

# Clinical trial design and policy expectations for dengue vaccines

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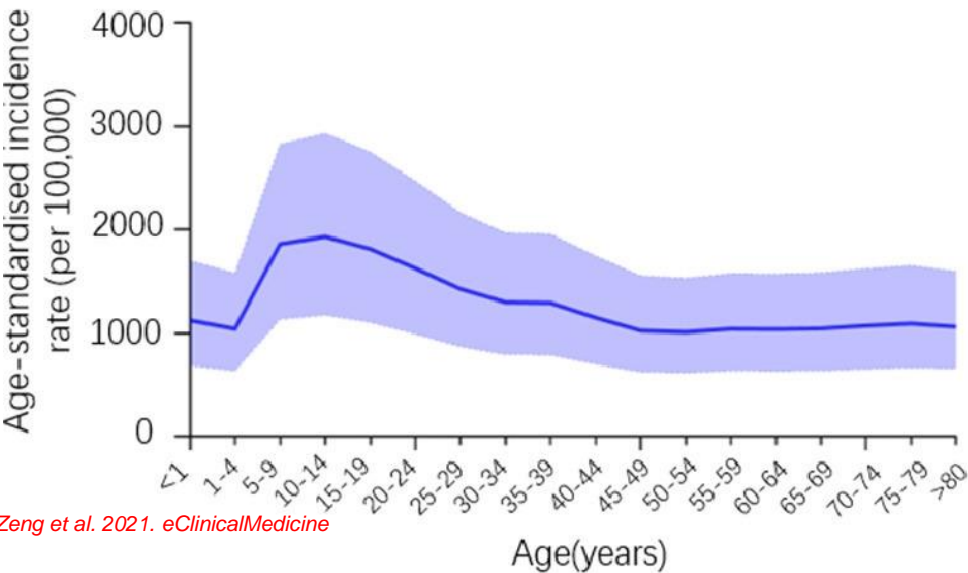
WHO, IVB, Team Lead Vaccine Development

WHO technical lead: SAGE WG Dengue Vaccines

Honorary Professor of Emerging Infectious Diseases,  
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

