



SWOT analysis on the current status of family poultry vaccination program implemented in the western province of Sri Lanka



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Introduction

- The poultry industry in Sri Lanka plays a vital role in the country's economy, encompassing both commercial enterprises and small-scale family businesses.
- However, the sector faces numerous challenges due to endemic poultry diseases.

Objectives

- To identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) related to family poultry vaccination programs in Sri Lanka's Western Province.
- To assess the concerns and perspectives of veterinarians, livestock development inspectors, and family poultry farmers regarding vaccination against poultry diseases.

Hypothesis

- Vaccination programs have shown promise in controlling viral diseases but the efficacy of these programs is hindered by various obstacles.
- Understanding the attitudes and perspectives of key stakeholders, including veterinarians, livestock development officers, and men and women poultry farmers can greatly influence the outcome of vaccination initiatives.



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Materials & Methods

- A SWOT analysis related to poultry vaccination was conducted involving three participant categories: eleven veterinarians (Male=7, Female=4), nine livestock development inspectors (LDIs) (Male=7, Female=2), and nine family poultry farmers (Male=8, Female=1) representing all the veterinary ranges of the Western Province.



Results

- Major concerns among vets: Lack of data on antibody titres for common poultry diseases in local flocks and the unavailability of vaccines tailored to circulating avian diseases.
- Problems of LDIs: Delivering vaccines from local veterinary office to the farmers.
- Farmer issues: Lack of awareness about the importance of vaccination, and financial constraints



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Discussion

- Addressing the identified limitations and challenges is crucial in preventing and controlling disease outbreaks and minimizing economic losses in Sri Lanka's family poultry sector.
- Effective vaccination programs can contribute to sustainable development and growth.

Acknowledgments

We would like to express our gratitude to the veterinarians, livestock development inspectors, and family poultry farmers who participated in this study. Their valuable insights and contributions were essential in conducting this research. Financial support from UKRI is gratefully acknowledged.

Recommendations

- Establish a comprehensive surveillance system to gather data on antibody titres for common poultry diseases and poultry mortality.
- Collaborate with vaccine manufacturers to develop vaccines tailored to specific poultry viral strains in Sri Lanka.
- Improve vaccine delivery systems to ensure timely and efficient distribution to farmers.
- Conduct awareness campaigns to raise awareness of farmers about the importance of vaccination and its benefits.
- Explore support options for farmers to overcome financial constraints in implementing vaccination programs.