

14th African Rotavirus Symposium

8-10 November 2023

Scientific Programme – 31 October 2023

Theme: Rotavirus disease control in Africa: Vaccination and Surveillance as the basis of an integrated approach

DAY 1: WEDNESDAY 8 TH NOVEMBER 2023		
08:00 – 09:00	REGISTRATION & TEA BREAK	
09:00 – 10:30	SESSION 1: OPENING CEREMONY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome remarks:• Remarks: (2 min remarks)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Dr Muyi Aina, Executive Director, NPHCDA○ Dr I. Adetifa, Director General, NCDC○ Dr W. Kazadi Mulombo, WHO Representative, WHO Country office, Nigeria/Nigeria Office○ Dr J. Zoungrana, BMGF Country office (Director)○ Dr V. Denti, GAVI• Official opening remarks: Prof A. Pate, Coordinating Minister of Health FMOH Nigeria• Keynote speakers: - Rotavirus diarrhoea burden and vaccination in Nigeria – the journey so far	Moderators: Dr Oyeladun Okunromade, NCDC/Nigeria Dr Adejoke Kolawole, NPHCDA/Nigeria Prof A. Pate, Coordinating Minister of Health FMOH Nigeria Dr Ifedayo Adetifa, NCDC Dr Muyi Aina, NPHCDA
10:30 – 11:00	TEA BREAK & POSTER PRESENTATION	
11:00 – 12:30	SESSION 2: Current Understanding of Diarrhoeal Disease and Rotavirus Burden	Moderators: Jason Mwenda, WHO/AFRO, Congo Brazzaville Oyeladun Okunromade, NCDC/Nigeria
11:00 – 11:30	Etiology of Hospitalized Diarrhea in Children in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: Findings from the Global Pediatric Diarrhea Surveillance Network, 2017-2020 (ARS23-21710 and ARS23-21607)	Heidi Soeters, WHO, Switzerland/Geneva
11:30 – 11:45	Changes in etiology and outcome of moderate-to-severe diarrhea among children in three sub-Saharan African countries following rotavirus vaccine introduction: comparison of the Global Enteric Multicenter Study (GEMS) and The Vaccine Impact on Diarrhea in Africa (VIDA) Study (ARS23-21728)	Karen Kotloff, University of Maryland, USA
11:45 – 12:00	Ten years of pre-vaccination rotavirus surveillance in Ilorin, Nigeria: Success in using disease burden to drive vaccination policy (ARS23-21745)	Mohammed Abdulkadir, University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital, Nigeria
12:00 – 12:15	Epidemiology of Rotavirus Acute Gastroenteritis in Under-Five Children in Zaria, Northwestern Nigeria: Pre and Post Rotavac Vaccine Introduction in Nigeria (ARS23-21713)	Sani Mado, Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital, Nigeria
12:15 – 12:30	Questions and Discussion	Moderators

