pregnancy might harm the baby and cause miscarriage, foetal death, or congenital rubella syndrome, rubella infections in children produce comparatively minor sickness. The greatest obstacle to achieving the measles elimination target is the inadequate vaccine coverage, which results in areas where people are not immunised. The introduction of genotypes not present in the vaccines and a decline in the immune response are the main causes of mumps outbreaks that have been seen in highly vaccinated populations. Governments and policymakers ought to encourage the adoption of vaccination laws that are specific to each nation, increase public knowledge of the seriousness of diseases and the effects of vaccinations, enhance access to vaccinations, health infrastructure, and vaccination services, and fortify readiness for outbreaks. ⁽¹³⁾

Alba Maria Ropero Alvarez et.al.,[2021] is aimed to study about the Neonatal mortality has not decreased nearly as much as mortality in other age groups over the past ten years, with about 40% of childhood deaths occurring during this time. Existing vaccines, some of which are advised for use throughout pregnancy and others specifically during the postpartum period for the mother or the neonate, can prevent many of the diseases that cause these newborn deaths. Additionally, diseases like influenza increase the chance of unfavourable pregnancy outcomes for expectant mothers. ⁽¹⁴⁾

Tobias R. Kollmann et.al....[2020] is aimed to study about the vaccination techniques to strengthen newborns' immunity, One of the most economical methods of illness prevention is still vaccination. Millions of babies receive vaccinations against poliomyelitis, hepatitis B, TB, tetanus, pertussis, diphtheria, Haemophilus influenza type b (Hib), rotavirus, and measles, which are thought to avert 2.5 million lives annually. Vaccination has been much less successful in the first month of life, despite the fact that it has obviously helped older infants and children. To speed up the priming of protective immunological components, the World Health Organisation advises vaccination against polio, hepatitis B, and tuberculosis as soon as possible after delivery (less than 24 hours). Via vertically transferred immunity; maternal vaccination also guards against infection by specific diseases. ⁽¹⁵⁾

Rodrigues C. M. C. et.al (2020) is aimed to study about the Vaccines are estimated to prevent almost six million deaths/year and to save 386 million life years and 96 million disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) globally (Ehret, 2003). The traditional measures of vaccine impact include: vaccine efficacy, the direct protection offered to a vaccinated group under optimal conditions e.g., trial settings; or vaccine effectiveness, the direct and indirect effect of vaccines on the population in a real-life setting. In regions where resistant pathogens are circulating at high frequency, such as India or regions of Europe (Logan and Weinstein, 2017), patients will be faced with choosing between having elective surgical procedures or chemotherapy for malignancy, and the risk of acquiring potentially untreatable, multi-drug-resistant bacterial infections (Liu et al., 2016). Vaccination is crucial in mitigating this risk, by preventing people from developing viral and bacterial infections in the first instance, and therefore reducing the antibiotic burden to which their microbiota is exposed. ⁽¹⁶⁾

Choudhary, T. S.,et.al (2019), is aimed to study about the Despite a decrease in under-five mortality rates, vaccine-preventable illnesses (VPDs) accounted for 29% of all deaths worldwide in 2017. India had the greatest number of VPD-related deaths worldwide. Between 2000 and 2015, VPDs such as measles, pneumonia, and diarrhoea contributed significantly and were responsible for over one-fourth of all deaths in India among children under five. India has had a comprehensive vaccination program for more than 50 years, but the country still has a high rate of VPDs, including measles, pertussis, diphtheria, and Japanese encephalitis. Since delays make people more vulnerable to VPDs and undermine herd immunity, timely and comprehensive immunization is essential to lowering childhood mortality. In India, the median vaccination ages were found to be 4 days for BCG, 57 days for the first dose of DPT, and 292 days for measles. Of children aged 10–23 months, 23.1%, 29.3%, and 34.8%, respectively, experienced delayed immunizations for these diseases. States and union territories had varying percentages of delayed vaccinations: 1.4% to 76.3% for BCG, 6.1% to 44.2% for DPT, and 20.9% to 46.7% for measles. Children born at home, those with low birth weight, those from lower-income families, children of mothers with less education, and children from Muslim families were more likely to experience these delays. Improving results requires addressing these inequalities and highlighting vaccine timing as a key metric of the immunization program. ⁽¹⁷⁾

Restori, K.,et.al(2019), is aimed to study about the neonatal immune system is uniquely influenced by respiratory viral infections, such as RSV and rhinoviruses, which can shape immune development and increase the risk of asthma and allergic diseases later in life. These infections drive inflammatory responses, particularly through type 2 and type 17 immunity, and impact airway epithelial cells' role in immune regulation. Viral-induced inflammation during infancy can also affect long-term lung function. Neonatal respiratory infections contribute significantly to global child mortality, with respiratory viruses being more prevalent than bacterial causes. The economic burden of these illnesses in the U.S. alone exceeds \$25 billion annually, underscoring the importance of understanding and mitigating their effects. ⁽¹⁸⁾