# Age-dependent dengue transmission trends

Source: Global Burden of Disease 2017

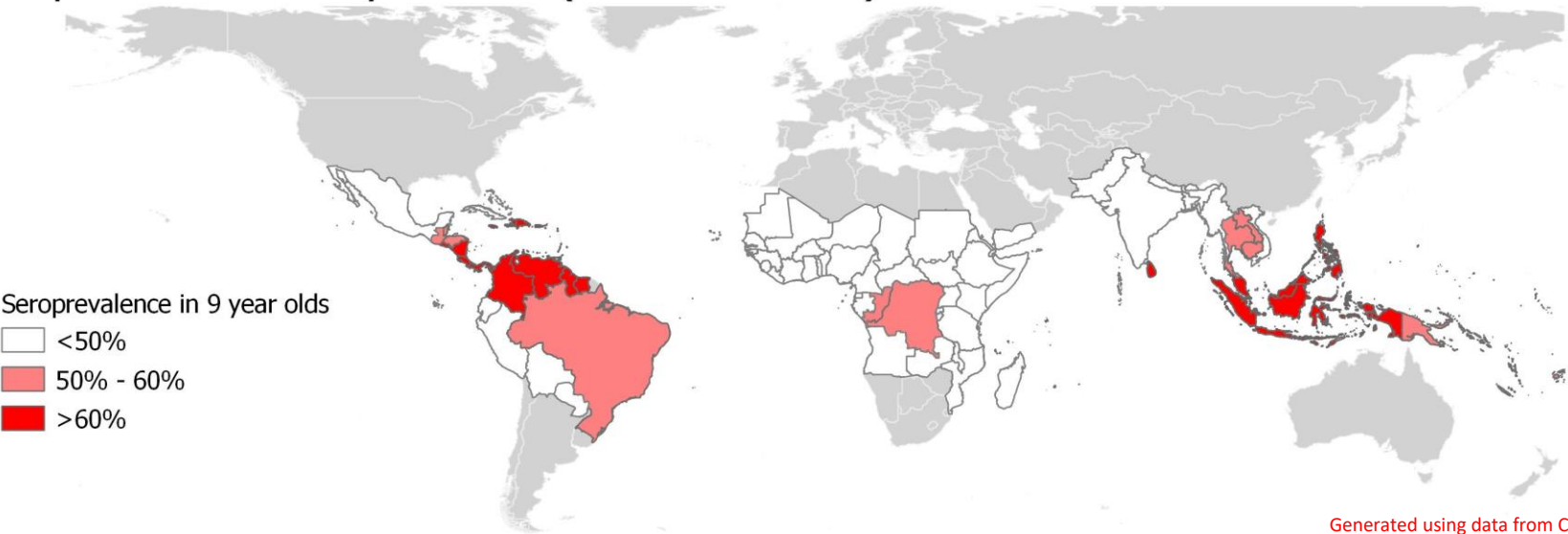


Zeng et al. 2021. eClinicalMedicine

Globally, incidence peaks between 5 and 14 years of age.

Seroprevalence in 9-year olds: a good proxy for high transmission and endemic settings.

Seroprevalence in 9 year-olds (mean estimate)



