



IOCH
Immunization and Other Child Health Project

**Vaccination Coverage Survey of the
Nawabganj Municipality**

June 2001

Survey Report No. 37

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Acronyms

BCC	Behavior Change Communication
BCG	Bacillus of Calmette and Guerin
CES	Coverage Evaluation Survey
COSAS	Coverage Survey Analysis System
DPT	Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus
EPI	Expanded Program on Immunization
FWC	Family Welfare Center
IOCH	Immunization and Other Child Health
Mahallah	Smaller localities (smaller than a village)
MOHFW	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Mouza	Smallest administrative locality in an Upazila
MSH	Management Sciences for Health
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NID	National Immunization Day
OPV	Oral Polio Vaccine
TT	Tetanus Toxoid
WHO	World Health Organization

Terminology

This provides the meaning of some of the more technical terms used in this report and a brief explanation of their use.

By card: An immunization given to a child is termed as by card if the date of the dose is entered on an immunization card. Only doses recorded by card are treated as valid data in this survey.

By history: Immunization history collected from a parent's recall is termed as by history. Often no date will be mentioned. This information is only included in crude data.

Crude coverage rate is calculated from the doses recorded by card and/or by history. It is not ascertained whether the doses were given at the correct age and/or following the correct interval (where applicable). Crude data however, helps us to understand how much additional coverage could be achieved if all vaccines were given at the optimum age for the child and following the optimum interval. It also provides useful information on access to the EPI program and on the operational aspects of the provision of health services.

Valid coverage rate is calculated from the vaccinations recorded by card. Valid data includes only the doses of vaccines that were given after the minimum date of eligibility and/or after the minimum interval necessary to be effective and to protect the child. There is no maximum interval for a dose and therefore a dose administered after 52 weeks is still regarded as valid. By comparing crude coverage with valid coverage data of any particular antigen, one can determine how much coverage was lost due to the inability to give vaccine at the appropriate time.

Invalid doses are those administered at the wrong age and/or at the wrong interval. Doses administered before the minimum age in the case of DPT/Polio 1st doses and Measles vaccine or with less than four weeks interval in the case of DPT or Polio vaccines are classified as "invalid" doses.

The **criteria for a valid dose** used in this survey is the criteria recognized by the Bangladesh EPI program: minimum age for DPT/Polio 1st dose - 6 weeks old; minimum DPT/Polio interval - 4 weeks; minimum age for Measles vaccine - 38 weeks old.

Program access is measured by the percentage of children surveyed who received DPT 1st dose (crude data – by card and history) in the routine immunization session.

Fully immunized means the child has received all the doses it requires (BCG, OPV 1-3, DPT 1-3 and measles).

Missed opportunity refers to a visit of a child to a vaccination center for a dose that he received. However at that time he was also eligible for another dose of antigen that he did not receive. If the missed dose was provided at a later date, it is a *corrected missed opportunity*. If not, it is an *uncorrected missed opportunity*.

SUMMARY RESULTS

Background

The routine EPI program in the municipalities is carried out by a variety of private and public providers at fixed (hospitals, clinics, dispensaries, etc.) and at outreach sites. NGOs and private practitioners also provide immunization services in many places. The municipal authorities are primarily responsible for providing and/or coordinating primary health care including routine EPI services in municipal areas. However, in the absence of an effective management information system and reliable service statistics at municipal level, it is often difficult to assess the level of immunization coverage of the municipalities. In view of this situation, the IOCH decided to conduct a series of coverage evaluation surveys in the selected municipal areas to assess the level of immunization coverage in these municipal areas. As a part of this effort, the IOCH conducted a coverage evaluation survey in Nawabganj Municipality in June 2001.

Objectives

The overall objective of the survey was to assess the level of immunization coverage in Nawabganj Municipality. The specific objectives were to:

- a) assess the level of routine immunization coverage of the children (12-23 months) and find out the reasons for non-immunization and partial immunization.
- b) assess the level of TT immunization coverage among women of 15-49 years of age, irrespective of their marital status, and find out the reasons for non-immunization and partial immunization.
- c) assess the coverage levels of OPV and Vitamin A administered during the 9th NID campaign.

