



UK Health
Security
Agency

Hantavirus vaccine effectiveness following Andes virus exposure

A systematic evidence summary

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Main messages

1. This systematic evidence summary (search up to 19 May 2026) identified and summarised evidence of the protective efficacy of vaccines for hantavirus in people or animals exposed to Andes virus.
2. Ten studies were included ([1 to 10](#)). All studies were conducted in animals (Syrian hamsters), no evidence in humans was identified.
3. All 10 studies reported on the effectiveness of hantavirus vaccines for exposure to Andes virus when used as pre-exposure prophylaxis ([1 to 10](#)). A range of vaccines were evaluated within these studies, including vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV) vaccines for different hantaviruses, deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) vaccines for different hantaviruses, and messenger ribonucleic acid (mRNA) vaccines for Andes virus.
4. Available evidence suggested there may be a protective effect of various hantavirus vaccines when used as pre-exposure prophylaxis for Andes virus. This was suggested by some reductions in mortality, morbidity and viral load and increased antibody titres in hamsters given vaccines for hantavirus compared to control groups (unvaccinated hamsters, or hamsters given vaccines other than for hantavirus), however few studies tested for statistical significance and numbers were likely too small to show true effects.
5. Two studies also reported on the effectiveness of hantavirus vaccines for exposure to Andes virus when used as post-exposure prophylaxis ([3](#), [6](#)). Both studies evaluated the effectiveness of VSV vaccines expressing Andes virus proteins.
6. There was some evidence suggesting that hantavirus vaccines used as post-exposure prophylaxis for Andes virus may have resulted in reductions in mortality, but only for certain vaccines when given very close to the time of exposure. Only one study reported on changes in viral load ([6](#)), and evidence was too limited to draw any conclusions.
7. Critical appraisal was not performed, which restricts the interpretation of the findings, but important limitations have been highlighted. All studies were conducted in Syrian hamster models of infection which may not be generalisable to humans. Sample sizes were low, with small numbers of hamsters receiving the vaccines or control in each study (no more than 12 hamsters were included in any experimental group). Evidence for each type of vaccine was limited, with variations in comparators across different studies. Most studies did not undertake statistical comparison between vaccine and control groups. These limitations restrict the ability to draw definitive conclusions.
8. In summary, evidence for the protective efficacy of vaccines for hantavirus after exposure to Andes virus was only available from pre-clinical animal studies. While there was some evidence to suggest potential for effectiveness of hantavirus vaccines for pre-exposure

prophylaxis for Andes virus, sample sizes were small and may not show true effects. Post-exposure prophylaxis evidence was too limited to make any conclusions on effectiveness. Further evidence is required, particularly on effectiveness of hantavirus vaccines as pre- or post-exposure prophylaxis following exposure to Andes virus in humans.

Purpose

The purpose of this systematic evidence summary was to identify and summarise the available evidence of the effectiveness of vaccines developed for hantavirus when used as pre- or post-exposure prophylaxis in those exposed to Andes virus.

The review question was:

1. What is the protective efficacy of vaccines for hantavirus following exposure to Andes virus?

This systematic evidence summary was commissioned as part of the UKHSA response to the hantavirus outbreak in May 2026 to address an identified evidence gap on the cross-reactivity of vaccines for hantavirus for those exposed to Andes virus.

Methods

A systematic evidence summary was conducted, following streamlined systematic methods to accelerate the review process. A literature search was undertaken to look for relevant experimental (randomised, non-randomised, quasi-experimental), observational (cohort) and pre-clinical animal studies, published or available as preprint, up to 19 May 2026. Three databases were searched: Ovid Medline, Ovid Embase, Web of Science Preprint Citation Index.

Studies were included if they included humans or animals who had been exposed to Andes virus who were given any vaccine for hantavirus either before or after exposure to Andes virus. No other form of prophylaxis, such as transfer of antibodies from other vaccinated individuals or animals were included. Outcomes of interest in this review were any measure of prevention of infection, measures of disease severity (mortality, morbidity, or viral load [in animals only]), antibody titres, or T-cell assay outputs.

