Prior to mass vaccination against rubella, it is estimated that between 16,000 and 20,000 children were born with congenital rubella syndrome each year in Latin America and the Caribbean. A single dose of vaccine provides long term protection. Rubella vaccines are available in monovalent preparations (vaccine targeting only one pathogen) or, more frequently, in combination with other vaccines, such as the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) MMR vaccine.

Rubella is a contagious viral infection, which mainly affects children and young adults. The Region of the Americas is the only one that has achieved elimination of rubella and congenital rubella syndrome since 2015. Infection in pregnant women can cause death of the fetus or congenital malformations.

When infected persons sneeze or cough, symptoms appear 14 to 23 days after exposure to the virus. Two doses at 12 months and 18 months.

For more information, visit: www.paho.org/immunization

Funded with a contribution from the Government of the United States of America.