Failure to vaccinate children against measles & rubella puts them at risk of severe health complications, such as:
- Blindness
- Brain Damage
- Deafness
- Heart Disorders
- Pneumonia
- Diarrhea
- Rubella/CRS
- Measles

MEASLES & RUBELLA MOVE FAST

Infection in children and adults is usually mild, but infection during pregnancy can cause miscarriage, fetal death, and a set of birth defects known as congenital rubella syndrome (CRS).

A pregnant woman infected with rubella during the first three months of pregnancy has up to a 90 percent chance of giving birth to a baby with CRS.

Babies born with CRS may have multiple birth defects, including heart disorders, blindness, deafness or brain damage.

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Every year, over 116.6 million infants receive their first dose of measles-containing vaccine (MCV1) from their nation’s routine immunization systems, which are crucial for preventing measles and rubella.

Unfortunately, 19.2 million infants a year miss out on their first dose, including:
- Almost 4 million children in Nigeria
- Almost 4.4 million children in Pakistan
- Almost 4.3 million children in Indonesia
- Almost 3.6 million children in Ethiopia

Countries with low immunization coverage periodically conduct mass immunization campaigns to protect children who missed their first or second dose of measles vaccines in the routine immunization system.

Since 2005, over 3.86 billion doses of measles vaccine have been delivered in campaigns alone.

Rubella vaccine is usually given as a combination with measles vaccine and rubella coverage rates are closely related to measles rates. However, 21 countries have yet to include rubella vaccination in their immunization schedule.

A household in Ethiopia can lose 1 month’s income if 1 child is sick from measles.

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Increasing Vaccination Coverage Rates Saves and Improves Lives

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