



**ADDITIONAL IMMUNIZATION STANDARD OPERATING
PROCEDURES IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

APRIL 17, 2020

**MINISTRY OF HEALTH
Expanded Programme on Immunization**

1.0 BACKGROUND

Immunization is one of the most cost-effective ways of reducing infant and childhood illnesses and deaths. This is achieved through vaccinating children against vaccine-preventable diseases like measles and polio. It is against this background that immunization services remain an essential public health service even during this COVID-19 pandemic and ought to continue uninterrupted to prevent vaccine-preventable diseases (VPDs). This additional standard operating procedure handbook is designed to prevent transmission of COVID-19 to both health care workers and the public.

2.0 OBJECTIVE

To provide guidance during the immunization session and ensure prevention of transmission of Corona virus-19 among the population.

3.0 REQUIREMENTS AT AN IMMUNISATION SESSION

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|--------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| a) Bucket with a tap and basin | b) Aprons | c) Hand Sanitizer/hand rub |
| d) Gloves | e) Water | f) Chlorine |
| g) Masks | h) Hand Soap | |

4.0 PROCEDURE

- a) Clients should wash hands with soap or chlorinated water on arrival at the Immunization session.
- b) Outreach clinic with high turn up should be split to accommodate less than 100 clients per session (Reduce the number of villages to turn to a scheduled clinic session).
- c) Maintain a social distance of 1meter between clients while sitting for health talk and when queuing for vaccination.
- d) Give health talk and vaccinate the clients as soon as they arrive to avoid over-crowding.
- e) Health workers must wash hands with soap or chlorinated water before the Immunization session, use hand rub between each child, wash hands with soap or chlorinated water when one feels that the hands are contaminated and after the Immunization session.
- f) Health workers must always be in PPE while administering Immunizations
- g) Health workers must ensure that all furniture and immunizations equipment are cleaned and disinfected thoroughly.
- h) Sick children/caregivers with cough or flu-like symptoms should be isolated and managed promptly.
- i) A health worker with cough or flu-like symptoms should not administer Immunization services.
- j) Clients must wash hands with chlorinated water or soap after the Immunization session.
- k) Health workers must ensure that all solid and liquid waste is disposed of safely in line with health care waste management guidelines.