#### Webinar



Thursday, April 13



8:00 am NYC, 2:00 pm Cape Town/Geneva

5:30 pm New Delhi,
 7:00 pm Jakarta



**Mike Frick** Treatment Action Group



**TB Vaccine Development:** 

https://www.treatmentactiongroup.org/webinar/tb-

vaccine-development-the-next-chapter-starts-now/

The Next Chapter Starts Now

**Dr. Sara Suliman** UC San Francisco



Laia Ruiz Mingote Global Health Consultant



Keyuri Bhanushali TB Survivor and Advocate



**Dr. Bakul Piplani** Early Career Researcher

## The TB Vaccine Pipeline Vaccine Candidates and Clinical Trials Advocates Should Know

Mike Frick TB project co-director

Treatment Action Group

# Agenda

2 opening questions

**3** vaccine development strategies

6 views of the pipeline

4 candidate close-ups

https://www.treatmentactiongroup.org/resources/pipeline-report/2022-pipeline-report/

#### Pipeline Report » 2022

**Tuberculosis Vaccines** 



# Why do we need new TB vaccines when we have BCG?

PASTRIA

Because BCG is >100 years old and it hasn't stopped the epidemic!

#### BCG Vaccine SSI

Powder for suspension for Reconstitute with 1 ml Diluted Sauton SSI. 1vial contains 1.0 ml vac corr. to 10/20 doses of 0.1ml/0.05 ml. Dose: see carton For intradermal injection Use immediately after record Do not shake

# BCG: the only existing vaccine against TB

- Bacillus Calmette–Guérin (BCG): developed by Albert Calmette and Camille Guérin in France in early 1900s (interrupted by WWI).
- First introduced into human use in **1921.**
- BCG is a live attenuated form of *Mycobacterium bovis*, the organism that causes TB in cattle.
- Part of the EPI package and given to infants soon after birth. Believed to be the mostly widely administered vaccine in human history.
- Protects children against severe forms of TB (e.g., TB meningitis, miliary TB, disseminated TB), but offers highly variable protection against pulmonary TB in adolescents and adults, who account for most TB transmission.

#### THE LANCET Global Health

Infant BCG vaccination and risk of pulmonary and extrapulmonary TB throughout the life course: a systematic review and individual participant data meta-analysis

- Analyzed individual-level data from 68,552 TB contacts in 26 case-contact cohort studies from 17 countries (all published within the last 20 years). Found that:
  - infant BCG vaccination was effective in preventing all TB, pulmonary TB, and death, especially among younger children.
  - the overall effectiveness of BCG <u>against all forms of TB</u> was 18%. The protective effect of BCG against TB waned in participants <u>></u> 5 years.
  - BCG provided >80% protection <u>against death</u>, an effect that lasted through age 14.

"These results suggest that infant BCG vaccination, although important to young children who are at high risk of tuberculosis, does not prevent adult-type cavitary tuberculosis and is therefore insufficient to impede the tuberculosis epidemic, providing further evidence that novel vaccines are urgently needed."

# Why is it taking so long to develop new vaccines against TB?

Because we're running the hurdles, not a straightaway sprint. There are multiple obstacles – scientific, political, financial – that we have to jump over, knock down, or clear away.

## TB vaccine strategies

Currently, there are three overarching strategies guiding TB vaccine development efforts. Each is known by the <u>primary</u> endpoint of interest.

• **POI** = prevention of infection

• **POD** = prevention of disease

POR = prevention of <u>r</u>ecurrence (<u>r</u>elapse or <u>r</u>einfection)