Methodology

The survey employed the WHO recommended 30-cluster survey methodology that has been widely used in many developing countries to assess immunization coverage (the survey methodology and its limitations are presented in Annex A). In all, 30 clusters were randomly selected from the Nawabganj Municipality following PPS sampling procedures. A list of the selected clusters is provided in Annex- B and their locations are shown on the maps in page 8. From each cluster, 7 children 12 – 23 months and 7 women of reproductive age (15 – 49 years) irrespective of their marital status were selected following 30 cluster survey methodology to ascertain their routine immunization coverage. Also, 7 children < 5 years (0 – 59 months) were selected to assess the immunization coverage of the 9th National Immunization Campaign.

The WHO standard questionnaires were used for documenting the routine immunization status of the children and women. Also, separate questionnaires were used to collect data on NIDs and reasons for non-immunization and dropouts. The data were collected by the experienced Field Investigators of the Survey Team of the IOCH. Data processing and analysis were done by the Monitoring & Evaluation Unit of the IOCH using COSAS 4.41¹ and EpiInfo.

¹ COSAS (Coverage Survey Analysis System) is a dedicated software for analyzing coverage evaluation survey data.

Coverage levels for the routine immunization of children

Access: Based on crude data (card plus history), 94% children received at least one dose of antigen (DPT 1st dose in this case) from routine immunization sessions. Only 6% children did not receive a dose of any antigen.

Crude coverage between 12-23 months: 94% children received BCG, 85% received three doses of OPV, 85% received three doses of DPT and 80% received measles vaccine. 79% children were fully immunized.

Valid coverage between 12-23 months: 94% children received BCG, 72% received three doses of OPV, 72% received three doses of DPT and 71% received measles vaccine. 59% children were fully immunized.

Valid coverage by 12 months: 94% children received BCG, 70% received three doses of OPV, 70% received three doses of DPT and 65% received measles vaccine. 56% children were fully immunized.

Source of immunization and distance of immunization center: Childhood immunization in this area was provided mostly by the GOB outreach centers (87%), followed by the hospitals and clinics (47%). NGO clinics provided immunization to 1% cases only. All the EPI outreach centers were located within half an hour walking distance from the homes of the children.

Reasons for non-immunization and partial immunization of children: Over one-third of the parents (39%) of the non-immunized children said that they did not immunize their children for fear of adverse reaction. About one-fourth of parents did not know that their children needed to be vaccinated for protection from six diseases. The other reasons for non-immunization were sickness of the children (15%) and fear of pain of injection (15%). As regards reasons for partial immunization or dropout, majority of the parents (44%) cited sickness of their children as a reason for dropout. 16% parents reported that they did not know that their children needed to be brought again to the vaccination centers for subsequent doses to get fully immunized. The other reasons for dropout as cited by the parents were fear of pain of injection (9%), lack of knowledge about importance of measles vaccine (9%) and child was away from home (9%).

Problems detected: Although access to immunization was quite high, there was 9% dropout from DPT1 to DPT3 and 15% from DPT1 to Measles vaccine. There were also a number of invalid doses due to early immunization (2% for DPT1, 7% for DPT2 and 4% for DPT3 and 11% for measles vaccine). However, prevalence of uncorrected missed opportunity was low (ranging from 0 for DPT2 to 1% for measles only). Child immunization cards (EPI Cards) were ever given to 94% of the children; but they were available at the time of interview in 61% of the cases. EPI Card retention rate was 65%, which means that 35% of the EPI cards were lost. Over one-third of the parents (37%) could mention correctly the number of times (i.e. 4 times) their children needed to visit the immunization centers to get fully immunized.

Coverage levels for the routine TT immunization of women

The survey of coverage levels for immunization against tetanus toxoid showed that about 87% of women of reproductive age (15-49 years) received a first dose of TT; 81% received two doses; and 21% received 5 doses of the TT vaccine. 13% never received any TT vaccine.

Dropout rate for TT immunization: The dropout rate for TT immunization among the women of reproductive age was quite high. The dropout rate for TT1 to TT2 was 6%, TT2 to TT3 was 33% and TT1 to TT5 was 75%. It implies that 75% of those women who received TT1 dose did not get fully immunized for life-long protection against tetanus.

Sources of TT immunization: Most of the women received TT vaccine from GOB outreach centers (81%), followed by hospitals and clinics (18%). NGO and private clinics provided TT immunization to 1% cases only.

