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Rotavirus Epidemiology and the Potential Impact of Vaccination in Dhaka, Bangladesh

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Yale School of Public Health



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Rotavirus burden in Bangladesh from 8 sentinel sites



Rotavirus was detected in 64% (4832/7562) of children <5 years of age admitted with AGE

57% of patients with rotavirus infection were aged $<\!12$ months of age

Peak detection rates of >80% between November and February

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Our Goal

Disparity in the levels of urbanization within Dhaka may influence spatial variation in rotavirus



The data comes from systematic stool samples of diarrheal patients presenting to **iccdr,b hospital in Dhaka**:

Every 25th (4%) patient sampled between 1990 and 1995 and 50th (2%) afterwards

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To use mathematical modeling to:

quantify the potential impact of rotavirus vaccines in Dhaka

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The data comes from systematic stool samples of diarrheal patients presenting to **iccdr,b hospital in Dhaka**:

Every 25th (4%) patient sampled between 1990 and 1995 and 50th (2%) afterwards

To use mathematical modeling to:

quantify the potential impact of rotavirus vaccines in Dhaka

identify the optimal dosing schedule that would maximize vaccine benefits in Dhaka

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Data overview - weekly cases and age distribution



Year-round transmission with seasonal peaks

Confirmed cases per week can be more than 40

Annual average of more than 500 confirmed cases

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Data overview - weekly cases and age distribution



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51% of the cases in infants aged 5-11 months

3% of cases in infants <3 months

Data overview - weekly cases and age distribution



Year-round transmission with seasonal peaks

Confirmed cases per week can be more than 40

Annual average of more than 500 confirmed cases









The intensity of the biannual signal is decreasing over time

The intensity of the annual signal is increasing over time

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M – Maternal S – Susceptible I – Infective R - Recovered

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Model Description



M – Maternal S – Susceptible I – Infective R - Recovered

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Schedule(weeks)	No. of doses	Age for vaccine (months)
6/10	2	2, 3
10/14	2	3, 4
6/10/14	3	2, 3, 4
6/10/40	3	2, 3, 9
1/6/10	3	0, 2, 3
1/10/14	3	0, 3, 4

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6/10	2	2, 3
10/14	2	3, 4
6/10/14	3	2, 3, 4
6/10/40	3	2, 3, 9
1/6/10	3	0, 2, 3
1/10/14	3	0, 3, 4

Model parameters describing vaccine effectiveness

• Vaccine response rate (S_C) \rightarrow 50 - 90%

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6/10	2	2, 3
10/14	2	3, 4
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6/10/40	3	2, 3, 9
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1/10/14	3	0, 3, 4

Model parameters describing vaccine effectiveness

- Vaccine response rate (S_C) \rightarrow 50 90%
- Vaccine induced immunity duration $(\omega_v) \rightarrow 3$ 60 months

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6/10	2	2, 3
10/14	2	3, 4
6/10/14	3	2, 3, 4
6/10/40	3	2, 3, 9
1/6/10	3	0, 2, 3
1/10/14	3	0, 3, 4

Model parameters describing vaccine effectiveness

- Vaccine response rate (S_C) \rightarrow 50 90%
- Vaccine induced immunity duration $(\omega_v) \rightarrow 3$ 60 months
- Vaccination coverage \rightarrow fixed at 90%

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Results - pre-vaccination model validation for Dhaka



Model was able to predict peak timing, duration and intensity of winter epidemics

Model was able to reproduce the shift from biannual to annual epidemics

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Results - pre-vaccination model validation for Dhaka



Model was able to predict peak timing, duration and intensity of winter epidemics

Model was able to reproduce the shift from biannual to annual epidemics



Model reasonably predicted the observed trend in age distribution

Good agreement with the proportion of cases in all age groups above 1 year

Over- or under-estimated proportion in some age group

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Results - what is the key driver of the observed pre-vaccination seasonal shift?



Consistent declining in birth rate

A drop from 35 in 1990 to 18 in 2020

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Results - what is the key driver of the observed pre-vaccination seasonal shift?



Consistent declining in birth rate

A drop from 35 in 1990 to 18 in 2020

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Results - projected vaccine impact: S_C and ω_v effect



Vaccine response rate and duration of vaccine-induced immunity are important factors influencing vaccine performance

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Results - Projected vaccine impact





Clear indication of vaccine induced protection

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Results - Projected vaccine impact



Clear indication of vaccine induced Lower vaccine protection protection

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Results - Projected vaccine impact



Moderate to substantial variations in vaccine impact among different dosing schedules Differences exist among dosing schedules with the same number of doses

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Median reductions range from 59% to 71%

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59% to 71%

Median reductions range from 34% to 49%

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59% to 71%

Median reductions range fro 34% to 49%

Median reductions range from 42% to 57%

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1/6/10 and 6/10/14 are the optimal dosing schedules

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1/6/10 and 6/10/14 are the optimal dosing schedules

