

**Third WHO meeting on evaluation of  
pandemic influenza prototype  
vaccines in clinical trials,  
Geneva, February 15-16, 2007**

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Organization**

# In 2003 WHO has launched a programme to promote the development of new generation influenza vaccines

## Objectives:

- Promote development of influenza vaccines inducing long-lasting and broad spectrum immunity against drifted (and potentially shifted) influenza viruses

*These new vaccines should overcome problems with the current vaccination strategy, based on annual intervention, and be affordable for developing countries.*

*They should contribute to epidemic and pandemic influenza response*

- Accelerate the development of vaccines against influenza viruses with pandemic potential



# Components of IVR's agenda related to development and evaluation of new influenza vaccines

- Review progress in development and clinical evaluation of pandemic vaccine
- Expand understanding on how different components of the immune system are involved in protection against influenza viruses
- Standardize the microneutralization assay for influenza viruses
- Promote development of simpler method to evaluate vaccine induced T cell immune responses
- Transfer of technology for influenza vaccine development/production to developing countries manufacturers



# Recent and planned consultations on influenza vaccines

- Consultation for development of a global action plan to increase supply of pandemic influenza vaccines, Geneva, 2-3 May 2006 (*Vaccine*, 2006, 24, 6367-70)  
Strategies were identified and prioritised according their impact on increasing supply of vaccines
- Workshop on standardization of microneutralization (MN) assay for influenza viruses, Copenhagen, 3 October 2006  
Recommendations were developed on further steps and timetable for the standardization of an MN assay
- Consultations on Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccines (LAIV), Geneva, week of 28 May 2007 (tentative)  
Extension of LAIV production is a recommendation of the GAP. The meetings will address perceived barriers to use LAIV, biosafety, clinical experience, and will pave the way to an update of the present WHO regulatory guidance document for LAIV.
- Meeting on influenza vaccines that induce broad spectrum and long-lasting immune responses, Geneva, 3-4 December 2007  
Objectives: to evaluate progress in the development of cross-protective vaccines and to revise the research agenda in this area

# Establishment of in-country production capacity for influenza vaccines in developing countries (1)

- Objective of the project: Implement one of the priority activities identified in the GAP – *increase production capacity for pandemic influenza vaccines, both in industrialized and in developing countries*
- Eligible technologies: inactivated (whole virus or split) and live attenuated vaccines, produced in eggs or on cell culture
- Initial financial support for the project is provided by the USA and Japan governments



# Establishment of in-country production capacity for influenza vaccines in developing countries (2)

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- Request for Letters of Intent, November 2006
- Selection of projects to be further developed in full proposals, December 2006
- Up to six proposals will be selected for support.



# Summary of first (Nov 2005) and 2<sup>nd</sup> (May 2006) meetings on clinical trials of pandemic vaccines

- Limited information on clinical trials of pilot vaccines was presented
- Results obtained show that H5N1, H9N2 and H5N3 candidate vaccines are safe and well tolerated
- Immunogenicity results were highly variable, depending on vaccine formulations, antigen content and schedule of immunization
- Participants requested WHO to organize a 3rd meeting to evaluate progress in clinical trials

*Lancet Infect Dis, Feb 2006, 6, 71-72; Lancet Infect Dis, Aug 2006, 6, 6458-6460*

# 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting on evaluation of pandemic influenza prototype vaccines in clinical trials

Geneva, 15-16 February 2006

## Objectives

- Review safety and immunogenicity profile of pandemic vaccines in clinical trials
- Review progress in evaluation of alternative routes for vaccine delivery
- Revise research agenda and prioritize further activities

*Chairman: Ian Gust*

*Rapporteur: Iain Stephenson*

