

Korea expands typhoid conjugate vaccine delivery options in public health programmes

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Multi- and single-dose formulations of Vi-DT vaccine shown to be safe and immunologically equivalent in new study



A new study jointly conducted by South Korea-based International Vaccine Institute (IVI) and collaborators shows multidose and single-dose formulations of Vi-DT typhoid conjugate vaccine (TCV) are immunologically equivalent and safe for use in infants as young as 6 months to adults 45 years of age.

The results of this study, published in *The Lancet Regional Health – Western Pacific*, provide critical evidence in supporting the use of alternative dosing formulations to facilitate flexible vaccine roll-out in settings with endemic and epidemic typhoid.

The first of its kind, this Phase 3, randomized, controlled, multicenter equivalence trial adds to the available evidence on the efficacy of TCVs in controlling and potentially eliminating typhoid in high-burden settings.

With additional vaccine delivery options, Vi-DT TCV has the potential to protect more people through mass vaccination campaigns and the Expanded Programmes on Immunization (EPI), a WHO initiative to ensure access to life-saving vaccines for all populations.

Vi-DT was developed at IVI and its technology was transferred to SK bioscience in 2013 for manufacturing and commercialization. On May 18, 2022, IVI and SK bioscience announced that the Korean Ministry of Food and Drug Safety granted an export license for SK bioscience's TCV, SKYTyphoid. In collaboration with IVI, SK bioscience will seek WHO PQ certification for SKYTyphoid to begin supplying the vaccine globally as early as next year.