

STEPS for using Infection Prevention and Control to Deliver **SMC during COVID-19 Pandemic**









At START of EACH SMC distribution day

AT HOME:

- 1. **Do not leave home** if you had contact with someone infected with **COVID-19**.
- 2. Do not leave home except to get medical care if you are feeling sick with fever, cough, body aches, sore throat or difficulty breathing. Do not visit public areas.
- 3. Ensure SMC shirt, hijab or vest is clean—do not wear the same clothes from previous day without washing.
- 4. Wash hands with soap and water for 30 seconds or use 3 ml of alcohol-based hand sanitiser and rub for 30 seconds before leaving home.

AT HEALTH FACILITY:



- 1. **Take temperature**. Notify supervisor if temperature is >37.5°C orally, >37°C axillary or forehead, >38.0°C by ear.
- 2. Check expiry dates of SPAQ blister packs—do not use if expired.
- 3. Use disinfecting wipes to disinfect all SPAQ blister packs, laminated Job Aid, pen, mobile phone and equipment used for SMC delivery. Do not allow anyone to touch disinfected materials during the day and do not place on dirty surfaces.
- 4. Dispose of used wipes in large bio-waste bag.

· Bag for carrying materials

5. Collect materials for SPAQ distribution and infection prevention:

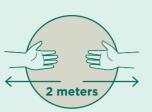
SPAQ distribution	Prevention of COVID-19	
 SPAQ blister packs SMC Tally Sheets SMC Referral Forms SMC Child Record Cards Laminated Job Aid Chalk to mark households Pen 	 2 new face masks; one to wear and one spare Alcohol-based hand sanitizer Alcohol disinfecting wipes 3 disposable cups and spoons Large plastic bio-waste bag for waste disposal 	















TRIAGE child and caregivers for COVID-19

- 1. Do not deliver SMC in the community if you are feeling sick with fever, cough, body aches, sore throat or difficulty breathing.
- 2. Put on face mask before entering compound or household and leave mask on for the entire day.
- 3. Use 3 ml of alcohol-based hand sanitiser and rub for 30 seconds as soon as you enter the compound or household.
- 4. Avoid touching mouth, nose, eyes and face with hands.
- 5. Greet household members and gather caregiver and children in area with good ventilation.
- 6. Limit eligibility assessment and SPAQ administration to 8 children and 2 caregivers at a time.
- 7. Practice safe distance of 2 metres with caregivers and children at all times.
- 8. Determine what the caregiver knows about COVID-19 and explain why you are wearing a mask and why physical distance of 2 metres must be maintained.
- 9. **Explain** to caregivers that your materials have been disinfected and the importance of community members washing hands with soap and water frequently.
- 10. **Explain what SMC is**, why it is important, and how it will be administered safely.
- 11. At a distance of 2 metres, **ASK the caregiver**:
- Have any household members or close contacts had fever, chills, cough, body aches, sore throat or difficulty breathing in the past 14 days?
- Have any household members been exposed to anyone with high fever, chills, cough, body aches, sore throat or difficulty breathing in the past 14 days?
- Have any household members travelled outside the community in the past 14 days?

12. Any YES response:

- Refer anyone with fever immediately to the health facility for malaria RDT test and evaluation of COVID-19.
- Do NOT give SPAQ to any child under 5 with fever.
- Refer children who are very sick or have danger signs to the health facility
- Refer anyone with cough or difficulty breathing to the health facility for evaluation of COVID-19.
- Report possible cases of COVID-19 according to local guidelines.
- Complete SMC Referral Form and explain reason for referral.

Determine child's AGE

Child is 3 to <12 months:



Can hold head and neck steady when upright



Can grasp object in hand and bring to mouth



Has few lower teeth

Child is 12 to <59 months:



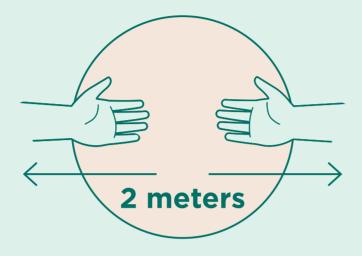




Can stand or walk

- 1. **At a distance of 2 metres,** ASK the caregiver about the child's age.
 - Do not touch any vaccination cards.
 - Children older than 3 months can hold head and neck steady when sitting upright and can grasp an object in hand.
 - Children 6-12 months can sit without help, or can stand.
 - Children 12-59 months can stand without support and walk.
 - Child 5 years or older can jump on 1 foot and can raise arm and touch opposite ear.
 - Children younger than 3 months and older than 5 years are not eligible for SMC.

