COVID-19 VACCINATION

Role of Social Mobilisers

As a Social Mobiliser, your role is crucial to disseminate correct information about COVID-19 vaccination roll-out process, build wider community partnerships, help communities to understand the process and respond to their queries to create a positive environment for the vaccination process

FACTS ABOUT COVID-19 AND COVID-19 VACCINE

Coronavirus disease or COVID-19 is an infectious disease caused by a virus named SARS-CoV-2.

COMMON SYMPTOMS ARE:

Fever

Dry cough

Shortness of breath or difficulty in breathing

Tiredness

HOW IS COVID-19 TRANSMITTED?

COVID-19 is spread through droplets and aerosols emitted from the nose or mouth, particularly when a person with COVID-19 speaks, coughs, sneezes or spits

It can also be contracted by touching one's eyes, nose or mouth after contact with contaminated surfaces and objects

COVID APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOURS (CAB) FOR PREVENTION

The best way to prevent COVID-19 infection is to avoid exposure to the virus

THE BASIC PREVENTIVE PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING CAB:

2 GAJ
AT LEAST 6 FEET

Maintain a physical distance of at least 6 feet (2 gaj ki doori) when in a public place

Using your mask properly to cover nose, mouth and chin at all times when you are outside

Do not touch your eyes, nose and mouth unlesss your hands are sanitised

Wash hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water or use sanitiser

Cover your mouth while sneezing and coughing and avoid spitting in the open

Prompt testing on observing symptoms

Isolation on observing symptoms

COVID-19 VACCINE

A safe and effective vaccine is being made available for protection against COVID-19.

It will be available for beneficiaries aged 50 years and above and under 50 years with associated co-morbidities. Government of India will be announcing the site on which all potential beneficiaries will be asked to register.

Two doses of vaccine, 3 to 4 weeks apart, need to be taken by an individual to complete the vaccination schedule.

ROLE OF SOCIAL MOBILISER DURING PREPARATION PHASE

1 Conduct community meetings to inform on the benefits of COVID-19 vaccine, provide details of the COVID-19 vaccination roll-out, eligibility criteria and address queries.

2 Counsel and support beneficiaries in the process of registration.

3 Emphasize on the importance importance of COVID-19 vaccination to beneficiaries through house to house distribution of IEC materials and social media platforms.

4 Support beneficiary identification and registration for COVID-19 Vaccination as per the eligibility criteria as pre-registration is compulsory for all.

5 Inform that the registered beneficiaries to carry a photo identity card to the vaccination centers.

6 Inform the beneficiaries about venue, date and time of the COVID-19 vaccination session.

7 Answer questions from the community related to why it is available in phased manner.

8 Identify, orient and engage influencers in the locality to support you in the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out and also invite them to COVID-19 vaccination sessions.

9 Ensure influencers accompany you in the mobilization activities and invite them to the COVID-19 vaccination sessions.

10 Inform beneficiaries to avoid going for vaccination incase they show any COVID-19 symptoms.

Important to disseminate correct and consistent information on COVID-19 Vaccination, processes, phased approach, beneficiary prioritization and engage the communities throughout the COVID-19 Vaccination introduction process.

ROLE OF SOCIAL MOBILISER DURING VACCINATION PHASE

- Ensure beneficiaries are called for the session as per the given time slots.
- Display the IEC materials strategically around the vaccination site to increase visibility.
- Ensure sanitizing of the venue and help in maintaining CAB among the beneficiaries.
- Support Heath Care Workers to facilitate the entry and exit protocols and crowd management.
- Ensure beneficiaries wait at the session site for 30 minutes after vaccination.
- Provide the name and phone number of the concerned ANM/ASHA if there is any discomfort post vaccination.

ROLE OF SOCIAL MOBILISER DURING POST VACCINATION PHASE

- Identify drop outs from list of registered beneficiaries and coordinate with ANM/ASHA to ensure vaccination of beneficiaries.
- Remind beneficiaries of the second dose of vaccine, information which will be provided through SMS.
- Regularly update the community on vaccination process and address any vaccine related queries.
- Follow up with beneficiaries through Home- visits/ phone for any minor AEFIs or discomfort.
- Incase of any adverse effects following immunization (AEFI) follow the protocols and support the Health Care Workers and AEFI committee teams.

KEY MESSAGES

- COVID-19 Vaccine is safe and effective and will be available in phased manner.
- CAB are to strictly followed at all times even after vaccination.
- COVID-19 Vaccine along with CAB are effective to protect individuals from COVID-19 infection.
- Pre-Registration is a must for the eligible beneficiaries.
- Vaccine will be given only to the individuals who are registered for COVID-19 vaccination.
- Beneficiaries to carry photo identification to the vaccination session.
- Beneficiaries must wait at the session site for 30 minutes post vaccination to observe for any AEFI.
- Beneficiaries will be reminded of the next COVID-19 vaccination session for the second dose through SMS.
- The vaccine will be provided free of cost in the government health facility.
- You should not attend a vaccine appointment if you are self-isolating, or waiting for a COVID-19 test or unsure if you are well or not.
- If you are unwell when it is time for your next appointment, it is better to wait until you have recovered to have your vaccine, but you should try to have it as soon as possible.
- If feeling unwell, get tested for COVID-19 at a nearest facility, prescription is not required. If tested positive, self-isolate immediately and seek medical support.