



Philippines

HPV VACCINATION PROGRAMME LANDSCAPE

Authors

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» Program Status

- The HPV vaccine was initially introduced through pilot implementation, with subsequent expansion to selected regions. Currently, HPV vaccination is being implemented through a school-based immunization (SBI) strategy.
- Year of Introduction: 2013

» Implementation Strategy

- The HPV vaccination program is being implemented through a school-based platform, targeting Grade 4 female students. However, last 2021-2023, the program shifted to a community-based approach, focusing on girls aged 9 to 14.
- The DOH leads the national HPV vaccination program, working closely with the Department of Education (DepEd) and local government units (LGUs) for the rollout of HPV vaccines. Other important stakeholders include teachers and school administrators for SBI.
- HPV vaccines are distributed from central storage warehouses to regional health offices, then to local health units.
- The DOH implements communication plans that aim to raise awareness about the importance of HPV vaccination. These campaigns are conducted via various platforms such as mass media, social media, and community-level activities.

» Best practices

- Integration of HPV vaccines in the national immunization program and routine schedules led to more efficient HPV rollout due to use of existing health infrastructures and human resources
- Involvement of the Department of Education in planning and preparations for school-based immunization
- Strong support from developmental partners such as WHO, UNICEF and professional organizations in the planning and implementation of HPV vaccination.
- Continuous capacity building for healthcare workers ensures adequate knowledge on HPV immunization.

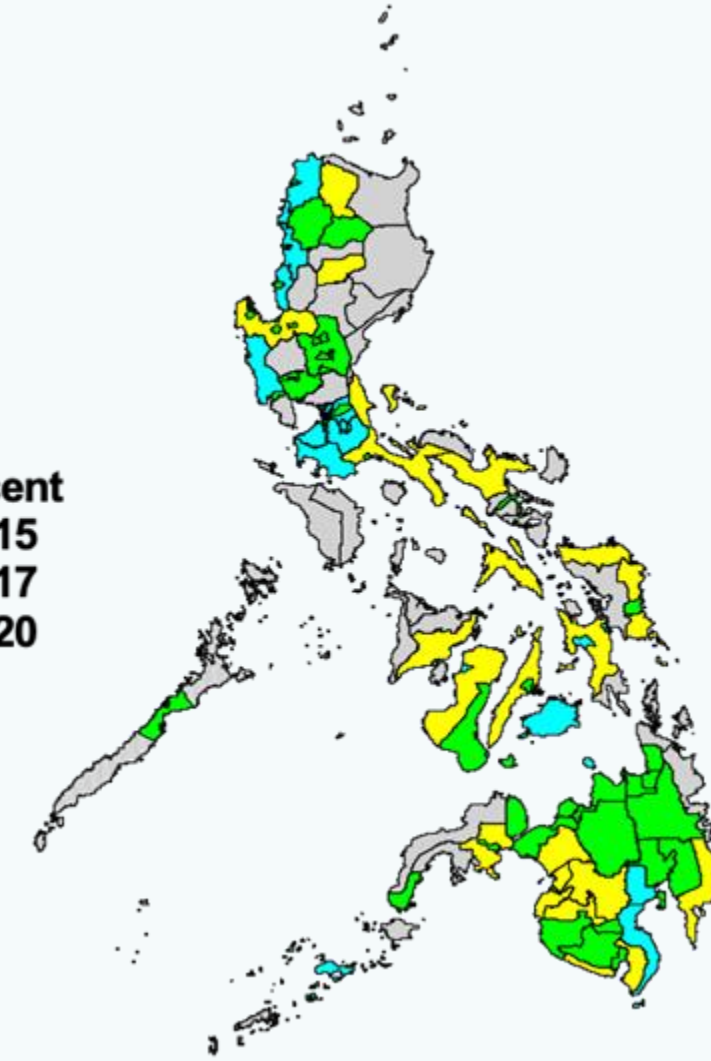
» Barriers

- High cost of vaccine: The HPV vaccine is the most expensive vaccine currently being procured by the government (USD 14.00 per dose), so expanding its distribution will involve significant cost;
- Limited awareness of recommended vaccines for adolescents lead to poor health seeking behavior and vaccine hesitancy;
- Updated policy on the expansion and implementation of HPV vaccination as to target age cohort, 1-dose or 2-dose regimen, strategy of vaccination, recording and reporting of data;
- Reaching out-of-school girls poses a service delivery challenge for the program.