#### The Pipeline the bird's eye view

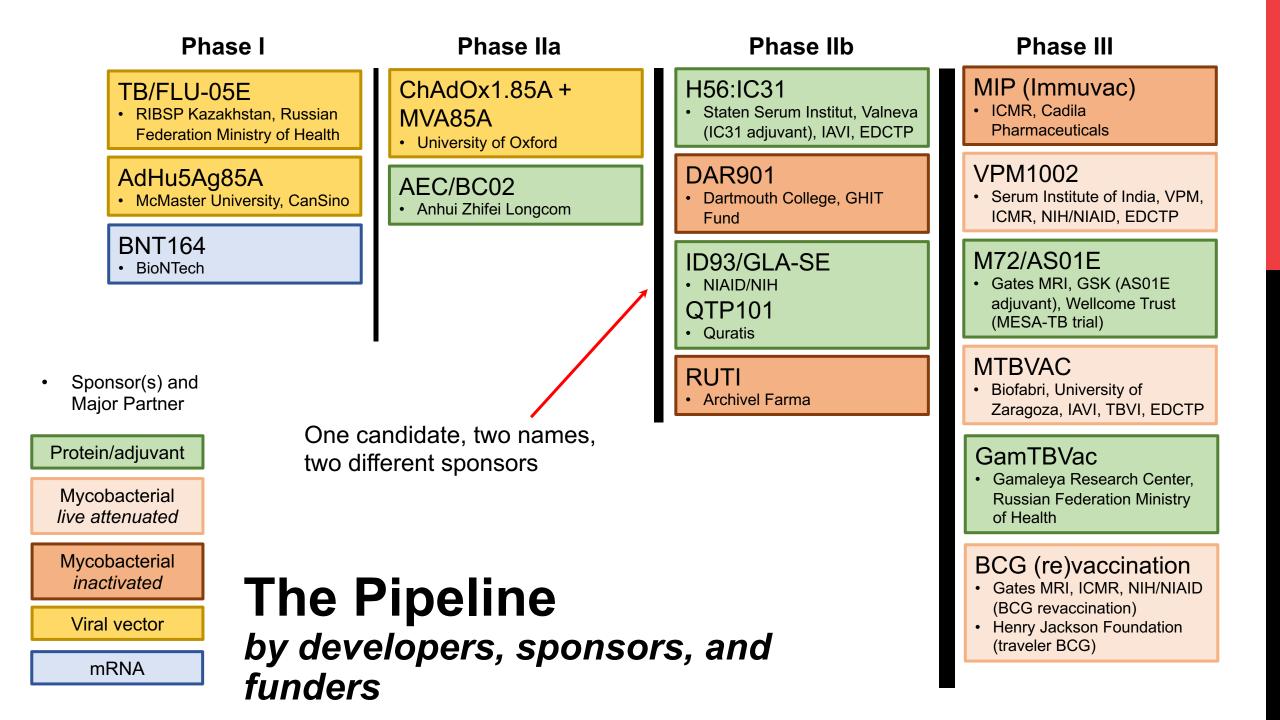
- The pipeline contains ~16 vaccine candidates including
  6 in or preparing for phase III trials.
- >75,000
  The field is mounting multiple phase III trials that will together enroll over 75,000 people. (The most since the middle of the 20th century!)
- DozensThese phase III trials will bring TB vaccine science to over a<br/>dozen countries.
- **100,000s** Investigators will collect **hundreds of thousands of participant samples** that will guide next-generation vaccine development and immunology and other basic science research on TB.