Julie E. Bines et al. [2018] is aimed to study about the Human Neonatal Rotavirus Vaccine (RV3-BB) to Target Rotavirus from Birth Rotavirus disease strikes infants in low-income countries early in life, and a rotavirus vaccine given at birth could maximise the opportunity to complete a full vaccine schedule and provide early protection. Since gastric acid is limited at birth and environmental enteropathy is not yet established, administering an oral vaccine at birth presents a unique opportunity that may aid in vaccine uptake, and since intussusception is uncommon in newborns, administering the vaccine at birth may offer a safety advantage. The oral human neonatal rotavirus vaccine (RV3-BB) was developed from the human neon virus strain RV3 (G3P [6]), which was found in the stool of infants with asymptomatic infections. (19)

de Bree L. C. J. et al. (2018), is aimed to study about the, It is estimated that between two to three million deaths are prevented by vaccines each year [1,2]. Regardless of this great success, infections are still the leading cause of death among children under the age of five in low-income countries [3]. Although global vaccine coverage is increasing [4], UNICEF and WHO estimated that one out of ten infants did not receive any vaccine in 2016. BCG, the only available anti-tuberculosis vaccine administered in approximately 100 million children each year. In low-income countries, BCG is recommended at birth, but it is usually postponed in low-birthweight (LBW) children. The delay in vaccination of these children served as a window of opportunity to study the observed advantages of BCG vaccination on overall mortality. In a large randomized trial performed in Guinea-Bissau, LBW children were randomized to BCG at birth or postponed BCG. Although a non-significant reduction in infant mortality was reported after 12 months follow-up, a significant 45% decrease in neonatal mortality rate was found (95% CI 11–66), mainly due to a lower sepsis as well as respiratory infections related mortality. (20)

Saso. A. et al. (2017), is aimed to study about the the World Health Organisation (WHO) estimates that 45% of deaths among children under the age of 5 years occur during the newborn period [1]. More specifically, neonatal infections currently account for ~ 700,000 of these deaths and ~ 7 million cases per year, with the greatest proportion affected and most severe outcomes in poorly resourced areas. These adaptations prevent alloimmune reactions between the mother and foetus, enable microbial colonisation and avoid excess pro inflammatory responses [6, 10, 14]. Conversely, they render the newborn susceptible to infection and limit optimal vaccine responses. 73% protective efficacy against TB meningitis and 77% against miliary TB [45]. However, there is no convincing protection against primary pulmonary infection or reactivation of latent TB, and protective efficacy declines to non-significant levels after 10–20 years (21).

Chang M. H. et al. (2016), is aimed to study about the incidence rate of liver cancer increases with advanced age worldwide. The incidence rates of HCC are much higher in adults than in children. Furthermore, the levels of protective antibody decrease with time after infantile HBV immunization. (22)

Van Damme. P. et al. (2016), is aimed to study about the estimated 3.6% of the world's population (or 248 million persons) are positive for hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) [1], and HBV causes significant morbidity and mortality. In 2013, approximately 686 000 HBV-infected persons died from causes related to acute infection (69 000 deaths), cirrhosis (317 000 deaths), and HBV-associated liver cancer (300 000 deaths) [2]. The age of acquisition of HBV infection is the main determining factor in the clinical expression of acute disease and the development of chronic infection. Genetic characteristics of HBV might also contribute to the outcome of infection. (23)

Mei-Hwei Chang et al. [2016] is aimed to study about the Chronic hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection is closely associated with hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC), one of the world's leading causes of cancer-related fatalities, especially in high-incidence areas like Taiwan. Studies in Taiwan, Alaska Natives, and Khon Kaen, Thailand, have demonstrated that universal HBV vaccination from infancy effectively lowers the prevalence of HCC in children and adolescents. A long-term analysis of Taiwan's universal HBV vaccination program shows that vaccination from infancy considerably lowers the risk of HCC into young adulthood, despite the fact that protective antibody levels decrease over time and HCC incidence rises with age. Males were significantly more likely than females in all age groups, with the 20–26 age group having the highest relative risk of HCC. (24)

