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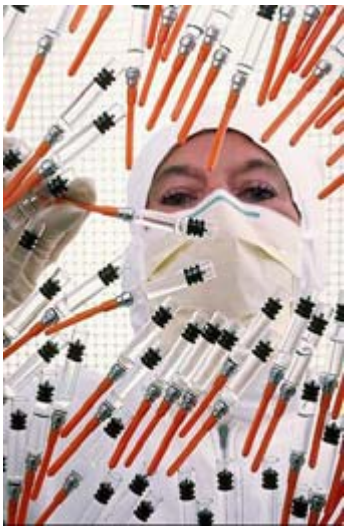
# De interés



**Profilaxis de una posible pandemia**

## Avances en las vacunas contra la Gripe Aviaria

Fecha de recepción: 31/05/2006
Fecha de aceptación: 31/05/2006

Aunque aún no se ha producido la mutación del virus H5N1 que permitiría el contagio entre humanos, diversos institutos médicos desarrollan posibles vacunas. Los esfuerzos son coordinados por la Organización Mundial de la Salud y hasta los momentos se tienen varias fórmulas en prueba.

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### Sanofi Pasteur

Adjuvanted formulation of sanofi pasteur H5N1 pandemic influenza vaccine candidate demonstrates significant immune response. (En inglés).

### Organización Mundial de la Salud

Primer caso confirmado de contagio humano-humano de Gripe Aviaria (en español)
Gripe aviar: OMS celebra experimentos de nueva vacuna contra la enfermedad (en español)
Availability of new H5N1 prototype strain for influenza pandemic vaccine development (En inglés).

### Sinovac Biotech Ltd.

Sinovac Completes Immunization Schedule in the Phase I Clinical Trial of its Proprietary Avian Influenza Vaccine (H5N1) (En inglés)

NOTA: Toda la información que se brinda en este artículo está destinada al conocimiento general. En ningún caso sustituye el asesoramiento de un médico. Ante cualquier duda que pueda tener en cuanto a su estado de salud, consulte con su médico o especialista.

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# Sanofi Pasteur

## Adjuvanted Formulation Of Sanofi Pasteur H5N1 Pandemic Influenza Vaccine Candidate Demonstrates Significant Immune Response.

https://www.biospace.com/article/releases/adjuvanted-formulation-of-b-sanofi-pasteur-b-h5n1-pandemic-influenza-vaccine-candidate-demonstrates-significant-immune-response-/?keywords=Adjuvanted+formulation+of+sanofi+pasteur+H5N1+pandemic+influenza+vaccine+candidate+demonstrates+significant+immune+response.

Published: May 11, 2006

LYON, France, May 10 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- A study published online in The Lancet on May 11 demonstrated that multiple dosage formulations of a candidate H5N1 influenza vaccine developed by sanofi pasteur were well- tolerated and generated an immune response, with and without adjuvant. Of the formulations being tested, an alum-adjuvanted 30 microgram dosage generated the most substantive immune response (66.7% HI [haemagglutination inhibition] seroconversion rate after two vaccinations) and was well-tolerated in the clinical study.

This is the first trial of an H5N1 pre-pandemic influenza vaccine candidate comparing vaccines with and without adjuvants. A study of a similar, unadjuvanted candidate H5N1 vaccine produced by sanofi pasteur in the U.S. that was published in the New England Journal of Medicine in March required two 90 microgram doses to generate a significant immune response in about 50 percent of trial participants. Because the French and U.S. studies were conducted independently, it is not possible to make direct comparisons of the results. The immune response of the adjuvanted 30 microgram formulation was consistent with requirements of the European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products (EMEA) for licensure of seasonal influenza vaccine. The French study was sponsored by sanofi pasteur using vaccine produced by the company in France.

The data will be submitted as part of the company's core vaccine dossier to the EMEA. The core dossier is being developed in strict accordance with EMEA guidelines. This process is expected to reduce the time necessary for approval of a pandemic vaccine in Europe once a strain is identified and a pandemic is declared.

In subsequent trials, sanofi pasteur will explore different dosages that may be helpful in answering questions about dose-sparing strategies, which are being widely discussed among the public health community. The lower the dosage of a pandemic vaccine, the more doses can be produced and the more people that can be vaccinated should a pandemic occur.

The vaccine for the study was produced at sanofi pasteur's Marcy L'Etoile facility in France. Follow-up studies, currently being planned, will be performed using vaccine produced at the company's Val de Reuil, France facility, where it will be produced on an industrial scale, which will mimic the manufacturing scale that will be used during a declared pandemic.

