



Background Paper

Committee: WHO

Topic: Equitable covid-19 vaccine distribution

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Safe and efficient COVID-19 vaccines were produced in a record-breaking amount of time. Nevertheless, the virus is spreading faster than vaccines are being distributed globally. The great majority have been administered in nations with high and upper middle-incomes. If these funds had been distributed evenly, they would have been enough to cover all health workers and elderly people in the world. The term "equal distribution" means that everyone has equal access to the vaccine, and prioritizes needs and fairness, ensuring that the vaccine reaches the most vulnerable people. However, it gets complicated since in every country individuals have different interpretations of "equitable." Injustice. There is still discrimination against minorities in local distribution, as well as a lack of logistical planning in some nations.

By the end of September last year, WHO had established a goal for all nations to vaccinate 10% of their populations. 56 countries, the most of which are in Africa, we're unable to meet this goal, essentially excluding them from the global vaccination market. Equitable Allocation implies that the covid vaccine is available to those who need it the most, not just those who have the most money or resources. Although WHO's vaccination targets, countries are falling short of it, 40% of the population will be vaccinated by the end of this year and 70% by the middle of next year. As a result of the world's failure to share vaccines evenly, some of the world's poorest and most vulnerable people are suffering. Infection risks have increased in all countries for people who have not yet been vaccinated.

As COVID-19 vaccinations continue to distribute, pharmaceutical companies should share their technologies to boost supplies and cut prices, and governments should make this a priority. To prepare for large-scale immunization campaigns, all countries should ensure equitable delivery to the most vulnerable. Low-income countries should improve their logistical ability since they are particularly vulnerable, as the cost of vaccines and supply constraints limit their ability to obtain and distribute them.

Countries like Afghanistan and Nigeria are in the top 20 least vaccinated countries, having only vaccinated 6-12% of their populations, and fully vaccinated 2.5-10% of their populations, is alarming,

since new covid variants extremely contagious have been found, which could lead to increased transmissibility or the possible escape from the effectiveness of existing vaccinations.

The earliest variety discovered was B.1.351, sometimes known as Beta, discovered in May 2020, in South Africa. Then came B.1.1.7, often known as Alpha, which was discovered in September 2020. Then came B.1.617.2 (Delta), discovered in India in October 2020. The P.1 (Gamma) variety was discovered in November 2020, in Brazil. Variant C.37 (Lambda) was discovered in Peru in December 2020. B.1.621 (Mu), discovered in Colombia last January, and B.1.1.529 (Omicron), discovered in southern Africa, Botswana, Hong Kong, and Israel last month.

The goal to equally distribute vaccines and help people survive all these mentioned variants, can only be met if countries and companies in charge of vaccine delivery prioritize COVAX (COVAX seeks to speed up the development and production of COVID-19 vaccines while ensuring fair and equal access to all countries. The Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations is a partner in COVAX (CEPI)), and the African Vaccine Acquisition Trust (AVAT) for deliveries and donated doses. It's essential that those doses go to those who need them the most, such as the elderly, health-care workers, and other groups who have the most risk receive priority.

The quickest way to put an end to the pandemic is to make vaccines accessible to everyone, everywhere. However, Only a few countries now have widespread vaccination access, meaning that the virus will continue to evolve and spread across countries. We urge the countries and firms in charge of global vaccine supply to make COVAX and AVAT a top priority right now. Delegates we trust all of you will put in the effort, we have the capacity to end the pandemic if we use vaccines properly and distribute them evenly.

"During this pandemic, the most vulnerable have been the hardest hit .We must increase our resilience. We must work together and take an integrated approach to health, hunger, climate, and equity crisis — no one is safe from COVID-19 until everyone is safe."

Volkan Bozkır, President of the United Nations General Assembly

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