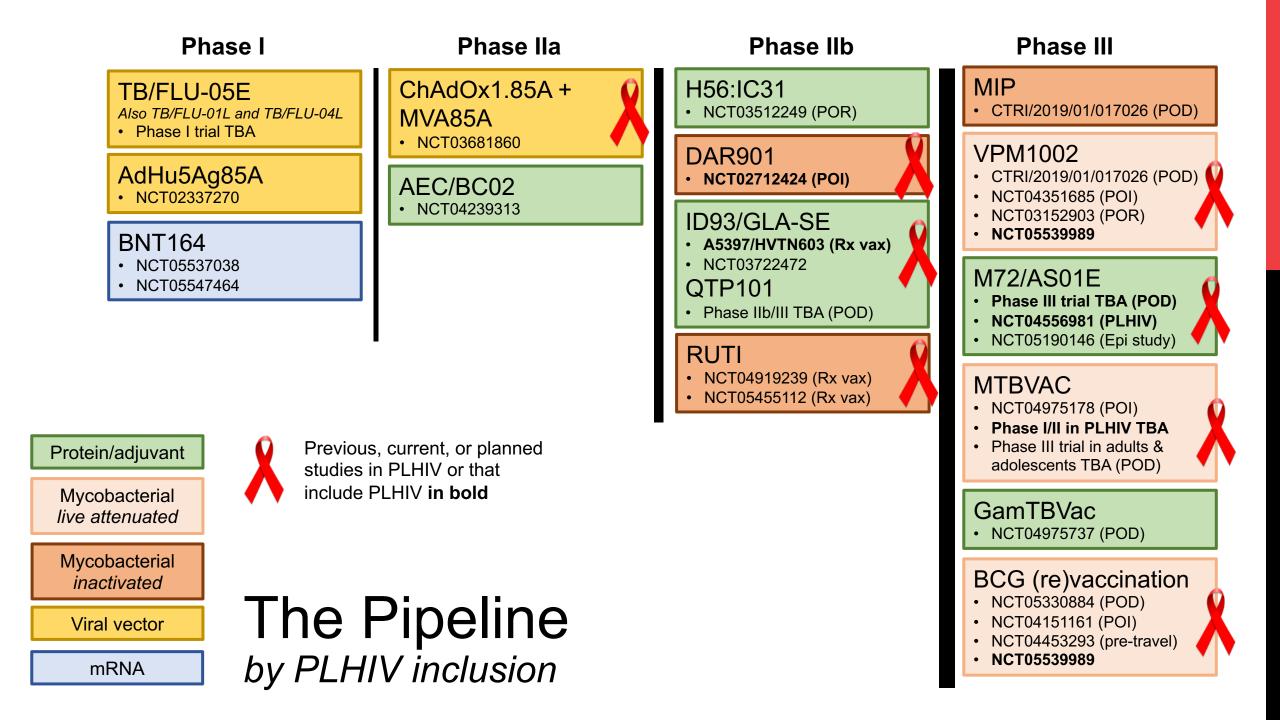
Ongoing and planned phase II and III trials will enroll **diverse populations of people at risk of TB**, including PLHIV, children, household contacts of people with TB, people treated for TB disease, and people with MTB infection and those without.

	Pha	ase I	Phase IIa		Phase IIb	Pha	ase III
	TB/FLU-0 Also TB/FLU-01L		ChAdOx1.85A + MVA85A		H56:IC31	MIP (Im	muvac)
	AdHu5Ag	85A	AEC/BC02		DAR901	VPM10	02
	BNT164			11	ID93/GLA-SE		
					QTP101	M72/AS	01E
		Δ.			RUTI		
				ľ		MTBVA	C
Vaccir candio name		Very lit	tle in early phases!			GamTB	Vac
Th	The Pipeline by name				BCG (re	e)vaccination	

	Ph	nase I	Phase IIa	Phase IIb	Phase III
	TB/FLU-	-05E -01L and TB/FLU-04L	ChAdOx1.85A + MVA85A	H56:IC31	MIP (Immuvac)
	AdHu5Ag85A		AEC/BC02	DAR901	VPM1002
ĺ	BNT164			ID93/GLA-SE	
	BITTIOT			QTP101	M72/AS01E
				RUTI	
					MTBVAC
Protein	/adjuvant				
	pacterial <i>enuated</i>				GamTBVac
	oacterial tivated				BCC (ro)vaccination
Viral vector The Pipeline by type			BCG (re)vaccination		
mRNA		IIIG		туре	



Phase I	Phase IIa	Phase IIb	Phase III
TB/FLU-05E Also TB/FLU-01L and TB/FLU-04L • Phase I trial TBA	ChAdOx1.85A + MVA85A	H56:IC31 • NCT03512249 (POR)	MIP • CTRI/2019/01/017026 (POD)
AdHu5Ag85A • NCT02337270 BNT164	<ul> <li>NCT03681860</li> <li>AEC/BC02</li> <li>NCT04239313</li> </ul>	DAR901 • NCT02712424 (POI) ID93/GLA-SE • A5397/HVTN603 (Rx vax)	VPM1002 • CTRI/2019/01/017026 (POD) • NCT04351685 (POI) • NCT03152903 (POR) • NCT05539989
<ul> <li>NCT05537038</li> <li>NCT05547464</li> </ul>		NCT03722472     QTP101     Phase IIb/III TBA (POD)     RUTI	M72/AS01E <ul> <li>Phase III trial TBA (POD)</li> <li>NCT04556981 (PLHIV)</li> <li>NCT05190146 (Epi study)</li> </ul>
Protein/adjuvant • Clinical trial number	registry	<ul> <li>NCT04919239 (Rx vax)</li> <li>NCT05455112 (Rx vax)</li> </ul>	MTBVAC <ul> <li>NCT04975178 (POI)</li> <li>Phase I/II in PLHIV TBA</li> <li>Phase III trial in adults &amp; adolescents TBA (POD)</li> </ul>
Mycobacterial live attenuated • Rx vax = th	ndpoint)		GamTBVac • NCT04975737 (POD)
Mycobacterial inactivated			BCG (re)vaccination • NCT05330884 (POD)
	Pipeline		<ul> <li>NCT04151161 (POI)</li> <li>NCT04453293 (pre-travel)</li> <li>NCT05539989</li> </ul>



