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Malawi showcases resilience with major vaccination push

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Malawi becomes the third African country to introduce typhoid conjugate vaccine (TCV) into routine immunisation

With support from Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, WHO, UNICEF, TyVAC, and other partners, the Government of Malawi has launched a nationwide integrated vaccine campaign to deliver measles-rubella (MR) vaccines and typhoid conjugate vaccine (TCV), which will be followed by the introduction of TCV into the national routine immunisation programme.

Throughout the campaign, eligible children who are “caught up” on these vaccines will also be offered the bivalent oral polio (bOPV) vaccine, as well as a vitamin A supplement.

Over the course of one week, more than 9 million children up to 15 years of age will be targeted in this effort aimed at preventing outbreaks of measles and other diseases, strengthening childhood immunity with vitamin A supplementation, and maximising the impact of the TCV introduction – by reaching as many children across the age group as possible with the highly efficacious single-dose typhoid conjugate vaccine.

Vaccines will be available at various sites including health facilities and mobile outreach teams throughout the country, with special emphasis placed on reaching underserved and hard-to-reach populations to ensure equitable access. Immediately after the campaign, the typhoid vaccine will be available through routine vaccination at health centres across all districts and will be given to 9-month-old children alongside the first dose of a measles-containing vaccine.