12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH & POSTER PRESENTATION	
13:30 -15:00	SESSION 3: Strengthening Regional Collaboration for Diarrhoea Surveillance in Africa.	Moderators: Duncan Steele, BMGF/USA Fahad Muhammad, NCDC/Nigeria
13:30 – 13:45	Strengthening and expanding the Rotavirus diarrhea Surveillance Network in Africa	Jason Mwenda, WHO/AFRO, Congo Brazzaville
13:45 – 14:00	The role of the Regional Rotavirus Reference Laboratories in strengthening regional collaboration	George Armah, NMIMR/Ghana
14:00 – 14:15	Genome-Wide Evolutionary Analyses of G1P[8] Rotaviruses Circulating Before and After Rotavirus Vaccine Introduction in Ghana, Malawi and South Africa (ARS23-21667)	Martin Nyaga, University of Free State, South Africa
14:15 – 14:30	The Use of Research Electronic Data Capture (REDCap) as a Data Management tool for Rotavirus Sentinel Surveillance for under 5 years in Nigeria (ARS23-21743)	Francis Ola, Nigeria CDC, Archie Worwui, Congo Brazzaville Martin Chukwuji, WHO/Nigeria
14:30 - 14:45	Effective Integrated Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPDs) sentinel surveillance site team coordination - The Enugu site experience and best practices (ARS23-17839)	Beckie Tagbo, University of Nigeria, Nigeria
14:45 – 15:00	Questions and Discussion	Moderators
15:00 – 15:30	TEA BREAK & POSTER PRESENTATION	
15:30 – 17:00	SESSION 4: Current Rotavirus Vaccines in Routine Immunization in Africa	Moderators: Oniovo Efe-Aluta, Who/AFRO, Burkina Faso Amina Mohammed, NPHCDA/Nigeria
15:30 – 15:50	The Gavi experience in Africa – supply challenges and country implementation strategies	Veronica Denti, Gavi, Geneva/Switzerland
15:50 – 16:05	Accelerating Equitable Access to New Vaccines: Progress and Lessons from the Roll-out of Rotavirus Vaccines Across 10 States in Nigeria. (ARS23-21725)	Prince Friday, CHAI, Nigeria
16:05 – 16:20	Effectiveness of monovalent rotavirus vaccine against hospitalization with acute rotavirus gastroenteritis among children in Uganda (ARS23-20596)	Elizabeth Kaudha, Naguru Hospital, Uganda
16:20 – 16:35	Safety and Immunogenicity of ROTAVAC vaccines in Newborns (ARS23-20560)	Raches Ella, BBIL, India
16:35 – 17:00	Questions and Discussion	Moderators
17:00 – 18:00	Networking opportunity	
19:30 for 20:00 – 22:00	SYMPOSIUM DINNER @ Exclusive Serene Garden Bar	Damilare Oluwasegun (MC)

DAY 2: THURSDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2023

08:00 – 08:30	REGISTRATION & TEA BREAK	
09:00 – 10:00	SESSION 5: Rotavirus Vaccine Decision-making and Implementation in Africa	Moderators: Christophe Luhata Lunguyo, NEPI, DRC George Armah, NMIMR Chair, NITAG/Ghana
09:00 – 09:15	Strengthening and restoration of immunization systems in Africa post-COVID-19 pandemic	Oniovo Efe-Aluta, WHO/AFRO Burkina Faso
09:15 – 09:30	Policy and cost-effectiveness decisions for rotavirus vaccine introduction in Nigeria	NPHCDA/Nigeria
09:30 – 09:45	Harnessing the full benefits of rotavirus vaccination in Africa	Inacio Mandomando, Manhica Health Research Centre, Mozambique, Jason Mwenda, WHO/AFRO, Congo Brazzaville
09:45 – 10:00	Questions and Discussion	Moderators
10:00 – 10:30	Prof Duncan Steele Keynote Lecture	Jeffrey Mphahlele, Nort West University, South Africa
10:30 – 11:00	TEA BREAK & POSTER PRESENTATION	
11:00 – 12:30	SESSION 6: Rotavirus vaccine public health impact in Africa	Moderators: Umesh Parashar, US CDC Becky Tagbo, PAN/Nigeria
11:00 – 11:20	The public health impact of rotavirus vaccines in Africa: Data from vaccine effectiveness and safety studies.	Jackie Tate, US CDC
11:20 – 11:40	The burden of rotavirus diarrhea and the impact and cost effectiveness of vaccination in States across Nigeria (ARS23-20583)	John Anderson, WVU Health Affairs Institute, USA
11:40 – 12:00	Rates of hospitalization and death for all-cause and rotavirus acute gastroenteritis before (2010-2013) and after (2015-2019) rotavirus vaccine introduction in Kenya (ARS23-20529)	Richard Omore, KEMRI, Kenya
12:00 – 12:20	Preliminary results of the effectiveness of Rotasiil Vaccine under conditions of routine use among children aged 6 to 23 months in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) (ARS23-20565)	Christophe Luhata Lunguyo, NEPI, DRC
12:20 – 12:30	Questions and Discussion	Moderators
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH & POSTER PRESENTATION	
13:30 – 15:30	SESSION 7: Molecular Epidemiology and Genomic Diversity in Rotavirus Strains	Moderators: Khuzwayo Jere, MLW/University of Liverpool/Malawi Francis Dennis, NMIMR
13:30 – 13:45	Rotavirus Surveillance in 15 Eastern and Southern African countries from 2015 to 2020: The growing dominance of the G3 strains (ARS23-21740)	Mapaseka Seheri, Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University, South Africa
13:45 – 14:00	Switching of Rotavirus Group A serotype G9 from Wa-like genotype constellation to DS-1-like genotype constellation suggests vaccine pressure in Malawi (ARS23-21761)	Landilani Gauti, Malawi University of Science and Technology, Malawi