#### THE LANCET HIV

#### Developing tuberculosis vaccines for people with HIV: consensus statements from an international expert panel



New tuberculosis vaccine candidates that are in the development pipeline need to be studied in people with HIV, who are at high risk of acquiring *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection and tuberculosis disease and tend to develop less robust vaccine-induced immune responses. To address the gaps in developing tuberculosis vaccines for people with HIV, a series of symposia was held that posed six framing questions to a panel of international experts: What is the use case or rationale for developing tuberculosis vaccines? What is the landscape of tuberculosis vaccines? Which vaccine candidates should be prioritised? What are the tuberculosis vaccine trial design considerations? What is the role of immunological correlates of protection? What are the gaps in preclinical models for studying tuberculosis vaccines? The international expert panel formulated consensus statements to each of the framing questions, with the intention of informing tuberculosis vaccine development and the prioritisation of clinical trials for inclusion of people with HIV.

Lancet HIV 2022; 9: e791-800 Published Online October 11, 2022 https://doi.org/10.1016/ S2352-3018(22)00255-7 \* Contributed equally Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, WA, USA (M D Miner PhD, E Andersen-Nissen PhD, A Fiore-Gartland PhD,

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"Trials of TB vaccine candidates should include people living with HIV . . . "

"All people with HIV participating in TB vaccine trials must be on ART."

"TB vaccine trial participants with HIV should either previously have completed TB preventive treatment before enrollment or be offered TPT during the study."

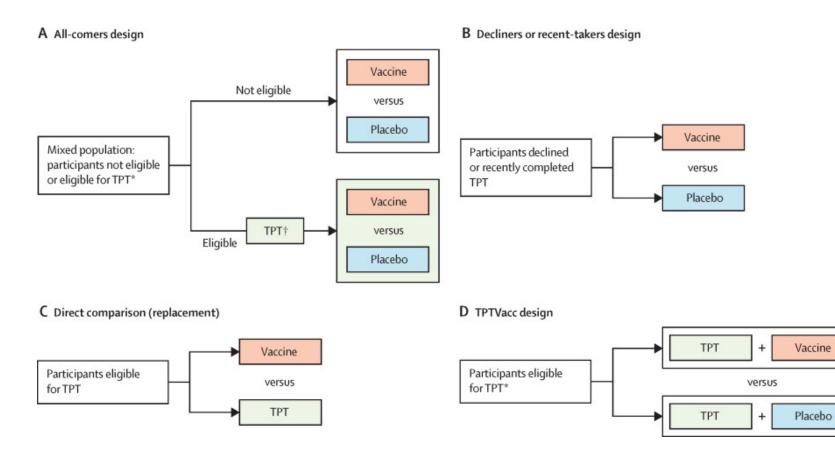
#### Panel: Key consensus points

- To inform vaccine strategies among people with HIV across the tuberculosis disease and HIV spectrum, the potential individual-level and population-level effect of novel tuberculosis vaccines targeting people with HIV should be modelled.
- Trials of tuberculosis vaccine candidates should include people with HIV with careful consideration of safety, immunogenicity, and efficacy specific to people with HIV.
   For people of all ages with HIV, subunit protein or adjuvanted tuberculosis vaccines and inactivated mycobacterial vaccines should be prioritised, followed by non-replicating viral-vectored vaccines.
- As live-attenuated vaccines are being developed for infants, it will be important to know the safety, immunogenicity, and efficacy of these vaccines in infants with HIV on antiretroviral therapy (ART). The evaluation of immunogenicity and safety of novel live-attenuated vaccines early in development, considering the possible risks and benefits for each candidate vaccine (in each age group) in people with HIV on ART, is encouraged. Novel vaccine platforms such as mRNA and DNA should be prioritised for evaluation among people with HIV, including infants and children.
- All people with HIV participating in tuberculosis vaccine trials must be on ART. Eligibility criteria for people with HIV on ART differ depending on CD4 T-cell count and viral load. Tuberculosis vaccine trial participants with HIV should either previously have completed a course of tuberculosis preventive treatment (TPT) before enrolment or be offered TPT during the study. Community stakeholders of people with HIV should be engaged early in the process to provide input into study design, trial conduct, and results dissemination.
- Correlates of protection and other immunogenicity endpoints identified in people without HIV should be applied to and evaluated in people with HIV with immune-bridging studies.
- Non-human primate simian immunodeficiency virus and simian HIV models (with and without ART) should be invested in for tuberculosis vaccine studies.

