18 Billion shots will immunise the world

28 January 2021 | Views

By the end of 2021, Frost & Sullivan predicts that close to 4.12 billion COVID-19 vaccine doses will be delivered globally to immunise priority target groups

The varying levels of COVID-19 vaccine acceptability range from 90-50% across countries, which further plagues the timeline to reach herd immunity and bring an end to the pandemic.

With Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccinations underway, low- to middle-income countries placing bets on the successful rollout of the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine.

It is estimated that around 18 billion doses will be required to immunise the global population. By the end of 2021, Frost & Sullivan predicts that close to 4.12 billion COVID-19 vaccine doses will be delivered globally to immunise priority target groups, namely healthcare workers, adults above the age of 65, and adults with co-morbidities.

A partnership between the developed and developing economies is required in the prevention, detection, containment, and cure of an infectious disease pandemic.

Key Implications for a Successful Global COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout in 2021:

- Local manufacturing deals and partnerships in a small population and developing countries with strong fill and finish capabilities, storage capacities would be needed to progressively export to other countries.

- Investments in exemplary supply-chain and robust cold-chain network which involves building capabilities for direct shipment to the point of use, local cross-docking of cooling boxes, and local warehousing.

- Post-market surveillance and management activities post-vaccine administration will be the need of the hour.

- Increased marketing, education, and activism are needed to overcome unwillingness and increase general acceptance towards vaccine uptake.

- Accelerating the development of effective COVID-19 therapeutics alongside vaccines is necessary to contain the pandemic.

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