Reasons for non-immunization and partial immunization of women: The main reason cited for non-immunization was that the women were unaware of the need for immunization (61%). Over one-fourth of the women mentioned that there was no provision of TT vaccine when they had their pregnancies, while 7% were afraid of the pain of TT injection. The major reasons for partial immunization or dropout were that the women were either unaware of the need to return for subsequent doses of TT immunization (55%) or the health worker did not specify when to return for the next dose of TT vaccine (12%). Another 17% women reported that they were told by the health workers that 2 or 3 doses of TT were enough for them, and as such they did not complete the 5 dose schedule of TT.

Coverage level for the 1st Round of the 9th NID campaign

During the 9th NIDs, 98% of the children <5 years received OPV in both the rounds. The coverage for OPV in either round was 99%. Vitamin A capsules were given to 94% of the eligible children during the 8th NID campaign

The primary reasons for not accepting OPV during the 9th NIDs, as cited by the parents, included lack of knowledge about NIDs and social/religious barrier.

Majority of the parents learned about the NID campaign from miking (81%), followed by the IPC of the GOB/municipal field worker (45%). Television/radio as a source of information was cited by only 7% of the parents.

Suggested solutions

The survey indicates the need for appropriate BCC activities and counseling to make the parents/caretakers understand the importance of full immunization of their children. The information must stress that each child, irrespective of sex, must be fully immunized before 12 months of age, and how to achieve full immunization (the time and place of the immunization sessions and the number of doses required). All women of childbearing age must be informed about how to prevent tetanus with 5 doses of TT vaccination to protect herself and her newborn child.

The poor quality of services, as reflected by the percentage of invalid doses (2% for DPT1, 7% for DPT2, 4% for DPT3 and 11% for measles) and dropout rates (9% for DPT1 to DPT3 and 15% for DPT1 to measles) could be further improved by proper screening of eligibility of clients for each antigen at the time of vaccination, and by adequate counseling of mothers. There is also a need to further train the service providers to help them keep up with EPI policies and guidelines and increase their capacity for counseling parents and women of reproductive age about EPI.



TABLES AND CHARTS

Table 1: Routine immunization coverage levels of the children

Name of the vaccine	Coverage (%) Immunization of 12-23 months age group		Coverage (%) Immunized by 12 months of age
	Crude data (Access)	Valid data	Valid data
BCG	94	94	94
Polio-1	94	92	92
Polio-2	91	81	80
Polio-3	85	72	70
DPT-1	94	92	92
DPT-2	91	81	80
DPT-3	85	72	70
Measles	80	71	65
Fully immunized	79	59	56
Zero Dose	6	-	-

Chart-1: Drop-out rate for childhood immunization

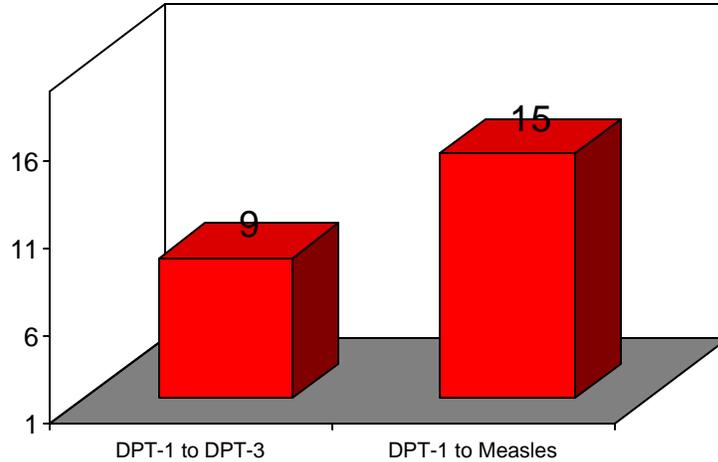


Table 2: Invalid doses of immunization provided to the children

Invalid doses	Percentage
DPT-1	2
DPT-2	7
DPT-3	4
Measles	11

Table 3: Missed opportunities by antigens

Name of the vaccine	Uncorrected		Corrected	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
BCG	2	1	2	1
DPT-1	3	1	12	6
DTP-2	0	-	10	5
DPT-3	2	1	9	4
OPV-1	3	1	12	6
OPV-2	0	-	10	5
OPV-3	2	1	9	4
Measles	1	1	4	2