#### THE LANCET Respiratory Medicine

### (R) Clinical trials of tuberculosis vaccines in the era of increased access to preventive antibiotic treatment

Molebogeng X Rangaka\*, Mike Frick\*, Gavin Churchyard, Alberto L García-Basteiro, Mark Hatherill, Willem Hanekom, Philip C Hill, Yohhei Hamada, Matthew Quaife, Johan Vekemans, Richard G White, Frank Cobelens



# **VPM1002**

- VPM1002 is a live vaccine based on recombinant BCG (i.e., BCG with purposeful genetic modifications to provide better safety and efficacy).
- Developed at the Max Planck Institute in Germany, licensed to Vakzine Projekt Management (VPM), which then provided an exclusive sublicense to the Serum Institute of India (SII).
- Three ongoing phase III trials.

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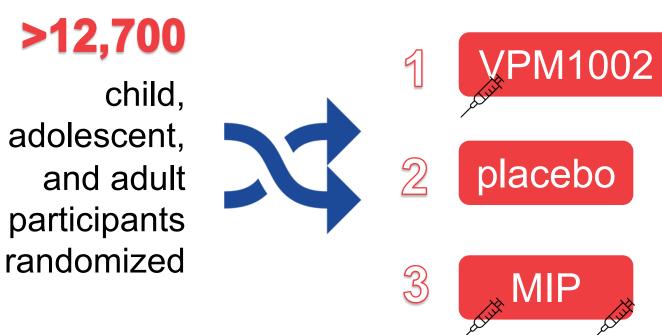
- CTRI/2019/01/017026 (POD)
- NCT04351685 (POI)
- NCT03152903 (POR)
- IMPAACTP2035/HVTN604

POD	Completed enrollment in a phase III trial evaluating the efficacy, safety, and immunogenicity of VPM1002 and MIP (vs. placebo) in preventing TB disease (pulmonary or extrapulmonary) among 12,721 household contacts (≥6 years old, HIV negative) of people with TB in India (CTRI/2019/01/017026). (Secondary objectives include efficacy evaluation for POI.) Primary completion: 2022.	Results this year?
ΡΟΙ	Undergoing a phase III trial evaluating the efficacy, safety, and immunogenicity of VPM1002 (vs. BCG) in preventing MTB infection among 6,940 newborns (HIV-exposed and uninfected eligible) in Gabon, Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania, and Uganda ( <u>NCT04351685</u> ). Primary completion: November 2022.	Results by 2024?
POR	Undergoing a phase II/III trial evaluating efficacy, safety, and immunogenicity of VPM1002 (vs. placebo) in preventing TB disease recurrence (pulmonary or extrapulmonary) in 2,000 HIV-negative adults ages 18–65 years successfully treated for TB in India and Bangladesh ( <u>NCT03152903</u> ). Primary completion: February 2022.	
Other	Planning for a phase I/II safety/immunogenicity study of VPM1002 or BCG revaccination (vs. placebo) in 480 HIV-positive and HIV-negative pre-adolescents ages 8–14 with and without MTB infection in South Africa (IMPAACTP2035/HVTN604; LEAP).	