A similar study with a U.S-produced, adjuvanted H5N1 candidate sanofi pasteur vaccine is currently being conducted by the US National Institutes of Health's National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID).

Sanofi pasteur remains committed to global pandemic preparedness and, as part of the company's pandemic program, is also exploring alternative adjuvants that may further enable expansion of capacity.

The Study Design

The study published in The Lancet was multi-center, randomised, open-label and non-controlled with 300 healthy, 18 to 40 year-old participants. Each study volunteer received one of six inactivated split influenza A/Vietnam/1194/2004 (H5N1) influenza vaccine formulations. Enrolled subjects were randomly allocated to one of six groups that received 7.5, 15 or 30 microgram of HA (haemmagglutinin), with or without adjuvant. Each subject received two intramuscular injections of the assigned formulation into the deltoid (each subject received two injections of the same formulation). Vaccines were given 21 days apart. Randomization lists were stratified by center and was created using the block method with decreasing block sizes of 18, 12, and 6 so that a similar number of subjects were enrolled into each group at any given time.

The trial objectives were to describe the safety profile and the immune response 21 days after each vaccination. Subjects attended three trial visits (Day D0, D21 and D42) for vaccination (D0, D21 only), blood sampling and safety data collection. Subjects were kept under observation for 30 minutes after vaccination, and were given safety diaries, digital thermometers and rulers to assess and record adverse events (AEs). For the period D0-D7, diaries included a list of solicited injection site and systemic AEs, including those recommended for the evaluation of interpandemic vaccines by the CHMP.

All formulations induced an immune response, and responses were detectable in some subjects after only one dose. The adjuvanted 30 microgram formulation induced the greatest response. Adjuvant did not improve the response to the lower doses. Two vaccinations of non-adjuvanted 7.5 microgram, adjuvanted 15 microgram or non-adjuvanted 15 microgram seroconverted >40% of subjects (HI test only). HI and neutralizing results followed similar trends.

Sanofi Pasteur and Pandemic Preparedness

Sanofi pasteur, the vaccines business of the sanofi-aventis Group, is committed to global pandemic preparedness. As the world leader in research, development and manufacturing of influenza vaccine, sanofi pasteur is actively involved in other projects in the U.S. and Europe, with the goal of developing a vaccine to protect against a pandemic influenza virus.

Sanofi pasteur is investing in a major expansion of its influenza vaccine production capacity in the US, and also of its vaccine production capacity in France (Val de Reuil facility).

In the U.S., sanofi pasteur has a number of pandemic-related agreements with the U.S. government involving development of pandemic vaccine stockpiles, production of investigational doses and the development of cell culture technology, including:

-- In May 2004, sanofi pasteur contracted with the U.S. National Institutes for Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) to produce investigational doses. The doses were shipped to the NIAID in March 2005. The studies were completed in 2005 and the results were published in New England Journal of Medicine (March 30, 2006). -- In September 2004, the company signed a contract with HHS to produce two million doses of bulk vaccine derived from the H5N1 viral strain. The bulk doses were produced and are being stored and can be formulated and filled upon government request. -- In November 2004, the HHS awarded a contract to sanofi pasteur to expand and safeguard

the egg supply needed to produce influenza vaccine and to formulate each year investigational doses for a potential pandemic influenza vaccine. -- In April 2005, the HHS awarded a contract to sanofi pasteur to accelerate the development of a cell-culture influenza vaccine in the U.S. and to design a U.S.-based cell-culture vaccine manufacturing facility. -- In September 2005, the HHS awarded a contract to sanofi pasteur to produce a vaccine to help protect against the H5N1 influenza virus strain. The $150 million contract calls for sanofi pasteur to manufacture the vaccine in bulk concentrate form at its U.S. headquarters in Swiftwater, PA. The agreement provides for additional fees to be paid to sanofi pasteur for storage of the vaccine as well as for formulation and filling of the vaccine upon government request. -- In February 2006, sanofi pasteur supplied NIAID with 15,000 investigational doses of H5N1 vaccine formulated with and without alum adjuvant for use in NIAID-sponsored clinical studies In Europe, sanofi pasteur initiated and runs a large range of projects: -- In France, sanofi pasteur sponsored the first clinical trials of an H5N1 influenza vaccine candidate that compared vaccines with and without adjuvants (the study in the current online issue of The Lancet.) -- In France, sanofi pasteur was awarded a contract by the French Ministry of Health to produce a 1.4 million dose stockpile of the H5N1 candidate studied in the above-mentioned trial. By this agreement, the company could also provide enough vaccine to protect up to 28 million people in France in the event of a pandemic being declared, once the actual virus strain responsible is identified. -- Sanofi pasteur is the only vaccine manufacturer to participate in FLUPAN, a European Union (EU) funded collaboration. FLUPAN partners include the NIBSC, the University of Reading (UK), Instituto Superiore di Sanita (Italy), the Health Protection Agency (UK) and the University of Bergen (Norway). FLUPAN is intended to improve the level of pandemic preparedness in the EU. Sanofi pasteur is also producing another strain with pandemic potential (H7N1) to be used in a FLUPAN clinical study. -- In February 2006, sanofi pasteur provided candidate H5N1 vaccine to the Italian Ministry of Health and entered into an agreement to provide an actual pandemic strain of vaccine, once a pandemic has been declared. In Australia: -- A contract has also been signed with the Australian government for the supply of vaccine in the event of a pandemic influenza outbreak.
Influenza Overview