14:00 – 14:15	The molecular epidemiology of human rotavirus and strain diversity in Kenya, pre- and post-rotavirus vaccine introduction: A review (ARS23-21691)	Nicholas Kiulia, Kenya Institute of Primate Research, Kenya
14:15 - 14:30	Whole genome characterization of DS-1-like strains from symptomatic and asymptomatic infections in Manica, Mozambique (ARS23-21696)	Filomena Manjate, Manhica Health Research Centre, Mozambique
14:30 – 14:45	Whole genome sequence analysis of G1P[8] rotaviruses from Blantyre, Malawi reveals circulation of strains with a conserved Wa-like constellation from 2015 – 2019 and uncovers potential reasons behind their disappearance (ARS23-21722)	Chimwemwe Mhango, MLW, Malawi
14:45 – 15:00	Genome-Wide Evolutionary Analyses of G2P[4] Rotaviruses Circulating Before and After Rotavirus Vaccine Introduction in Ghana, Malawi, and South Africa (ARS23-21683)	Celeste Donato, MCRI, Australia
15:00 – 15:30	Questions and Discussion	Moderators
15:30– 16:00	TEA BREAK & POSTER PRESENTATION	
16:00 – 17:45	SESSION 8: Advances in rotavirus immunology and vaccination	Moderators: Michelle Groome, Wits Richard Omere, KEMRI
16:00 – 16:15	Human challenge with live-attenuated oral rotavirus vaccine to assess next- generation rotavirus vaccines in Africa (ARS23-21698)	Michelo Simuyandi, CIDRZ, Zambia
16:15 – 16:30	In-vitro inhibitory effect of maternal breastmilk components on rotavirus vaccine replication and association with infant seroconversion to live oral rotavirus vaccine (ARS23-21611)	Katya Kazimbaya, CIDRZ, Zambia
16:30 – 16:45	Maternal and infant histo-blood group antigens (HBGA) profiles and their influence on oral rotavirus vaccine (ROTARIX®) immunogenicity among infants in Zambia (ARS23-21602)	Adriace Chauwa, CIDRZ, Zambia
16:45 – 17:00	Elevated Levels of Pre-existing Growth Factors and Chemokines are Associated with Rotavirus Vaccine Take in Malawian Infants (ARS23-21738)	Khuzwayo Jere, MLW/University of Liverpool, Malawi
17:00 – 17:15	Acute rotavirus infection is associated with the induction of circulating memory CD4+ T cell subsets (ARS23-20458)	Chikondi Malamba, Malawi University of Science and Technology, Malawi
17:15 – 18:00	Questions and Discussion	Moderators
DAY 3: FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2023		
08:00 – 08:30	REGISTRATION & TEA BREAK	
09:00 – 10:30	SESSION 9: Global Rotavirus Vaccine Supply and Implications for Africa	Moderators: Veronica Denti, Gavi. Oyeladun Okunromade, NCDC
09:00 – 09:20	The complete ecosystem required for sustainable vaccine manufacturing on the African continent	Anh Wartel, International Vaccine Institute Stockholm, Sweden
09:20 – 09:30	Questions and Discussion	Moderators
09:30 – 09:40	Lessons Learned and Future Perspectives for Rotavirus Vaccines Switch in African countries (ARS23-20600)	Inacio Mandomando, CISM, Mozambique

