

Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety (GACVS)

Report on GACVS meeting

December 2014



Preparing for dengue vaccine introduction

- CYD-TDV vaccine completed Phase 3 with >30,000 subjects, aged 2-16 years, randomized 2:1 in Asia and Latin America
- No new safety concern identified since review of Phase 2b data (December 2012)
- Risk management issues:
 - Disease severity among vaccinated people
 - Viral vector as genetically modified organism
 - People with specific conditions
 - Co-administration with other vaccines
- Strategies envisioned:
 - Dengue surveillance
 - Active surveillance for events of interest
 - Vaccine introduction designs that allow for hypothesis testing
 - Multi-centre studies for rare events

Preparing for malaria vaccine introduction

- Continuation of June 2014 discussion
- Review of Phase 3 data in >15,000 subjects, aged 6-12 weeks or 5-17 months, randomized 1:1:1
- Two safety signals:
 - Increased risk of febrile seizures within 7 days
 - Increased risk of meningitis cases with no evidence of temporal clustering
- Company's risk management and post-approval monitoring plans
- WHO's guidance:
 - Study signals from clinical trials
 - Other events of special interest
 - Take advantage of existing infrastructure
 - Consult with experts from implementing countries to better characterize what can be monitored
 - Review existing safety surveillance system to enhance spontaneous reporting

Safety of Ebola virus vaccine

- Early Phase 1 data for ChAd3-EBO-Z and rVSV-ZEBOV
- Consider role of every stakeholder in the development and post-clinical monitoring
- Establish a GACVS sub-group:
 - Describe safety profile from clinical trial data
 - Identify events of special interest for active surveillance
 - Assess other uncertainties
 - Advise on safety monitoring for programmatic implementation

Performance indicators for vaccine safety monitoring systems

- GVAP need to assess progress in developing AEFI surveillance systems
 - *Provide countries with standards for evaluating progress towards functional systems*
- GACVS AEFI monitoring sub-group developed a series of indicators:
 - Volume of AEFI reports
 - Quality of reports
 - Quality of response to serious AEFI
- Initial indicator (simple and generalizable)
 - Ratio of AEFI report per surviving infant per year
 - At least 1 per 10,000 surviving infant*year
- More advanced indicators:
 - Progression as system matures
 - Pilot testing under way

Criteria for assessing websites with vaccine safety content

- Vaccine safety net (VSN) launched in 2004
- Need to review 10 years old criteria for good information practices
- Criteria categories:
 - Credibility
 - Content
 - Accessibility
 - Design
- Revised criteria to be reviewed in June 2015 together with its companion document
- Recognize emerging practices, new communication platforms and social networks
- Development of 2-year strategic plan to include new information platforms
- VSN working group created to drive VSN new strategic developments (VSN expansion, VSN newsletter, VSN members web analytics project to tailor vaccine safety communication strategies', raise VSN profile by developing a VSN logo and advocacy material)

Vaccines during pregnancy

- Harmonization of case definitions during pregnancy and early childhood
- Brighton Collaboration effort:
 - Stakeholder review
 - Collation of currently used terms and definition
 - Working group process
- GACVS advice
 - Map definitions to MedDRA codes
 - Take advantage of existing definitions
 - Consider applicability in low- and middle-income countries settings



Topics for June 2015

- Risk-management plan for dengue vaccine
- Guidance for RTS,S safety monitoring
- Ebola virus vaccines
 - Safety profile
 - Guidance for programmatic monitoring
- Methodology for assessing rates of vaccine reactions
- Review of VSN indicators