A protocol was produced before the literature search was conducted, including the review question, the eligibility criteria, and all other methods. Full details of the methodology are provided in the protocol in [Annexe A](#).

There was one clarification to the protocol:

- any hantavirus vaccine identified would be included, rather than just the examples listed in the protocol

Screening on title and abstract was undertaken in duplicate by 5 reviewers for 10% of records, with the remainder completed by one reviewer. Screening on full text was undertaken by one reviewer and excluded studies were checked by a second.

Data extraction was performed by one reviewer and checked by a second.

Evidence

In total, 1,125 studies were screened at title and abstract and 54 studies were screened at full text. Of these, 10 studies met the inclusion criteria. A PRISMA diagram showing the flow of studies through the review is shown in [Annexe B](#), and studies excluded on full text screening are available with the reasons why in [Annexe C](#). Study characteristics are available in [Annexe D](#).

Evidence has been presented separately for pre-exposure prophylaxis and post-exposure prophylaxis.

Pre-exposure prophylaxis

All 10 studies reported on the protective efficacy of vaccines when given before exposure to Andes virus. All studies were pre-clinical animal studies conducted in North America; 9 in the United States of America (USA) ([1 to 8](#), [10](#)), and one in Canada ([9](#)).

Humans

No studies were identified in humans.

Animals

Ten studies were identified that assessed the protective efficacy of hantavirus vaccines as pre-exposure prophylaxis for Andes virus strain Chile-9717869. All of these were in Syrian hamsters ([1 to 10](#)).

Identified studies are summarised below, with further details, including information about the exposure, vaccines and comparators used, provided in [Annexe D](#).

Prevention of infection

No studies explicitly reported on prevention of infection. Four studies were identified that reported on clinical presentation following exposure to Andes virus and included information on hamsters that had no signs of severe disease; these have been summarised under [Morbidity](#) below ([3](#), [5](#), [9](#), [10](#))

Mortality

All 10 studies reported on the effectiveness of vaccinations for hantaviruses on reducing mortality when given before exposure to Andes virus ([1 to 10](#)). As most study results were

presented in terms of number or percentage of animals surviving, all findings are reported here as survival.

The following vaccines were reported on:

- two studies reported on a vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV) vaccine for Andes virus ([3](#), [7](#))
- one study reported on 2 different mRNA vaccines for Andes virus ([5](#))
- one study reported on 2 different DNA vaccines for Andes virus ([2](#))
- one study reported on 2 different VSV vaccines for Andes virus: one expressing Andes virus glycoproteins only, and one expressing a combination of Andes and Ebola virus glycoproteins ([8](#))
- one study reported on 3 different VSV vaccines for Andes virus; one expressing Andes virus glycoproteins only, and 2 expressing different combinations of Andes and Ebola virus glycoproteins ([6](#))
- one study reported on 2 different DNA vaccines for hantaviruses: one for Hantaan virus and one for Andes virus ([10](#))
- one study reported on 2 different VSV vaccines for hantaviruses: one for Andes virus and one for Sin Nombre virus ([9](#))
- one study reported on 2 different DNA vaccines for hantaviruses: one for Puumala virus, and one for Hantaan virus ([1](#))
- one study reported on a DNA vaccine for Sin Nombre virus ([4](#))

Brown and others conducted 2 separate studies, reported in one paper, which assessed the effectiveness of a single dose of a vaccine for Andes virus (VSV-G/ANDVGPC, dose: 10^5 plaque forming units [PFU]), compared to either an Ebola virus vaccine (VSV-G/ZEBOVGP, dose: 10^5 PFU) or a control vaccine of Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium (DMEM) ([3](#)). In their first study, 12 Syrian hamsters (sex: female, age: 5 to 6 weeks) were given the vaccine 28 days before challenge with Andes virus (dose: $100\times$ lethal dose[LD]₅₀, equal to 154 focus forming units [FFU], by injection into the abdomen) and compared to 9 control hamsters vaccinated with Ebola virus vaccine. All hamsters given the Andes virus vaccine survived (12 out of 12), whereas in the group given the Ebola vaccine none survived (0%, 0 out of 9). Statistical comparison between groups was not performed.