Table 4: EPI card availability and retention

Card Status	Number	Percentage
EPI card available	128	61
EPI card ever given	197	94
EPI card retention	128	65

Chart 2: Sources of childhood immunization services

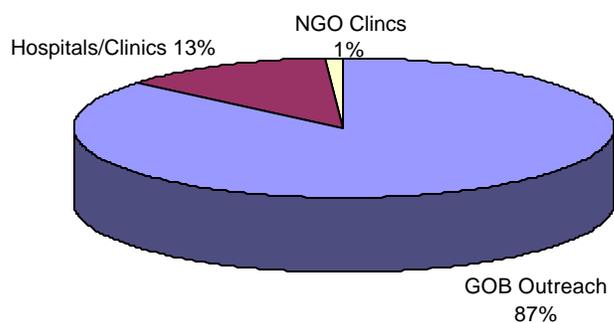


Table 5: Distance between the child's home and the vaccination site

Time (Minutes)	Number	Percentage
1-5 Min.	120	57
6-10 Min.	78	37
11-30 Min.	12	6
Don't know	0	-

Table 6: Reasons for non-immunization and partial immunization of the children

Reasons	Non- immunized (%) (N=13)	Partially immunized (%) (N=32)
Did not know about need to vaccinate the child	23	-
Did not know that the child needs to receive the 2 nd /3 rd doses	-	16
Did not know about importance of Measles vaccine	-	9
Did not know about place and time of immunization	8	-
Fear of adverse reaction	39	6
Child sick, was not taken to site	15	44
Injection was too pain full for the child	15	9
Child sick, was taken to site but not given vaccine	-	3
Child not at home or away from the house	-	9
Others	-	3

Chart 3: Respondents' knowledge about required visits to immunization centers

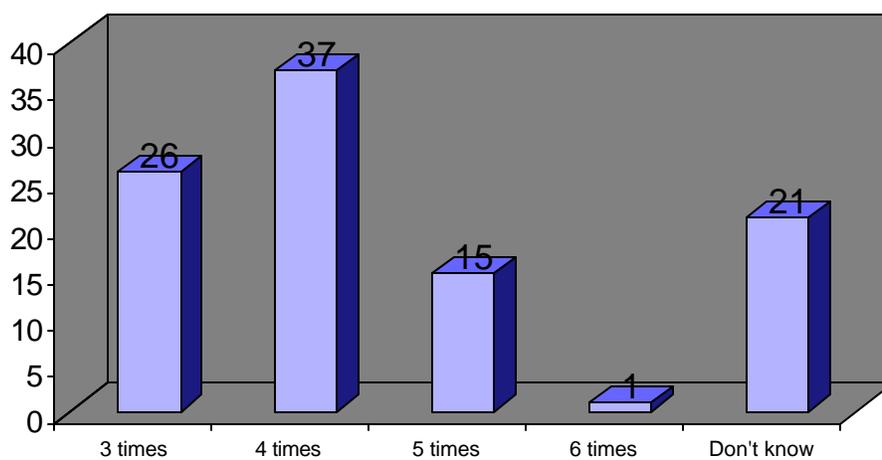


Chart 4: Routine immunization coverage levels for TT of women (15-49 years)