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# Phase III Trial of VPM1002 and MIP CTRI/2019/01/017026



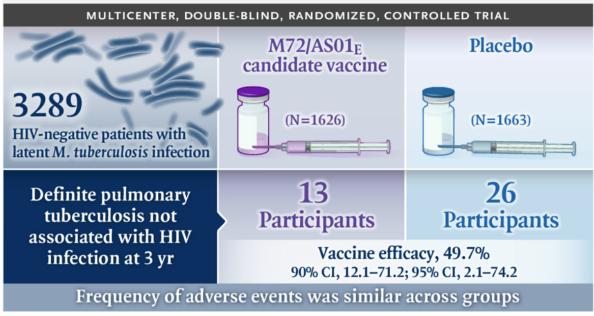


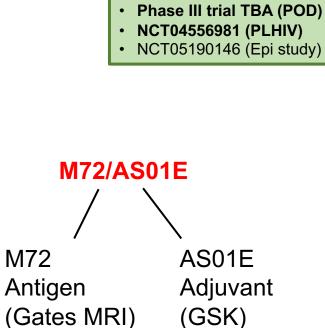
Household contacts ≥6 years HIV-negative

- 3 arm study with two experimental vaccine candidates: VPM1002 and MIP.
- The trial will compare VPM1002 and MIP to placebo.
- Primary outcome: **POD** "To compare the percentage of confirmed TB cases (PTB and EPTB) in the vaccinated and placebo groups from 2 months after first dose of vaccine till 38 months follow-up period."
- "Final analysis will be done at the time when 160 incident TB cases are observed in the trial or end of follow up period whichever is earlier."
- Status: fully enrolled.

# M72/AS01E

- Subunit protein/adjuvant vaccine.
- Initially developed by GSK and now being taken forward by the Gates Medical Research Institute.
- Positive efficacy signal in phase IIb trial in Kenya, South Africa, and Zambia.





M72/AS01E

49.7% (90% CI: 12.1–71.2) protection against developing bacteriologically confirmed pulmonary TB disease among HIV-negative, MTB-infected adults.

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# M72/AS01E

- Phase III study (next slide).
- MESA-TB: Safety/immunogenicity study of M72/AS01E in ~400 PLHIV (16–35 years) in South Africa on ART and who have previously taken TB preventive treatment.
  - Co-funded by Wellcome Trust.
  - Participants must have HIV RNA <200 copies/mL at screening and CD4+ cell counts ≥200 cells/µL.
- Epidemiology study to prepare for the phase III trial. The study will assess IGRA positivity and TB incidence near potential trial sites.
  - Will enroll 8,000 participants in Bangladesh, Brazil, DRC, Gambia, India, Indonesia Kenya, Mozambique, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, Uganda, Vietnam, Zambia.
  - Data will be a "global good" available to other vaccine developers and researchers.

Starting soon?

Complete and results expected soon. Will allow PLHIV to enroll in the phase III trial. NCT04556981

Epi study to prepare for ph. III trial. **NCT05190146** 

### Phase III Trial of M72/AS01E To begin soon

ра	<b>26,000</b> articipants		2	1	M72/AS01
be	randomize	ed		2	placebo
C	Cohort	N			Juit 1 month
I	GRA+, HIV-	20,000			
10	GRA-, HIV-	4,000			
F	HV+	2,000			
Т	Total	26,000			

- Primary objective: Evaluate vaccine efficacy in the prevention of bacteriologically-confirmed pulmonary TB (**POD**) among participants who are IGRA+ (indicating MTB infection) and HIV-negative.
- Gates MRI hopes to open enrollment in late 2023 or early 2024 and to have results 4–5 years after enrollment begins. ~2028
- Status: preparing to open. A preparatory epi study is underway in ~11 countries.

### **MTBVAC**

- MTBVAC = live attenuated MTB (i.e., a weakened version of the TB pathogen itself!) In this case, the attenuation is the deletion of two genes responsible for virulence (phoP and fadD26).
- In 2022, Biofabri reached an agreement with Bharat Biotech "to guarantee the worldwide production and the supply of the future vaccine in more than 70 countries with a high TB incidence."