Determine ELIGIBILITY to receive SPAQ



At a distance of 2 metres, ASK the caregiver:

SPAQ distribution	Give SPAQ	REFER
Child younger than 3 months?	NO	NO
Child older than 5 years?	NO	NO
Child is very sick?	NO	YES
Child not able to swallow ?	NO	YES
Child has fever now or in the last 7 days?	NO	YES, RDT
Child has allergies to SP or AQ, or cotrimoxazole, or Septrin/ Bactrim	NO	NO
Child has taken cotrimoxazole or Septrin or Bactrim in last 4 weeks	NO	NO

For children who need referral, complete **SMC Referral** Form and explain reason for referral:

- Fill top of SMC Referral Form.
- Explain to the caregiver the reason for referral and to go immediately.
- Give SMC Referral Form to caregiver to take to health facility.

ADMINISTER SPAQ to eligible children for each caregiver

1. Gather disinfected SMC materials:

- Select the number of blister packets needed for eligible children 3 to <12 months and 12 to 59 months.
- Ask caregiver to bring a clean cup and spoon and small amount of clean water to pour in cup. If water is not available, obtain water from a well or health facility and re-visit household.
- Ask caregiver to place cup on table or stable surface.
- 2. At a **distance of 2 metres**, SHOW and explain the difference between RED and ORANGE packets.
- 3. **Place RED blister** packs on a disinfected table or mat/rug for total number of eligible children 12 to 59 months.

4. Instruct caregiver:

- Give SPAQ to eligible children 12 to 59 months first.
- Select one RED blister pack.
- Remove 1 white tablet (SP) and 1 yellow tablet (AQ) from blister pack.
- Place both tablets inside the clean cup.
- Add a very small amount of water just to cover both tablets.
- · Wait for tablets to completely dissolve.
- · Give dissolved SPAQ to child.

5. At a distance of 2 metres, OBSERVE caregiver give SPAQ:

- Ensure child is awake and sitting upright.
- Give medicine slowly.
- Do not force child to swallow medicine.
- Do not hold child's head and neck back or pinch nose.
- Ensure child drinks ALL the medicine.

6. Instruct the caregiver to clean the cup and spoon.

- 7. **Repeat STEPS 3, 4, 5 and 6** until all the older children have received SPAQ.
- 8. Place ORANGE blister packs on a disinfected table or mat/rug for total number of eligible children 3 to <12 months:
 - Instruct caregiver to give SPAQ to eligible children 3 to <12 months.
 - Repeat STEPS 3, 4, 5 and 6 until the younger children have received SPAQ from ORANGE blister pack.



Give caregiver instructions to give AQ tablets at home and how to fill Child Record Card

1. Explain to caregiver how to give AQ at home:

- Always wash hands with soap and water before administering any medicine
- Give child 1 AQ tablet tomorrow morning and 1 tablet the day after tomorrow.
- Put 1 tablet in a spoon or cup and cover tablet with enough clean water to fully cover the tablet—a small amount of breast milk can also be used.
- · Wait for it to dissolve.
- · Give medicine slowly with spoon or cup.
- If medicine remains in the cup add a small amount of water and give to child to finish.
- If child vomits all of Day-2 AQ within 30 minutes, re-dose with Day-3 AQ and contact the community distributor to bring additional dose of AQ.
- If child vomits all of Day-3 AQ **contact the community distributor** to bring additional dose of AQ.
- Never cut or crush dispersible tablets.
- Never give dispersible tablets to swallow without first dissolving.
- Do not share medicines with other children.
- 2. Complete the **SMC Child Record Card** for the first cycle for each child who received SPAQ.
 - At a distance of 2 metres, SHOW and explain how to record the second and third AQ dose on the card.
 - Write your mobile number on the card so the caregiver knows how to contact you for additional AQ.
 - Place the Child Record Cards on a disinfected table or mat/rug.
 - Instruct caregiver to collect the cards and keep them in a safe place until next cycle.
 - Confirm your mobile number each cycle and ask the caregiver to update if needed.