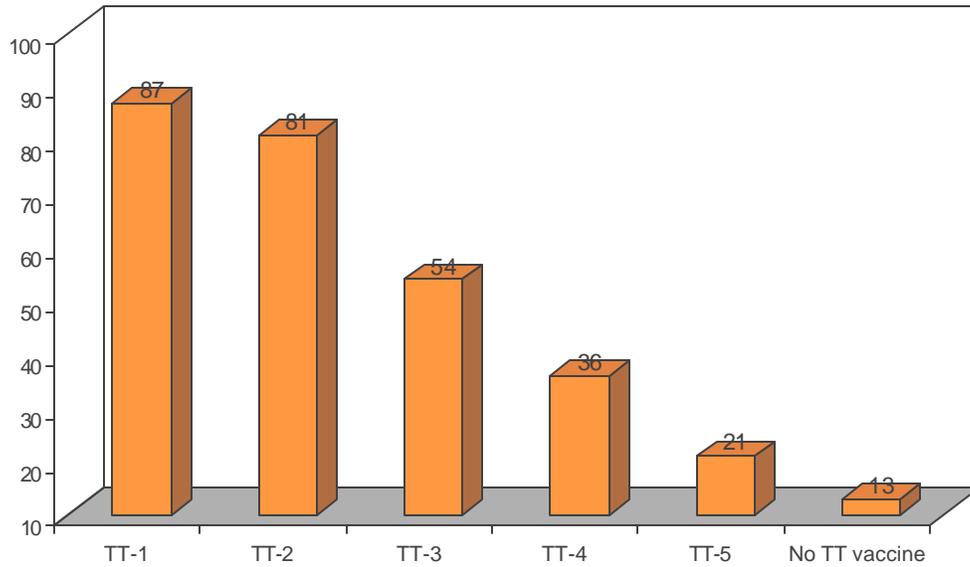


Chart 5: TT Immunization drop-out rate among women 15-49 years

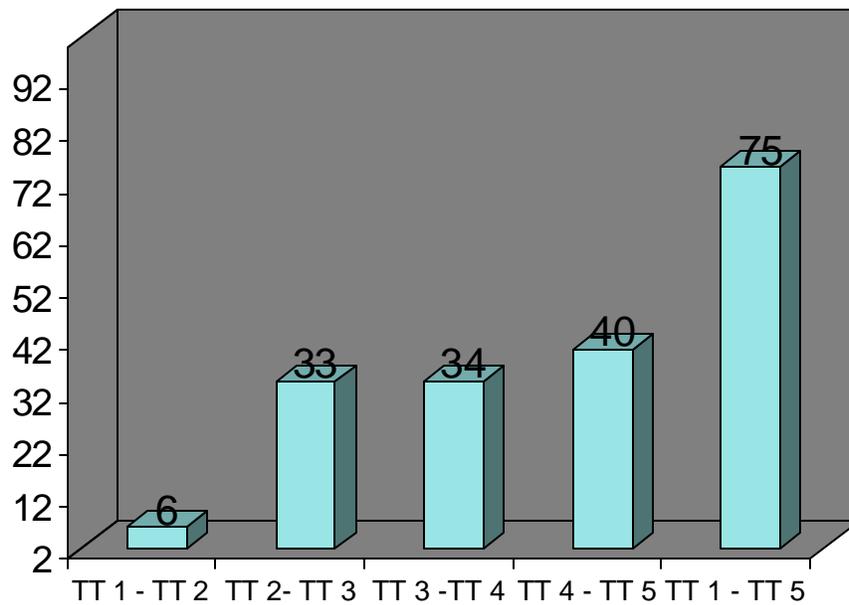


Chart 6: Providers of TT immunization

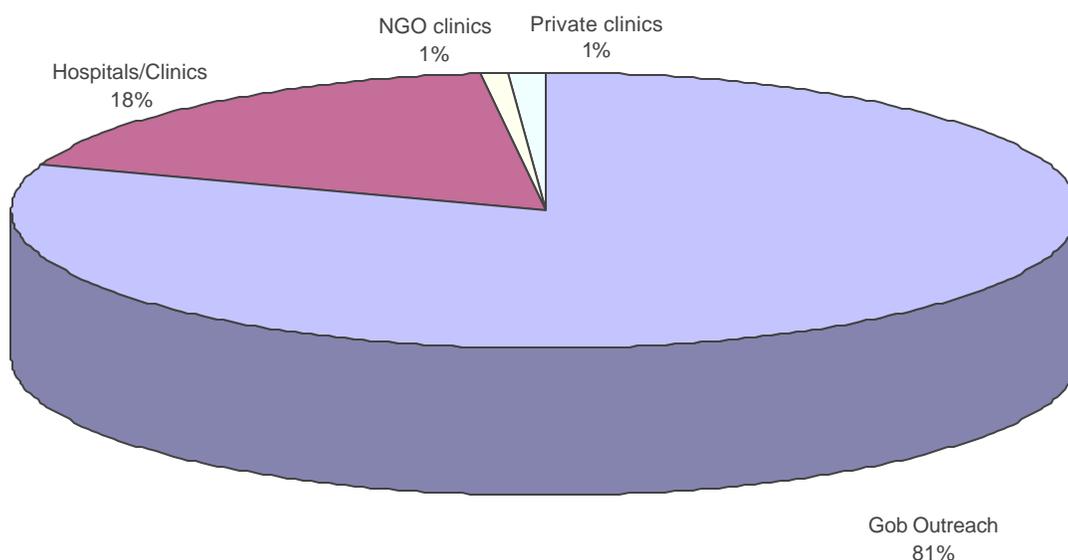


Table 7: Reasons for non-immunization and partial immunization for TT of the women

