



## Introducing PCV and rotavirus vaccine in Chad, Guinea, Somalia, and South Sudan

A workshop hosted by the Mérieux Foundation, Every Breath Counts, the Malaria Consortium, the International Vaccine Access Center (IVAC), and Save the Children, in partnership with the Chad Ministry of Public Health and Prevention

13-15 September 2023

Radisson Blu Hotel  
Quartier Sabangali, Cité du 1er décembre  
N'Djamena, Chad

In-person workshop, no virtual access  
French/English interpretation

### Preliminary Program

The governments of Chad, Guinea, Somalia, and South Sudan have expressed their commitment to introducing two of the most powerful vaccines for children - the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, or PCV, and rotavirus vaccine.

These vaccines have the potential to prevent the deaths of tens of thousands of children across the four countries by 2030, boosting each country's progress to achieving the **Sustainable Development Goal** for child survival.

However, as fragile and conflict-affected countries dealing with multiple public health emergencies, each has identified challenges in submitting PCV and rotavirus vaccine applications to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Gavi) and all have called for support.

To enable the four governments to secure the support they need to submit their PCV and rotavirus vaccine applications to Gavi, the **Mérieux Foundation**, **Every Breath Counts**, **Save the Children**, the **Malaria Consortium**, and the **International Vaccine Access Center (IVAC)**, are bringing together national, regional, and international stakeholders to troubleshoot remaining barriers and advance solutions to introduction and scale-up.

## Preliminary Program 12.09.23

The workshop will enable the four health ministries to present their plans for PCV and rotavirus vaccine introduction, addressing costs and sources of financing, vaccine procurement and delivery infrastructure and healthcare workforce capacity, vaccine-specific public messaging, and safety monitoring, caregiver attitudes and behaviors, and any other challenges.

Regional and international health and financing agencies will share the latest evidence on the epidemiology of pneumococcal disease, lives saved analysis, financing options, Gavi application support, and best practices in PCV and rotavirus vaccine introduction for sustained high coverage.

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### Contact

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## Day 1 - Wednesday, 13 September

**Day Chairs:** Chad Ministry of Health and Mérieux Foundation represented by Dr Antoinette Demian and Dr Valentina Picot

- West Africa Time (WAT)

Morning Arrivals

10:00 Registration

12:30 Lunch

14:00 Official Welcome

- **Dr Valentina Picot**, Head, Acute Respiratory Infections Research and Public Health Initiatives, Mérieux Foundation
- **Mr Assure Djérané Ndorangar**, Country Director, Malaria Consortium, Chad
- **Mr Jacques Boyer**, UNICEF Representative, Chad
- **Dr Jean-Bosco Ndhokubwayo**, WHO Representative for Chad

14:20 Official Opening

- **The Honorable Dr Adelmadjid Abderahim Mahamat**, Minister of Public Health and Prevention, Chad

14:30 Family Photograph

14:40 Presentations: *The current state of PCV and rotavirus vaccine introductions*

- **Dr Antoinette Demian Mbailamen**, Director of Vaccines, Ministry of Health, Chad
- **Dr Gassim Cissé**, Director of Vaccines, Ministry of Health, Guinea
- **Dr Moustapha Awil Jama**, Director of Family Health, Ministry of Health, Somalia
- **Dr George Legge**, Head of Vaccines, Ministry of Health, South Sudan

16:00 Discussion

16:30 Closing, Day Chairs

19:30 Welcome Dinner

## Day 2 - Thursday, 14 September

**Day Chairs:** Africa CDC and Malaria Consortium represented by Ms Lucy Senga Sembuche and Mr Djérané Assure

08:00 Welcome and Recap of Day 1

08:10 Spotlight: *Roundup of PCV and rotavirus vaccine evidence from Africa*

- **Dr Lassané Kaboré**, Senior Program Officer, Center for Vaccine Innovation and Access, PATH
- **Dr Jason Mwenda**, Regional Coordinator, Vaccine Preventable Disease Surveillance, African Region, WHO

08:50 Session: *Role of National Immunization Technical Advisory Groups (NITAGs)*

- **Dr Joseph Nsiari-muzeyi Biye**, Medical Officer, WHO West Africa
- **Dr Benjamin Kagina**, Director, NITAGs Support Hub (NiSH)