Najaaraq Lund et al. [2015] is aimed to study about the Infant Mortality and the Impact of the Oral Polio Vaccine at Birth: A Randomised Trial Live vaccine, such as the BCG and measles vaccine (MV), prevent measles and tuberculosis and reduce mortality more than anticipated. On the other hand, some inactivated vaccines could have negative NSEs. For instance, in almost all studies, girls who received the inactivated diphtheria-tetanus pertussis (DTP) vaccine had a greater death rate than girls who did not receive the DTP vaccine. After a recent evaluation of the data supporting the NSEs of BCG, MV, and DTP, the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunisation (SAGE) of the World Health Organisation (WHO) came to the conclusion that BCG and MV might have advantageous NSEs that merit more investigation. Only a few numbers of studies have evaluated the impact of oral polio vaccine (OPV) on mortality, and SAGE did not examine the potential NSEs of OPV. In Guinea-Bissau, OPV has been linked to decreased newborn mortality

and morbidity. Overall mortality during the first 12 months of life (apart from accidents) was the primary result. Furthermore, the "pure" effect of OPV0 on survival from enrolment to age 6 weeks, prior to the first regular OPV being administered to controls. Additionally, the protocol stipulated that analyses would be carried out with censoring for large campaigns if they were carried out during follow-up. Therefore, the effect of filtering for a subsequent national OPV campaign on infant mortality, since OPV campaigns may offset any differential effect of OPV0. ⁽²⁵⁾

Basha S *et al.*, (2014) is aimed to study about the Due to delayed or non-existent vaccinations, newborns (defined as children under 4 weeks of age) and young infants are less protected against infections that can be fatal. For example, creating a flu vaccine that can be administered to babies under six months of age would drastically lower the disease's morbidity and fatality rate globally. According to recent studies, immunising newborns against early-life illnesses like pertussis, influenza, and respiratory syncytial virus may be a useful tactic. The live TB vaccine Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG) shows that a single dosage of the vaccine given at birth can, in theory, provide lifetime protection. ⁽²⁶⁾

Alicia Demirjian *et al.*, [2009] is aimed to study about the safety and effectiveness of vaccinations for newborns, Millions of fatalities globally are caused by the high frequency and severity of microbiological infections that affect newborns and babies. Attempts to safeguard this high-risk group may be thwarted since the same immunological deficiencies that make neonates vulnerable to infection also lessen their memory responses to the majority of antigens. Expanding and enhancing the methods of neonatal immunisation is a global health priority since birth is the most dependable point of healthcare contact in the globe and early protection for newborns and babies would be provided by effective vaccination at birth. Due to a variety of deficiencies in both innate and adaptive immunity, as well as the possible suppressive effects of maternally produced Ab (MatAb), newborns have compromised immunological responses. ⁽²⁷⁾

Sandra Puva, *et al.*, [2004] is aimed to study about the neonatal bcg vaccinations' ability to prevent tuberculous meningitis, With over 80% protection against this potentially fatal form of TB in infants, the neonatal BCG immunisation is very successful in lowering the risk of severe TB, especially tuberculous meningitis. Particularly in nations with high or moderate TB incidence, tuberculous meningitis continues to be a leading cause of morbidity and mortality. Achieving high newborn BCG vaccination coverage—ideally above 98%—is essential in these areas to avoid these serious side effects. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, for instance, a decline in BCG vaccine coverage in 2003 resulted in a marked rise in instances of tuberculous meningitis. The incidence of tuberculous meningitis was 19.04 per million in 2002, when 90% of people were covered by BCG. But following a 68% drop in vaccination rates the incidence increased to 33.33 per million in 2003. A 175-fold rise in TB meningitis cases resulted from this vaccination drop, and all afflicted infants were not immunised. The results unequivocally show that the BCG vaccine effectively protects neonates from developing tuberculous meningitis as well as from dying from tuberculosis, underscoring the significance of preserving high immunisation rates in susceptible groups. ⁽²⁸⁾

Lawrence C. Paoletti *et al.*, [2002] is aimed to study about the main targets for vaccine development are the capsular polysaccharide (CPS) antigens of the Gram-positive bacteria Group B Streptococcus (GBS). Regardless of gestational age, CPS-based vaccinations may offer protection against newborn GBS infection. Preterm newborns (less than 33 weeks) are at a higher risk of developing GBS, even though the majority of cases occur in term infants. In more over 700 adult trials, GBS CPS-protein conjugate vaccines have demonstrated safety, immunogenicity, and good tolerance. Both in vitro and in animal models, the antibodies produced by these vaccinations exhibit functional activity. A multivalent GBS vaccine has a great deal of promise to lower newborn GBS illness whether it is given to all women or specifically targeted during pregnancy. ⁽²⁹⁾

3. Conclusion

Immunization of newborns has greatly decreased the number of diseases that can be prevented by vaccination, offering both short-term protection and long-term advantages like improved immune regulation and herd immunity. However, coverage is constrained by problems like logistical difficulties, vaccine scepticism, and socioeconomic hurdles. Strengthening healthcare systems, particularly in underprivileged regions, and combining immunization with maternal health services are essential for increasing vaccination rates. Digital technologies for tracking vaccinations, incentives for healthcare professionals, and public awareness efforts to dispel myths can all be very important. Future generations' health can be better protected by newborn immunization if these issues are resolved and research on vaccine safety and effectiveness is continued.

Compliance with ethical standards

Disclosure of conflict of interest

No conflict of interest to be disclosed.

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