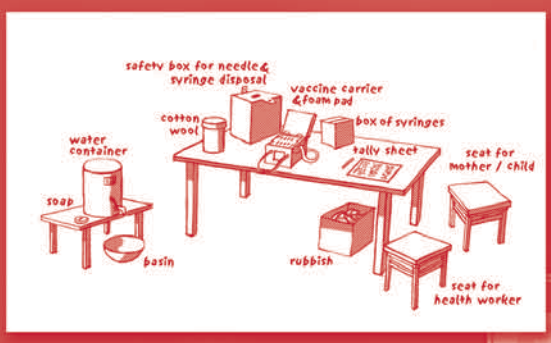
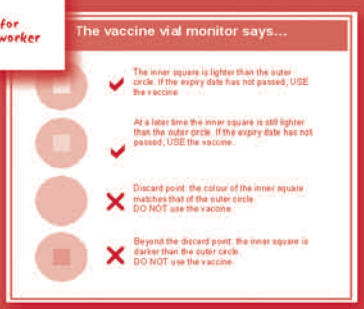
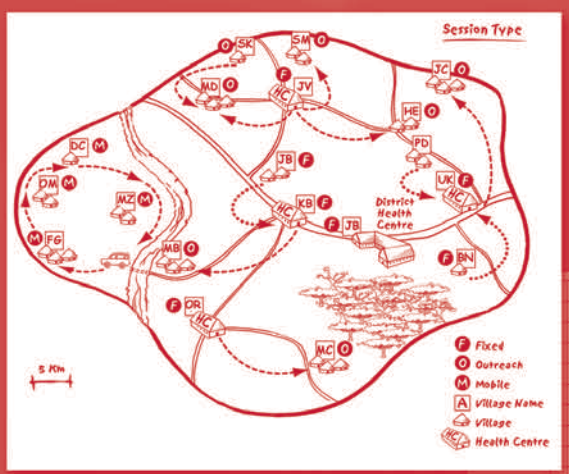
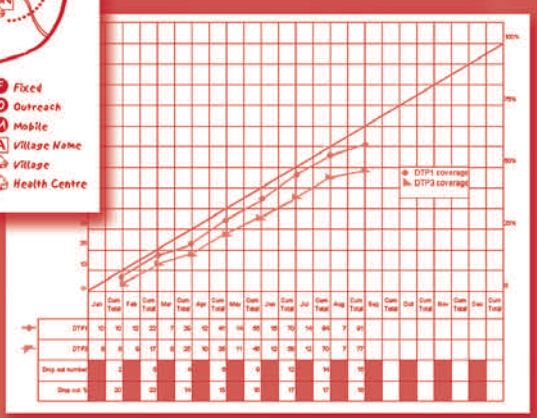
Training for mid-level managers (MLM)

8. Making disease surveillance work









- *Surveillance: What and why?*
- *Types of surveillance*
- *Setting up and monitoring*
- *Reporting*
- *Analysis and action*
- *Feedback*

Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals

World Health Organization

Training for mid-level managers (MLM)

Module 8 : Making disease surveillance work

Training for mid-level managers (MLM). Module 8: making disease surveillance work

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Introduction to the series

This new series of modules on immunization training for mid-level managers replaces the version published in 1991. As there have been many changes in immunization since that time, these modules have been designed to provide immunization managers with up-to-date technical information and explain how to recognize management and technical problems and to take corrective action and how to make the best use of resources.

More and more new, life-saving vaccines are becoming available, yet the introduction of a new vaccine does not necessarily require a separate plan and separate training. This new series for mid-level managers integrates training for new vaccine introduction into each subject addressed by the modules. In this way, introduction of new vaccines is put into its day-to-day context as part of the comprehensive range of activities required to improve immunization systems.

In the context of these modules, mid-level managers are assumed to work in secondary administrative levels, such as a province; however, the modules can also be used at national level. For district managers (third administrative level), a publication on 'immunization in practice'[1] is widely available. As it contains a large amount of technical detail, it is also recommended for mid-level managers courses.

In writing these modules, the authors tried to include essential topics for mid-level managers, while keeping the modules brief and easy to use. They are intended to complement other published materials and guidelines, some of which are referred to in the text. Many more documents are available on the CD-ROM which accompanies this series. Each module is organized in a series of steps, in which technical information is followed by learning activities. Some knowledge and experience are needed to complete the learning activities, but even new readers should be imaginative and constructive in making responses. Facilitators should also be aware that the responses depend on the national context. Thus, there are no absolutely right or wrong answers, and the series does not set down new 'policies' or 'rules'. The authors hope that the readers of these modules will find them informative, easy to read and an enjoyable learning experience.

Modules in the mid-level managers series

Module 1 : Cold chain, vaccines and safe-injection equipment management
Module 2 : Partnering with communities
Module 3 : Immunization safety
Module 4 : Supportive supervision
Module 5 : Monitoring the immunization system
Module 6 : Making a comprehensive annual national immunization plan and budget
Module 7 : The EPI coverage survey
Module 8 : Making disease surveillance work

[1] *Immunization in practice : A practical guide for health staff*. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2004

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