HPV vaccination drive - Cervical Cancer Awareness Program for School Students

Date: 14th August 2025

Venue: Raidighi Srifaltala Chandrakanta High School, Raidighi

Time: 12.30 -1.30 pm

Participants: Std 11 and 12 school students

Speakers: 1) Dr Arunima Biswas, Microbiologists Society India West Bengal Unit President and

HoD Department of Microbiology, Raidighi College

2) Dr Arvinda Shaw - NSS PO-1

Introduction:

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is a common sexually transmitted infection that can cause cervical cancer, genital warts, and other cancers. HPV is common in India, with an estimated 6.6% of women currently infected and a 60% risk of infection for women. The prevalence of HPV cancers is also high, as cervical cancer is the second most common cancer among Indian women, and there is a rising incidence of HPV related cancers in men, such as oropharyngeal cancer.

HPV Awareness Program was organised by Raidighi College NSS Unit 1 in collaboration with MSI- West Bengal Unit and Department of Microbiology, Raidighi College on 14th August 2025. Dr Arunima Biswas Microbiologists Society India, West Bengal Unit, President and HoD Department of Microbiology, Raidighi College delivered a lucid lecture which focussed on major causes and importance of HPV vaccination while Dr Arvinda Shaw pointed out the importance of diet and personal hygiene practices for overall good health.

The adolescent students actively participated in the interaction session and scored excellently in the quiz round.

Importance of HPV Vaccination:

- 1. *Prevents Cervical Cancer*: HPV vaccination can prevent up to 90% of cervical cancer cases.
- 2. *Protects against Other Cancers*: HPV vaccination also protects against other cancers like anal, vaginal, vulvar, and oropharyngeal cancers.
- 3. *Prevents Genital Warts*: HPV vaccination can prevent genital warts caused by HPV types 6 and 11.
- 4. *Herd Immunity*: Widespread vaccination can lead to herd immunity, protecting those who are not vaccinated.

Target Group:

- 1. *Adolescents*: HPV vaccination is recommended for adolescents (9-14 years) before they become sexually active.
- 2. *Young Adults*: Vaccination is also recommended for young adults (15-26 years) who have not been previously vaccinated.

Benefits of HPV Vaccination Drive Program

- 1. *Increased Awareness*: Vaccination drives can increase awareness about HPV and its risks.
- 2. *Improved Vaccination Rates*: Organized drives can improve vaccination rates, especially in underserved communities.
- 3. *Prevention of HPV-Related Diseases*: Widespread vaccination can prevent HPV-related diseases and cancers.
- 4. *Empowerment*: Vaccination can empower individuals, especially women, to take control of their health.

Role of Healthcare Providers and Communities

- 1. *Awareness and Education*: Healthcare providers can educate individuals about HPV vaccination benefits and risks.
- 2. *Vaccination Services*: Healthcare providers can offer vaccination services, especially in schools and community settings.
- 3. *Community Engagement*: Communities can engage with local healthcare providers to promote HPV vaccination.

Interactive Session: Dr Arunima Biswas busted myths and taboos around the topic and scientifically explained the importance of getting vaccinated on time. School children and volunteers actively participated in this interactive session and cleared their doubts surrounding this topic. A quiz was held to check whether students could understand the topics of discussion and we got a wonderful response from them.

Conclusion: India accounts for approximately one-third of all global cervical cancer deaths. There are about 132,000 new cases of cervical cancer and 74,000 deaths annually in India. An estimated 123,907 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer each year so Raidighi College NSS in collaboration with MSI & Dept. of Microbiology organised this awareness event so that the young participants can discuss the matter with their parents and guardians and take action to protect themselves against it. By promoting HPV vaccination, we can prevent HPV-related diseases and cancers, improving overall health and well-being.

Acknowledgement: Special thanks to Prosenjit Sir, Assistant Headmaster cum TIC of Raidighi Srifaltala Chandrakanta High School (H.S.)

Few glimpses of the event:

















HPV VACCINATION & CERVICAL CANCER AWARENESS DRIVE

In Schools

PREVENT Corvicel Cancer

Organized By
Department of Microbiology & NSS UNIT- 1
of
RAIDIGHI COLLEGE,

Raidighi, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal

In Collaboration with

Microbiologists Society, India (West Bengal Unit)

CHIEF PATRONS:

Dr. Arvind M. Deshmukh All India President, MBSI Dr. Sasabindu Jana Principal, Raidighi College

Awareness Drive Phase 1

<u>Venue</u>: Raidighi Srifaltala Chandra Kanta High School, Raidighi, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal

Date & Time: 14th August, 2025; 12.30 pm onwards

Resource Persons:

Dr. Arvinda Shaw

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Food and Nutrition Raidighi College

Programme Officer, NSS UNIT1, Raidighi College

Dr. Arunima Biswas

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Microbiology Raidighi College

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State President, MBSI, West Bengal Unit

Student Participants:

NSS Unit 1 Volunteers & MBSI Student Unit Members, Raidighi College









Attendance sheet of the participants:

HPV Vaccination DRIVE. CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS HAR GHAR TIRANGA CAMPAIGN

Date: 14th Aug/2025 Verue: SRIFALUTALA HIGH SCHOOL Time: 12:30 pm - Speakers: Dr. Arunda Elaw.

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7	Shrabanti Munda		ST	7047441150

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- 2. Dr. ARUNIMA BISDAS (Besses)
 Matter Referent & Need, Dept. of Microbiology, Raidight College;
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- 3. Dr. ARVINDA SHAW Paideghi College- NSS- Programme Office- 1. 14 08/2025.

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