



New Cochrane Systematic Review supports RotaTeq®'s long-lasting and effective protection against severe rotavirus disease

Severe rotavirus disease reduced by 93% at one year and 89% at two years

Maidenhead, 24 May 2010 – the recent Cochrane Systematic Review¹ published May 2010 demonstrates the long-lasting and effective protection against severe rotavirus disease in infants delivered by RotaTeq® [Rotavirus vaccine (live, oral)] in an analysis that compared rotavirus vaccines with placebo.

The systematic review of published clinical studies selected using pre-defined criteria shows that RotaTeq®, an oral pentavalent vaccine, reduced severe rotavirus disease by 93% at one year and by 89% at two years. This conclusion underscores the accruing clinical data suggesting the vaccine delivers long-lasting and effective protection against rotavirus disease.^{2 3 4 5} Data analysed in this way can help reduce the uncertainty associated with vaccination decision-making and help inform public health policy.

-----end-----

Notes for Editors

Details of the Cochrane Systematic Review

34 trials met the inclusion criteria: 26 Rotarix®[#] and 8 RotaTeq® studies comparing vaccine with placebo were evaluated, involving a total of 175,944 participants. No data meeting the inclusion criteria was found for a third rotavirus vaccine (the Chinese Lanzhou Lamb Rotavirus (LLR) vaccine) and it was excluded from the analysis.

No direct comparison of the two rotavirus vaccines is possible due to the differences in clinical data measures and end-points used in the range of studies.

[#] Rotarix® is a registered trademark of GlaxoSmithKline

About Sanofi Pasteur MSD

Sanofi Pasteur MSD is a joint venture between sanofi pasteur, the vaccine division of sanofi-aventis, and Merck & Co., Inc. Combining innovation and expertise, Sanofi Pasteur MSD is the only company in Europe dedicated exclusively to vaccines. Sanofi Pasteur MSD is able to draw on the research expertise of sanofi pasteur and Merck & Co., Inc., together with their teams throughout the world, to focus on the development of new vaccines for Europe, which aim to extend protection to other diseases and perfect existing vaccines in order to improve the acceptability, efficacy and tolerability of vaccination.

Contact

For further information please contact Paul Hardiman, Communications Manager - Direct: 01628 587628 - Mobile: 07817 106362
E-mail: phardiman@spmsd.com

1 Soares-Weiser K, MacLehose H, Ben-Aharon I, Goldberg E, Pitan F, Cunliffe N. Vaccines for preventing rotavirus diarrhoea: vaccines in use. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2010, Issue 5. Art. No.: CD008521. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD008521.

2 Vesikari T et al. Efficacy of the Pentavalent Rotavirus Vaccine, RotaTeq™ against Hospitalizations and Emergency Department Visits up to 3 Years Postvaccination: The Finnish Extension Study (poster) Presented at the 13th International Congress on Infectious Diseases (ICID), 19-22 June 2008, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

3 Tate JE et al. Decline and change in seasonality of US rotavirus activity after the introduction of rotavirus vaccine. Pediatrics. 2009;124(2):465-471.

4 Mast T et al. ICAAC / IDSA. Washington DC. Oct 25-28 2008. Poster G1-433.

5 Lieberman J M et al. Abstract IDSA 2008.