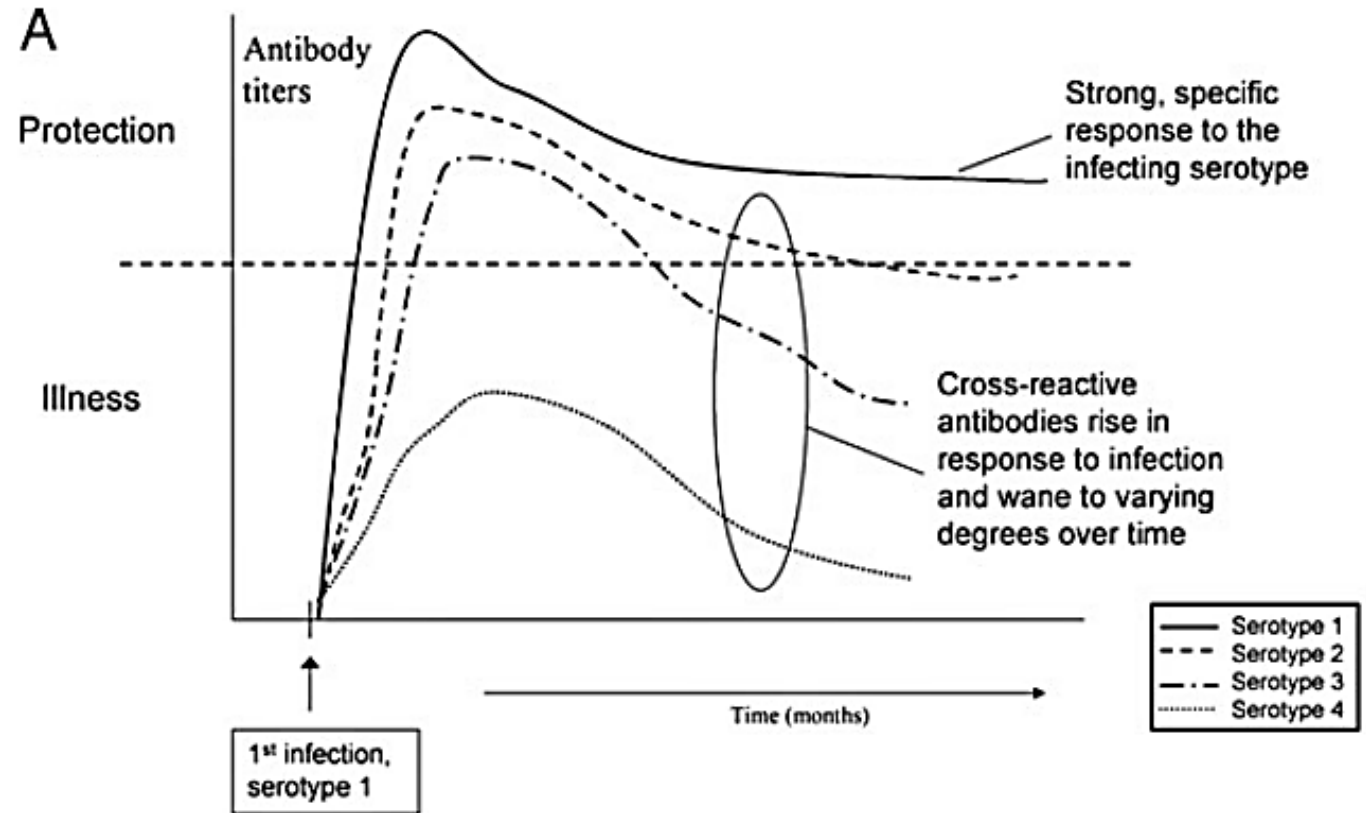


The background of the slide features a blurred image of laboratory glassware, including several glass ampoules and test tubes containing liquids of various colors (pink, yellow, green, blue). A white silhouette of the United Kingdom is overlaid on the right side of the image, partially obscuring the laboratory equipment.

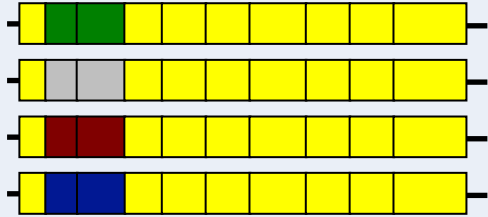
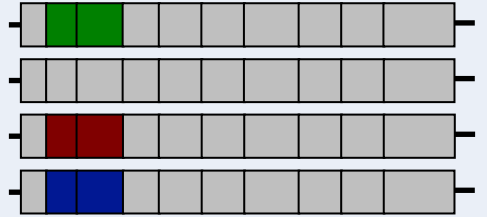
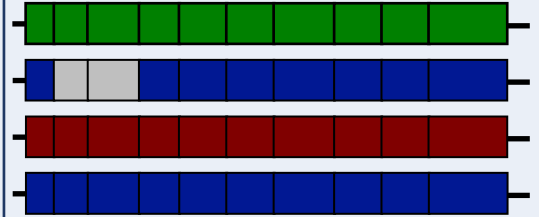
# Policy expectations

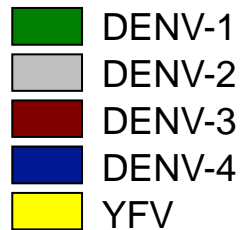
- A dengue vaccine that meets the public health needs:
- Efficacious and safe regardless of dengue serostatus
- Balanced efficacy against all four serotypes
- Long duration
- Ideally single dose
- Age indication: Infants, children and adolescents (for most endemic countries); without upper age limit (for low endemic countries and for travellers)

