NEWS UPDATE – 28 March – 3 April 2013

Istituto de Salud de Barcelona ha aplicado 3 mil 803 vacunas en el primer trimestre
Wed, 03 Apr 2013 00:00:00 GMT
La Alcaldía del municipio Simón Bolívar (Venezuela), en consonancia con el Instituto de la Salud (IMS), encabeza las actividades de vacunación preventiva, a fin de atender a niños y adultos.

Vaccins: pas de risque accru d’autisme chez l’enfant
Wed, 03 Apr 2013 00:00:00 GMT
Une nouvelle étude américaine menée par les pédiatres des Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) américains, montre en effet qu’il n’y a pas de lien avéré entre le nombre de vaccins et un risque accru d’autisme.
Also at Vaccines not linked to autism. Again.
Wed, 03 Apr 2013 00:00:00 GMT

Research Reveals Protective Properties of Influenza Vaccines
Sun, 31 Mar 2013 09:46:14 GMT | Infection Control Today
Collaborating scientists from Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Baylor Institute for Immunology Research, and Mount Sinai School of Medicine have identified an important mechanism for stimulating protective immune responses following seasonal influenza vaccinations. The study was published in Science Translational Medicine, a journal of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

La vague de grippe touche à sa fin
Thu, 28 Mar 2013 00:00:00 GMT
L’épidémie saisonnière va bientôt tirer sa révérence. Quelque 270’000 personnes se sont rendues chez le médecin pour une affection grippale cet hiver. Pour Hans-Peter Roost, médecin cantonal suppléant du canton de Lucerne, il est opportun de se faire vacciner plusieurs fois afin de pouvoir combattre tous les virus qui circulent.

Takeda submits new drug applications in Japan for cell culture-based pandemic influenza vaccines with its Hikari plant
Thu, 28 Mar 2013 00:00:00 GMT
Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited ("Takeda") announced today that it has submitted New Drug Applications ("NDAs") for cell culture-based pandemic influenza vaccines (H5N1 and prototype*) to the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare ("MHLW") in Japan, using its Hikari Plant as the manufacturing facility.
The Japanese government had previously offered a subsidy to support the investment associated with the development and production of pandemic influenza vaccine in Japan, and it selected Takeda as one of recipients of that subsidy.
Also at Takeda submits NDA application for cell culture-based H5N1 vaccines
Wed, 03 Apr 2013 00:00:00 GMT

Chinese SFDA issues GMP certification to Simcere influenza vaccine production facility
PBR (UK), 26 March 2013
China-based Simcere Pharmaceutical Group has obtained GMP certification for its influenza vaccine production facility at Jiangsu Simcere Vaxtec Bio-Pharmaceutical, from the Chinese SFDA.
Texas A&M System and GlaxoSmithKline receive U.S. Government approval to establish influenza vaccine facility in Texas

AUSTIN, Texas and PHILADELPHIA, March 26, 2013 /PRNewswire/

GlaxoSmithKline plc (GSK) and The Texas A&M University System announced today that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has approved the establishment of a $91 million influenza-vaccines manufacturing facility as the anchor of the Center for Innovation in Advanced Development and Manufacturing (CIADM) in Bryan-College Station, Texas. Team will develop and manufacture GSK's next generation influenza vaccines to protect the nation against global pandemics

FDA delays approval of GSK bird flu vaccine

Reuters (UK), 25 March 2013

Regulators have delayed approval of an H5N1 bird flu vaccine from GlaxoSmithKline, designed to be used in a pandemic. A spokesman for Britain's biggest drugmaker said the delay was not related to recent controversy over links between a similar flu vaccine made by the company and narcolepsy. Rather, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) decided it needed more time to assess the product "due to an administrative matter that has recently been rectified", GSK said in a statement on Monday.

Also at Glaxos Influenza Vaccine Gets CRL

Wed, 02 Apr 2013 01:05:08 GMT|Zacks.com|

Glaxo Receives Complete Response for Candidate H5N1 Influenza Vaccine

Sat, 30 Mar 2013 00:15:21 GMT|Fox Business|

Cleverly Designed Vaccine Blocks H5 Avian Influenza in Animal Models

Science Daily (USA), 25 March 2013

Until now most experimental vaccines against the highly lethal H5N1 avian influenza virus have lacked effectiveness. But a new vaccine has proven highly effective against the virus when tested in both mice and ferrets. It is also effective against the H9 subtype of avian influenza. The research is published online ahead of print in the Journal of Virology.

Assessment of the MF59-adjuvanted pandemic influenza A/H1N1 vaccine. Systematic review of literature.

March 2013

A systematic review was performed after searching the MedLine and Embase electronic databases, and manual search in specialties journals, with MeSH terms and free terms. The study concludes that the adjuvant vaccine has a good efficacy and safety profile. The adverse effects that may occur are common and appear similarly in both vaccination groups.

Optimal Vaccine Allocation for the Early Mitigation of Pandemic Influenza

March 2013

With a very high mortality rate, (i.e., about 60% of the reported cases), H5N1AV influenza, commonly known as bird flu, is thought to be an important potential threat for a new pandemic. In this paper, the authors address this issue by developing a mathematical model of influenza transmission on a network of cities. They couple the model with an optimization algorithm to allocate vaccine in time and space through the network. The research finds that the proposed optimal allocation strategies can mitigate a pandemic, provided that vaccination occurs quickly, within the first weeks of a potential pandemic. In addition, the analysis highlights the importance of cooperative and coordinated vaccine distribution.