

## AJK to launch 13-day campaign from Sept. 15 to prevent cervical cancer in women: AJK Health authorities.



میرپور۔ ایس ایچ ڈی آف ایف جی کے سربراہان نے پریس کانفرنس میں اس بات پر اتفاق کیا کہ اس سال سے شروع ہونے والی 13 روزہ کمپین سے بچہ کی زندگی بچانے کے لیے اس کی سہولتیں فراہم کی جائیں گی۔

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MIRPUR (AJK): September 8: State Health Department of AJK will launch 13-day campaign in Azad Jammu Kashmir from September 15 to prevent cervical cancer in women, especially young girls, of 9 to 14 years of age, it was officially announced here on Monday.

Disclosing this, at a joint news conference here on Monday, Mirpur District Health Officer Dr. Fida Hussain and Medical Superintendent Mirpur Divisional Headquarters Teaching Hospital Dr.

Aamir Aziz said that free HPV vaccine will be administered to young girls of 9 to 14 years of age in Azad Jammu Kashmir, Islamabad, Punjab, and Sindh from September 15 to September 27 under the immunization campaign being commenced in AJK by the State Health Department with the coordination of the World Health Organization (WHO) to discourage Cervical cancer among the girls, the third most common cancer in women, for which WHO has made a vaccine, they added.

” HPV vaccine will be mandatory across the country from next year 2026 to prevent this disease District Health Officer Dr. Fida Hussain Raja and MS Dr. Aamir Aziz have said adding parents are appealed to get their girls aged 9 to 14 vaccinated during the campaign to be conducted through schools and fixed sites by the mobile teams of female paramedical staff.

“This is “Hialal” vaccine and has no side effects. Women aged 15 to 20 years will be protected from cervical cancer with this vaccine”, they senior administrative medical officers said.

Assistant Director Surveillance Sardar Waqas Ahmed, Information Officer Muhammad Javed Malik, ACT International’s Yasin Chaudhry, DCEO Anam Zara and CRP Waniya Shah were present on the occasion.

Assistant Director Surveillance EPI Muhammad Riaz gave a multimedia briefing about the HPV vaccine, while District Health Officer Dr. Fida Hussain Raja and Medical Superintendent Dr. Aamir Aziz gave details in the question and answer session.

District Health Officer Dr. Fida Hussain Raja, in detailed briefing, said that free vaccination of girls aged 9 to 14 years against HPV i.e. cervical cancer was commencing from September 15 to 27 in Mirpur district, in which teams of the health department will go to schools and madrasas to vaccinate girls, which will protect girls aged 9 to 14 from cervical cancer.

“This vaccine eliminates the virus in women for 15 to 20 years. He explained in simple words that cervical cancer was cancer of the uterus of women. If it is not treated on time, women and girls suffering from this disease become infected with cervical cancer, due to which this cancer spreads and then such women cannot bear children.

“Treatment and vaccination have been administered for many years to prevent this disease all over the world, while girls aged 9 to 14 years will be vaccinated across Pakistan from 2026”, he revealed.

He said that under the spirit to promote public awareness campaign to prevent this disease through media representatives, print, electronic and social media, the young girls could be

protected from this disease.

MS Dr. Aamir Aziz said on this occasion that cervical cancer was a dangerous disease and it was the responsibility of every individual to prevent it.

“This vaccine is completely safe and has no side effects of any kind. Let the public and the common man be informed about the beneficial effects of this vaccine so that the national campaign to protect against cervical cancer could be made successful.