# Immunological interaction between the 4 serotypes

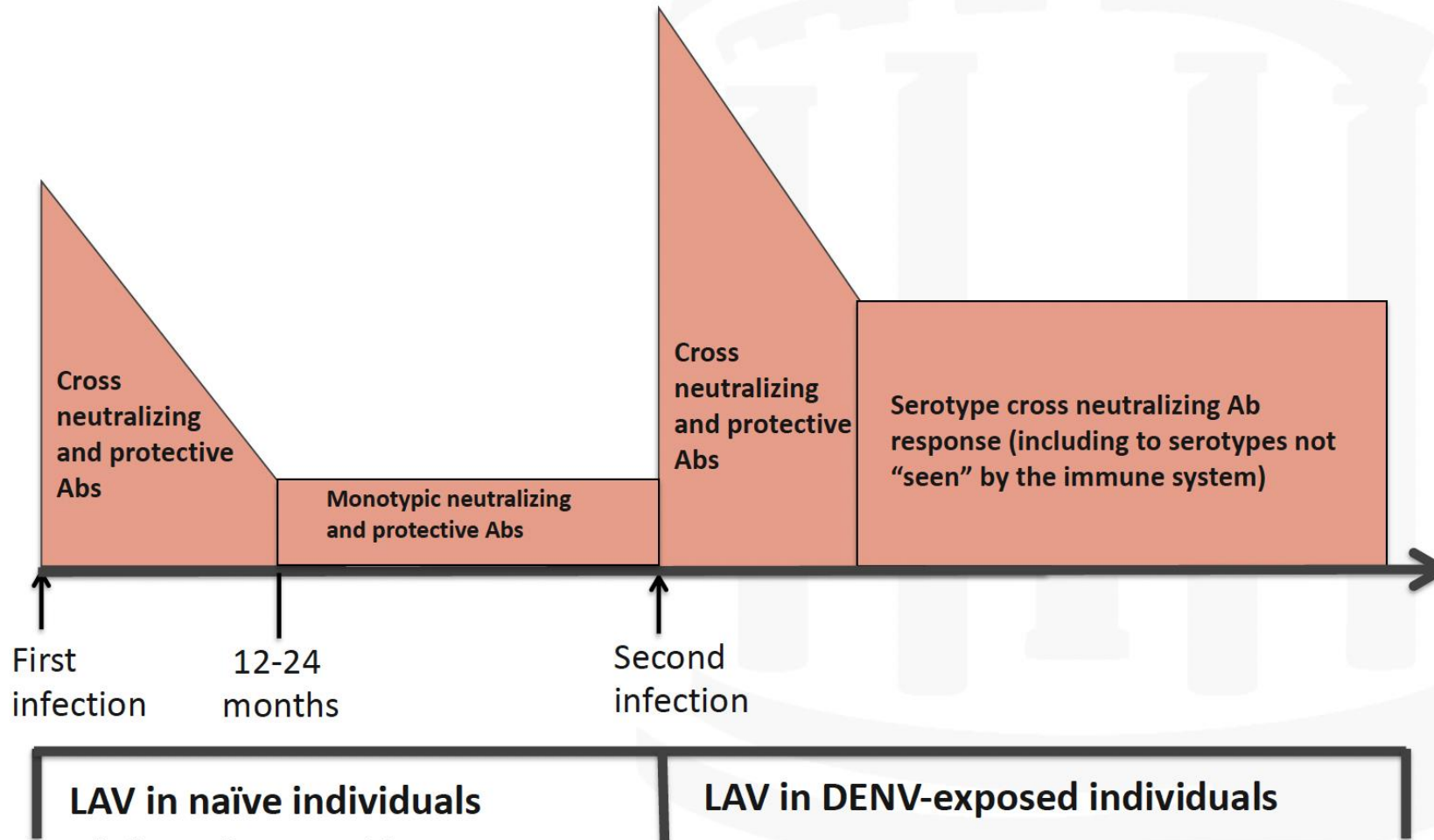


# Three dengue vaccine candidates, all are tetravalent and live attenuated; differences in the backbone and extent of chimerization

|                 | Dengvaxia (Sanofi Pasteur)  | TAK-003 (Takeda)   | TV003/TV005 (NIH/Butantan/Merck)   |
|-----------------|---|--|--|
| Status          | Licensed  | Licensed   | Phase 3  |
| # Doses         | 3 doses over 12 months (0, 6, 12)   | 2 doses (0, 3 months)  | Single dose  |
| Indicated age   | 9 - 45  | Phase 3 age range 4 - 16   | Phase 3 age range 2 - 59   |
| Other           | Requires documented previous DENV infection   | ?  | ?  |
| Construct       |  |  |  |
| Dengue proteins | 8   | 16   | 32   |



## Neutralizing/protective antibody responses following DENV infection and vaccination



Abs, antibodies; LAV, live attenuated viruses

Screenshot

# Serostatus-driven vaccine performance

- **Dengvaxia**

- Seropositive persons. efficacious and safe, especially serotype 4
- Seronegative persons: increased risk of severe dengue in seronegative persons:
  - RR 2-3
- a “pre-vaccination screening strategy” is the recommended strategy, in which only dengue-seropositive persons are vaccinated.
- Age 6-45
- Low vaccine uptake due to the costs and complexities of the “test-and-vaccinate” policy

