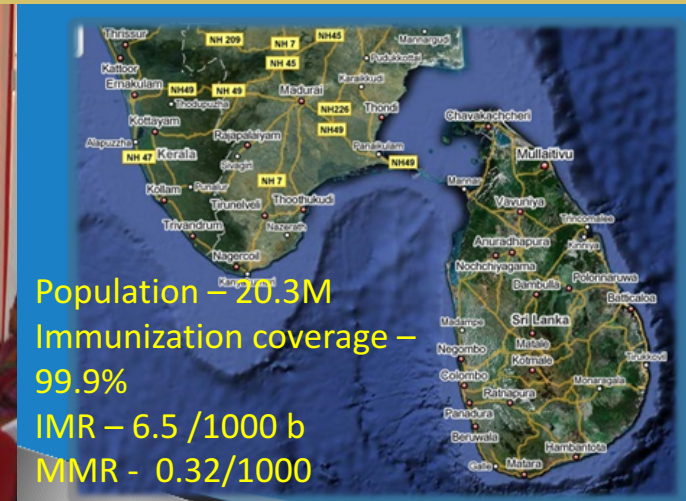


# National Immunization Technical Advisory Committee-Sri Lanka (Advisory Committee on Communicable Diseases)



**Dr. Palitha Mahipala**

MBBS, MSc, MD, MBA, FCMA, DPM, DBS, DED, DMgt, DDWA

# STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION

**CHAIRMAN** – Director General of Health Services

**SECRETARY** – Chief Epidemiologist

**ACADEMIC EXPERTS** - Epidemiology

- Pharmacology
- Pharmacovigilance
- Immunology

**EXPERTS ON SPECIFIC DISEASES** – Malaria

- Filariasis
- Dengue
- Leprosy
- HIV/AIDS
- TB

**UN Agencies** - WHO and UNICEF

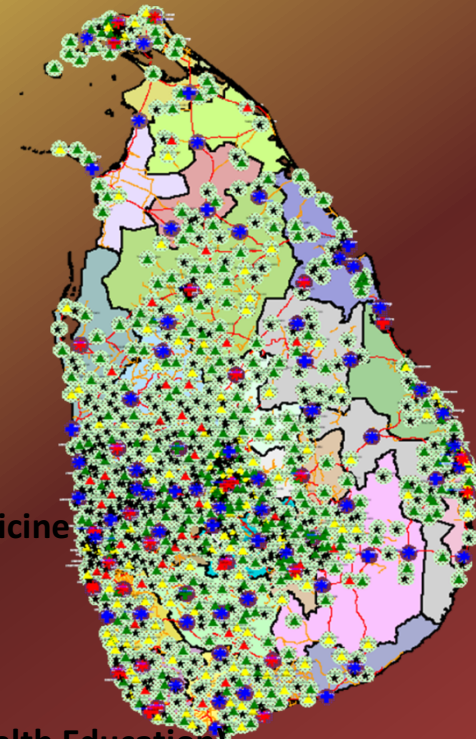
**PROFESSIONAL BODIES** - College of Pediatricians

- College of Physicians
- College of Microbiologist
- College of General Practitioners
- Sri Lanka Medical Association and College of Community Medicine

**MANAGEMENT** - National Medicinal Regulatory Authority

- Medical Logistics
- Quarantine Services
- Health Administration DDG – PHS /DIRECTOR - MCH/ Director – Health Education)

**ALTOGETHER 36 MEMBERS**





# RESPONSIBILITIES OF ACCD

1. REVIEWING THE STATUS OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
  - VACCINE PREVENTABLE
  - OTHER COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
2. ALL POLICY DECISIONS RELATED TO NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION PROGRAMME
3. DEVELOPMENT OF NEW NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION POLICY
4. DRAFTING IMMUNIZATION ACT
  - ACCD IN SRI LANKA ACTS MORE THAN AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE, IT'S A DECISION MAKING BODY



# PROCEDURES AND AREAS OF HANDLING



## PROCEDURES

1. Quarterly Meetings
2. Emergency Meetings
3. Vaccine summit (annual meeting)

## AREAS OF HANDLING

1. Approval of new vaccine introduction
2. Improvements of specific areas of immunization
  - Training
  - dealing with private sector
  - cold chain improvement
3. Changes in immunization strategies
4. Addressing immunization related safety issues and concerns



# ASSESSMENT OF ACCD BEFORE NEW VACCINE INTRODUCTION

1. EVIDENCE ON DISEASE BURDEN
  2. VACCINE SAFETY AND EFFECTIVENESS
  3. FEASIBILITY
  4. COST AND COST EFFECTIVENESS
  5. IF ROUTINE DATA NOT AVAILABLE ACCD RECOMMENDS
    - disease burden studies
    - additional studies on vaccine safety
    - studies on immunology of Sri Lankan population
  6. SPECIAL COMMITTEES APPOINTED ON EACH SUCH AREAS
- All scientific data to be submitted to annual vaccine summit for final recommendations**



