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Subject: Suggestions for interviewer training

Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Mon, 20 Jul 2015 19:05:23 GMT

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How can household surveys better train interviewers to accurately capture the full array of vaccinations? What suggestions are there for supporting the training of interviewers?

A few areas for consideration:

Difficulty in differentiating between vaccinations. With the introduction of newer vaccines in recent years, it is increasingly difficult for respondents to know the difference between vaccinations. For example, both DPT or Pentavalent vaccines and Pneumococcal vaccines are given via injections usually in the thigh, and for respondents who do not remember the names of the vaccines it is very difficult to distinguish between the vaccines.

Multiple vaccination schedules in the study cohorts. A significant challenge to the accurate recording, analysis and reporting of immunization data is related to changing national immunization recommendations, the introduction of new vaccines in the schedule and the use of new combination vaccines creating mixed immunization schedules within the study cohort. Such mixed schedules will require improved training of interviewers to correctly interpret and record vaccination records and to elicit an accurate report of a child's vaccination history. Additional vaccinations will require more creative and pointed probes to capture which vaccinations have been received. WHO/UNICEF are encouraging national immunization programme managers to prepare appropriate material for training survey teams and will gladly provide whatever information we have to improve the survey's ability to accurately capture the appropriate information.

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