

ICPE Vaccine SIG Symposium 2014

Title: The New ISPE Vaccine Special Interest Group (VAXSIG): Helping to Advance the Global Vaccine Agenda

Background: The biotechnology and informatics revolutions create new opportunities for a) the development of vaccines against major killers such as HIV, malaria, and TB; and b) accurately assessing the risks and benefits of immunizations across the life cycle of a vaccine, from pre- to post-licensure.

Objectives: To advance this exciting agenda synergistically with stakeholders and prioritize the opportunities (and challenges) for ISPE VAXSIG based on discussion of the following timely presentations.

Description: Introduction of VAXSIG and Moderators (Miriam Sturkenboom & Huifeng Yun).

1. Ajit Pal Singh: A pilot model of web-based adverse events following immunization tool.

To support the introduction of new vaccines and manage vaccine safety concerns in resource limited countries, the new web based tool is being developed by the International Vaccine institute for diverse existing data collection, collation, transmission, analysis and feedback systems.

2. Jan Bonhoeffer: Performance testing of pediatric signal detection methods in surveillance systems.

Several methods for signal detection in spontaneous reporting systems have been developed; but they are not tailored for use in pediatric populations. We present results of a systematic performance testing of a slate of methods in this setting.

3. Daniel Weibel: PREVENT: infrastructure for rigorous vaccine safety studies in low and middle income countries (LMIC).

Vaccination exposure, morbidity outcome, and demographic data have been collected within different infrastructures in Africa. We evaluated the quality of such available surveillance systems for use in: 1) observational post-licensure vaccine safety studies, and 2) future scale up for rapid vaccine benefit - risk surveillance and hypothesis testing in LMIC.

4. Eelko Hak : European Universal Influenza Vaccine (UNISEC) project.

The conventional annual influenza vaccination strategy may result in cost-inefficiency and poor protection if mismatched. UNISEC is designing phase IIb studies to evaluate the safety, immunogenicity and cross-seasonal clinical efficacy of two universal influenza vaccines.