Influenza is a highly contagious virus that is spread easily from person to person, primarily when an infected individual coughs or sneezes. An influenza pandemic is a global epidemic of an especially virulent virus, new for humans, with the potential for severe morbidity and mortality. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), the next pandemic is likely to result in 1 to 2.3 million hospitalizations and 280,000 to 650,000 deaths in industrialized nations alone. Its impact will most likely be even more devastating in developing countries. These reasons have lead many countries to organize national plans against influenza pandemic

About sanofi-aventis

The sanofi-aventis Group is the world's third-largest pharmaceutical company, ranking number one in Europe. Backed by a world-class R&D organization, sanofi-aventis is developing leading positions in seven major therapeutic areas: cardiovascular disease, thrombosis, oncology, metabolic diseases, central nervous system, internal medicine, and vaccines. The sanofi-aventis Group is listed in Paris and in New York .

Sanofi pasteur, the vaccines business of the sanofi-aventis Group, sold more than a billion doses of vaccine in 2005, making it possible to protect more than 500 million people across the globe. The company offers the broadest range of vaccines, providing protection against 20 bacterial and viral diseases. For more information, please visit: **http://www.sanofipasteur.com**
Forward Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements are statements that are not historical facts. These statements include financial projections and estimates and their underlying assumptions, statements regarding plans, objectives and expectations with respect to future operations, products and services, and statements regarding future performance. Forward-looking statements are generally identified by the words "expect," "anticipates," "believes," "intends," "estimates," "plans" and similar expressions.

Although sanofi-aventis' management believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, investors are cautioned that forward-looking information and statements are subject to various risks and uncertainties, many of which are difficult to predict and generally beyond the control of sanofi-aventis, that could cause actual results and developments to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied or projected by, the forward-looking information and statements. These risks and uncertainties include those discussed or identified in the public filings with the SEC and the AMF made by sanofi-aventis, including those listed under "Risk Factors" and "Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward- Looking Statements" in sanofi-aventis' annual report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2005. Other than as required by applicable law, sanofi- aventis does not undertake any obligation to update or revise any forward- looking information or statements.

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# Organización Mundial de la Salud

## La OMS confirma el primer contagio de la gripe aviar entre personas.

https://elpais.com/sociedad/2006/06/23/actualidad/1151013602_850215.html

Siete miembros de una familia indonesia murieron a causa de la enfermedad

Yakarta - 23 jun 2006 - 07:43 GMT-4

Un experto de la Organización Mundial de la Salud ha informado hoy de que un indonesio ha contagiado la gripe aviar a varios de sus familiares. Se trata del primer caso de contagio entre humanos de que se tiene constancia, aunque la OMS informa de que no se ha producido una mutación "significativa y peligrosa" del virus H5N1. El contagio, pues, se debería a un contacto muy estrecho con personas enfermas.

El experto, Keiji Fukuda, ha comentado una investigación llevada a cabo sobre el caso de siete miembros de una familia que murieron en abril en la isla de Sumatra, sin que la OMS encontrara un animal que pudiera ser el origen del foco. Fukuda ha declarado que "estimamos que la primera mujer (origen del foco) cayó enferma y que después, varios miembros de su familia se ocuparon de ella, permaneciendo en la misma habitación que la enferma". "Cuando ella tosía, los demás estaban muy cerca, por lo que hubo un contacto muy cercano en una estancia pequeña durante largas horas". Por ello, sostiene que se trata de un "contagio entre humanos limitado y no prolongado".

