

# Civil society access to Gavi vaccine prices

Frequently asked questions August 2015

### 1. Does Gavi support the delivery of immunization services by civil society organisations?

Gavi recognises the key role that civil society organisations (CSOs) play in the national immunisation programmes of many countries. Gavi encourages CSOs to work together with governments on delivery of services and to avoid setting up parallel systems. In situations where there are difficulties for NGOs communicating with the government, Gavi and partners will help facilitate the discussion through a request made to Gavi through the Secretariat or Alliance Partners.

### 2. Which countries are we talking about in terms of access to pricing?

Access to Gavi negotiated prices is for vaccines in Gavi countries that have made a decision to introduce the vaccines nationally and are receiving Gavi support, that are eligible for a <u>country tailored approach</u>, or where the <u>framework on humanitarian use</u> is applicable.

## 3. If a CSO wanted to purchase vaccines for additional age groups or target populations, how would this happen?

First, the target age groups and populations would need to be defined in accordance with WHO guidelines and position papers. Then there are two main ways to take this forward:

- a) CSOs that seek vaccines for programmes for older age groups or HIV positive children (i.e., outside the Gavi target population) can do so through the government and purchase them at the prices Gavi pays.
- b) CSOs could also make a request to UNICEF with a supporting letter from the Ministry of Health endorsing the programme and demonstrating that the organisation is accredited to provide this type of service in country. They would also be available at the prices Gavi pays<sup>1</sup>.

### 4. Are there situations where Gavi would directly support a CSO to provide vaccines?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Except in the cases of pneumococcal, rotavirus and HPV vaccines where vaccines would need to be obtained directly through the government as described in 4(a).

In countries identified by Gavi for a "country tailored approach," the situation may arise in which a CSO is funded directly by Gavi to provide services. In this case, a request should be made to the Gavi Secretariat. The CSO would need to demonstrate that it is accredited in country, and that the government or where the government is not functional, that UNICEF and WHO support this request.

### 5. What about the use of vaccines in humanitarian emergencies?

In humanitarian emergencies, Gavi supports the application of the WHO framework for vaccinating in humanitarian emergencies (links to PDF). In this case, the CSO requesting the vaccine may contact UNICEF or other procurement partners directly about procurement options. Gavi encourages the manufacturers to offer civil society organisations the lowest possible price. An example of where Gavi has helped advocate for this is in South Sudan. Following interventions by Gavi, CSOs are paying the price Gavi pays for pneumococcal vaccines.

6. If we are a CSO delivering immunization services in a Gavi-eligible country, whom should we contact to get more information?

Contact the relevant Senior Country Manager (SCM) at Gavi or email: <a href="mailto:countries@gavi.org">countries@gavi.org</a>. In the case of a humanitarian emergency, the UNICEF country office should be the first point of contact

