

*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

Friday, November 5, 2010, 8:00-9:45 am
Imperial Room A, Marriott Marquis Hotel, Atlanta

Scientists to Report on Early Data toward Dramatically Increasing the Effectiveness of Future Malaria Vaccines

PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative-led symposium on early studies of “prime-boost” strategies also to discuss real-life implementation challenges

In its latest issue, the medical journal [The Lancet](#) editorialized, “Malaria will only be truly eliminable (or eradicable) when an effective vaccine is fully available.” Malaria kills approximately 900,000 people a year worldwide and sickens tens of millions more. A first generation malaria vaccine supported by the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative (MVI) is currently the subject of a large multi-center Phase 3 trial in sub-Saharan Africa.

In looking toward the development of next generation malaria vaccines with higher levels of protection, early clinical data strongly support using a “heterologous prime-boost” approach. Under this promising strategy, when a single application of a malaria vaccine is insufficient, repeated immunizations are performed using different vaccine preparations to stimulate a better immune response. Essentially, one vaccine primes the immune system to attack malaria while the next one boosts the response.

Researchers at the 59th annual meeting of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene in Atlanta [will present data on an array of promising prime-boost strategies](#). Beyond the scientific challenges, they will outline the development and policy challenges that can be anticipated in implementing these more complex, multi-component vaccines in resource-limited settings.

WHEN: 8:00-9:45 a.m., Friday, November 5
Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel, Imperial Room A

SPEAKERS:

- **Adrian Hill**, Director, The Jenner Institute, Oxford University
- **Vasee Moorthy**, Malaria Vaccine Focal Point, WHO Initiative for Vaccine Research
- **Tom Richie**, Research Coordinator, US Military Malaria Program, Naval Medical Research Center & Walter Reed Army Institute of Research
- **Jerald Sadoff**, Chief Medical Officer, Crucell

CO-CHAIRS:

- **Ashley Birkett**, Director, Pre- and Early-Clinical Research and Development, MVI
- **Christian Loucq**, Director, MVI

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The PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative (MVI) is a global program established at PATH through an initial grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. MVI's mission is to accelerate the development of malaria vaccines and ensure their availability and accessibility in the developing world. MVI's vision is a world free from malaria. For more information, please visit www.malariavaccine.org. Founded in 1977, PATH is an international, nonprofit organization that creates sustainable, culturally relevant solutions, enabling communities worldwide to break longstanding cycles of poor health. By collaborating with diverse public- and private-sector partners, PATH helps

provide appropriate health technologies and vital strategies that change the way people think and act. PATH's work improves global health and well-being. For more information, please visit www.path.org.