### Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR)

# WRAIR's Contributions to the Vaccine Enterprise

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Walter Reed Army Institute of Research Soldier Health • World Health NATIONAL VACCINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE 02 FEBRUARY 2016



### Soldier Health. World Health.

### Infectious diseases are a constant threat to the soldier and global citizen in both conflict and peacetime

- WRAIR researchers contributed to the development of multiple U.S. licensed vaccines (ex: flu, Hep A, oral adenovirus)
  - Unique expertise, capabilities and resources
  - Play key role in current leading vaccines for HIV, dengue, malaria
  - Currently assisting with development of several Ebola vaccines and a MERS vaccine





### **Requirements to Products**

The U.S. Military acquires vaccines in a very similar fashion to the way in which it acquires any medical product or device

- A military requirement for a vaccine is determined by consultation with Combatant Command Surgeons, the Military Infectious Diseases and Preventive Medicine (Public Health) communities, and the Defense Health Agency (DoD)
- Prioritizations are made by the equity holders above and the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command in terms of intramural funding and in-kind resources
- Target Product Profile like guidance is provided by a process informed from pharma and military acquisition communities (Decision Gate)





### The U.S. Military integrates pre-clinical/early clinical and advanced development testing using an acquisitions model

- Research and Technology groups (laboratories like WRAIR and RIID) are funded with monies to push products up to and through phase 1 human testing
- Once a product is approaching phase 1 testing, a Technology Transfer Agreement is written between the R&T group and the US Army Medical Materiel Development Activity/MRMC
- USAMMDA and it's Advanced Development team have separate monies to pull products across the Valley of Death
- IPTs, IIPTs, Board of Governors



### **WRAIR CONUS and OCONUS Platforms**

#### **Text Version**



International research capabilities, expertise, and relationships

#### >2,000 military, civilian, support personnel



### Effective Product Development: Hepatitis A Vaccine

**Text Version** 



13 Years

Time from HAV vaccine planning meeting at WRAIR to licensing approval leading to HAV elimination from US forces

### Effective Product Development: Adenovirus Types 4 and 7 Vaccine

**Text Version** 

10

Years



- Time from Army awarding Barr Laboratories the contract to restore vaccine capability to FDA approval and vaccine reaching trainees
  - These two types of adenovirus have caused severe outbreaks of respiratory illness among military recruits

### **WRAIR: Human Clinical Trials**

- Highly experienced
  - Conducted 35 clinical studies to evaluate malaria vaccine candidates



- Full spectrum of services for clinical trial execution
  - ▶ Idea  $\rightarrow$  Execution  $\rightarrow$  FDA reporting
- Co-located with numerous research assets
  - Animal research facilities and Insectary
  - Product manufacturing facility (GMP)
  - Basic and applied science labs

### **Extensive Collaborations**





- Strong ties with international government, ministries of health, militaries
- Strategic partnership with NIAID/NIH
- Broad pharmaceutical company partnerships (Sanofi, J&J, Crucell, Novartis, GSK)
- Collaborative relationship with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Extensive engagements with international normative bodies (WHO, UNAIDS) and Non Government Organizations



### **Infectious Diseases Research Successes**

- Developed vaccines to prevent meningitis, Japanese Encephalitis and Adenovirus
- WRAIR led the first/only HIV vaccine study to show efficacy
  - Showed a preventive vaccine IS possible
- Play key roles in leading Dengue and Malaria vaccine candidates
- Advancing three Ebola vaccine candidates
  - Two US trials of Ebola candidate at WRAIR
  - Sites in Africa leveraged for Ebola vaccine research
  - MERS Vaccine first in man study



### Vaccine Studies: RV144

### The Thai HIV Vaccine Study

- First HIV vaccine to show modest effectiveness in preventing HIV in humans.
- Efficacy of ~60% at year 1; demonstrated 31.2% efficacy at end of study (3.5 years)
- Major international collaboration with 16,000 Thai volunteers















### **Building on Success of RV144**

### • Intensive Laboratory Studies

- Several papers published in NEJM, Nature, Immunity, Cell
- > Provided clues why the vaccine protected some volunteers
- International collaboration with more than 120 scientists

### • Follow up Clinical Studies

> Early effect nearly 60%

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- Add a boost to extend and increase the immune response
- Test in different risk groups and geographic areas
- MHRP is part of the P5 Collaboration







**NOVARTIS** 



#### The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

Immune-Correlates Analysis of an HIV-1 Vaccine Efficacy Trial





### **Ongoing HIV Vaccine Studies**

- Ad26/MVA/Protein (A004)
  Janssen/J&J HIV vaccine study in Thailand and Uganda
- Heroin/HIV vaccine
  NIDA sponsored vaccine to combat duel epidemics
- gp145 (NIAID) MHRP-developed protein for use in clinical studies
- DNA adjuvant study (RV460) Clinical study in Kenya using novel adjuvants developed at WRAIR

**RV144 Follow-up Studies** 

<u>RV305 and RV306</u> Immunogenicity studies in Thailand testing late boosts

P5 studies (HVTN) Clinical studies using subtype C vaccines



### WRAIR Vaccine R&D

### Malaria Vaccines

- RTS,S early clinical development thru WRAIR- GlaxoSmithKline collaboration
  - Additional studies extending time between boosts
- Radiation-attenuated Sporozoites (PfSPZ) with Sanaria and NMRC



• New candidate vaccines targeting PfCelTOS, PfTRAP, to include novel vaccine platforms

### **Dengue Vaccines**

- Collaborating with industry partners on several candidate vaccines for dengue virus
- Identified new strains of dengue fever in Peru