In their second study, which evaluated the effectiveness of the same Andes virus vaccine, 57 Syrian hamsters (sex: female, age: 5 to 6 weeks old) were vaccinated in groups of 3 to 10 hamsters at 14, 7, or 3 days before challenge with Andes virus injected into the abdomen (dose: $100\times$ LD₅₀, equal to 154 FFU), compared to either vaccination for Ebola virus (VSV-G/ZEBOVGP, dose: 10^5 PFU) or a control vaccine of DMEM. Results from this study are summarised in [Table 1](#); statistical comparisons between the groups were not reported.

Table 1. Survival in hamsters exposed to Andes virus by timing of pre-exposure prophylaxis and vaccine type (from Brown and others (3))

Vaccine	Percentage survival	Percentage survival	Percentage survival
	Vaccination 14 days before challenge with Andes virus	Vaccination 7 days before challenge with Andes virus	Vaccination 3 days before challenge with Andes virus
VSV-G/ANDVGPC	100% (10 out of 10)	100% (10 out of 10)	100% (10 out of 10)
VSV-G/ZEBOVGP	0% (0 out of 6)	50% (3 out of 6)	83% (5 out of 6)
DMEM	0% (0 out of 3)	0% (0 out of 3)	0% (0 out of 3)

Prescott and others evaluated the effectiveness of a single dose of a vaccine for Andes virus (rVSV-G/ANDVGPC, dose: 10^5 PFU, compared to a sterile medium as control (7). Syrian hamsters (n=24, sex: female, age: 5 to 6 weeks) were challenged with Andes virus (dose: 200 FFU, via the nostril) at 6 or 12 months after vaccination. In those challenged 6 months after receiving the vaccine, 83.3% (5 out of 6) that received the Andes virus vaccine survived, compared to 16.7% (one out of 6) that received the control. In those challenged 12 months after receiving the vaccine, 83.3% (5 out of 6) that received the Andes virus vaccine survived, compared to 33.3% (2 out of 6) that received the control. Statistical comparisons between the groups were not performed.

Kuzmin and others evaluated the effectiveness of different Andes virus mRNA vaccines following challenge with Andes virus (5). Hamsters were vaccinated twice, with the second vaccine given 21 days after the first. Five groups of hamsters were given the following vaccines or control:

- 5µg LNP-encapsulated regular U-mRNA vaccine (contains Andes virus RNA)
- 25µg LNP-encapsulated U-mRNA vaccine (contains Andes virus RNA)
- 5µg N1-methylpseudouridine (modified) mRNA (contains Andes virus RNA)
- 25µg N1-methylpseudouridine (modified) mRNA (contains Andes virus RNA)
- control vaccine (LNP without any RNA)

Syrian hamsters (n=25 [5 groups of 5], sex: female, age: 10 weeks) were challenged with Andes virus (dose: 250 PFU) by injection into the muscle 21 days after receiving the second vaccine dose. Survival was measured for 28 days after challenge, with 100% survival in all groups except for hamsters vaccinated with 5µg modified mRNA (60% survival, 3 out of 5 survived), and those given the control vaccine (0% survival, 0 out of 5 survived). All hamsters that died were euthanised 10 days after challenge due to severe respiratory distress. Statistical comparisons between the groups were not performed.

Brocato and others conducted 2 studies, reported in the same paper, on the effectiveness of different dosing regimens of 2 Andes virus DNA vaccines; pWRG/AND-M(1.1) or pWRG/AND-M(opt2) (codon-optimised) compared to a control group that received no vaccination (2). In the first study, Syrian hamsters (7 to 8 in each group, but exact number not reported, sex: female, age: not reported) were vaccinated by injection with 4 doses of 200µg of either vaccine at 4-week intervals and then challenged with Andes virus (time between last vaccination and challenge not reported, dose: 200 PFU, injected into the muscle). The study did not report the numbers of hamsters that survived but did report that there were no statistically significant differences in survival between any of the groups 4 weeks after challenge, including the unvaccinated group (all $p > 0.05$).