6/10 and 10/14 results in lower reduction in rotavirus incidence

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Declining in Rotavirus cases Public Health benefits

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The commonly used 6/10 and 10/14 schedules in LMICs may not be optimal for Dhaka

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The commonly used 6/10 and 10/14 schedules in LMICs may not be optimal for Dhaka

Future cost-effectiveness analysis among these schedules could help identify the optimal schedule for Dhaka

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The commonly used 6/10 and 10/14 schedules in LMICs may not be optimal for Dhaka

Future cost-effectiveness analysis among these schedules could help identify the optimal schedule for Dhaka

The model can be useful to support policy-makers considering rotavirus vaccine introduction or switching to a different vaccine

We thank our collaborators Monira Sarmin, A. S. G. Faruque and Tahmeed Ahmed at the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B)

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Thank you

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Rainfall-related indices

Weekly Degree of Wetness (dow)

 $dow = \frac{(\# of wetdays in a week) \times (total rainfall in a week)}{7}$

2 Simple water balance model (wpre) - predicts presence of surface water

Temperature-related indices

3 Diurnal Temperature Range (dtr)

 $dtr = T_{max} - T_{min}$

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Incorporating meteorological Indices

The force of infection at time t is given by:

Model 0

$$\lambda(t) = \beta_o \left(1 + \underbrace{\frac{b_1 \cos\left(\frac{2\pi t - \phi_1}{52.18}\right)}_{\text{annual}} + \underbrace{\frac{b_2 \cos\left(\frac{2\pi t - \phi_2}{26.09}\right)}_{\text{biannual}}}_{\text{biannual}} \right) \sum_{i=1}^{\geq 3} \rho_i l_i(t)$$

Model A

$$\lambda(t) = \beta_o \left(1 + \underbrace{b_1 cos\left(\frac{2\pi t - \phi_1}{52.18}\right)}_{\text{annual}} + \underbrace{b_2 cos\left(\frac{2\pi t - \phi_2}{26.09}\right)}_{\text{biannual}} + \underbrace{\operatorname{dtr}_s(\operatorname{dtr})}_{\operatorname{Dtr}} + \underbrace{\operatorname{dow}_s(\operatorname{dow})}_{\operatorname{Dow}} \right) \sum_{i=1}^{\ge 3} \rho_i l_i(t)$$

Model B

$$\lambda(t) = \beta_o \left(1 + \underbrace{b_1 cos\left(\frac{2\pi t - \phi_1}{52.18}\right)}_{\text{annual}} + \underbrace{b_2 cos\left(\frac{2\pi t - \phi_2}{26.09}\right)}_{\text{biannual}} + \underbrace{\operatorname{dtr}_s(\operatorname{dtr})}_{\text{Dtr}} + \underbrace{\operatorname{wpre}_s(\operatorname{wpre})}_{\text{Wpre}} \right) \sum_{i=1}^{\geq 3} \rho_i I_i(t)$$

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Impact of birth rate and meteorological indices







Wavelet Power Spectrum



Global Wavelet Spectrum







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Model		Complete	Part 1	Part 2
Model 0	sbr	34110.640	18149.423	15748.394
	br	34158.287	18231.593	15701.277
Model A	sbr	34064.660	18137.479	15633.230
	br	34125.598	18218.051	15637.811
Model B	sbr	34036.499	18134.433	15630.233
	br	34113.684	18216.716	15636.716

sbr are models incorporating seasonal variation in the crude birth rate br are models without seasonal variation in the crude birth rate

Based on AIC, the model with Model B_{sbr} best fit the data

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Data overview - observed shift from biannual to annual patterns - Dhaka



Complete (1990 - 2019)

Biannual at the beginning Annual at the end

Part 1 (1990 - 2002)

The intensity of the **biannual signal** is decreasing over time

Part 2 (2003 - 2012)

The intensity of the **annual signal** is increasing over time

Part 3 (2013 - 2019)

Rotavirus exhibits strong annual cycle

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Results - post-vaccination model validation for Navrongo, Ghana



Satisfactory agreement between model and observed post-vaccination cases

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$$\frac{\mathrm{d}w_{\mathrm{pond}}}{\mathrm{d}t} = \frac{2}{\rho h_{\mathrm{ref}}} \left(\frac{w_{\mathrm{ref}}}{w_{\mathrm{pond}}}\right)^{\rho/2} \left(\left(Q(w_{\mathrm{max}} - w_{\mathrm{pond}}) + Pw_{\mathrm{pond}}\right)(1 - f) - w_{\mathrm{pond}}(E + fI_{\mathrm{max}})\right)$$

where w_{pond} is the daily fractional flood water coverage, ρ is the geometrical shape factor, w_{max} is the maximum flood water coverage, h_{ref} is the reference flood water depth, w_{ref} is the reference flood water coverage, Q is the runoff, P is the rainfall, I_{max} is the maximum infiltration and $f = \frac{w_{pond}}{w_{max}}$. The daily fractional flood water coverage is aggregated into weekly time series to use in the model

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