



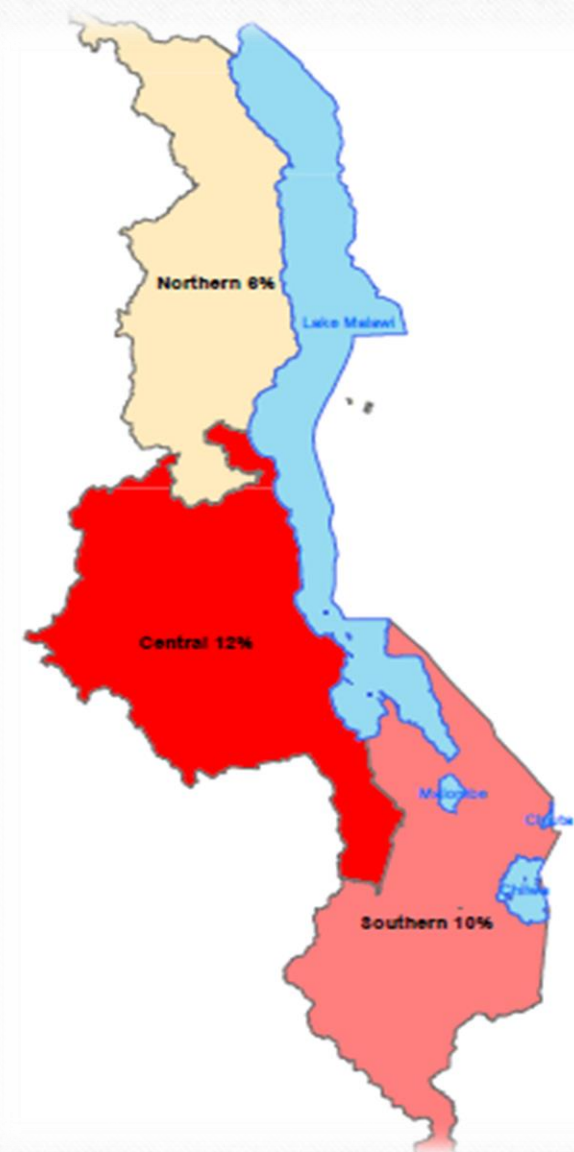
Credit: WHO/M.Nieuwenhof

Malawi country experience

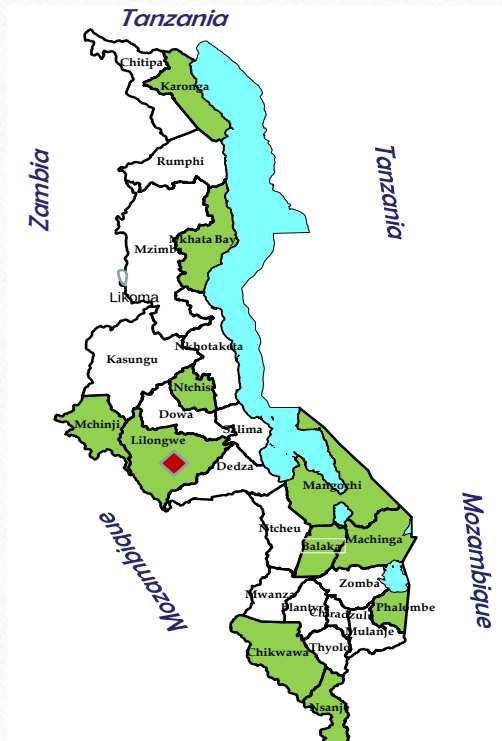


Malaria in Malawi

- Leading cause of morbidity among children under age 5
- High transmission throughout the year
- World Malaria Report estimates for 2019¹:
 - 3.9 million cases [range 2.9-5.0 million]
 - 6,308 deaths [5,610-7,240]
- Malaria prevalence in children under age 5 has decreased from 24% in 2017 to 10.5% in 2021 (MMIS 2021)
- Overall decrease in mortality from 23 / 100,000 in 2016 to 8 / 100,000 in 2022³
- MIS 2021²:
 - ITN use in children under age 5 : 53%
 - Women receiving preventive treatment (IPTp1+ / IPTp3+): 94% / 56%



