Introduction to the ProVac Initiative

E-toolkit training module

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Purpose and audiences for this video

Purpose: provide an overview of the ProVac Initiative, including:
- what it is
- how it helps countries
- what makes it unique

Audiences:

• *National immunization program* teams looking to conduct a ProVac analysis with support from the ProVac Initiative.

• *National health policymakers* who will receive the results of a ProVac analysis to inform a future decision around immunization.

• *Governmental, academic, or other stakeholders* interested in better understanding how ProVac analyses are developed and supported.
Background - PAHO’s ProVac Initiative

- Launched in 2004, as a model for enhancing evidence-based capacity to make informed policy decisions on the introduction of new vaccines in the Americas.

- Context:
  - rapidly expanding immunization schedules targeting a wider age range
  - expensive new vaccines
  - challenges for sustaining the programs

- In response to countries' need to:
  - Make **nationally-based** decisions
  - Use **broad-based evidence** to support decisions
  - Enhance **infrastructure** in place that can support nationally based processes

ProVac’s objectives

1. Develop tools and methods to support evidence-based decisions on immunization
2. Provide training to national teams on tools and methods for evidence-based decisions on immunization
3. Generate evidence by providing direct technical support to national teams and groups responsible for making immunization policy recommendations

ProVac’s areas of work

1. Economics of new vaccine introduction
2. Performance optimization of immunization programs
3. Post-introduction evaluation of vaccine impact
4. Strengthening of National Immunization Technical Advisory Groups (NITAGs) and PAHO’s regional Technical Advisory Group on vaccine-preventable diseases (TAG)

Goal of the ProVac Initiative

Strengthen evidence-based decision making on immunization to sustain and further the public health impact of the immunization programs
ProVac supports evidence generation to inform key immunization policy and programmatic decisions:

**Before vaccine introduction**
- Estimation of disease burden and associated costs
- Modelling incremental vaccine benefits, risks and costs
  - Cost-effectiveness analysis (CEA)
  - Budget impact analysis

**After vaccine introduction**
- Post-introduction evaluation of vaccine impact (health and economic)

**TIMELINE**

At any point:
- NITAG strengthening
- Immunization program costing
- Program performance optimization
ProVac’s 14 years of supporting evidence based immunization policy in the Americas and beyond

1st ProVac Workshop with key partners: Prevention effectiveness, WDC

2004
- Mandate from PAHO Member States (CD47.R10)

2005
- 1st ProVac Workshop: Cost-effectiveness of PCVs, Paraguay

2006
- Country teams initiate studies: ARG, PAR, NIC

2007
- 2nd ProVac Workshop: Cost-effectiveness of PCVs, Paraguay

2008
- Multi year BMGF grant awarded to PAHO

2009
- Establishment of ProVac Network of Centers of Excellence
- More countries join the Initiative: ELS, GUT

2010
- 3rd ProVac workshop: Cost-effectiveness of RVs, Nicaragua
- More demand: JAM, COR, PER

2011
- Launch of the ProVac International Working Group, support to WHO AFR, EMR and EUR initiated
- 4th ProVac Workshop: Cost-effectiveness of HPVs, Colombia

2012
- More PAHO demand: JAM, COR, PER

2013
- 5th ProVac workshop: integrating immunization program costing and planning
- More countries join the Initiative: ELS, GUT

2014
- More PAHO demand: ECU, URU

2015
- More PAHO demand: BEL, BAH, HON

2016
- More PAHO demand: BRA – support from immunization program costing launched

2017
- 2nd PAHO Directing Council resolution to institutionalize and expand ProVac support to Member States
- ProVac Workshop on the use of economic evidence for decision making on Meningococcal Vaccination
ProVac key achievements

- 15 PCV
- 11 Rotavirus vaccine
- 15 HPV

Promoting publication of national country studies/evidence:
- 9 economic evaluations in Latin America and the Caribbean

- 43 country-level vaccine cost-effectiveness analyses (CEA)
- 4 program costing studies
- 20 NITAGs strengthened through direct support
- 300 participants from countries were trained through regional workshops on vaccine economic evaluations
What makes ProVac unique?

- Builds in-country technical capacity
- Brings together local experts from the ministries of health, other governmental agencies and academic centers

- Approach to preparing and facilitating national economic analyses promotes country ownership of the decision
PAHO’s ProVac country support

ProVac team:
✓ Expertise in economics, epidemiology and decision-support modeling
✓ Experience in low and middle income countries
Framework for vaccine policymaking at country-level

- Disease burden
- Vaccine characteristics
  - Immunogenicity
  - Efficacy/effectiveness
  - Duration of protection
  - Type-specific protection
  - Dosage
- Safety and adverse events (harms)
- Cost-effectiveness

Technical:
- Immunogenicity
- Efficacy/effectiveness
- Duration of protection
- Type-specific protection
- Dosage
- Safety and adverse events (harms)
- Cost-effectiveness

Operational & Programmatic:
- Vaccine supply
- Logistics & operational issues
- Financing strategies
- Partnerships

Social:
- Acceptability
- Perception of risk
- Political will
- Equity

Sustainable impact...

ProVac Models

National Vaccine Committees [NITAGs]

PAHO Regional Training Workshops

Country CEA study (MoH-led team)
ProVac - GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE

➢ PAHO-based initiative, primary focus on the Americas.
➢ Tools and lessons learned shared globally.
CONCLUSION

▪ Country ownership of the analysis.

▪ End result is evidence for sustainable programs.

▪ Builds technical capacity in the country.

▪ Brings together local experts.
If you want to know more about...

▪ The PAHO/WHO ProVac initiative
  http://www.paho.org/provac/

▪ The ProVac toolkit
  http://www.provac-toolkit.com/

▪ Partners

  ![CDC](https://www.cdc.gov)
  ![Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health](https://www.hsph.harvard.edu)
  ![Center for Health Decision Science](https://www.chds.org)
  ![London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine](https://www.lshtm.ac.uk)
  ![Federal University of Goiás](https://www.ufg.br)
  ![PATH](https://www.path.org)
Thank you
Gracias
Obrigada
Merci