EBOLA VACCINE: Where are we? How to move forward?

Co-Organized by Fondation Mérieux, AVIESAN, and WHO

Les Pensières, Fondation Mérieux Conference Center Veyrier du Lac - France

12-13 January 2015



alliance nationale pour les sciences de la vie et de la santé



About the Conference

In the face of an unprecedented Ebola outbreak with over 20,000 cases and 8,000 deaths, Fondation Mérieux is co-organizing this meeting with WHO and Aviesan to confront the challenges faced by Ebola vaccine researchers with those faced by international, governmental and non-governmental organizations working in the field.

No experimental vaccine has ever been on a faster track to widespread use. The exceptional circumstances pose unique challenges. The scientific community must form new partnerships and coordinate its actions to accelerate research and avoid duplication of efforts. The public health community must weigh ethical issues and the principal of precaution against the imperative to get an Ebola vaccine out to the frontline responders and healthcare workers as quickly as possible. Beyond funding for research, vaccine manufacturers are confronted with the issue of scaling up production to be ready to rapidly deploy the estimated 30 to 40 million doses that would be needed to cover West African populations should their vaccine candidate succeed in clinical trials: who should support these risks?

This meeting will review the status of Ebola vaccine research, including the latest safety data on the two candidate vaccines in clinical trials.

As phase III efficacy trials are about to commence, participants will identify the challenges faced by vaccine researchers, particularly in the area of study design, and evaluate the most promising solutions to date.

The group will also look at how vaccination priorities are determined and the sociocultural and ethical challenges inherent in vaccine introduction programs.

Steering Committee

- Marc Bonneville, Institut Mérieux
- Bernadette Murgue, AVIESAN
- Paul-Henri Lambert, University of Geneva
- Christophe Longuet, Fondation Mérieux
- Valentina Picot, Fondation Mérieux
- Cathy Roth, World Health Organization
- Armand Sprecher, "Médecins Sans Frontières"
- Rodolphe Thiebaut, INSERM

Meeting organizer: Natalia Rimolo-Rojas

DAY 1 – 12 January 2015

13:30-14:00	► Registration	
14:00-14:10	Welcome Addresses	Benoit Miribel
14:10-16:00	Keynote Lectures: Ebola - An Overview Chair: David Heymann	
14:10-14:30	Ebola: An introduction	David Heymann
14:30-14:50	Ebola: The science in application	Cathy Roth
15:10-15:30	Ebola control: The MSF experience	Armand Sprecher
15:30-16:00	► Coffee Break	
SESSION I 16:00-19:30	Ebola vaccine research agenda: A status Chairs: Cathy Roth & Paul-Henri Lambert	
16:00-16:20	Preclinical studies: an overview	Nancy Sullivan
16:20-16:40	Accelerated generation of Ebola vaccine, phase 1 safety and immunogenicity data	Vasee Sathiyamoorthy
16:40-17:00	Vaccine candidates and their selection for phase 2/3 trials based on phase I immunological data	Sarah Gilbert
17:00-17:20	Phase II and III trials- how to launch parallel or sequential pathways for experimental use of Ebola candidate vaccines in these phases?	Ana Maria Henao
17:20-19:30	Round table Discussion: Where are we? ways to move forward	 Moderator Panelist: Speakers + other invited experts Reporter
19:30	▶ Dinner	

DAY 2 – 13 January 2015

SESSION II 8:00 – 12:00	Challenges in Ebola vaccine research Chairs: Marie Paul Kieny & Ab Osterhaus	
8:00-8:20	Challenges inherent to the research design: What to learn from deep immunological monitoring in phase I/II vaccine trials?	Rodolphe Thiebaut
8:20-8:40	Challenges related to ethical and regulatory pathways in emergency situations	David Wood
8:40-9:10	►Coffee Break	
9:10-9:30	Challenges faced by front line health care trial investigators	Armand Sprecher
9:30-9:50	Perspectives on how to foster the cross collaboration of Ebola research teams	Donata Medaglini
9:50-10:00	GLOPID: Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness	Bernadette Murgue
10:00-12:00	Round table Discussion: Where are we? ways to move forward	 Moderator Panelist: Speakers + other invited experts Reporter
12:00-13:30	► Lunch	
SESSION III 13:30-17:50	Cultural and programmatic challenges in th Ebola vaccine programs Chairs: Bernadette Murgue & Marc Bonneville	e implementation of
	Ebola vaccine programs	e implementation of Johan Van Hoof
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