Malaria vaccine introduction in Malawi



- **Application** for participation
 - Involved partners: PATH, UNICEF, MHEN, JSI, Evaluation Partners
- **Governance structures** pre-introduction – NTF then MVCG
- **Planning and coordination** of introduction
 - Development of introduction plan
 - Coordination at national level (involved MOH partners, EPI and NMCP)
 - District selection (Including randomization)
 - Partners involved
- Malawi introduced malaria vaccine into its routine immunization programme in April 2019 in 11 districts
 - Vaccinating and non-vaccinating clusters within each district

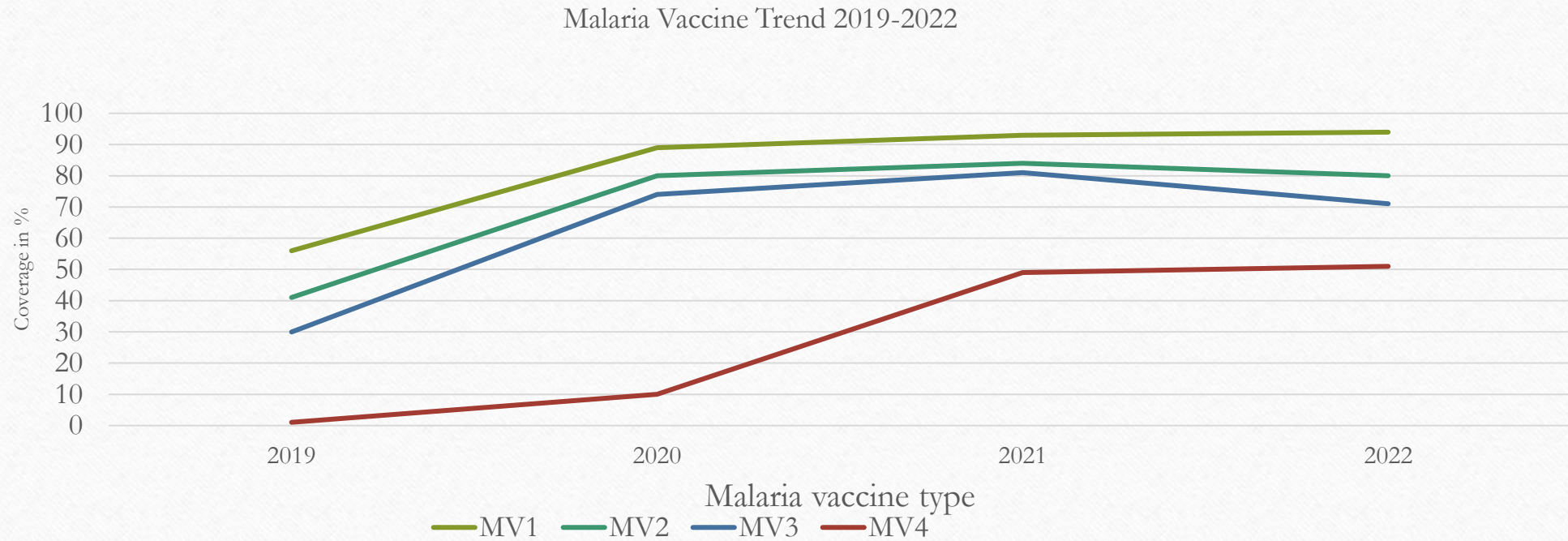
Three years of malaria vaccine in Malawi

- Malawi dose schedule: 5, 6, 7 and 22 months
- Cumulatively from April 2019 to September 2022: Approx 1.5 million doses
- Reporting period Jan-Dec 2022:
 - MV1:129,531 (94%)
 - MV3: 110,998 (80%)
 - MV4: 69,900 (51%)
 - Drop-out rate MV1-MV3: 18%

Malawi Vaccination Schedule

Child Age	Birth	6 wks	10 wks	14 wks	5 mo	6 mo	7 mo	9 mo	12 mo	15 mo	18 mo	22 mo	24 mo
Vaccine													
BCG	1												
Oral polio (up to 2 weeks)	0	1	2	3									
DTP-HepB-Hib (penta)		1	2	3									
Pneumococcal conj.		1	2	3									
Rotavirus		1	2										
Inactivated Polio				1									
Measles-Rubella								1		2			
Vitamin A						1			2		3		4
Malaria Vaccine (MV)					1	2	3					4	