# TOOLS USING FOR DECISION MAKING

- RESEARCH STUDY FINDINGS
- FIELD SUPERVISION REPORTS
- AEFI –INVESTIGATIONS
  - ex. AEFI AFTER PENTAVALENT ,DEATH FOLLOWING RUBELLA VACCINATION
- DISEASE OUTBREAK REPORTS
  - ex MEASELS OUTBREAK
- TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS BY RELAVANT EXPERT
- EVIDENCE BASED SURVEILLANCE REPORTS





# POLICY DECISIONS TAKEN BY ACCD

## 1. PIONEER IN ASIAN REGION IN INTRODUCING SEVERAL NEW VACCINES

. JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS

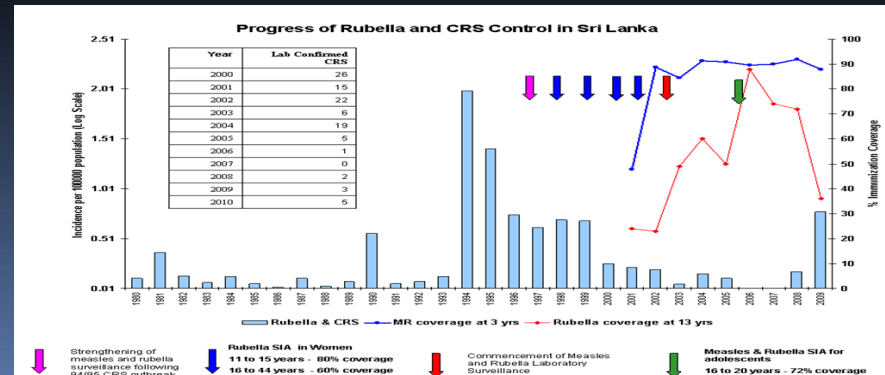
. RUBELLA

. TETANUS- DIPHTHERIA FOR OLDER CHILDREN

. HEPATITIS B

. *HAEMOPHILUS INFLUENZAE B* ( Hib )

- 2. IMPROVING QUALITY OF IMMUNIZATION SERVICES
- 3. STRENGTHENING VACCINE COLD CHAINS
- 4. INVESTIGATING ADVERSE EVENTS FOLLOWING



# POLICY DECISIONS ctd

## 5. IMPROVING SURVEILLANCE OF VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES

## 6. CHANGES IN IMMUNIZATION STRATEGIES

- ADDING SUPPLEMENTARY IMMUNIZATION ACTIVITIES FOR PRIORITY VACCINES (CAMPAIGNS)
- CHANGES TO VACCINATION SCHEDULE
- STRATEGIES FOR VULNERABLE GROUPS (IDPs)

## 7. ADDRESSING IMMUNIZATION RELATED SAFETY ISSUES

- . ORDERING INVESTIGATIONS FOR SEVERE - AEFI
- . DECISIONS REGARDING SUSPENSION AND RE-INTRODUCTION OF VACCINES
- . INVESTIGATIONS OF DEATHS RELATED TO IMMUNIZATION
- . PROVIDING ADVICES TO NATIONAL DRUG REGULATORY AUTHORITY ON TOXICITY , STERILITY etc





# SUSTAINABILITY AND CHALLENGES

- **SUSTAINABILITY**
  - STRUCTURE WITHIN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH
  - MORE THAN 50 YEARS EXPERIENCE
  - RECOGNIZE BY THE POLITICAL AUTHORITY
  - NEW POLICY AND ACT WILL ENSURE MORE AUTHORITY
- **CHALLENGES**
  - EXPANSION OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR
  - HUMAN RIGHT ISSUES AND EQUITY ISSUES
    - INDIVIDUAL VACCINATION BEYOND THE SCHEDULE
  - FREE ECONOMIC POLICIES
  - COST OF NEW VACCINES AND AFFORDABILITY
  - PRIVATE HEALTH SECTOR REGULATION
  - PUBLIC CONCERN ON QUALITY AND SAFETY
  - PRIORATIZATION –DIFFERENT OPENIONS AMONG EXPERTS



# WAY FORWARD

ACCD SRILANKA COULD BE TAKEN AS A MODEL

AS IMMUNIZATION AND CDS ARE TAKEN TOGETHER MORE RECOGNITION BY THE GOVERNMENT

LEADERSHIP BY THE DGHS MAKE , ACCD DECISIONS TO POLICY DECISIONS

NETWORKING WITH REGIONAL AND EXTRA REGIONAL SUCH COMMITTEES ARE IMPORTANT TO SHARE GOOD PRACTICES.

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION IS IMPORTANT FOR GENERATING SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE FOR DECISION MAKING

MORE INVOLVEMENT WITH PRIVATE SECTOR AND TRADE UNIONS MAY BE IMPORTANT.





THANK YOU

