



**Two Vaccines for Kids, One Booster Dose for Adults; Still Gap
Between Rich and Poor Countries**

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There is a requirement that healthcare providers at all levels be educated about vaccines, vaccine-related difficulties, vaccine administration, and vaccine acceptance. The Indian government officials said the overall goal is to develop vaccinology modules that can be used by health professionals at all levels.

Bharat Biotech's Covaxin has been approved for usage in children aged 6–12, while Corbvx from Biological E can be given to children aged 5–12. Moderna, a US biotech company, is seeking US approval for the Covid vaccine for children under the age of six. The results of a trial revealed that two doses of 25 micrograms given to new born, toddlers, and pre-schoolers produced equal levels of antibodies.

In many regions, the number of available doses now surpasses demand. However, there is still a huge disparity in immunisation rates between the richest and poorest countries. Many of the world's richer countries are currently approaching oversupply. The European Union and G7 countries reported a 497 million dose excess at the end of last month. Vaccination is still unavailable to billions of people worldwide; most of them live in developing nations.

In this background, this ninth edition of CUTS Occasional News Wrap (ONW) captures various opinions expressed by way of selective write-ups, op-eds, articles, news, etc. in the month of April, 2022, specifically focused on the unvaccinated billions of people closing the gap between rich and poor countries.

	Article/Op-ed	Key Takeaway
1	<p>Why You May Be Vaxed but Still Not Fully Safe</p> <p>By Durgesh Nandan Jha</p> <p>April 01, 2022</p> <p><i>The Times of India</i></p>	<p>Nearly 30% of those vaccinated against COVID in India may not be as safe as they think. Multiple studies show protection offered by two doses tends to weaken or wane in six to eight months.</p>
2	<p>Need to Monitor, If Kids Too Need Booster: Expert</p> <p>By Sushmi Dey</p> <p>April 02, 2022</p> <p><i>The Times of India</i></p>	<p>A total of 2.2 crore “precaution doses” have been administered so far. Booster dose significantly enhances immunity response against all variants of concern so far, even against omicron.</p>
3	<p>India to Help Create Vaccinology Training Programme</p> <p>By Priyanka Sharma</p> <p>April 02, 2022</p>	<p>Indian specialists recently participated in a ‘Global Collaboration Advanced Vaccinology Training’ meeting in Geneva where the need for a basic vaccinology training module for healthcare personnel across the world to address the healthcare crisis was discussed.</p>
4	<p>Covovax Proposed for Kids in 12-17 Group</p> <p>By Priyanka Sharma</p> <p>April 04, 2022</p>	<p>So far, more than 18.5 million vaccine doses have been administered for age group 12-14 years. In March, the apex drug controller of India gave its nod to Covovax for emergency use among children above 12 years of age.</p>
5	<p>Who Suspends Covaxin Supply, Riles Out Safety Fears</p> <p>By Swati Bhardwaj</p> <p>April 04, 2022</p> <p><i>The Times of India</i></p>	<p>WHO announced that it has suspended supply of Covaxin through UN agencies to let manufacturer Bharat Biotech upgrade facility and address deficiencies found in inspection this March.</p>
6	<p>Intranasal Covid-19 Vaccines Will Be Game-Changer</p> <p>By Priyanka Sharma</p> <p>April 08, 2022</p>	<p>Intranasal vaccines will be game-changer in the fight against Covid, said Dr Krishna Ella, chairman of Bharat Biotech. In an interview, Ella said phase 3 clinical trials of the non-invasive, needle-free vaccine are on, and the initial results are promising.</p>

