Country reports submitted through PAHO/WHO/UNICEF Joint Reporting Form on Immunization (JRF). PAHO, 2018

Surveillance data provided by PAHO Influenza team, Infectious Hazard Management Unit, Health Emergencies Department

Iuliano AD et al. Lancet, 2018

Palache A et al. Vaccine, 2017

Data provided by PAHO’s Revolving Fund on 2018-19 Northern hemisphere season and 2019 Southern hemisphere season

Red para la Evaluación de Efectividad e Impacto de las Vacunas En Latino América y el Caribe - in/f_luenza (REVELAC-i). VE estimates (for children under 2 years of age and the elderly) based on data from 13,798 SARI cases enrolled in 6 LAC countries between 2013 and 2018

More information:

GETTING READY FOR THE NEXT INFLUENZA PANDEMIC

DEVELOPING
pandemic preparedness and vaccine deployment plans and enhancing human-animal interface

FAMILIARIZING
national teams with regulatory processes and with PAHO’s Revolving Fund technical cooperation mechanisms, including vaccine procurement

BUILDING
capacity in health workers

TRAINING
in risk communication, risk assessment tools and management of unusual respiratory events

ACQUIRING
experience in conducting influenza vaccination campaigns targeting different high-risk groups

ESTABLISHING
systems to monitor and evaluate influenza immunization programs

CONDUCTING
simulation and table top pandemic response exercises

BUILDING capacity in health workers

VACCINES

The most effective intervention to prevent seasonal influenza and respond to pandemics

More information:

Comprehensive Family Immunization
Family, Health Promotion, and Life Course
**STRENGTHENING SEASONAL INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT THE LIFE COURSE**

In 2004, PAHO’s Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on Immunizations recommended introducing the influenza vaccine in national programs.

19 active NITAGs and the Caribbean CiTAG support the development of influenza vaccination policies.

75% (39/52) of the countries and territories in the Americas use the influenza vaccine for the following high-risk groups:

- 35 for the elderly
- 34 for people with chronic diseases
- 33 for health workers
- 31 for pregnant women
- 29 for healthy children

In the Americas, seasonal influenza annually represents:

- ≈772,000 hospitalizations
- ≈52,000 influenza-associated respiratory deaths

The Americas has the highest distribution of doses per 1,000 population:

- >300M influenza vaccine doses procured annually in the Region
- 33 countries procure the influenza vaccine through PAHO’s Revolving Fund
- ≈25.4M trivalent vaccine doses
- ≈2.4M quadrivalent vaccine doses
- 6 countries self-procure influenza vaccine
- 5 countries in the Americas with installed capacity to produce influenza vaccine

FROM INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE TO VACCINE DELIVERY

The Southern Hemisphere:
- Feb: In-country vaccine delivery
- Mar: Start vaccine production
- Apr: WHO recommends regional preparation
- May: PAHO’s Revolving Fund process
- Jun: WHO influenza vaccine process
- Jul: Manufacturing process
- Aug: Influenza epidemiology

The Northern Hemisphere:
- Feb: In-country vaccine delivery
- Mar: Start vaccine production
- Apr: WHO recommends regional preparation
- May: PAHO’s Revolving Fund process
- Jun: WHO influenza vaccine process
- Jul: Manufacturing process
- Aug: Influenza epidemiology

FROM INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE TO VACCINE DELIVERY

**PERFORMANCE OF INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION PROGRAMS**

**Influenza vaccine coverage**

- 66% health workers
- 49% healthy children
- 52% pregnant women
- 56% elderly

**Vaccine effectiveness (VE)**

- 13 REVELAC-I countries have contributed to regional estimates
- VE estimate = 44%
- VE estimate = 37%

Looking ahead towards sustainable seasonal influenza immunization programs and better pandemic preparedness:

- Support generation of disease and economic burden estimates and vaccine impact studies to inform decisions
- Facilitate rapid access and distribution of seasonal influenza and pandemic vaccines
- Build vaccine awareness and confidence to increase vaccine uptake in high-risk groups
- Ensure continuous learning through documentation and sharing of lessons learned and best practices
- Promote strategic collaborations and alliances