Reasons	Non- immunized (%) (N=28)	Partially immunized (%) (N=137)
Next dose is not yet due	-	9
Don't feel need for immunization	61	-
Health worker did not specify the next dose	-	12
According to health worker 2/3 doses of TT is enough during pregnancy	-	17
Unaware of need to return for subsequent doses	-	55
In our times TT immunization was not in practice	29	-
Fear of injection	7	3
Vaccinator absent	-	1
Vaccine not available	4	-
Family problem	-	1
Women ill, not brought	-	1
Women ill, not brought but not given immunization	-	1
Others	-	2

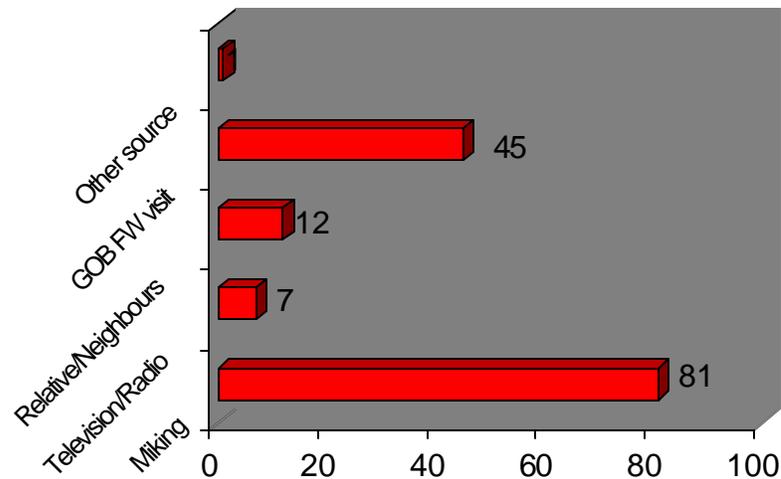
Table 8: Coverage of the 9th NID Campaign

Round	OPV %	Vit "A" %
1 st round	99	-
2 nd round	99	94
Both rounds	98	-
Any round	100	-

Table 9: Reasons for non-immunization of OPV during 9th NID campaign

Reasons	1 st Round %	2 nd Round %
Did not know about NID	-	50
Religious/social barrier	100	-
Others		50

Chart 7: Source of information about the 9th NID campaign



The following are extracts from **Anthony G Turner, Robert J Magnani and Muhammad Shuaib's** article entitled **"A not quick as quick but much cleaner alternative to the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) cluster survey design"** published in the *International Journal of Epidemiology* in 1996, volume 25, Issue No. 1, pages 198-203.

The standard EPI Cluster Survey Design

"The sample design for the EPI Cluster Survey is a two-stage design involving the selection of 30 primary sampling units or 'clusters' (usually village or other area units), from which 210 children with a target age range (usually 12-23 months) are chosen, seven children per cluster. The sample size of 210 children (per domain or stratum) is mandated by the desire to estimate the level of immunization coverage to within +/- 10 percentage points of the true population proportion with 95% statistical confidence, assuming a design effect (i.e. *deff*) of 2.0. Based upon prior experience with immunization coverage surveys (primarily in the US), 30 clusters are generally thought to be necessary to yield sufficiently reliable estimate."

"In the standard design, clusters are chosen from a list of primary sampling units (i.e. villages, urban communities, census enumeration areas etc.) through systematic random sampling with probability proportional to estimated size (*ppes*). The latest estimates of cluster population sizes, which are assumed to be proportional to the number of children in the target age group in each cluster, are typically used as measures of size. The 30 clusters so chosen are then visited by survey field staff who carry out the second stage of sample selection and conduct the household interviews."

