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Intravacc receives US NIAID contract to develop enterovirus D68 vaccine

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Growing concerns about the global spread of this respiratory enterovirus



Intravacc, a global leader in translational research and development of viral and bacterial vaccines in the Netherlands, announced that it has been awarded a contract with base and options that may total US$9.4 million from the US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), for the development of a prophylactic vaccine against enterovirus D68 (EV D68).

EV D68 is a respiratory virus that can cause childhood paralysis, Acute Flaccid Myelitis (AFM). Intravacc will develop an inactivated EV D68 vaccine, based on Intravacc's proprietary Vero cell technology, from early product selection through to Phase I clinical testing.

During the past decade, EV D68 infections have notably increased in North America, Europe and Asia. In 2014, the United States experienced a large outbreak of severe respiratory disease caused by EV D68, which is increasingly been recognized as a significant respiratory pathogen in children. No effective vaccines or antiviral drugs are currently available, and it is anticipated that the virus may cause larger outbreaks in the future. The EV D68 vaccine to be developed under the contract will be the first AFM vaccine to go through to clinical development.

The project has been funded in whole or in part with US Federal funds from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services.