In the second study, Syrian hamsters (total number not reported, sex: female, age: not reported) were vaccinated with 3 doses (200µg) of either pWRG/AND-M(1.1), pWRG/AND-M(opt2) Andes virus vaccines, or phosphate buffered saline (control vaccine) at 4-week intervals (2). They were then challenged with Andes virus (time between last vaccination and challenge not reported, dose: 200 PFU). In hamsters vaccinated with pWRG/AND-M(1.1), 12.5% (one out of 8) survived 28 days after challenge. A comparison of survival between hamsters vaccinated with pWRG/AND-M(1.1) and the control group was not reported, but the study reported that there was a longer time to death compared to the control group ($p = 0.01$). In hamsters vaccinated with pWRG/AND-M(opt2), 46.7% survived (7 out of 15) 28 days after challenge, which was significantly more than the control group ($p = 0.001$). No hamsters survived in the control group.

Tsuda and others evaluated the effectiveness of a single dose of either a combined vaccine for both Andes and Ebola viruses (VSV-G/dual, dose: 10^5 PFU) or a single vaccine for Andes virus (VSV-G/ANDV, dose: 10^5 PFU) compared to a vaccine for Ebola virus (VSV-G/ZEBOV, dose: 10^5 PFU) (8). Syrian hamsters ($n = 12$, sex: male, age: 5 to 6 weeks) were challenged by injection in the abdomen with Andes virus (dose: $100 \times \text{LD}_{50}$) 28 days after vaccination. All hamsters given the combined Andes and Ebola virus vaccine (3 out of 3) survived, 100% (6 out of 6) given the vaccine for Andes virus survived, but none (0 out of 3) given the vaccine for Ebola virus survived. All hamsters that died succumbed to their illness within 9 days of challenge. Statistical comparisons between groups were not performed.

Marceau and others evaluated the effectiveness of a single dose (10^5 PFU) of one of the following vaccines compared to each other (6):

- VSV-ANDV monovalent (vaccine for Andes virus only)
- VSV-ANDV-EBOV bivalent (vaccine for Andes and Ebola virus)
- VSV-EBOV-ANDV bivalent (vaccine for Andes and Ebola virus)
- VSV-EBOV monovalent (vaccine for Ebola virus)

Vaccines were given via the nostril or abdomen to groups of 6 hamsters at either 28 days or 3 days before challenge with Andes virus. Syrian hamsters ($n = 48$, sex: female, age: 5 to 6 weeks) were challenged by injection in the abdomen with a lethal dose of Andes virus (200 FFU), and

survival was measured for up to 40 days following this challenge. Results are summarised in Table 2. Statistical comparisons between the groups were not reported.

Table 2. Survival in hamsters exposed to Andes virus by timing of pre-exposure prophylaxis, vaccine type, and route of administration (from Marceau and others (6))

Vaccine (route)	Percentage survival Vaccination 28 days before challenge with Andes virus	Percentage survival Vaccination 3 days before challenge with Andes virus
VSV-ANDV (via nostril)	100% (6 out of 6)	33.3% (2 out of 6)
VSV-ANDV (via abdomen)	83.3% (5 out of 6)	100% (6 out of 6)
VSV-ANDV-EBOV (via nostril)	100% (6 out of 6)	100% (6 out of 6)
VSV-ANDV-EBOV (via abdomen)	100% (6 out of 6)	100% (6 out of 6)
VSV-EBOV-ANDV (via nostril)	100% (6 out of 6)	100% (6 out of 6)
VSV-EBOV-ANDV (via abdomen)	100% (6 out of 6)	100% (6 out of 6)
VSV-EBOV (via nostril)	0% (0 out of 6)	0% (0 out of 6)
VSV-EBOV (via abdomen)	0% (0 out of 6)	33.3% (2 out of 6)