"The original EPI design called for sample children to be chosen randomly from a list of all eligible children in each sample cluster. However, because the creation of lists of households and children tends to be time-consuming, costly, and unfeasible in some settings, this procedure is only infrequently used in actual practice. Instead, one of several simplified second stage sampling procedures is commonly used. In one variant, children are selected by first choosing a random direction from a central location in a village or community (e.g. by spinning a bottle). The number of households in that direction to the edge of the community is then counted, and one household is randomly chosen to be the first sample household. Subsequent households are chosen by visiting the nearest neighboring households until information has been gathered on seven children. In a yet simpler variant, a direction from a central starting point is randomly chosen as described above and households are contacted as the interviewer moves in the chosen direction until the required information has been gathered for seven children."

"The second stage sampling methods described above are 'quota sampling procedures' and some of the problems resulting from the use of this approach have been noted over the years."

"First, quota sampling does not ensure that every eligible member of the target population has a known, non-zero chance of being selected. Hence, the standard EPI design, as it is usually applied, is not a true probability sample design."

"A second problem concern sampling weights. However, since measures of size in sampling frames are often inaccurate due to census errors and changes in population since the census was taken, application of the standard EPI Cluster Survey method does not automatically result in a self weighting sample. The survey data must be weighed in order to yield unbiased estimates. However, since selection probabilities are not known in most EPI Cluster Survey applications, sampling weights can not be calculated."

"Thirdly, a computer simulation study demonstrates that the EPI Cluster Survey based upon quota sampling at the second stage of sample selection is considerably more prone to sampling bias than conventional cluster sampling, particularly where immunized children are 'pocketed' within clusters."

"Finally, there is the issue of how second stage sample selection should proceed in surveys with multiple measurement objectives."

List of selected clusters for the survey

Ward	Mouza Name	Mahalla Name	Total HH	T. Pop.	Cluster
1	Alinagar	Alinagar	455	2929	1
	Daudpur	Daudpur	351	2239	2
	Hazrapur Station	Hazrapur Station	494	2721	3
	Hazrapur	Hazrapur	495	2893	4
	Mohadanga	Mohadanga	338	1915	5
	Nayagola	Nayagola	243	1396	6
	Satnoly	Satnoly	155	900	7
	Chowhodditola	Chowhodditola	244	1348	8
	Dariarpur	Dariarpur	1148	6058	9
	Haripur	Haripur	1023	5903	10, 11
	Ram Krishnapur	Ram Krishnapur	272	1638	12
	Upar Rajarampur	Upar Rajarampur	916	5236	13
	3	Haluabandha	Haluabandha	288	1615
Namo Sankarbati		Namo Sankarbati	1329	7751	15, 16
Namo Rajarampur		Namo Rajarampur	1684	9504	17, 18
4	Angaria Para	Angaria Para	222	1442	19
	Char Mohonpur	Char Mohonpur	764	4685	20
	Mohonpur	Mohonpur	2179	12714	21, 22, 23
	Namo Sankarbati	Namo Sankarbati	234	1292	24
	Azaipur	Azaipur	702	3735	25
	Chandlai	Chandlai	647	4064	26
	Char Nayansuka Tikrapur	Char Nayansuka Tikrapur	592	3481	27
	Colony Para (Fakir Para)	Colony Para (Fakir Para)	249	1532	28
	Masjid Para	Masjid Para	634	3997	29
	Rehai Char	Rehai Char	565	3240	30

List of never vaccinated children identified by clusters

Ward	Mouza Name	Mahalla Name	Total HH	T. Pop.	Cluster	Never Vaccinated Children
1	Alinagar	Alinagar	455	2929	1	-
	Daudpur	Daudpur	351	2239	2	-
	Hazrapur Station	Hazrapur Station	494	2721	3	1
	Hazrapur	Hazrapur	495	2893	4	1
	Mohadanga	Mohadanga	338	1915	5	-
	Nayagola	Nayagola	243	1396	6	2
	Satnoly	Satnoly	155	900	7	-
	Chowhodditola	Chowhodditola	244	1348	8	-
	Dariarpur	Dariarpur	1148	6058	9	1
	Haripur	Haripur	1023	5903	10, 11	-
	Ram Krishnapur	Ram Krishnapur	272	1638	12	1
	Upar Rajarampur	Upar Rajarampur	916	5236	13	-
	3	Haluabandha	Haluabandha	288	1615	14
Namo Sankarbati		Namo Sankarbati	1329	7751	15, 16*	1*
Namo Rajarampur		Namo Rajarampur	1684	9504	17*, 18	1*
4	Angaria Para	Angaria Para	222	1442	19	-
	Char Mohonpur	Char Mohonpur	764	4685	20	-
	Mohonpur	Mohonpur	2179	12714	21, 22, 23	-
	Namo Sankarbati	Namo Sankarbati	234	1292	24	-
	Azaipur	Azaipur	702	3735	25	2
	Chandlai	Chandlai	647	4064	26	1
	Char Nayansuka Tikrapur	Char Nayansuka Tikrapur	592	3481	27	1
	Colony Para (Fakir Para)	Colony Para (Fakir Para)	249	1532	28	-
	Masjid Para	Masjid Para	634	3997	29	1
	Rehai Char	Rehai Char	565	3240	30	-
					Total	13

