

VACCINOLOGY II

ADVERSE EVENTS FOLLOWING IMMUNIZATION - PREVENTION, MONITORING AND REPORTING IN INDIA

***Vijayalaxmi V Mogasale**

****Vittal Mogasale**

*****Arindam Ray**

Abstract: *The Adverse Event Following Immunization, although considered rare, is not uncommon. Establishing a system to manage it is an important element to ensure the quality of vaccines, safe immunization practices and retaining vaccine confidence in the public. India has established a robust national Adverse Event Following Immunization surveillance system spanning from the lowest level of immunization delivery to the national level with its guidelines updated most recently in 2015. The systematic Adverse Event Following Immunization reporting, investigation, causality assessment, monitoring and taking corrective actions are a crucial part of the system. The participation of private sector immunizations service providers is a key to its success.*

Keywords: *Adverse Event Following Immunization, Surveillance, Monitoring, Reporting.*

Points to Remember

- *Understanding the background rates of adverse events in the population is important for informed decisions.*
- *Management of AEFI is an important activity to retain and gain public trust in vaccines.*
- *Serious and severe adverse events although used interchangeably, are not the same.*
- *AEFI surveillance, monitoring and causality assessment are cornerstones for preventive actions.*
- *Private sector immunization partners have a crucial role in AEFI surveillance and AEFI prevention.*

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* Assistant Professor,
Department of Pediatrics,
Yenepoya Medical College and Honorary Faculty,
Yenepoya Research Center, Mangalore.

** Head, Policy and Economic Research Department,
International Vaccine Institute, Seoul, South Korea.

*** India Country Lead,
New Vaccines and Immunization Systems,
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation,
India Country Office, New Delhi.
Email : vijayalaxmimogasale@gmail.com

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