Immunization performance



Lessons learnt

- Ministry of Health **commitment at highest** levels facilitated successful programme implementation
- Planning and coordination at national level involving all key stakeholders – including EPI and NMCP
- Social mobilization and community engagement was critical for vaccine demand creation amongst caregivers
 - Community engagement (caregivers, key opinion leaders, local and religious leaders) increased demand for malaria vaccine over time
 - Particularly important with **quiet launch in 2019**, high uptake achieved in relatively short period
 - Need for enhanced social mobilization for 4th dose of malaria vaccine demand creation – this is ongoing

Lessons learnt...

- **Supportive supervision** (technical support in communities) to identify challenges and provide timely solutions:
 - *Example:* job aids, on-site training for health workers to increase understanding of when children are eligible for vaccination through the schedule, and answer caregiver questions
 - Responding to needs of health workers – as primary messengers to caregivers (vaccine benefits, when to return for next dose, continue to use other malaria prevention, such as bednets)
- **Stakeholder engagement** at district level
 - Districts share experiences and learn from each other
 - *Example:* quarterly workplan to improve programme performance with follow up

Other important activities

- **Post-introduction evaluation** – assessing new vaccine introduction in routine immunization (6-12 months post introduction)
- Assess and improve data quality
- Reaching children with missed doses – (Periodic Intensification of Routine Immunization or PIRI)
 - Targeting 2YL (second year of life) vaccines – 2nd dose of measles with 4th dose of malaria vaccine
- Coordination and governance activities
 - District and cluster review meetings
 - Malaria vaccine programme coordination group meeting

Expansion of Malaria vaccine to comparator areas

- With funding from GiveWell/Open philanthropy, the country started preparations in July 2022 to expand the vaccine into comparator areas.
- Malaria vaccine is now rolled out to all (336) health facilities in 11 districts since 29 November 2022 with a launch ceremony presided over by the Secretary for Health^{-in pic}, supported by WHO, PATH, UNICEF and other partners.
 - Revised and printed monitoring tools
 - Conducted trainings
- Plans are to expand the malaria vaccine to additional districts through phased approach in 2024.



Malawi hails malaria vaccine approval

JOSEPH MWALE, MZUZU BUREAU SUPERVISOR

Malawi has hailed the World Health Organisation (WHO) approval of malaria vaccine, saying it will complement other interventions towards reducing the number of people affected by the disease.

In an interview yesterday, National Malaria Control Programme manager Dr. Michael Kayange said while the vaccine was not a magic bullet in itself, it will add on to other efforts such as insecticide-treated net distribution and case management in helping to deal with the disease.

He said: "The vaccine is not a magic bullet that will end malaria, but it is an additional tool to other interventions. These interventions are the key to ending malaria."



Malawi Embraces Malaria Vaccination

Written by John Paul Kayuni Saturday, 09/10/2021



← Ministry of Health, Malawi
711 Tweets

Tweets Tweets & replies Media Likes

 **Ministry of Health, Malawi** ... · 06 Oct
WHO has approved the Malaria Vaccine, RTS,S
7 80 165

 **Scotland Malawi Partnership** ... · 5h
Hearing LIVE from Dr. Mike Chisema in [#Malawi](#) [@health_malawi](#), sharing Malawi's plans for the GSK [#malariavaccine](#) RTS,S + a [#COVID19](#) update, at today's Covid Co-ordination and Health Forum.

[#Scotland](#) [#Malawi](#)
[#ScotlandMalawiPartnership](#)

 **Timveni Online**
[@timvenionline](#)

World Vision Malawi has reaffirmed its commitment towards supporting awareness drive and availability of the new Malaria vaccine in all facilities across the country. [#TimveniNews](#)



timveni.com
WORLD VISION PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR MALARIA VACCINE ROLLOUT

15:21 · 12 Oct 21 · [Twitter for Android](#)

h will include the malaria
od immunization programs
h Organization (WHO) approved
a vaccine for use following
ee African countries.

sperson Adrian Chikumbe told us
oost immunity and subsequently
ildren who are heavily affected

exact time this will start,
istry has already been giving
ildren in some districts in its pilot

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THANK YOU
ZIKOMO