



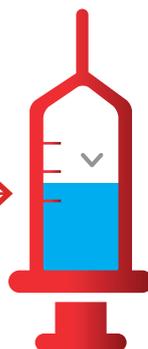
5 years of Pneumonia Vaccination in Bangladesh



Over
1,000
pneumonia
vaccinations
per hour



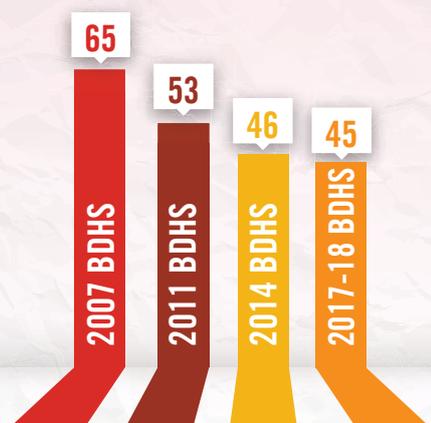
Over
26,000
pneumonia
vaccinations
per day



Over
48 million
pneumonia
vaccinations
since 2015

Over 48 million pneumonia vaccinations have been provided for children since 2015 since the inclusion of Pneumococcal Vaccine (PCV) in Government's routine Expanded Program of Immunization (EPI) in March 2015. Save the Children and its partners have continued to advocate for this inclusion through the **National Pneumonia Coalition** for over 5 years. This success was a huge step forward in reducing preventable childhood deaths caused by Pneumonia.

Trends in under-5 mortality
Deaths per 1,000 live births in the^[2]



Bangladesh has made significant progress in lowering child mortality rates over the last decade **from 65 deaths per 1000 live births in 2007 to 45 deaths per 1000 live births in 2017-2018** ^[1]. The vaccination coverage of pneumonia was a stellar **97% among 1 year olds in 2018** ^[3].

Save the Children facilitated a coalition of partners, known as the Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI) program or the National Pneumonia Coalition of Bangladesh, which played a catalytic role in successfully lobbying for the **inclusion of the PCV vaccine in March 2015**, through dedicated engagement with GAVI and other multilateral partners, mobilizing political and media opportunities to highlight the importance of the vaccines to save the lives of the millions of children of Bangladesh.^[4]

THE CURRENT STATE OF PNEUMONIA IN BANGLADESH

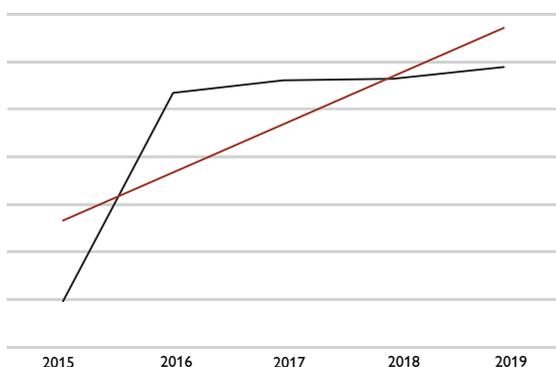


In the pivotal year of 2015, Bangladesh was one of the countries that had met the MDG4 target. Honorable Prime Minister of Bangladesh was awarded Vaccine Hero of 2019 by Gavi. In the last 20 years, vaccination has helped immunise over 760 million people against the deadly diseases saving more than 13 million lives. Nonetheless, there is still a high proportion of children under the age of 5 dying from preventable and manageable causes such as pneumonia.

