

# INTRODUCING RUBELLA VACCINE INTO NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION PROGRAMMES

**A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE**



World Health  
Organization



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# Abbreviations

<b>AEFI</b>	adverse event following immunization
<b>CCL</b>	cold chain and logistics
<b>cMYP</b>	comprehensive multiyear plans for immunization
<b>CRI</b>	congenital rubella infection
<b>CRS</b>	congenital rubella syndrome
<b>CSO</b>	civil society organizations
<b>EPI</b>	Expanded Programme on Immunization
<b>FBO</b>	faith based organizations
<b>Gavi</b>	Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance
<b>ICC</b>	Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee
<b>MCV</b>	measles-containing vaccine
<b>MCV1</b>	first dose of MCV
<b>MCV2</b>	second dose of MCV
<b>MMR</b>	measles-mumps-rubella vaccine
<b>MR</b>	measles-rubella vaccine
<b>MRCV</b>	measles and rubella containing vaccine
<b>NGO</b>	non-governmental organizations
<b>RCV</b>	rubella-containing vaccine
<b>RCV1</b>	first dose of RCV
<b>RCV2</b>	second dose of RCV
<b>RV</b>	rubella virus
<b>SAGE</b>	Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization
<b>SIA</b>	supplementary immunization activity
<b>SOP</b>	standard operating procedure
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Fund
<b>WRA</b>	women of reproductive age
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization

# About this guide

This document is intended for use by national immunization programme managers and immunization partners involved in operational support.

General guidance about planning the introduction of a vaccine into a national immunization programme is provided in the document "*Principles and considerations for adding a vaccine to a national immunization programme: from decision to implementation and monitoring*" published by WHO in 2014<sup>1</sup>.

The specific objectives of this document are:

- To guide the policy discussions and operational aspects of the introduction of rubella containing vaccine (RCV) into the national immunization programme.
- To provide technical guidance, up-to-date references on global policy, technical justification, strategic issues and laboratory guidelines related to the introduction and provision of rubella containing vaccine (RCV) in the national immunization programme.

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