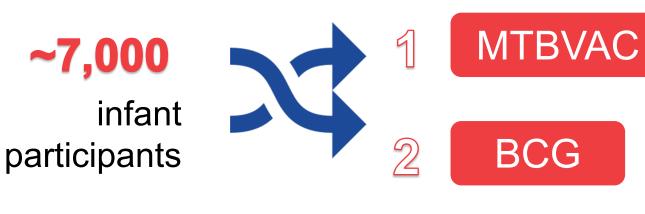
POD	Undergoing a phase III trial to evaluate the efficacy, safety, and immunogenicity of MTBVAC (vs. BCG) in 6,960 HIV-unexposed and HIV-exposed, uninfected infants in South Africa, Senegal, and Madagascar (NCT04975178; MTBVACN3). Primary completion: June 2027.
	Plans for advanced clinical efficacy studies of MTBVAC in adults and adolescents are under development (source: IAVI and Biofabri).
	Completed a phase IIa dose-defining safety/immunogenicity study of MTBVAC (vs. BCG) in 99 South African infants ( <u>NCT03536117</u> ). (Informed dose selected for phase POD III trial listed above.) Completion: March 2022. <sup>7</sup>
Other	Planning for a phase Ib safety/immunogenicity study of MTBVAC in PLHIV (including a subgroup of people with advanced HIV disease) is underway. Study initiation is targeted for 2023 (registry number and other details forthcoming. Source: IAVI and Biofabri).

#### **MTBVAC**

- NCT04975178 (POI)
- Phase I/II in PLHIV TBA
- Phase III trial in adults & adolescents TBA (POD)

### Phase III trial of MTBVAC NCT04975178





- HIV unexposed newborns
- HIV exposed, uninfected newborns



 Primary outcome: Prevention of TB disease (POD) in healthy HIV-uninfected (HU) and HIV-exposed uninfected (HEU) newborns.

- Infants will be followed for a minimum of 24 months to see how many develop TB disease.
- Status: recruiting.

# **BCG revaccination**

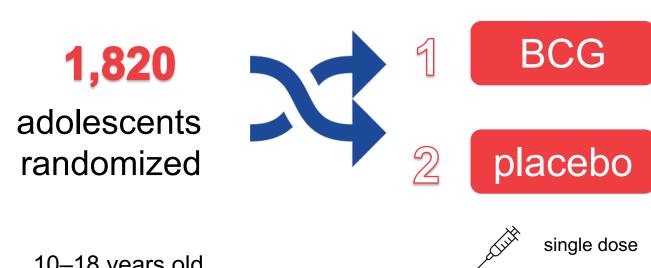
- Earlier phase II study that found BCG revaccination had an estimated vaccine efficacy of 45.4% (95% CI: 6.4–68.1) against sustained IGRA conversion (secondary endpoint).
- Sustained IGRA conversion = an initial conversion from negative to positive (signaling TB infection) and subsequent tests stay positive upon testing three and six months after the initial conversion.

POD	Undergoing a phase III efficacy, safety, immunogenicity study of BCG revaccination (vs. TB preventive treatment) among 9,200 BCG-vaccinated, HIV-negative child and adolescent household contacts ages 6 to 18 years in India (NCT05330884; BRiC). Primary completion: June 2025.	New trial. First study of vaccine vs. preventive treatment.
POI	Undergoing a phase IIb study to evaluate the efficacy, safety, and immunogenicity of BCG revaccination (vs. placebo) in 1,820 BCG-vaccinated, MTB-uninfected adolescents aged 10–18 years in South Africa ( <u>NCT04152161</u> ). Primary completion: April 2023.	Fully enrolled.
	Undergoing a phase III trial to evaluate the efficacy and safety of pre-travel vaccination with BCG (vs. placebo) among 2,000 BCG-naïve, MTB-uninfected adults aged 18–65 years, either healthcare workers or long-term travelers to high-TB-burden countries from the United States ( <u>NCT04453293</u> ). Primary completion: May 2024.	
Other	Planning for a phase I/II safety/immunogenicity study of BCG revaccination or VPM1002 (vs. placebo) in 480 HIV-positive and HIV-negative pre-adolescents aged 8–14 years with and without MTB infection in South Africa (IMPAACTP2035/HVTN604).	

#### BCG (re)vaccination

- NCT05330884 (POD)
- NCT04151161 (POI)
- NCT04453293 (pre-travel)
- IMPAACTP2035/HVTN604

#### Phase IIb study of BCG revaccination NCT04152161



10–18 years old **BCG-vaccinated** No indication of TB infection (IGRA-) **HIV-negative** 



- Primary outcome: Number of participants with sustained IGRA conversion from a negative to positive test (**POI**).
- IGRA used is the QuantiFERON®-TB Gold Plus (QFT).
- Sustained Conversion = initial conversion and QFT positive 3 and 6 months later.
- Status: fully enrolled.
- Sponsor: Gates MRI.

