

Vaccination Week Activities 2003
Proposed Activities – 2004
CAREC Member Countries

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Participating Countries

3 countries participated with special vaccination activities:

● Bahamas

- Activities incorporated in EPI Awareness Month (May/June).
- Target – defaulters 0-4 years.
- Vaccines used: DPT, OPV, Hep B, Hib, MMR.

● **Jamaica**

- **Vaccination Activities first week of June.**
- **Targeted - low vaccination coverage areas, defaulters and children 0-23 months**
- **Vaccines used: DPT, OPV, MMR.**

● Suriname

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- **Targeted - low vaccination coverage areas, defaulters and children 0-23 months**
- **Vaccines used: DPT, OPV, MMR.**

Vaccination Targets and Programme Goals

- **Bahamas** – All defaulters found in the records of 3 clinics
 - 95% of infants 0-11 months
- **Jamaica** – 10% or 475 children in 6 parishes
 - 95% of infants 0-11 months
- **Suriname** – All eligible children <5 yrs
 - 95% of infants 0-11 months

Social Mobilization Activities

- Bahamas – Art display, Immunization display and competition, school rally and town meetings.
- Jamaica – Mass media advertisements; flyer distribution and community announcements.
- Suriname – Invitation letters distributed to houses by Girls and Boy Scouts, community announcements

Strategies Implemented

- Outreach activities in selected communities
 - Jamaica- 6 parishes; Suriname- 6 villages
- Vaccination activities outside of usual clinic hours
 - Jamaica; Suriname
- House to house vaccination
 - Bahamas; Jamaica

Results

● 2,289 persons were vaccinated

- 135 (6%) less than 1 year of age.
- 362 (16%) between 12 to 23 months.
- 1644 (72%) less than 5 years of age.

Results - Cont'd

- 566 (25%) received 1st, 2nd or 3rd dose of DPT or OPV
- 715 (31%) received the 1st dose of MMR
- 814 (36%) received booster doses of vaccines

Results - Suriname

- Vaccinated 1,298 of which 9% was less than 1 year and 87% less than 5 years of age.
- 61 to 88% of the children 12 months and older were receiving 1st or 2nd or 3rd dose of OPV and or DPT.
- 61% of MMR was given to children 2yrs and older.

Results - Jamaica

- Vaccinated 950 - 3% <1 yr, 10% in targeted age group 0-23 months, 50% <5 years of age.
- 57 to 74% of children >12 months received 1st or 2nd or 3rd dose OPV and/or DPT.
- 74% of MMR were received by children 2yrs and older.

Results - Bahamas

- 39 homes with defaulters were visited.
- 26 defaulters were vaccinated and all were less than 5 years of age.
- The children not vaccinated, except 2, were found to be appropriately vaccinated.

Evaluation of Vaccination Coverage Suriname

● Awareness Programme

- Of the parents interviewed 92% heard of the vaccination activities.
- 17% took no action
- Message was most frequently heard from the Radio, TV, or sound truck.

Evaluation - Vaccination Coverage Suriname

● Vaccination activities:

- 156 houses were visited in the hinterland and 131 house in the coastal areas.
- 82% of the eligible persons in the households in the coastal areas were vaccinated.
- Reasons for non-vaccination: no knowledge of activities, no time to visit clinics.

Evaluation - Vaccination Coverage Jamaica

- 120 houses visited in the 6 parishes.
- % children vaccinated in households in parishes varied from 5% to 80%.
- Inner city areas, 2-13% vaccinated during the week, 87-98% before special activities.
- Very rural areas, 40-80% vaccinated during the week. These had households with most defaulters.

Lessons Learned

- The week of activities was valuable to the programme.
- More time was required for planning the special week and the follow-up that is necessary, since there were other competing activities.
- House to house vaccination activities yielded the greatest benefit.

Lessons Learned

- More social mobilization effort should have been implemented in the targeted communities prior to the vaccination activities.
- The countries will have to ensure that this special vaccination week is a part of their immunization calendar.

Proposed Activities 2004

- All countries are slated to participate in the Vaccination Week Activities.
- Most countries (80%) already have Planning Committees.
- The Vaccination Week is an activity of the Plan of Action in all countries.
- EPI Managers have already sensitized the officials of the MOH in the countries.

Objectives of Vaccination Week

- Increase awareness of the population re immunization and its benefits.
- Increase vaccination coverage of the target population (<5 years) to 95% mainly through:
 - identification and vaccination of defaulters of the programme.
 - Outreach activities to unvaccinated or inadequately vaccinated population.

Vaccination Activities Aimed at:

- Defaulters
- Areas with low vaccination coverage
- Areas without regular immunization services or difficult geographical terrain.
- Areas with high poverty index.

