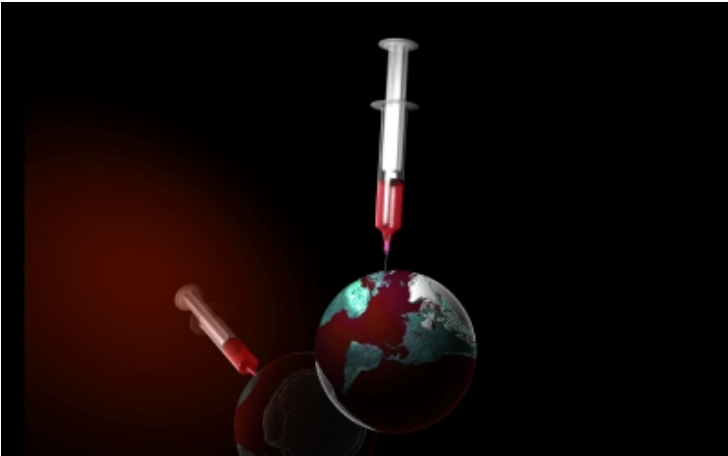


Nepal introduces polio shots

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Singapore: In its mission to eradicate polio, Nepal had recently launched a polio eradication drive by supplementing oral vaccines with an injection. Experts said that this combination dose will further boost the child's immunity against the disease.

Despite repeated attempts, the Himalayan nation has not attained complete success with its polio drive in the past. As the live attenuated oral polio vaccine was found to be less effective against polio, experts said that boosting the immunity with injections will help in eradicating the crippling disease from the country.

For developing countries in South Asia, the oral polio vaccine had long been the exclusive choice, as it is cheaper, easier and quicker to administer. Nepal is the first nation in South Asia to administer the jab. At the launch, the Nepalese health minister Mr Khaga Raj Adhikari said, "This drive will ensure that none of the children in Nepal suffer from polio in years to come."