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List of IOCH Survey/Research/Technical Reports

Survey Reports

1. Vaccination Coverage Survey of the Slums of Rajshahi City Corporation- January 2000. Survey Report No. 1. May 2000
2. Vaccination Coverage Survey of the Selected Unions along the North-western Border of Bangladesh- February 2000. Survey Report No. 2. June 2000
3. Vaccination Coverage Survey of the Selected Unions along the South-west Border of Bangladesh- February 2000. Survey Report No. 3. July 2000
4. Vaccination Coverage Survey of the Slums of Khulna City Corporation- January 2000. Survey Report No. 4. July 2000
5. Vaccination Coverage Survey of the Slums of Chittagong City Corporation- January 2000. Ward Number 1 to 18. Survey Report No. 5. July 2000
6. Vaccination Coverage Survey of the Slums of Chittagong City Corporation- January 2000. Ward Number 19 to 41. Survey Report No. 6. July 2000
7. Vaccination Coverage Survey of the Dinajpur Municipality- January 2000. Survey Report No. 7. July 2000
8. Vaccination Coverage Survey of the Noakhali Municipality- January 2000. Survey Report No. 8. July 2000
9. Vaccination Coverage Survey of the Slums of Dhaka City Corporation- January 2000. Dhaka Slums of Zones 1, 2 & 4. Survey Report No. 9. July 2000
10. Vaccination Coverage Survey of the Slums of Dhaka City Corporation- January 2000. Dhaka Slums of Zones 5, 6 & 7. Survey Report No. 10. July 2000
11. Vaccination Coverage Survey of the Slums of Dhaka City Corporation- January 2000. Dhaka Slums of Zones 3, 8, 9 & 10. Survey Report No. 11. July 2000
12. Vaccination Coverage Survey of the Tribal and Non-tribal Populations in the North-east Border Areas of Bangladesh. Survey Report No. 12. August 2000
13. Vaccination Coverage Survey of the Sylhet Municipality – January 2000. Survey Report No. 13. August 2000.
14. Vaccination Coverage Survey of the Kishoreganj Municipality – April 2000. Survey Report No. 14. September 2000.
15. Vaccination Coverage Survey of the Rangpur Municipality – May 2000. Survey Report No. 15. September 2000.
16. Vaccination Coverage Survey of the Greater Faridpur Municipalities – June 2000. Survey Report No. 16 September 2000.
17. Results of Coverage Evaluation Survey of Routine EPI and August 2000 OPV + TT (NNT) Campaign, Chittagong, Khulna and Rajshahi City Corporation Slums – September 2000. Survey Report No. 17. November 2000.
18. Results of Coverage Evaluation Survey of Routine EPI and August 2000 OPV + TT (NNT) Campaign, Dhaka City Corporation Slums – September 2000. Survey Report No. 18. November 2000
19. Results of Coverage Evaluation Survey of Routine EPI and August 2000 OPV + TT (NNT) Campaign, Slums of selected 27 Municipalities– September 2000. Survey Report No. 19. November 2000
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29. Vaccination Coverage Survey of the Peri-urban Areas of DCC- Nov. 2000 (Peri-urban Area Survey-2). Survey Report No. 29. July 2001
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1. Vaccination Coverage Survey of the Teknaf and Ukhaia Upazilas- February 2000. Survey Report No. 01, August 2000
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Technical Report

1. Joint National/International Review of EPI Program in Urban Areas of Bangladesh—23 January – 3 February 2000. Technical Report No. 01, July 2000

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