Custer and others conducted 2 studies, reported in the same paper, that compared the effectiveness of vaccines for Hantaan virus (pWRG/HTN-M(x), DNA loading: ~0.75µg of plasmid DNA) and for Andes virus (pWRG/AND-M), to a control group vaccinated with plasmid pWRG7077 (10). In the first study, Syrian hamsters (n=39, sex: female, age: reported as 'adult') were vaccinated 3 times at 3-week intervals and challenged with Andes virus by an injection into the muscle (dose: 2,000 PFU [250 LD₅₀]) 21 days after the last vaccination. In hamsters vaccinated with the Hantaan virus vaccine, 37.5% survived (9 out of 24), whereas only 6.7% (one out of 15) of the control group survived. However, the difference in survival between these 2 groups was not statistically significant (p=0.057). For both the vaccinated and control groups, the mean time to death was 13 days from point of challenge. Hamsters that survived the initial challenge in this study were re-challenged with the same dose of Andes virus (time from last dose not reported), and all hamsters in both groups survived the second challenge (9 vaccinated; one control).

Hooper and others evaluated the effectiveness of a vaccine for Sin Nombre virus (pWRG/SN-M[*opt*], dose not reported) compared to no vaccination (4). Syrian hamsters (n=15, sex: female, age: 6 to 8 weeks) were either vaccinated 3 times at 3-week intervals, with the last dose given 5 weeks before challenge with Andes virus (dose: 200 PFU [25x LD₅₀], injection via muscle) or not vaccinated. In hamsters that were vaccinated with the Sin Nombre DNA vaccine 37.5% survived (3 out of 8), compared to 14.3% (one out of 7) in the unvaccinated group. There were no statistically significant differences in mortality between the vaccinated and the control hamsters (p=0.31).

Morbidity

Four studies reported on the effectiveness of vaccinations for hantaviruses on reducing morbidity when given before to exposure to Andes virus (3, 5, 9, 10). The effectiveness of the following vaccines was assessed:

- one study reported on a VSV vaccine for Andes virus (3)
- one study reported on 2 different mRNA vaccines for Andes virus (5)
- one study reported on a DNA vaccine for Andes virus (10)
- one study reported on 2 different VSV vaccines for hantaviruses: one for Andes virus and one for Sin Nombre virus (9)

Brown and others evaluated the effectiveness of a single dose of a vaccine for Andes virus (VSV-G/ANDVGPC, dose: 10⁵) compared to a vaccine for Ebola virus (VSV-G/ZEBOVGP, dose: 10⁵ PFU) (3). Syrian hamsters (n=33, sex: female, age: 5 to 6 weeks old) were challenged with Andes virus through an injection into the abdomen (dose: 100xLD₅₀ [equal to 154 FFU]) 28 days after vaccination. No hamsters that were given the vaccine for Andes virus showed any sign of clinical infection, whereas all hamsters given the vaccine for Ebola virus showed symptoms including lethargy, hunched posture, and breathing abnormalities from the eighth day after challenge. All hamsters given the vaccine for Ebola virus had end-stage disease (severe respiratory distress) by the eleventh day after challenge. Statistical comparisons between groups were not performed.

Kuzmin and others evaluated the effectiveness of different Andes virus mRNA vaccines on reducing morbidity following challenge with Andes virus (5). Hamsters were vaccinated twice, with the second vaccine given 21 days after the first. Five groups of hamsters were given the following vaccines or control:

- 5µg LNP-encapsulated regular U-mRNA vaccine (contains Andes virus RNA)
- 25µg LNP-encapsulated U-mRNA vaccine (contains Andes virus RNA)
- 5µg N1-methylpseudouridine (modified) mRNA (contains Andes virus RNA)
- 25µg N1-methylpseudouridine (modified) mRNA (contains Andes virus RNA)
- control vaccine (LNP without any RNA)

Syrian hamsters (n=25 [5 groups of 5], sex: female, age: 10 weeks) were challenged with Andes virus (dose: 250 PFU) by injection into the muscle 21 days after receiving the second vaccine

dose. Two hamsters given the 5µg modified mRNA vaccine, and all given the control vaccine, abruptly began showing signs of severe disease (lack of movement or reactivity, hunched posture, breathing abnormalities, progressive respiratory distress) on the ninth day after challenge. Hamsters that developed severe disease were euthanised, and autopsies showed large amounts of liquid in the chest (pulmonary oedema). None of the other hamsters showed signs of disease, including changes in body weight or body temperature during follow up. Statistical comparisons between groups were not performed.