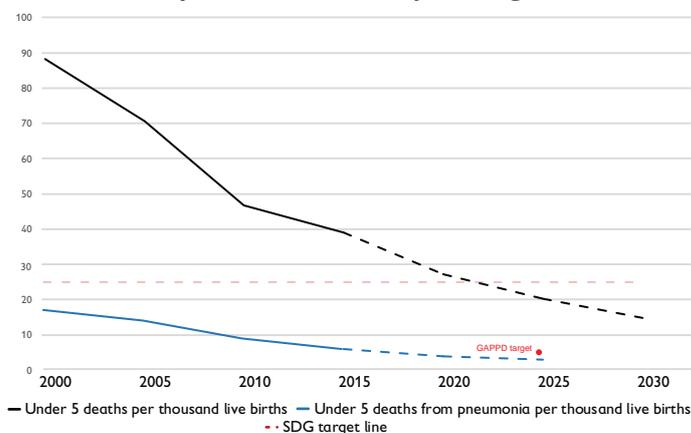
Pneumonia killed more than **12,000 children under-five** in 2018 which is **more than 1 child every hour**. 4 per 1000 live births, under five mortality rate due to pneumonia in 2018. Of which, 13% of child deaths were due to pneumonia and it was the third biggest killer of children under-five in 2017. Bangladesh is little over (4 per 1000 live births) the Global Action Plan for Pneumonia and Diarrhoea (GAPPD) targets of 3 per 1000 live birth in pneumonia mortality rate, so despite making gains, there is still more work needed to reach these targets.

Vaccination for PCV1, PCV2 and PCV3 for 0-11 months old children has a rising trend line; rising sharply from 2015 to a consistent growth over the next 5 years. Conversely, the national averages mask huge inequalities in Bangladesh where the poorest children are at higher risk due to high rates of malnutrition, lack of access to basic quality health services for vaccinations, unavailability of medicines, inadequate care seeking behavior of the community and some geographical variation in immunization coverage. As a result, **49 deaths per 1000 live births** occur among the poorest households compared with just **28 deaths per 1000 live births** amongst the richest households in 2019 ^[5].

Pneumonia Vaccination for 0-11 months between 2015 to 2019 ^[6]



Trends in pneumonia mortality in Bangladesh ^[7]



More than **ONE CHILD DIES EVERY HOUR**



12,000 child died in **2018**

Next steps for the Pneumonia Coalition



In this context, Save the Children is continuing its advocacy with the Government in providing their technical expertise on the ground for child survival initiatives and influencing policy makers through the **National Pneumonia Coalition** at both national and international platforms.

With just ten years left to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has appropriately designed the 4th Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Program of Bangladesh to meet the country's prime focus on improving newborn survival for which a well-functioning IMCI program is much required. Save the Children Bangladesh and its partners have agreed upon a broader consensus to address the full implementation of IMCI to ensure quality equitable access to primary healthcare, prevent children dying from pneumonia, thereby, contributing towards achieving Universal Health Coverage.

PRIMA SURVIVES PNEUMONIA BECAUSE OF VACCINATION

The Community Health Worker came to Shipra's* village to announce that the next satellite clinic will sit in their neighbor's courtyard. The satellite clinic provides vaccination for children for many diseases that Shipra has not even heard about, except pneumonia. And pneumonia she will never forget.

She lost her first child to pneumonia. In a blink of an eye an ordinary-seeming cold turned so severe. Her family was poor, the health facility was so away, there were no doctors nearby, no help nearby. She felt helpless.

Shipra has a little daughter now- Prima, who is only 2 months old and this time and she did not make the same mistake. She made sure Prima got vaccinations from pneumonia. In her village, children no longer die from preventable deaths especially due to pneumonia. Every two weeks, a satellite clinic sits in her neighborhood at walking distance. The health workers inform and encourage mothers to take their newborns to get vaccines.

"I was surprised that a serious disease like pneumonia could be treated here in my village. I wish it was available before. I would not have to go through the pain of losing a child. Yet, I am grateful and I encourage all the mothers to take the vaccinations for their children," said Shipra.

*The person's identity is not disclosed to maintain confidentiality



- References:
- [1] National Institute of Population Research and Training (NIPORT), and ICF. 2019. Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey 2017-18: Key Indicators. Dhaka, Bangladesh, and Rockville, Maryland, USA: NIPORT, and ICF.
 - [2] Bangladesh Demographic Health Survey 2017-2018
 - [3] Fighting for Breath, 2019
 - [4] Evaluating the successes and challenges of working in partnership to achieve sustainable impact Pneumonia Vaccine and Community Case Management: Bangladesh, 2015
 - [5] Fighting for Breath, 2019
 - [6] District Health Information Software 2, website: <https://www.dhis2.org>
 - [7] WHO Global Health Observatory Data & GRID, Save the Children's Child Inequality Tracker