CURRENT EVENTS 08 October 2026

WHO Prequalifies India's CERVAVAC HPV Vaccine

The World Health Organization (WHO) prequalified Serum Institute of India's indigenously developed quadrivalent Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine, CERVAVAC.

CERVAVAC is an indigenously developed quadrivalent Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine by Serum Institute of India, designed to prevent cervical cancer.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The **World Health Organization** (**WHO**) prequalified the **quadrivalent HPV vaccine**, **CERVAVAC**, developed by **Serum Institute of India**.
- This prequalification allows **United Nations agencies** to procure the vaccine for **global distribution**.
- The vaccine can now be supplied to countries implementing **HPV immunisation programmes**.
- **WHO's prequalification** for CERVAVAC became effective from **September 25, 2026**.
- This development is crucial for **India** and the global efforts to prevent **cervical cancer**.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is a common **sexually transmitted infection** that can cause various health problems.

Cervical cancer is primarily caused by persistent infection with high-risk types of **HPV**.

The **World Health Organization (WHO)** was established on **April 7, 1948**.

WHO's headquarters are located in **Geneva**, **Switzerland**.

Serum Institute of India (SII) is recognized as the **world's largest vaccine manufacturer** by dose.

A **quadrivalent vaccine** protects against **four specific types** of a virus, in this case, **HPV types 6, 11, 16, and 18**.

WHO launched the **Global Strategy to Accelerate the Elimination of Cervical Cancer** in **2020**.

REVISION FLASHCARD

WHO prequalified Serum Institute of India's CERVAVAC HPV vaccine on September 25, 2026.

Syllabus Relevance: High

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