El pasado mes de mayo, la OMS informó del caso de la familia de Sumatra, iniciando una investigación. Descartaron los cerdos, las aves de corral y las mascotas y, en vista de la imposibilidad de encontrar un animal como origen del foco, se inclinaron por pensar en el contagio humano. Ya la OMS se estaba centrando en los casos de enfermos de una misma familia y este en concreto llamó la atención dada la virulencia de la enfermedad: murieron siete de las ocho personas contagiadas.

Sin embargo, ya entonces la OMS dijo que no había encontrado mutaciones en el virus que indiquen que se ha vuelto más peligroso para los seres humanos. Fukuda ha dicho que el virus ha mutado ligeramente, pero no considera que sea preocupante. "No hemos constatado una evolución en la mutación del virus que cambie su transmisibilidad".

## Organización Mundial de la Salud

# Gripe aviar: OMS celebra experimentos de nueva vacuna contra la enfermedad.

https://news.un.org/es/story/2006/02/1072491

3 Febrero 2006

La Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS) aplaudió hoy el anuncio reciente de una nueva vacuna contra la gripe aviar desarrollada por dos equipos de científicos de Estados Unidos.

La nueva vacuna fue desarrollada a partir del virus del catarro común y se probó con aparente éxito en ratones de laboratorio. Según los investigadores, por medio de ésta técnica se podrían producir grandes cantidades de la vacuna antes de que ocurra una mutación de la cepa letal H5N1, causante de la gripe aviar.

No obstante, Margaret Chan de la Dirección General de Enfermedades Transmisibles de la OMS, advirtió que aún no se trata de una inmunización de uso comercial.

“Es una buena noticia desde la perspectiva de la investigación y la celebramos, pero eso no significa que tendremos pronto esta vacuna disponible para su uso”, explicó la funcionaria.

Por su parte, Keiji Fukuda, coordinador del Programa Global contra la Influenza, dijo que los resultados de estas experimentaciones son prometedores.

“El paso clave ahora es ver si podemos tomar estas vacunas y hacerlas útiles para las personas, hacerlas comercialmente viables”, indicó Fukuda.

La creciente incidencia de casos de la cepa H5N1 en humanos está apresurando la búsqueda de una inoculación que pueda detener una posible pandemia mundial de influenza.

Hasta el momento, los casos de gripe aviar en humanos se han registrado en Camboya, China, Indonesia, Tailandia y Vietnam, además de Turquía, Iraq y Chipre. Más de la mitad de los casos confirmados por los laboratorios fueron fatales.

# Sinovac Biotech Ltd.

## Sinovac Completes Immunization Schedule in the Phase I Clinical Trial of its Proprietary Avian Influenza Vaccine (H5N1)

2006-04-11

Beijing , April 10, 2006 (Xinhua PR Newswire) -- Sinovac Biotech Ltd. (AMEX: SVA) announced today that all 120 volunteers in the Phase I clinical trial of its avian influenza vaccine (H5N1) have completed the two shot regimen of either the vaccine or a placebo.

All 120 volunteers (aged 18 - 60 years) in the clinical trial were thoroughly evaluated and medically documented prior to entering the vaccination program. The clinical trial was conducted on a 0 and 28 day dose immunization schedule. Sinovac expects to take blood samples from volunteers to analyze the antibody growth and effectiveness of the vaccine.

Sinovac's CEO, Mr. Weidong Yin commented, "Everything is progressing as we expected. Teaming up with the China CDC is extremely beneficial. We are working hard together to produce a safe and effective vaccine that I believe will benefit the whole world."

About Sinovac

Sinovac Biotech Ltd. is a world-class Chinese biopharmaceutical company, focused on research, development and commercialization of vaccines designed to combat human infectious diseases. Sinovac's vaccines include Healive™ (hepatitis A), Bilive™ (hepatitis B) and Anflu™ (influenza). Sinovac has vaccines in clinical trials to combat avian influenza (bird flu) and SARS.

Additional information about Sinovac is available on the Company website, http://www.sinovac.com and the Sinovac Investor Relations website, http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/Sinovac_Biotech_IR/

To be added to our distribution list, please email: info@sinovac.com

Safe Harbor Statement

This announcement contains forward-looking statements. These statements are made under the "safe harbor" provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements can be identified by words or phrases such as "will," "expects," "anticipates," "future," "intends," "plans," "believes," "estimates" and similar statements. Among other things, the business outlook and quotations from management in this press release contain forward-looking statements. Statements that are not historical facts, including statements about Sinovac's beliefs and expectations, are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties. A number of important factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statement. Sinovac does not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statement, except as required under applicable law.

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