



**AIDS
VACCINE 2009**
PARIS • 19-22 OCTOBER

Paris, October 13th, 2009

**AIDS VACCINE 2009, THE WORLD'S PREMIERE SCIENTIFIC
CONFERENCE ON AIDS VACCINE RESEARCH, TO BE HELD IN
PARIS OCTOBER 19-22**

**Experts Will Present the Latest on Progress and
Challenges in Search for "The World's Greatest Public Health Tool"**

The largest and most important global scientific conference focused on AIDS vaccine research, AIDS Vaccine 2009, will take place at the Marriott Rive Gauche Conference Center in Paris 19-22 October. The four-day conference is hosted annually by the Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise. Agence Nationale de Recherches sur le Sida et les Hépatites Virales (ANRS) of France is the Local Host for the conference.

AIDS Vaccine 2009 is expected to attract more than 1,000 scientists, community advocates, funders and policy makers from around the world. Conference participants will hear new scientific results, exchange novel ideas, educate future leaders in the field of HIV vaccine research and engage diverse communities to help further HIV vaccine research. AIDS Vaccine 2009 will include more than 400 scientific presentations on efforts to develop a safe and effective vaccine to stem the tide of the 2.7 million new HIV infections that occur each year.

"An effective vaccine against HIV infection will be one of the greatest public health tools ever developed," said ANRS Director and AIDS Vaccine 2009 Chair, Jean-François Delfraissy, M.D., Ph.D., "This global conference is not only a presentation of the latest in HIV vaccine research progress and challenges -- it is also a coming together of the world's leading AIDS vaccine researchers at a critical moment in the epidemic, and an important milestone on the path to addressing one of the greatest public health challenge of our lifetimes."

"The need for a safe and effective HIV vaccine has never been greater," said Alan Bernstein, Ph.D., executive director of the Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise, which brings together the world's leading research organizations to promote collaboration on AIDS vaccine development. "Current prevention tools can lower HIV incidence, but stopping this epidemic urgently requires a vaccine. At the same time, developing a safe and effective HIV vaccine is among the greatest scientific challenges ever undertaken, and requires the collaboration of the world's best researchers and scientific organizations."

AIDS Vaccine 2009 will feature daily plenary presentations by leading researchers and clinicians, and presentations of hundreds of research papers addressing every aspect of vaccine development and testing including the initiation of immune responses; mechanisms of protection against HIV infection; generation of antibody responses; immunological memory; vaccine design; and more. The conference will host the ongoing discussion of results of the Thai Phase III HIV vaccine clinical trial, which showed a modest reduction in HIV infection risk.

For journalists, the conference will include a fully operational media center and daily press briefings presenting research news highlights and overviews by leading HIV vaccine experts. Press conferences presenting key conference news and research highlights will be held on Monday, 19 October at 16.00 and Tuesday and Wednesday, 20 and 21 October at 13.00 Paris time in Marriott Rive Gauche Conference Center, St. Germain des Pres room.

AIDS Vaccine 2009 is sponsored by the ANRS, the Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative, the Office of AIDS

Research of the U.S. National Institutes of Health, Merck Sharp & Dohme, the Public Health Agency of Canada, Sanofi Pasteur, the U.S. Military HIV Research Program, and the Wellcome Trust.

Conference chairs are Jean-François Delfraissy, M.D., Ph.D., Director of ANRS, Françoise Barré-Sinoussi, Ph.D., Nobel Prize winner and Director of the Regulation of Retroviral infections Unit at the Institut Pasteur, Paris, and Yves Levy, M.D., PhD., of Hôpital Henri Mondor, Créteil, France, and Scientific Director of the ANRS Vaccine Program.

More information on AIDS Vaccine 2009 is available at <http://www.hivvaccineenterprise.org/conference/2009/index.aspx>

About the Organizers:

The Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise is a unique alliance of independent organizations around the world dedicated to accelerating the development of a preventive HIV vaccine. The Enterprise, comprised of top research, funding, advocacy and other stakeholder organizations, develops and drives implementation of the Scientific Strategic Plan for HIV vaccine development. Enterprise stakeholders set shared research agendas, create new structures for information sharing, develop new tools to harmonize global research efforts, and bring new organizations, expertise and resources to the challenge. For more information, please visit www.hivvaccineenterprise.org.

The Anrs is the French National Agency for Research on AIDS and Viral Hepatitis. Its mission is to seek new ways to improve the prevention and treatment of these infections, both in the developed world and in countries with limited resources. The Anrs brings together researchers and physicians from French hospitals and research organizations (Inserm, Cnrs, Institut Pasteur, Ird, universities) to work on prioritized scientific projects. At its overseas research sites, the Anrs mobilizes French and local scientists in work on healthcare issues of paramount importance to the developing world. The French ministries of research, foreign affairs, and health allocate to the Anrs an annual budget of approximately 44 million Euros (62 million dollars), 9% of which was devoted to research on an HIV vaccine in 2008.

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