What you should know about vaccine choices:

Not all vaccine presentations are alike. Each product presents trade-offs that need to be considered in the context of different countries.

It is critical for a national decision-maker to understand his or her country’s unique situation and the objectives of the program, along with the vaccination strategy being used in order to select a presentation that is likely to be most successful in that context.

Vaccine purchase price per dose is not necessarily a good predictor of total cost per dose delivered. An expensive vaccine presentation might end up costing less per dose delivered than an inexpensive presentation when all the delivery costs are taken into account.

There are many factors that go into total cost per dose delivered, including: packaging size for cold chain transport and storage; number of product components that must be ordered, stored, and transported; product complexity and resulting training and supervision needs; health worker time needed to prepare the vaccine; and whether or not the vaccine can be kept for more than one session after the container is opened.

There is no one “right choice” — this will vary by country, strategy and situation. It is important to take all these factors into consideration when making a vaccine product choice.
# Relevant Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource Type</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Product profiles</strong></td>
<td>Generic preferred product profiles for vaccine destined for use in developing countries</td>
<td>Vaccine Presentation and Packaging Advisory Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Website</strong></td>
<td>Immunization policies and recommendations</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Article</strong></td>
<td>Designing vaccines for developing-country populations; ideal attributes, delivery devices, and presentation formats</td>
<td>Science Direct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Document</strong></td>
<td>Assessing the Programmatic Suitability of Vaccine Candidates for WHO Prequalification, WHO/IVB/12.10</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Document</strong></td>
<td>The Right Shot: Extending the Reach of Affordable and Adapted Vaccines</td>
<td>Doctors Without Borders</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Websites of Organizations and Groups Working on This Issue

- Vaccine Presentation and Packaging Advisory Group: [sites.google.com/site/vppagp/](sites.google.com/site/vppagp/)
- PATH: [sites.path.org/](sites.path.org/)
- WHO: [www.who.int/immunization](www.who.int/immunization)
- UNICEF: [www.unicef.org/immunization](www.unicef.org/immunization)
- UNICEF Supply Division: [www.unicef.org/supply/](www.unicef.org/supply/)
- Developing Country Vaccine Manufacturers Network (DCVMN): [www.dcvmn.org/](www.dcvmn.org/)
- Maternal and Child Health Integrated Program (MCHIP): [www.mchip.net/](www.mchip.net/)
- GAVI Alliance: [www.gavialliance.org/](www.gavialliance.org/)
- The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation: [www.gatesfoundation.org/](www.gatesfoundation.org/)
- Doctors Without Borders: [www.doctorswithoutborders.org](www.doctorswithoutborders.org)