Custer and others compared a vaccine for Andes virus (pWRG/AND-M) to a control group that were not vaccinated ([10](#)). Syrian hamsters (n=22, sex: female, age: reported as 'adult') were either vaccinated 3 times at 3-week intervals with pWRG/AND-M or were not vaccinated, and then challenged with Andes virus via an injection into the muscle (time between last dose and challenge not reported, dose: 2,000 PFU [250 LD₅₀]). In the group that were given a vaccine for Andes virus, 85.7% (12 out of 14) developed hantavirus pulmonary syndrome. In the group that were unvaccinated, 75.0% (6 out of 8) developed hantavirus pulmonary syndrome. Statistical comparisons between groups were not performed.

Warner and others evaluated the effectiveness of a single dose of a vaccine for Andes virus (rVSV-G/ANDVGPC, dose: 10⁵ PFU) compared to a vaccine for Sin Nombre virus (rVSV-G/SNVGPC, dose: 10⁵ PFU:) and a vaccine for Lassa Virus as control (rVSV-G/LASVGPC: a VSV based Lassa virus vaccine) ([9](#)). Syrian hamsters (n=18, sex: female, age: 5 to 6 weeks old) were challenged by injection into the abdomen with Andes virus (dose: 200 FFU) 28 days after vaccination. Hamsters vaccinated for Andes virus or Sin Nombre virus were reported to have fewer signs of disease in lung, liver, and spleen tissue compared to those given a vaccine for Lassa virus, when hamsters were autopsied 7 days after challenge. Hamsters given Lassa virus vaccine showed moderate to severe pulmonary oedema, presence of blood and immune cells in the lungs, death of liver cells, and immune response to infection in the liver and spleen, which was not seen in hamsters vaccinated for Andes virus or Sin Nombre virus. Statistical comparisons between groups were not performed.

Viral load

Five studies reported on the effect of vaccinations for hantaviruses on viral load when given before exposure to Andes virus ([3](#), [5](#), [6](#), [8](#), [9](#)). The effectiveness of the following vaccines was assessed:

- one study reported on a VSV vaccine for Andes virus ([3](#))
- one study reported on 2 different mRNA vaccines for Andes virus ([5](#))
- one study reported on 3 different VSV vaccines for Andes virus; one expressing Andes virus glycoproteins only, and 2 expressing different combinations of Andes and Ebola virus glycoproteins ([6](#))
- one study reported on 2 different VSV vaccines for Andes virus: one expressing Andes virus glycoproteins only, and one expressing a combination of Andes and Ebola virus glycoproteins ([8](#))
- one study reported on a VSV vaccine for Andes virus ([9](#))

Kuzmin and others evaluated the effectiveness of 4 different Andes virus mRNA vaccines and control (LNP without any RNA) following challenge with Andes virus (full details of interventions and groups reported above) (5). Before challenge, all but 2 vaccinated hamsters had detectable PRNT₅₀ neutralising antibody titres, ranging from 1:49 to 1:946 after booster vaccination. The authors reported that the infectious challenge further boosted titres that were already detectable before challenge. Twenty-eight days after challenge, no or low-levels of N-specific antibodies were detected in vaccinated hamsters, in contrast to previous survivors of Andes virus infection (number not reported).

Tsuda and others evaluated the effect of a single dose of either a combined vaccine for both Andes virus and Ebola (VSV-G/dual, dose: 10⁵ PFU) or a single vaccine for Andes virus (VSV-G/ANDV, dose: 10⁵ PFU) compared to a vaccine for Ebola virus (VSV-G/ZEBOV, dose: 10⁵ PFU) (8). Immunoglobulin G end-point dilution titres were used to test serum samples collected one day before and 43 days after challenge with Andes virus. In hamsters given any of the VSV vaccines, no antibody responses were detected in surviving hamsters.