7	<p>Vax Supply Outstrips Demand but Access Inequality Remains</p> <p>By AFP April 09, 2022 <i>The Economics Times</i></p>	<p>More than 13 billion doses have been produced since the pandemic, 11 billion of which have been administered, according to the international federation of pharmaceutical manufactures associations (IFPMA).</p>
8	<p>No To Vax Mixing Because Current Regime Worked</p> <p>By Teena Thacker April 09, 2022 <i>The Economics Times</i></p>	<p>The experts also await data on mixing of vaccines by Indian health institutes and hence "the government didn't allow mix and match of vaccines due to lack of data on the effectiveness of such a strategy," said a senior official on the condition of anonymity.</p>
9	<p>All Adults Can Get Booster at Private Centers</p> <p>By Swati Bhasin April 09, 2022 <i>Hindustan Times</i></p>	<p>The administration of Precaution Dose to 18+ population through Private Vaccination Centres would start from 10th April (Sunday), 2022. All those who are more than 18 years of age & have completed 9 months after the administration of second dose, would be eligible for Precaution Dose.</p>
10	<p>Hospitals to Be Compensated for Covid Shots</p> <p>By Priyanka Sharma April 11, 2022</p>	<p>Three sections of the population -- frontline workers, health workers and people over 60 years of age -- are entitled to free vaccines but they must get themselves jabbed at a government clinic or hospital. All others over the age of 18 can access the booster dose by paying for it at a private facility.</p>
11	<p>On Day 1, Less Than 10k Booster Shots Given</p> <p>By Sushmi Dey April 11, 2022 <i>The Times of India</i></p>	<p>On the first day of its rollout, there weren't many takers for COVID booster shots among adults, with only 9,496 jabs being administered under the programme on Sunday, an official said.</p>
12	<p>Next Vaccine Reform Should Make Boosters Available Six Months After the Second Jab</p> <p>April 13, 2022 <i>The Times of India</i></p>	<p>With Omicron's different sub-variants continuing to wreak havoc in different parts of the world, combined with fears of the emergence of some new variant, India's expansion of the 'precaution dose' programme beginning this Sunday was essential.</p>

13	PGI Chandigarh Gets Nod Study Vaccine Mixing By Teena Thacker April 15, 2022 <i>The Economics Times</i>	India's drug regulator has given its nod to Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences (PGIMS), Chandigarh, part of PGIMER, to conduct a study to find out if mixing vaccine for the booster dose is more effective than sticking to the same one.
14	SEC Okays Two-Dose Regimen of Zycov-D By Sohini Das April 15, 2022 <i>Business Standard</i>	Zydu Lifesciences' (formerly known as Cadila Healthcare) three-dose Covid vaccine — ZyCoV-D — has received the subject expert committee (SEC) approval for a two-dose regimen , according to sources close to the development.
15	Uptake of Booster Likely To Rise In May-June: Officials By Sushmi Dey April 19, 2022 <i>The Times of India</i>	Only 2.5 crore booster shots have been given since January 10 when the government introduced it for elderly and health and frontline workers.
16	Covid Vax Drive Loses Steam, Rajasthan Rank Dips to 15 From Top 5 By Syed Intishab Ali April 19, 2022 <i>The Times of India</i>	The state which at one point of time, was among the top five states in Covid vaccination , seems to have lost steam.
17	Panel Oks Corbevax for 5-11 Grp: Final Nod 'Soon' By Sushmi Dey April 22, 2022 <i>The Times of India</i>	The drug regulator's expert panel on Covid vaccines has recommended granting emergency use authorisation to Biological E's Corbvax for use in kids aged 5-11. The final approval to Corbevax by the Drugs Controller General of India is expected by next week.
18	DCGI Grants Approval to Corbevax for Kids Aged 5-12, Covaxin For 6-12 Age Group April 26, 2022 <i>The Times of India</i>	Bharat Biotech's Covaxin has got nod for use in children in the age group of 6-12, while Biological E's Corbvax can be administered to children aged 5-12.
19	Moderna Seeks US Authorization For Covid Vaccine In Children Under 6 April 29, 2022 <i>The Economics Times</i>	April 28, 2022 -US biotech firm Moderna said Thursday it had submitted a request for an emergency use authorization in the United States for its Covid vaccine for children aged six months to under six years.