09:40 – 09:50	Programmatic challenges for rotavirus vaccine switch: Country experiences implementation in Africa (ARS23-21657)	Fausta Michael, MOH Tanzania
09:50 – 10:00	Rotavirus vaccine switch in Kenya: progress, challenges and lessons learnt (ARS23-21759)	Grace Irimu, University of Nairobi, Kenya
10:00 – 10:10	Preliminary rotavirus positivity among children <12 months old during the transition between RotaTeq and RotaSiil vaccines, Burkina Faso, 2017-2021 (ARS23-21705)	Issak Ouedragogo, MoH Burkina Faso
10:10 – 10:20	Challenges and lessons learned during switching of rotavirus vaccine formulation in Zambia (ARS23-21777)	Evans Mpabalwani, UTH, Zambia
10:20 – 10:30	Questions and Discussion	Moderators
10:30 – 11:00	TEA BREAK & POSTER PRESENTATION	
11:00 – 13:00	SESSION 10: Rotavirus Vaccine Economics and Financing	Moderators: Jackie Tate, US CDC Heidi Soeters, WHO Geneva
11:00 – 11:20	The Gavi Middle Income Country (MIC) strategy	Veronica Denti, Gavi, Geneva/Switzerland
11:20 – 11:40	Rotavirus vaccine product switch in Ghana: An assessment of service delivery costs, program switch costs and cost-effectiveness (ARS23-18960) – pre-recorded	Richmond Owusu, NIPH, Ghana
11:40 – 12:00	A tool for estimating the impact and cost-effectiveness of rotavirus vaccination in African countries (ARS23-21630)	Ernest Asare, Yale University, USA
12:00 – 12:20	Impact and cost-effectiveness analysis of rotavirus vaccine in Mozambique (ARS23-21637)	Assucenio Chissaque, INS, Mozambique
12:20 – 12:30	Questions and Discussion	Moderators
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH & POSTER PRESENTATIONS	
13:30 – 15:00	SESSION 11: Rapid-fire poster presentations (selected from the Abstracts)	Moderators: Fahad Muhammad, NCDC Martin Nyaga, UFS
13:30 – 13:40	Analysis of the outbreak of rotavirus-related diarrhoea cases in Mombasa County, Kenya during vaccine switch (ARS23- 22304)	Farida Geteri, MoH, Kenya
13:40 – 13:50	Epidemiology and burden of rotavirus infection in Central African Republic (ARS23-20597)	Virginie Banga-Mingo, Institut Pasteur De Bangui, Central African Republic
13:50 – 14:00	Trend of Rotavirus diarrhea after monovalent Vaccine introduction in hospitalized children in Madagascar (ARS23-__)	Elsa Rakotojoelimaria, Andohatapenaka University Hospital, Madagascar
14:00 – 14:10	Questions and Discussion	Moderators
14:10 – 14:20	Post-marketing intussusception monitoring in Afghanistan after the introduction of oral monovalent rotavirus vaccine- hospital-based surveillance (ARS23-20559)	Palwasha Anwari, LSTMH, Canada
14:20 - 14:30	Epidemiology of acute rotavirus diarrhoea among hospitalized under-fives in Lagos University Teaching Hospital (LUTH), Lagos, Nigeria (ARS23-21701)	Abdulkabir Adegoke, LUTH, Nigeria
14:30 - 14:50	Questions and Discussion & announcement of best poster	Moderators
15:00 - 15:30	REFRESHMENTS & NETWORKING	

15:30 – 16:30	CLOSING CEREMONY <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Key highlights of the symposium/Joint statement ● Announcement of the host country of the 15th African Rotavirus Symposium ● Closing remarks	Moderators: Duncan Steele, BMGF Oyeladun Okunromade, NCDC / NPHCDA Jason Mwenda, AFRO George Armah, NMIMR Director General, NCDC
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