A valid concern is the availability of vitamin A following phasing out of MDVAS. It needs to be emphasized that vitamin A should remain an essential part of Essential Drug list for therapeutic use in measles, severe acute malnutrition, chronic liver disease, and persistent diarrhea.

Surveillance and monitoring for both mortality and ocular manifestations will remain the key gauge for success and safety of targeted intervention following withdrawal of MDVAS from several states. The strategy in targeted states will also need to be revisited after 3-4 years.

We need to understand that there are no magical solutions or quick fixes for achieving permanency of positive outcomes. Long-term solutions to public health problems need to consistently aim at improving our health care delivery infrastructure, promoting living conditions, holistic approaches, and sustainable food-based solutions.

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