

**2020 WHO Product Development for Vaccines Advisory Committee (PDVAC)**  
**Virtual Consultation 5: An update from the Vaccine Innovation Prioritisation Strategy (VIPS)**  
**8 July 2020**  
**CHAIR: David Kaslow**

**Concept note**

The **Vaccine Innovation Prioritisation Strategy (VIPS)** represents an unprecedented three-year collaboration between the Gavi Secretariat, World Health Organization (WHO), Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and PATH – known as the VIPS Alliance - to develop a single integrated framework to evaluate and prioritise innovations in vaccine product delivery, and to drive these innovations forward. The scope of VIPS includes completely new product presentations and packaging, or adaptations to existing products that could provide measurable financial or programmatic benefits to LMICs, such as increased coverage and equity or vaccine effectiveness.

Innovative approaches are needed to address immunisation barriers and achieve immunisation coverage and equity goals. Vaccine product innovations offer important means to simplify logistics, increase the acceptability and safety of immunisation, minimise missed opportunities, and facilitate outreach. There is increasing recognition of the need to employ targeted solutions to extend vaccine access to reach the unreached.

The VIPS process involved in-depth research, stakeholder consultations and development and application of a methodology capable of evaluating a variety of technologies at different stages along the product development pipeline continuum. The approach required understanding countries' needs to consider the expected impacts of innovations; developing common principles across the Alliance to assess the long-term benefits of those innovations; and convening a platform of stakeholders to articulate a clear and aligned perspective on priorities. By prioritising innovations in vaccine products, the goal of VIPS is to provide greater clarity to manufacturers and partners to inform and influence investment decisions. VIPS outcomes also represent a catalyst to mobilise key decision-makers and funders and to chart a strategic pathway forward for the prioritised innovations.

The VIPS process has concluded in May 2020 with a decision to prioritise 3 innovations / approaches for which the Alliance will engage in to advance development, policy and access:

- **Microarray patches** – an upstream novel delivery device;
- **Heat stable and Controlled Temperature Chain qualified vaccines** - a combined formulation, regulatory, and novel programmatic approach to vaccine management;
- **Barcodes on primary containers** - an implementation/system innovation

The next steps for the VIPS Alliance are to define end-to-end strategies for the 3 prioritised innovations, including developing clear action plans to accelerate their advancement to uptake and impact.

**Objectives of the meeting:**

- To inform vaccine development stakeholders about the VIPS process and prioritisation outcomes;
- To discuss if and how these outcomes could be incorporated into product development strategies for pipeline vaccines;
- To identify ways to promote awareness of desirable product presentation attributes and their impact on programmatic delivery considerations for pipeline vaccines

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**Background reading (PDVAC only):**

- Overview of the VIPS Prioritisation Process and Outcomes\_FINAL DRAFT\_2 July 2020: description of the VIPS process and consultations
- VIPS final prioritisation decisions\_FINAL: a 2 pager that describes the rationale for the outcomes

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**06:00 Seattle; 8:00 Lima; 9:00 Washington DC; 14:00 London; 15:00 Johannesburg; 15:00 Geneva; 18:30 New Delhi, 21:00 Beijing; 22:00 Seoul**

<b>Time (Geneva CEST)</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Moderators, speakers</b>
15.00 – 15.10	Welcome and roll call			David Kaslow / Birgitte Giersing
15.10 – 15.20	The rationale for VIPS	(5 + 5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why was VIPS created?</li> <li>• What problems are we trying to solve?</li> <li>• Brief description of the prioritised innovations</li> </ul>	Birgitte Giersing (WHO)
15.20 – 15.50	An overview of the VIPS prioritisation process and next steps	(20 + 10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Description of the VIPS process</li> <li>• Rationale for the prioritized outcomes</li> <li>• Future directions</li> </ul>	Marion Menozzi-Arnaud (Gavi)
15.50 – 16.00	Perspectives from WHO/IVB committee members	(3 x 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflections from 3 members of the VIPS Steering Committee who are also members of WHO advisory committees</li> </ul>	Mark Papania (CDC/PDVAC) Kelly Moore (Independent/IPAC) Alejandro Cravioto (UNAM/SAGE)
16.00- 16.10	Overview of VIPS action plans	(5 + 5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purpose, content and status, using MAP as an example.</li> </ul>	Julian Hickling (Working in Tandem)
16.10 – 16.30	Discussion	20 min	Open session	All
16.30 – 17.00	Discussion (closed session) – PDVAC only <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Does PDVAC support the prioritisation process and outcomes?</li> <li>○ How can we promote the need to optimise product presentation, i.e. thermostability, for pipeline vaccines?</li> <li>○ What opportunities are there to include novel delivery technologies in the development of pipeline products, and what are the implications of this?</li> </ul>			