09:20 Presentations: *NITAG engagement on PCV and rotavirus vaccine introduction*

- **Dr Allarangar Yokouidé**, President, NITAG, Chad
- **Dr Abdoul Habib Beavogui**, Chair, NITAG, Guinea
- **Dr Mohamed Hussein Omar**, Chair, NITAG, Somalia
- **Dr Margaret Betty Ayobo**, Deputy Chair, NITAG, South Sudan

10:20 Discussion moderated by **Dr Benjamin Kagina**

10:40 Break

11:00 Session: *PCV and rotavirus vaccine introduction options*

Moderator

- **Dr André Tonda**, Immunization Technical Advisor, JSI, Democratic Republic of Congo

Speakers

- **Ms Laura Nic Lochlainn**, Technical Officer, Department of Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals, WHO
- **Dr Abu Obeida Eltayeb**, Health Manager Immunization, UNICEF Somalia
- **Ms Veronica Denti**, Senior Programme Manager, Vaccine Programmes, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance
- **Ms Molly Sauer**, Research Associate, Choice Optimization in Immunization: Country Exercises for Sustainability (CHOICES), Johns Hopkins University

12:20 Discussion

13:00 Lunch

## Preliminary Program 12.09.23

14:30 Spotlight: *Lessons from dual PCV-rotavirus vaccine introductions (e.g., Ghana, Niger, Tanzania) and integrated PCV campaigns (e.g., Timor-Leste)*

Moderator

- **Dr Ayesha Kadir**, Senior Humanitarian Health Advisor, Save the Children International

Speakers

- **Dr Adicatou Adeothy**, Technical Advisor - Chad, CHOICES, Johns Hopkins University
- **Dr Nevio Sarmiento**, Head, Pneumococcal Vaccine Sub-committee, NITAG, Timor-Leste

15:00 Discussion

15:30 Break

16:00 Interactive Session: *Country breakouts*

Moderator

- **Dr Adicatou Adeothy**, Technical Advisor - Chad, CHOICES, Johns Hopkins University

Country Group Facilitators

- Chad: **Dr Alain Blaise Tatsinkou**, Immunization Officer, WHO Central Africa, Gabon
- Guinea: **Dr Joseph Nsiari-muzeyi Biey**, Medical Officer, WHO West Africa, Burkina Faso
- Somalia: **Dr Mirza Mashrur Ahmed**, Medical Officer, WHO Somalia
- South Sudan: **Dr Mutale Mumba**, New Vaccines Officer, WHO East and Southern Africa, Zimbabwe

17:00 Plenary Discussion

18:00 Closing, Day Chairs

19:30 Evening Event

## Day 3 – Friday, 15 September

**Day Chairs:** CHOICES, Johns Hopkins University and UNICEF Somalia represented by Ms Molly Sauer and Dr Abu Obeida Eltayeb

09:00 Welcome and Recap of Day 2

09:15 Spotlight: *Estimating children's lives saved from PCV and rotavirus vaccine introduction*

- **Dr Anita Shet**, Director, Child Health, International Vaccine Access Center (IVAC), Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

9:35 Discussion

09:45 Session: *Childhood vaccine co-financing options: the role of development banks*

Moderator

- **Dr Thierry Vincent**, Senior Country Manager, Chad and Mali, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance

Speakers

- **Dr Amadou Bassirou Diallo**, Country Program Officer, African Development Bank, Chad
- **Dr Zenab Konkobo Kouanda**, Senior Health Specialist, World Bank, Guinea

10:30 Discussion

11:00 Break

11:30 Finale: *Statements of Action (recorded)*

- **Chad Ministry of Health**
- **Guinea Ministry of Health**
- **Somalia Ministry of Health**
- **South Sudan Ministry of Health**

12:30 The Historic Opportunity: *Protecting all African children with the PCV and rotavirus vaccines*

- **Dr Papa Coumba Faye**, Senior Program Officer, Routine Immunization Strengthening in High Risk Geographies, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

12:50 Discussion

13:00 Closing

- **Dr Valentina Picot**, Head, Acute Respiratory Infections Research and Public Health Initiatives, Mérieux Foundation
- **Dr Dabsou Guidaoussou**, General Secretary, Ministry of Public Health and Prevention, Chad
- 13:30 Ends