Hooper and others evaluated the effectiveness of a vaccine for Sin Nombre virus (pWRG/SN-M[opt], dose unclear) compared to no vaccination (4). Syrian hamsters (n=15, sex: female, age: 6 to 8 weeks) were either vaccinated 3 times at 3-week intervals, with the last dose given 5 weeks before challenge with Andes virus (dose: 200 PFU [25xLD₅₀, route: injection through muscle) or were not vaccinated. The authors reported that the blood serum from hamsters given a vaccine for Sin Nombre virus, had little cross-neutralisation activity against Andes virus (measured using PRNT titre, specific data was not reported in the paper).

T-cell assay outputs

No studies were identified that reported on T-cell assay outputs.

Post-exposure prophylaxis

Two studies were identified that assessed the protective efficacy of vaccines when given after exposure to Andes virus (3, 6). Both were animal studies conducted in the USA.

Humans

No studies were identified in humans.

Animals

Two studies were identified that assessed the protective efficacy of hantavirus vaccines in Syrian hamsters (3, 6). All studies assessed the effectiveness of vaccines when given after challenge with Andes virus strain Chile-9717869. The 2 identified studies reported on the following vaccines:

- one study reported on a VSV vaccine for Andes virus (3)

survival was measured for up to 40 days following this challenge. Results are summarised in [Table 4](#); statistical comparisons between the groups were not reported.

Table 4. Survival in hamsters exposed to Andes virus by timing of post-exposure prophylaxis (from Marceau and others (6))

Vaccine (route)	Percentage survival Vaccination one day after challenge with Andes virus	Percentage survival Vaccination after 3 days after challenge with Andes virus	Percentage survival Vaccination after 5 days after challenge with Andes virus
VSV-ANDV (via nostril)	0% (0 out of 6)	0% (0 out of 6)	0% (0 out of 6)
VSV-ANDV (via abdomen)	33.3% (2 out of 6)	0% (0 out of 6)	17.0% (1 out of 6)
VSV-ANDV-EBOV (intranasal)	50.0% (3 out of 6)	0% (0 out of 6)	0% (0 out of 6)
VSV-ANDV-EBOV (via abdomen)	100% (6 out of 6)	17.0% (1 out of 6)	0% (0 out of 6)
VSV-EBOV-ANDV (via nostril)	100% (6 out of 6)	0% (0 out of 6)	0% (0 out of 6)
VSV-EBOV-ANDV (via abdomen)	100% (6 out of 6)	83.3% (5 out of 6)	0% (0 out of 6)
VSV-EBOV (via nostril)	83.3% (5 out of 6)	0% (0 out of 6)	0% (0 out of 6)
VSV-EBOV (via abdomen)	100% (6 out of 6)	66.7% (4 out of 6)	100% (6 out of 6)
DMEM (via nostril)	0% (0 out of 6)	Not given	Not given
DMEM (via abdomen)	0% (0 out of 6)	Not given	Not given

Morbidity

No studies were identified that reported on morbidity.

Viral load

One study evaluated the effect of post-exposure vaccination on viral load (6).

Marceau and others evaluated the effectiveness of a single dose (10^5 PFU) of one of the following vaccines on viral load: VSV-ANDV monovalent (vaccine for Andes virus), VSV-EBOV monovalent (control vaccine for Ebola virus), VSV-ANDV-EBOV bivalent (vaccine for Andes and

Annexe A. Protocol

Review question

The review question is:

1. What is the protective efficacy of vaccines for hantavirus following exposure to Andes virus?

A search for primary evidence to answer this review question will be conducted up to 19 May 2026.

