Measles

What is measles and how does it spread?
Measles is a life-threatening disease, which spreads through coughing and sneezing of an infected person. Normally, the symptoms are purpuric-red blotches/sores on the face and fleshes, high-fashioned cough, rough-sounding and rash on the eyes in the form of conjunctivitis.

What are the symptoms of measles?
Measles is a highly contagious disease. It spreads through coughing and sneezing of an infected person. Normally, the symptoms are persistent red blisters on the face and flesh. High fever, cough, rough throat and redness of the eyes in the form of conjunctivitis.

Measles-Rubella (MR) vaccine ensures protection against wild and vaccine strains. Measles-Rubella (MR) vaccine ensures protection against wild and vaccine strains. Measles-Rubella (MR) vaccine is not recommended for children under 1 year of age. If you are not vaccinated, you are at risk of getting the disease. If you have already received the MR vaccine, it is necessary to give the vaccine again.

If any woman has been infected with the rubella virus at the time of conception or pregnancy, what will be the outcome?
If a woman is infected with the rubella virus only in her pregnancy, this can result in Congenital Rubella Syndrome (CRS), which can be life-threatening for the fetus and newborn child. Most of these children develop hearing loss, impaired mental development, and heart defects. This infection can result in miscarriage, premature birth and stillbirth in the affected person.

What is CRS?
Congenital Rubella Syndrome (CRS) is characterized by multiple defects, particularly affecting the eye (glaucoma, congenital glaucoma, cataracts, corneal opacity, strabismus, retinal detachment) and heart (depends on the severity and type of rubella infection). It can be prevented by vaccinating children against the CRS vaccine.

Is there any treatment for rubella?
There is no specific cure for rubella. The disease can be prevented by vaccination.

Where can MR vaccine be administered?
Under the MR policy, vaccines are provided to all government health centres and Hospital and PHCs. For MR vaccine, you can contact the nearest health care facility. For more information, contact the MOH, District, or Anganwadi centres.

Is there any side effect of MR vaccine?
This vaccine is very safe and has been in use for more than 40 years. Besides India, many other countries in the world have administered this vaccine to reduce the incidence of child mortality.

What happens if the child doesn’t get MR vaccination in this campaign?
If the child has not been vaccinated, there may be the risk of the child contracting measles and rubella. The child should be administered this vaccine as early as possible.

How is the measles vaccine administered in schools instead of health centers?
The school-based measles vaccination will be administered in schools as well as hospitals and health centres. As many as children in the age group of 6 months to 15 years of age will be vaccinated. All the children in the school in the age group should participate in this campaign.

Will there be availability of medical aid at the vaccination point?
The child will be vaccinated by a trained health worker. 40 immunization assessment—whether in schools or vaccination centres—will be held to fully equipped health centres to handle any adverse event.

Will any children be excluded from vaccination?
Yes, the following category of children will not be given the vaccine:

- Suffering from high fever or any other serious disease with symptoms (malignant, fever, etc.,) admitted in hospital.
- Children suffering from allergies as a result of measles-rubella vaccination in the past.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Answers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>Requested</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children of which age group are to be vaccinated with this vaccine?</td>
<td>Infants of age groups 6 months to 15 years are to be vaccinated as soon as possible after 15 years of age. It was decided to cover this age group in the campaign.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where will this campaign be run?</td>
<td>This campaign will be run in schools in the age group of 6 months to 15 years of age. All the children in the school in the age group should participate in this campaign.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why is measles-rubella vaccination being carried out in schools instead of health centers?</td>
<td>The school-based measles vaccination will be conducted in schools as well as hospitals and health centres. As many as children in the age group of 6 months to 15 years of age will be vaccinated. All the children in the school in the age group should participate in this campaign.</td>
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Rubella

What are the temporary symptoms in some children as a result of this vaccination?
Some children may have a fever, pain, and aches, which are not related to the disease. If you are not vaccinated, you are at risk of getting the disease. If you have already received the MR vaccine, it is necessary to give the vaccine again.

If any woman has been infected with the rubella virus at the time of conception or pregnancy, what will be the outcome?
If a woman is infected with the rubella virus only in her pregnancy, this can result in Congenital Rubella Syndrome (CRS), which can be life-threatening for the fetus and newborn child. Most of these children develop hearing loss, impaired mental development, and heart defects. This infection can result in miscarriage, premature birth and stillbirth in the affected person. If your child has already received the MR vaccine, it is necessary to give the vaccine again, as a supplementary dose, which will provide additional protection to your child.

What are the symptoms of rubella?
Rubella is a mild viral infection that usually causes a fever, rash, fatigue, and sometimes severe complications. It is highly contagious and can be transmitted through coughing and sneezing. If a woman is infected with the rubella virus only in her pregnancy, this can result in Congenital Rubella Syndrome (CRS), which can be life-threatening for the fetus and newborn child. Most of these children develop hearing loss, impaired mental development, and heart defects. This infection can result in miscarriage, premature birth and stillbirth in the affected person. If your child has already received the MR vaccine, it is necessary to give the vaccine again, as a supplementary dose, which will provide additional protection to your child.
**Before Vaccination**

- Participate in all training programmes.
- Prepare a list of children who have been vaccinated.
- Assist the ANM in fixing the time for the campaign.
- Give the Measles-Rubella Information card to every student for their guardians.

**Inform & Create Awareness**

- Arrange parent-teacher meetings.
  - Address their queries.
  - Arrange their interaction with the respective health worker of the area, if required.
- Send information on vaccination dates and venue through WhatsApp, emails, or school website.
- Inform the students to have their (IPN) (not to remain empty stomach) prior to vaccination.
- Organize competition and art exhibitions in the school related to MMR.

**During Vaccination**

Please ensure that you are present at the time of vaccination –
- to build a conducive atmosphere for vaccination
- to answer any queries of the parents
- to balance presence of parents if requested
- In case the guardian asks any questions, provide clear answers to their queries.
- If the guardian desires to come to the vaccination centre, please allow them.

**After Vaccination**

- Provide light refreshments/water to make the child comfortable.
- In case any child has symptoms of fever or redness in the area, inform the supervisor or ANM.
- If the student feels very weak or tired, inform the Medical Officer/ANM/School Nurse. Make them/her lie down with their head rested on the knees.