Strategies to be Implemented

- Outreach activities in selected communities
- Vaccination activities outside of usual clinic hours.
- House to house vaccination for defaulters in selected areas.
- Immunization knowledge, attitude, and practice (KAP) study for defaulters in one country.

Social Mobilization Activities

- National social mobilization activities are proposed to commence at least 2 weeks prior to April 24, 2004.
- Activities will include a special launch of the Vaccination Week in each country.
- Other activities will include mass media, preparation of posters/leaflets, school competitions, displays, walks, health fairs, etc.

Conclusion

- The following activities will be implemented after the Vaccination Week:
 - Evaluation of the Vaccination Week programme.
 - Documentation of the Vaccination Week programmes of the countries, evaluation results including lessons learned.
 - Follow up vaccination activities in countries that will result in appropriately vaccinated children.

U.S.A.

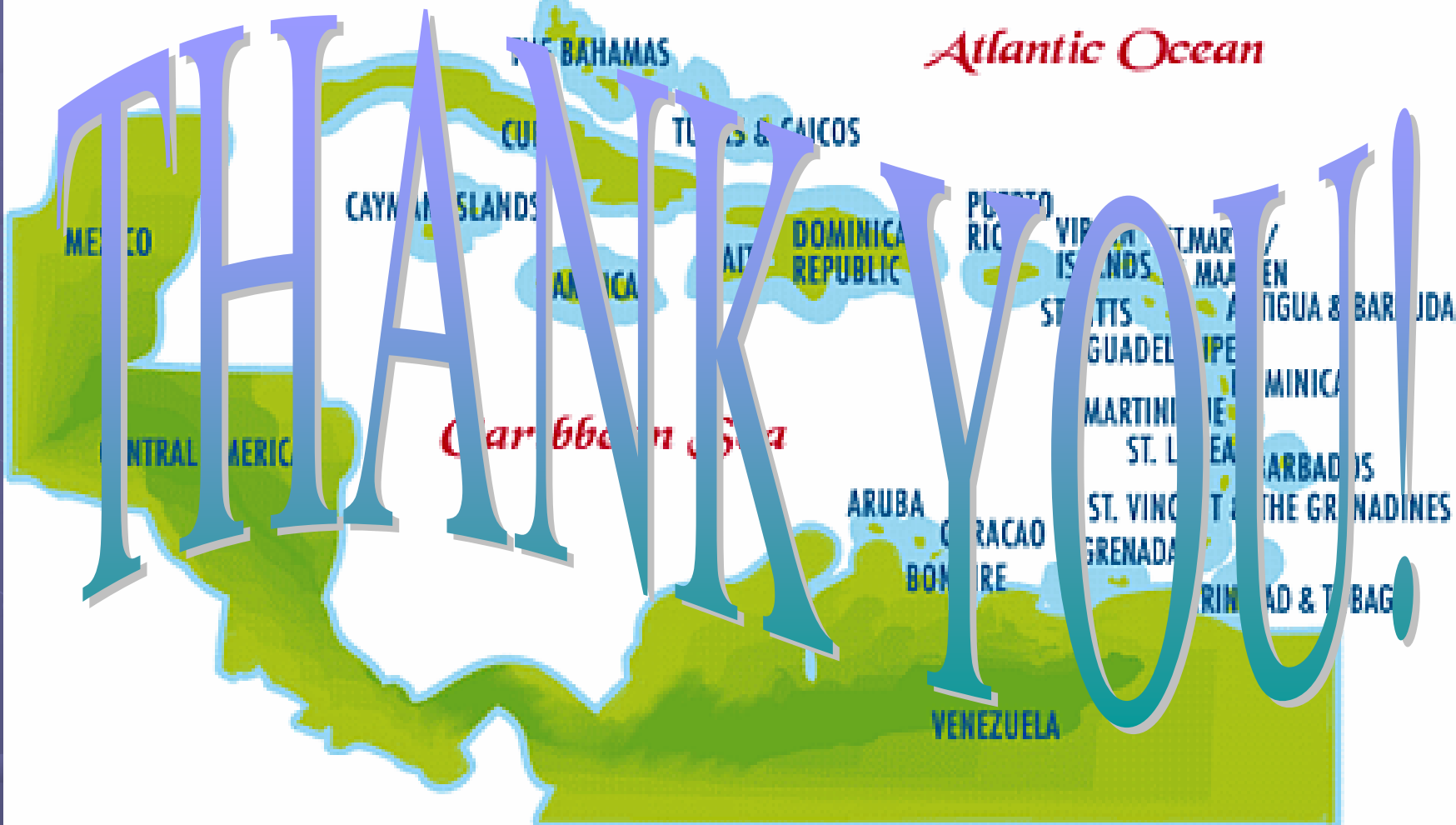


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