Re-dose if child vomits or spits up SPAQ

- 1. If child vomits or spits up all the medicine within 30 minutes, re-dose SP and AQ once.
- 2. Place the correct age blister pack on the disinfected table or mat/rug.
- 3. Instruct the caregiver to remove 1 white tablet (SP) and 1 yellow tablet (AQ) from blister pack and place both tablets inside the clean cup and **repeat STEP 5**.
- 4. Retrieve the blister with 2 doses of AQ and disinfect well with disinfecting wipes before returning to bag.
- 5. Dispose of used disinfecting wipes in bio-waste bag.
- 6. Disinfect hands with 3 ml of alcohol-based hand sanitiser for 30 seconds.



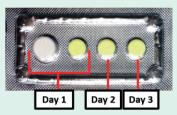
Record SPAQ on SMC Tally Sheet

- 1. Record number of children given SPAQ by age on the SMC Tally Sheet.
- Record number of children re-dosed with SPAQ after vomiting.
- 3. Record number of any blister packs wasted.



Give caregiver health messages about prevention of malaria

- Give caregiver prevention of malaria messages:
 - **SMC prevents malaria** in children during the rainy season.
 - A full 3-day course of SPAQ must be given EACH cycle for SMC to work and prevent malaria.
 - All family members, especially children and pregnant women must sleep inside an insecticide treated bed net from sunset to sunrise, every night: all year.



- Advise caregiver to take child to **health** facility if child:
 - is **very sick**
 - has fever
 - has rash
 - has bad stomach pain or weakness



Give caregiver health messages about prevention of COVID-19

- 1. Give caregiver prevention of **COVID-19 messages**:
 - Frequently **wash your hands** with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer for 30 seconds.
 - **Do not touch** your eyes, nose or mouth with unclean hands or hands that have touched unclean surfaces.
 - Cover your mouth and nose with the inside of your elbow when sneezing or coughing.
 - Avoid physical greetings and contact with others outside the household.
 - Do not attend public gatherings or events.
 - Avoid spitting in public.
 - Distance yourself from people outside the household by 2 meters.
 - Stay home as much as possible.
 - Wear a face mask or face covering if you are sick or have fever, cough, body aches or difficulty breathing.
 - Wear a face mask or face covering if you are caring for a person with COVID-19.



- 1. **Repeat STEPS 2-10** for next group of **8 children** in the same household/compound.
- 2. Disinfect hands with 3 ml of alcohol-based sanitiser for 30 seconds before visiting next household.
- 3. KEEP FACE MASK ON.
- 4. Mark household.
- 5. Repeat STEPS 2-11 for next household.
- 6. **Disinfect laminated Job Aid and SMC materials after 5 households visited**, or if touched by anyone else, or accidentally placed on any surface.
- 7. Dispose of used disinfecting wipes in bio-waste bag.
- 8. Disinfect hands with 3 ml of alcohol-based hand sanitiser for 30 seconds.







At END of EACH SMC distribution day

AT HEALTH FACILITY:

- 1. Use disinfecting wipes to **disinfect all SMC materials**, before storing at health facility.
- 2. **Dispose** of used disinfecting wipes in bio-waste plastic bag.
- 3. Remove face mask and dispose in bio-waste plastic bag.
- 4. **Immediately** clean hands with 30 ml of alcohol-based hand sanitiser for 30 seconds or **wash hands** with soap and water for 30 seconds.
- 5. Give large bio-waste bag with contaminated gloves and mask to the health facility in-charge for proper disposal.
- 6. **Leave all materials** such as masks, gloves, cups, spoons, Job Aid, disinfecting wipes, hand sanitiser, and bio-waste bags at the health facility.
- 7. **Return any unused blister packs** and give completed Tally Sheet to supervisor.
- 8. **Take temperature.** Notify supervisor if temperature is >37.5°C orally, >37°C axillary or forehead, or >38.0°C by ear.
- 9. Wash hands with soap and water for 30 seconds before leaving the health facility.

AT HOME:

- 1. **Remove** SMC shirt, hijab or vest and other clothing **as soon as you arrive** and place in a separate wash basin.
- 2. **Wash hands** with soap and water for 30 seconds immediately after removing clothing.
- 3. Wash clothes with detergent and place in sun to dry.

