



# IAVI in North America

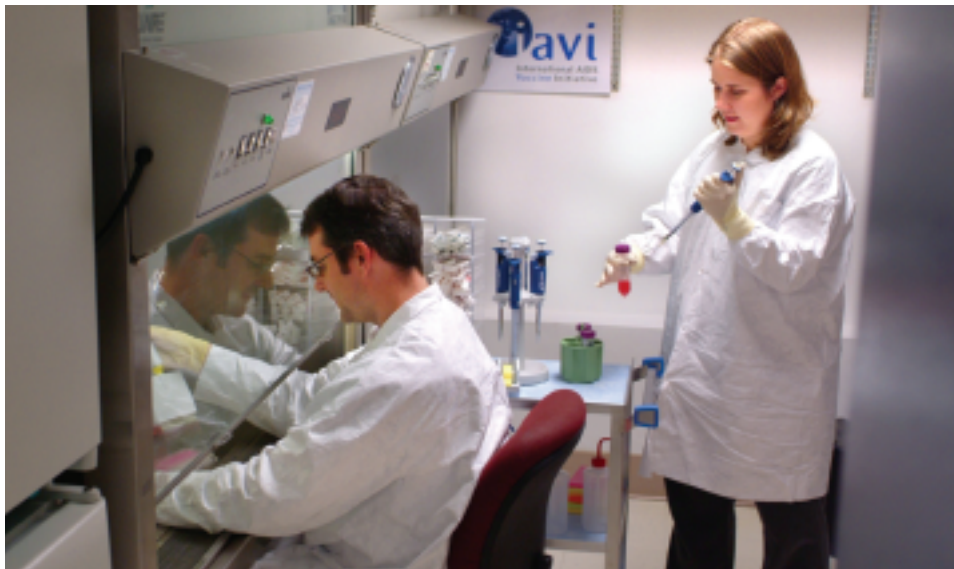
IAVI is a global not-for-profit, public-private partnership working to accelerate the development of a vaccine to prevent HIV infection and AIDS. Founded in 1996, IAVI researches and develops vaccine candidates, conducts policy analyses, and serves as an advocate for the field. IAVI supports a comprehensive approach to HIV/AIDS that balances the expansion and strengthening of existing HIV prevention and treatment programs with targeted investments in new AIDS prevention technologies. It also works to ensure a future vaccine will be accessible to all who need it.

*“In 2005, IAVI established the AIDS Vaccine Development Laboratory... to support and complement its research activities.”*

As the world’s only organization focused solely on the development of an AIDS vaccine, IAVI is committed to promoting AIDS vaccine education worldwide, engaging communities in the trial process, and improving medical infrastructure in areas hardest hit by the epidemic. IAVI is based in New York with regional offices in Amsterdam, Johannesburg, Nairobi, and New Delhi.

## Research and Development (R&D)

IAVI’s scientific team, drawn largely from the vaccine industry, researches and develops AIDS vaccine candidates and conducts HIV clinical trials and clinical research through partnerships with more than 40 academic, biotechnology, pharmaceutical, and government institutions. The organization, using industry-like project-management systems, directs a portfolio of R&D projects, prioritizing the most promising products and moving them swiftly through the vaccine development pipeline.



IAVI researchers, Aaron Wilson and Jacqueline Miller, performing an assay in the biosafety facility of the new IAVI AIDS Vaccine Development Laboratory

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In the last six years IAVI and its network of partners have translated innovative tech-

nologies into six vaccine candidates that have entered human trials in 11 countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, and North America. In 2005, IAVI established the AIDS Vaccine Development Laboratory (the Lab) in partnership with the State University of New York (SUNY) Downstate Medical Center to support and complement its research activities. The Lab, located in New York, examines novel HIV vaccine platforms and immunogens, standardizes preclinical testing of AIDS vaccine candidates, and develops candidates for use in clinical products.

**Partnership with the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center (ADARC):** In the United States IAVI is partnering with ADARC, an affiliate of Rockefeller University and the world's largest private research laboratory devoted solely to biomedical research on HIV/AIDS. IAVI and ADARC are currently conducting clinical trials in New York of two vaccine candidates developed by scientists at the center. The vaccine candidates, ADVAX and ADMVA, are designed to stimulate immune responses to prevent people who are not infected with HIV from contracting the virus. Both vaccines are tailored for the HIV subtype C, which is prevalent in China, India, and sub-Saharan Africa, and accounts for more than 50% of new HIV infections worldwide.

