



TRAINING MODULES ON EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF IMMUNIZATION PROGRAMS

These modules have been designed for use in the training workshops for human resources of the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI), the curricula of departments/schools of health sciences and nursing, and workshops for health personnel. They are also meant to train those interested in obtaining knowledge about the EPI through nontraditional methodologies.

The course modules were initially presented at the first workshop for regional EPI administrators, in 1978 in Costa Rica. In 1979, these workshops began to proliferate throughout the Region of the Americas. Each country adapted them as needed, with results that have been verified through the impact of the Regional Immunization Program. The modules were modified in 1993.

The purpose of these new versions is to update knowledge and concepts in all areas related to the EPI, since changes have been introduced over the years as a result of basic and clinical research and the experience gained in the field. The changes in the modules are related to diseases and/or vaccines for *Haemophilus influenzae* type b, hepatitis B, rubella, congenital rubella syndrome, mumps, and yellow fever, and to studies on outbreaks. They also reflect changes to basic aspects of the program, such as supervision, monitoring, safe vaccination, identification of at-risk municipalities, decentralization, social mobilization, management, and administration.

These modules constitute the basic structure of the EPI training workshops. They are not a textbook but rather general guidelines aimed at generating a wide-ranging discussion of the various components of the EPI. Proper use of the modules is essential to meet their proposed objectives. The dedication of coordinators and participants, their motivation, and their efforts to meet the objectives will ensure that workshops conducted with these modules are successful.

All the training in a country, region, or area, and at the different levels of the health system, as part of an active, participatory, teaching-learning process designed to control and eradicate vaccine-preventable diseases is called "staff training for the control of vaccine-preventable diseases." This training leads to change, broadening the knowledge, skills, and understanding of staff, and motivating health workers in general.

These modules will be useful for health workers in the field, as well as those responsible for human resources education in health institutions and educational centers

The modules consist of the following:

- Module I: DISEASES**
- Module II: VACCINES**
- Module III: COLD CHAIN**
- Module IV: EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE**
- Module V: PROGRAMMING**
- Module VI: SUPERVISION, MONITORING, AND EVALUATION**

A guide for coordinators, a guide for participants, questions and answers, bibliographic references, a glossary, and pre- and post-training tests also are included.