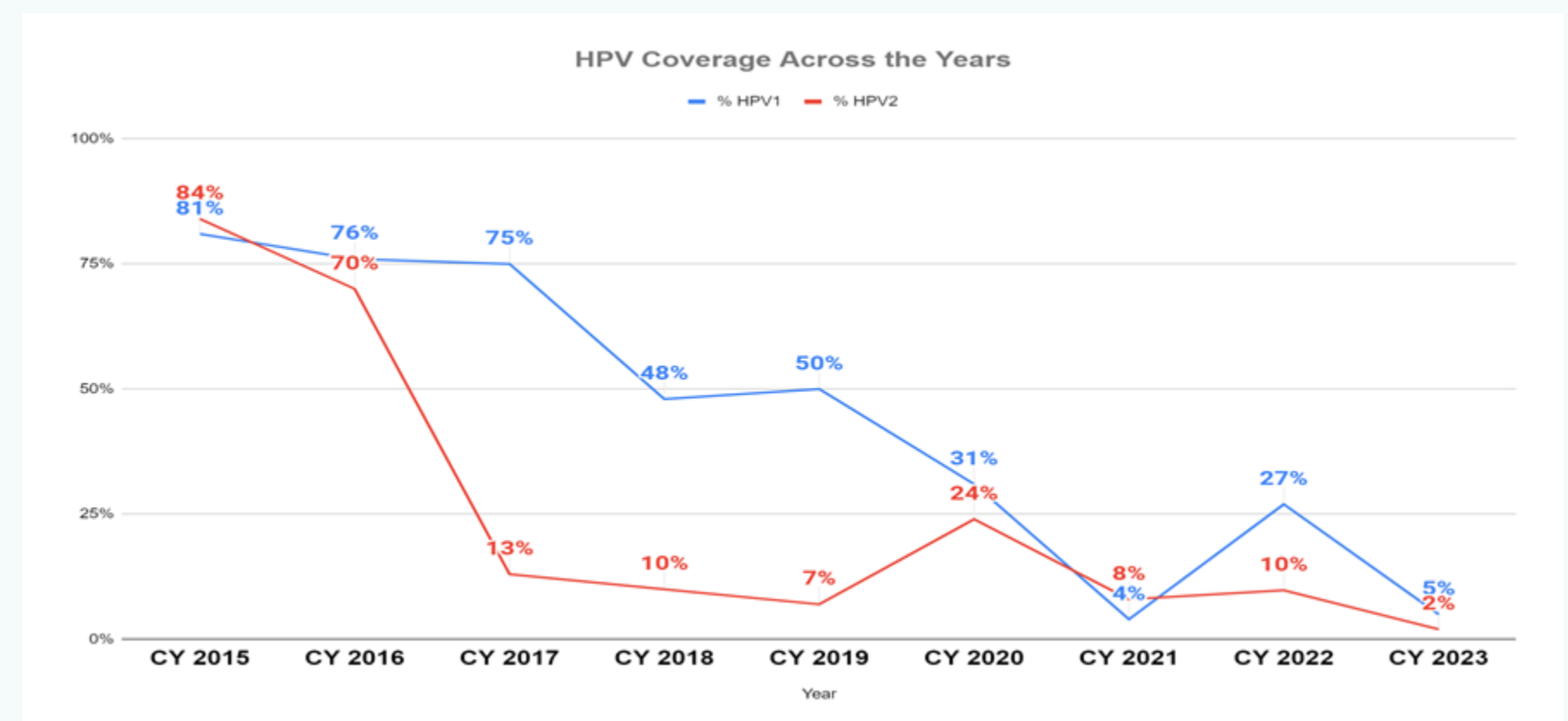
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Legend:

- Adjacent
- Yr.2015
- Yr.2017
- Yr.2020



» Subnational coverage



- Denominator for HPV 2 (%) used the number of females given HPV 1
- Community-based HPV immunization began in 2020 to 2023.

» Dosing Schedule

- The Philippines uses the Quadrivalent HPV vaccine (4vHPV)
- HPV vaccination schedule: 2-dose regimen
- Target Cohort: Grade 4 female pupils (single-grade cohort)