#### WRAIR developed the Human Malaria Challenge Model

### **Ebola Vaccine Testing - US**

- Completed Phase I clinical testing of VSV-EBOV vaccine candidate
  - > Agile: Initiated study within 11 weeks
    - Leveraged established expertise and capabilities
  - Showed vaccine was safe, generates immune response
  - Informed dosing for larger clinical trials

Conducted in collaboration with NIH, other DoD, WHO and corporate partners



### **MHRP Ebola Vaccine Research in Africa**

- HIV vaccine research infrastructure in Uganda leveraged for several Ebola vaccine studies:
  - Conducted first Ebola vaccine clinical trial in Africa in 2009



- Currently testing NIH's ChAd3 vaccine (RV 422)
- Conducted the largest long-term follow up study on Ebola survivors
  - Showed long-term adverse health effects last 2+ years in survivors of 2007-2008 Bundibugyo ebolavirus (BDBV) outbreak in Uganda
- ChAd3 Phase II Ebola vaccine trial began in 2015 in Abuja, Nigeria GSK/(RV 429)

Kibuuka H, et al. Lancet. 2015 Apr 18;385(9977):1545-54. Clark DV, et al. Lancet Infect Dis. 2015 Apr 21. pii: \$1473-3099(15)70152-0.



### **New Ebola Vaccine Research**

- Phase 2 clinical trial to investigate the safety and immunogenicity of two Ebola vaccine regimens in healthy and HIV-infected subjects (RV456)
  - Ad26.ZEBOV and MVA-BN-Filo vaccine candidates
  - 575 volunteers, including HIV infected volunteers
- Collaboration between Janssen Pharmaceuticals and Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (MHRP)
  - With funding from Joint Vaccines Program Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense
  - Participating Sites: WRAIR CTC, USA

DODHP, Nigeria

MUWRP, Uganda

Kombewa CRC, Kenya

WRP-Kericho, Kenya MMRC, Tanzania CISPOC, Mozambique



### **MERS First in Human Vaccine Study**

- Phase 1 clinical trial to evaluate the safety and immunogenicity of a candidate vaccine for MERS-CoV (Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus).
- The vaccine (GLS-5300) was co-developed by Inovio Pharmaceuticals and GeneOne Life Science, Inc.
  - First MERS-CoV vaccine to be tested in humans
  - > 75 participants at WRAIR's Clinical Trials Center in Silver Spring, MD
- MERS-CoV has infected more than 1,600 people and killed nearly 40% of those infected





## WRAIR

Walter Reed Army Institute of Research

Soldier Health • World Health

Committed to innovation and excellence, with military-specific focus to protect the health and readiness of the Warfighter



### Vaccines Recently Developed at WRAIR

Malaria vaccine, RTS,S, co-developed at WRAIR and—after more than 25 years in development clinical trial results showed up to 53% efficacy (Phase III 2011)

Oral adenovirus (type 4 and 7) vaccine (2011, 1980) to prevent respiratory infection

Japanese encephalitis vaccine (2009, 1992)

HIV Vaccine RV144—the first HIV vaccine regimen to show partial efficacy (Phase III 2009)

Hepatitis A vaccine (1995)

Meningococcal vaccines (Phase I)

**HIV Vaccine, MVA-CMDR**, testing in combination with Ad26 and DNA vaccines (Phase I and II)

Diarrheal disease (Shigella) candidate vaccine

WRAIR data helps formulate the annual influenza vaccine. WRAIR developed the first flu vaccine in 1948.





Text Version from slide 5 WRAIR CONUS and OCONUS Platforms Additional Research Sites

#### USAMRU-K Nairobi, Kenya

- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Cameroon
- Nigeria
- Mozambique

#### **USAMC-AFRIMS Bangkok, Thailand**

- Cambodia
- Vietnam
- Philippines
- Bangladesh
- Bhutan
- Nepal Mongolia

USAMRU-G Tbilisi, Georgia USAMRU-W Washington State WRAIR/NMRC Silver Spring, Maryland Headquarters

#### Text Version from slide 6

#### Effective Product Development:

Hepatitis A Vaccine

#### 1943 -VWVII

Us forces report 1900,000 cases, 106,000 Hospitalizations due to infectious hepatitis.

#### 1954 - Korea

Efficacy of immune serum globulin for Help A prophylaxis demonstrated.

#### 1982

- HAV virus propagation in cell culture reported
- HAV vaccine planning meeting at WRAIR

#### 1988

- Prototype HAV vaccine made at WRAIR
- First human study demonstrates Immunogenicity
- Technology transfer for WRAIR to SKB

#### 1994

Many phrase I, II and III clinical Trials

#### 1995

- Hep A vaccine efficacy and safety demonstrates by Army
- SKB HAV Vaccine receives FDA approval

#### Beyond 1995

- HAV vaccine available from DSCP (both GSK and MSD vaccines available)
- HAV eliminates from US Forces

Text Version from slide 7 Effective Product Development: Hepatitis A Vaccine

#### 1961

Adenovirus identified as cause of acute febrile illness in military recruits

#### 1968

Live and killed adenovirus vaccines produced and tested

#### 1971

Report that Wyeth vaccine controls adenovirus 4 and 7 in recruits

#### 1972-2000

Adenovirus controlled by Wyeth vaccine. Only used by DoD

#### 2000-2005

Wyeth transfers technology to Barr who demonstrates vaccine immunogenicity of ~70%

#### 2002

Army awards Barr Laboratories contract to restore vaccine capability

#### 2005-2010

Army/Navy trials demonstrate safety and ~97% reduction in disease rates

#### 1993-2000

- Wyeth halts manufacturing of adenovirus vaccine and stocks deplete
- Disease returns (1500-2500 cases/month, some deaths)

#### 2012

- FDA approval March 2011
- Vaccine to trainees in June 2011 (\$30M/yr.)