- **Qdenga TAK-003**

- Seropositive persons: efficacious and safe, especially serotype 2
- Seronegative persons: efficacious against serotypes 1 and 2. Absence of efficacy in serotypes 3 and 4
- Safety risk cannot be excluded with the available data
- WHO recommendation: use in settings with high dengue transmission intensity only, eg seroprevalence > 60%, age 6-16
- No pre-vaccination screening

# Viremia following a single dose of Butantan/Merck's TV003 vaccine

| The percentage of subjects with detectable viremia by PCR after a single dose in flavivirus-naïve subjects |             |             |             |             |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|  | DENV-1      | DENV-2      | DENV-3      | DENV-4      |
| CYD, Day 7 (n=12) <sup>1</sup>   | 0           | 0           | 17          | 50          |
| CYD, Day 7 (n=84) <sup>2</sup>   | 0           | 2           | 0           | 30          |
| CYD (n=25) <sup>3</sup>  | 0           | 4           | 0           | 52          |
| CYD (n=95) <sup>4</sup>  | 7.4         | 0           | 12.6        | 44.2        |
| TAK (n=74) <sup>5</sup>  | 0           | 68.9        | 0           | 0           |
| <b>TV003 (n=36)<sup>6</sup></b>  | <b>63.9</b> | <b>69.4</b> | <b>52.8</b> | <b>52.8</b> |

1. Qiao et, 2011, viremia only measured on day 7 & 14, but cumulative viremia was not reported
2. Poo, et al, 2011, viremia only measured on day 7 & 14, but cumulative viremia was not reported
3. Dayan, et al, 2013; CYD 5:5:5:5 formulation. Viremia measured only by RT-PCR
4. Torresi, et al 2017; CYD lot-to-lot consistency trial. Viremia measured on days 6, 8, 10, 14, & 20
5. Rupp et al 2015; Viremia measured on days 7, 9, 11, 14, & 17
6. Russell et al, ASTMH 2019, Merck V181. Viremia collected on days 7 & 12 only






## Vaccine

Volume 36, Issue 24, 7 June 2018, Pages 3411-3417



WHO Report

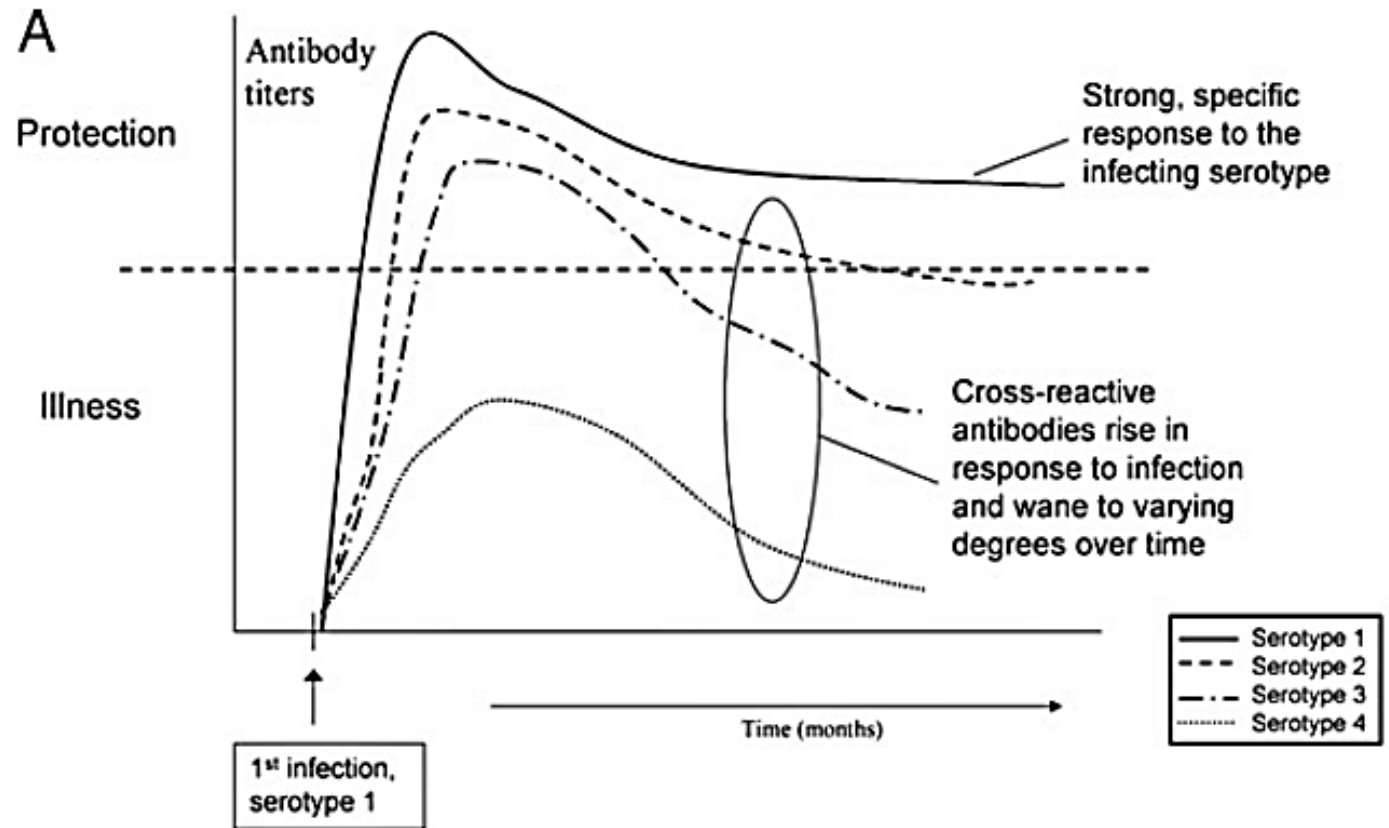
# Clinical development and regulatory points for consideration for second-generation live attenuated dengue vaccines

