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massive programi in cuba to vaccinate women against german measles.:
havana, jan 18,-reuter -- a national vaccination campaign against german measles is underway here which will protect cuban women between 12 and 31 years of age from the deasease, dr. migulel galinda head epidemologist for the cuban ministry of public health said in an interview pubilished in today' granma.

dr. galinda siad the campaign is designed to protect women in the age groups most likely to have children. german measles during pregnancy can cause malformations in the new -born such as cataracts, microcephaly, deafness and congenital heart problesms.

the campaign now in progress, which ends march 31, is aimed at vaccinating all women between 18 and 31 years of age. dr. galinda said that beginning with the school year 1882 all seventh grade school-girls have been vaccinated.

the cuban public health official said that in cuba most woemn over 31 years of age have had german measles which normally makes them immune to a recurrence. however, he said, vaccinations for women over 31 years old have not been rule out.

dr. galinda said that epidemics of german measles in cuaba have followed a seven year cycle. he said the next epidemic is expected in 1988 at which time 95 percent of women within the ages of fertility will have been vaccinated.

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