Eligibility criteria

Table A.1. Inclusion and exclusion criteria

	Included	Excluded
Population	• people exposed to Andes virus ○ children (0 to 17 years) ○ adults (18 years and over) If available: ○ immunocompromised adults ○ pregnant women • animals exposed to Andes virus	
Context	The review is interested in evidence from use in humans in real life contexts, but as vaccines for hantavirus are still in development, pre-clinical studies in animals will also be included to inform the question	
Settings	Any	
Intervention or exposure	Hantavirus vaccines (monotherapy): • Hantavax • Bivalent HFRS vaccine • ANDV DNA vaccine • MVA-Hanta vaccine • HTNV/PUUV DNA vaccine • mRNA hantavirus vaccine • INO-008	
Comparator	Not required	

	Included	Excluded
	Any comparator will be included where reported	
Outcomes	Any measure of prevention of infection Disease severity: • mortality • morbidity • In animals only: viral load Antibody titres including any neutralising/pseudovirus neutralising titres T cell assay outputs Outcomes will be reported separately for pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis	
Language	English	Any other language
Date of publication	Up to 19 May 2026	
Study design	Experimental studies including: • randomised-controlled trials • non-randomised controlled trials • quasi-experimental studies Observational studies, including: • cohort studies Animal studies	Reviews (all types) Modelling studies Qualitative studies Cross-over designs Cross-sectional studies Case-control studies Descriptive studies including case series, case reports Mixed methods In vitro studies
Publication type	Peer-reviewed published research Preprints	Conference abstracts Editorials Letters News articles Grey literature Clinical trial records

Geographic equity

Remote or rural populations may have higher exposure but have limited access to advanced care and diagnostics and vaccines (particularly post-exposure) could reduce reliance on intensive care. However, these same populations may face barriers to rapid vaccine deployment, cold chain or timely administration.

Access to interventions due to socioeconomic factors

People affected by poverty often have less access to interventions due to affordability, accessibility and health literacy. Similarly, efficacy studies should also consider acceptability of interventions due to cultural or religious beliefs across populations and the impact on effectiveness when implemented.

Age and sex

Children, pregnant women and those with co-morbidities (already included in the study population)

Likelihood of exposure

Variation by exposure and differences in risk context for example, occupation, housing, climate. For example, there are likely to be gender differentials in both occupational exposure and vaccine uptake. This may include male-dominated farm workforces such as agriculture, farming, forestry, construction, cleaning, waste management and pest control, and conversely a female-dominated health and care workforce in many contexts. This may lead to selection bias in study populations, while mobile workforces may lead to information bias in outcomes.

18. (h?emorrhagic fever adj2 renal syndrome*).tw,kf. (2,732)
19. hfrs.tw,kf. (2542)
20. Hantavirus pulmonary syndrome/ (1,016)
21. Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome.tw,kf. (893)
22. Puumala virus/ (1,041)
23. Puumala vir*.tw,kf. (721)
24. Seoul virus/ (347)
25. Seoul vir*.tw,kf. (345)
26. Sin Nombre virus/ (300)
27. sin nombre vir*.tw,kf. (371)
28. muerto canyon vir*.tw,kf. (9)
29. four corners vir*.tw,kf. (9)
30. Dobrava.tw,kf. (363)
31. castelo dos sonhos.tw,kf. (10)
32. CASV.tw,kf. (17)
33. Lechiguanas.tw,kf. (19)
34. LECV.tw,kf. (5)
35. Oran.tw,kf. (687)
36. ORNV.tw,kf. (29)
37. Laguna negra.tw,kf. (48)
38. LANV.tw,kf. (9)
39. Rio mamore.tw,kf. (35)
40. Araucaria.tw,kf. (480)
41. ARAUV.tw,kf. (2)
42. Araraquara.tw,kf. (309)
43. ARQV.tw,kf. (2)
44. Bermejo.tw,kf. (142)
45. BMJV.tw,kf. (1)
46. Juquitiba.tw,kf. (46)
47. JUQV.tw,kf. (10)
48. Bolivia vir*.tw,kf. (3)
49. BMIV.tw,kf. (17)
50. Anajatuba.tw,kf. (13)
51. Tunari.tw,kf. (11)
52. Andes central plata.tw,kf. (1)
53. Seewis.tw,kf. (34)
54. Saaremaa.tw,kf. (86)
55. or/1-54 (10,273)
56. exp vaccine/ (510,910)
57. exp immunization/ (458,216)
58. vaccin*.tw,kf. (602,014)
59. immuni#ation*.tw,kf. (165,501)
60. immuni#e*.tw,kf. (77,661)
61. hantavax.tw,kf. (30)