Each trial involves approximately 45 volunteers and is taking place at Rockefeller University Hospital in New York City and the University of Rochester Medical Center in Rochester, New York. ADARC and IAVI have agreed that if either vaccine candidate proves effective, it will be made available in developing countries at affordable prices.

**Partnership with Targeted Genetics Corporation:** IAVI is partnering with Targeted Genetics Corporation—a Seattle, Washington-based biotechnology company—to test their vaccine candidate, tgAAC09, which utilizes a recombinant adeno-associated viral vector (tgAAC09). IAVI is funding the development, pre-clinical, and clinical studies of the vaccine. A Phase II trial of tgAAC09 in Uganda, South Africa, and Zambia is underway. Phase I trials also are being conducted in Belgium, Germany, and India.

**Vaccination Studies:** IAVI, in partnership with researchers from the University of Pittsburgh, is conducting a series of pre-clinical immunogenicity studies in non-human primates. These studies are aimed at optimizing vaccine design, dosage and immunization regimens, and prime-boost combinations with select vaccine candidates. Results from these studies are being analyzed at a core lab of pharmaceutical company Becton Dickinson.

**Agreement with Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC):** IAVI has provided BIDMC, a major teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School, with a non-exclusive license to use AdVac® technology. This technology provides a platform for BIDMC researchers to manufacture new adenovirus vector-based vaccine candidates for clinical trials. The AdVac® technology was licensed by IAVI from Crucell, a Dutch biotechnology company.

**Collaboration with the National Institutes of Health (NIH):** IAVI and the Dale and Betty Bumpers Vaccine Research Center (VRC), National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), and the NIH recently signed an agreement to join efforts in researching antibodies that neutralize a broad range of HIV strains. The IAVI-NIH collaboration brings structural biologists and virologists from the VRC to the Neutralizing Antibody Consortium (NAC). These researchers will provide vital new information on the molecular structure of broadly neutralizing antibodies to facilitate the design of new vaccine candidates.

**IAVI-led Consortia:** Two IAVI consortia convene a diverse group of US and international researchers and institutions to apply the latest insights into HIV toward the design of a vaccine:

- **Neutralizing Antibody Consortium (NAC):** Established in 2002, the NAC comprises a team of internationally recognized scientists working to speed the search for a preventive AIDS vaccine and to create a new model of collaboration for the field. The NAC focuses on one of the AIDS vaccine field's most enduring challenges: identifying antibodies that neutralize a broad range of HIV strains. The consortium funds basic science research projects on neutralizing antibodies, specifically structural biology and immunogen design, and vaccine product development.

The NAC also facilitates closer collaboration among some of the field's foremost antibody researchers and institutions, including: The Scripps Research Institute; University of Pennsylvania; Cornell University; Dana-Farber Cancer Institute; Harvard University; University of Wisconsin; Institute of Research in Biomedicine; University of Washington; and Global Vaccines, Inc.

- **Live Attenuated Consortium (LAC):** The LAC was established by IAVI to inform and accelerate AIDS vaccine design by studying successful vaccination strategies against SIV, a virus that causes an AIDS-like disease in some non-human primates. The LAC brings together a diverse group of US researchers and institutions to tackle this scientific challenge, including: University of Minnesota; Oregon Health & Science University; Harvard University; Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; and University of Wisconsin.

## Policy and Advocacy

IAVI's global advocacy program promotes awareness among political, financial, and scientific leaders about the urgent need for an AIDS vaccine. In partnership with other organizations, IAVI analyzes how public policy can help to accelerate vaccine research and development, as well as speed the approval, manufacture, and use of a future vaccine. IAVI works in close collaboration with the Canadian AIDS Society to ensure that AIDS vaccine research and development receives political and financial support.

## IAVI's Donors

Canada and the United States were early champions of the global AIDS vaccine effort. Canada, through the Canadian Agency for International Development (CIDA), and the US, through the US Agency for International Development, have funded IAVI vaccine R&D efforts since 2001.

IAVI's financial and in-kind supporters include the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, The New York Community Trust, The Rockefeller Foundation, and The Starr Foundation; the Governments of the Basque Country, Canada, Denmark, European Union, Ireland, The Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom, and the United States; multilateral organizations such as The World Bank; corporate donors including BD (Becton, Dickinson & Co.), Continental Airlines, DHL, Merck & Co. Inc., and Pfizer Inc.; leading AIDS charities such as Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, Crusaid, Deutsche AIDS-Stiftung, and Until There's A Cure Foundation; other private donors such as the Haas Charitable Trusts; and many generous individuals from around the world.

Imagine a world without AIDS



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IAVI's mission is to ensure the development of safe, effective, accessible, preventive HIV vaccines for use throughout the world.