### BCG revaccination: comparing trials

	Before	Now
	BCG revax – Phase IIa trial (previous study)	BCG revax Phase IIb trial (current study)
Participant size:	989 adolescents	1820 adolescents
Age:	12–17 years old	10–18 years old
Sites:	Worcester, Western Cape	Across South Africa
TB infection test (IGRA)	QFT Gold	QFT Gold Plus
Primary endpoint	IGRA conversion	Sustained IGRA conversion

What would a positive result mean?

- A positive result from this study could spark a policy change recommending a second dose of BCG in adolescence to protect high-risk people from MTB infection.
- Or it could motivate a phase III POD trial among IGRA-negative people to see if BCG revaccination protects against TB disease.

### The mRNA vaccines are coming! (maybe)

#### BIONTECH

Has registered two phase I clinical trials of two investigational vaccines under the name BNT164 (BNT164a1 and BNT164b1).

- NCT05537038 (Germany?)
- NCT05547464 (South Africa)

Each will evaluate safety, reactogenicity, and immunogenicity of three dose levels of the vaccines given in a three-dose schedule.



April 7, 2022: "[Moderna and IAVI] today announced a new collaboration to employ mRNA technology to meet the challenge of a range of global health threats: HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, antimicrobial-resistant enteric infections, and COVID-19."



Has started preclinical work on a TB vaccine candidate(s).

Will discuss mRNA and TB vaccines on April 21 during the Hub's week-long meeting in Cape Town.

# Thank you!

mike.frick@treatmentactiongroup.org

And thanks to the Working Group on New TB Vaccines and partners in the TB Vax ARM coalition.

If you would like to learn more about the TB Vax ARM's activities or join the monthly meetings, email Shaun Palmer at SPalmer@iavi.org.

Want more information from TAG? Join our list here!

#### **TB Vaccine Pipeline** Phase 2b Phase 3 Vaccine candidates under clinical development AEC/BC02 There are 15 vaccine candidates in the pipeline as of October 2022, of which nine are in active trials. The candidates are placed under the phase which corresponds to the most advanced ongoing or completed trial. Platforn Trial staus Mycobacterial - Live attenuated Active trials Mycobacterial - Inactivated (II) No active trials ሐትአ 1 Viral vector ID93 + GLA-SE Protein/Adjuvant Candidate target population Primary candidate indication Elderly Prevention of Infectio Adults Prevention of Disease Adolescents Prevention of Recurrence Children Therapeuti Infants People living with HIV People without mTB infection -mTB - ተ እ +mTR People with mTB infection People with active TB disease BCG appears twice in the pipeline to distinguish between the investigation People with MDR-TB MDR of its use in BCG-naive individuals (traveler vaccination) and in individuals who have previously been vaccinated with BCG (revaccination).



CTR

People cured of active TR

Information reported by vaccine sponsors or found in clinical trial registries or other public sources. For the full list of completed trials for each candidate, visit www.newtbvaccines.org/tb-vaccine-pipeline



## **POD** = prevention of disease

- Most relevant for licensure and scale-up.
- Requires measuring the incidence of clinical ideally, microbiologically confirmed – TB in the vaccine and placebo/control arms.
- Long, with large sample size, and therefore expensive. Why?
  - Estimated incidence of TB disease in most high-incidence countries is not above 400/100,000 per year, so very large sample sizes are needed in order to measure protective efficacy with sufficient precision.
  - Participants must be followed for several years to see if protection is durable/lasting.
  - These limitations can be (partially) addressed by enrolling participants with TB infection (IGRA+ or TST+) as opposed to people without TB infection.

# **POI** = prevention of infection

- Requires measuring the incidence of infection with MTB in the vaccine and placebo/control arms.
- Not clear if prevention of infection is a licensable endpoint from the perspective of regulators.
- Smaller, cheaper, faster trials. Why?
  - Incidence of TB infection is ~10–20 times higher than incidence of TB disease, so trials can enroll faster and accrue endpoints more quickly than POD trials.

#### • HOWEVER:

- No easy way to measure infection. TST and IGRAs do not measure infection directly. Sustained IGRA conversion – negative to positive, with no reversion to negative – is the most common POI endpoint.
- Not clear if POI signals POD. Only 5–10% of people with TB infection progress to TB disease—does a vaccine prevent infection in individuals who would progress otherwise?