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Stephen J. Thomas<sup>h 1</sup>, Joachim Hombach<sup>a 1</sup>  

# PRNT

Current assays do not distinguish between type-specific antibodies, transient heterotypic antibody, and long-lasting heterotypic antibody.

Serotype-specific assays need to be used.



# Vaccine infectivity and interference

- **Vaccine infectivity:**
  - Demonstrating replication for each of the four vaccine viruses, when administered as a live tetravalent vaccine, is highly desirable given the potential risk of interferences.
- **Interference:**
  - Antibody depletion assays to determine whether type-specific responses were generated for each of the four serotypes

# Immunobridging



Lack of immune correlates for protection



Lack of immune correlates for enhancement



Whilst for some flavivirus vaccines (eg JE, yellow fever etc), immunobridging has been accepted, RCT Phase 3 trials are still required for dengue

# Human Challenge Studies



CAN PROVIDE INITIAL PROOF-OF-  
CONCEPT THAT A VACCINE MAY HAVE  
POTENTIAL FOR CLINICAL BENEFIT



WAS DONE FOR THE NIH TETRAVALENT  
VACCINE



CHALLENGE SHOULD BE DONE >12  
MONTHS



BUT GREATER CONFIDENCE IS REQUIRED  
IN DENGUE CHIM PERFORMANCE:  
HIGHLY ATTENUATED CHALLENGE VIRUS  
VS DISEASE-CAUSING VIRUS



A white computer keyboard is partially visible in the top left corner. A black stethoscope with silver-colored tubing is positioned diagonally across the white surface, with its chest piece resting near the keyboard and its earpieces extending towards the bottom right.

# Clinical trial design requirements

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- Baseline samples needed to determine baseline serostatus
- A-priori plans to stratify by serostatus, serotype and clinical endpoints
- Active surveillance
- Duration 3-5 years
- An extended follow-up period will allow for additional power to look at secondary analyses, eg VE by infecting serotype
- Multi-country trial over several seasons to ensure that all 4 serotypes are captured

Thank you

## Dengvaxia: post-hoc results from the Phase 3 trials: Cumulative incidence of hospitalised dengue by serostatus

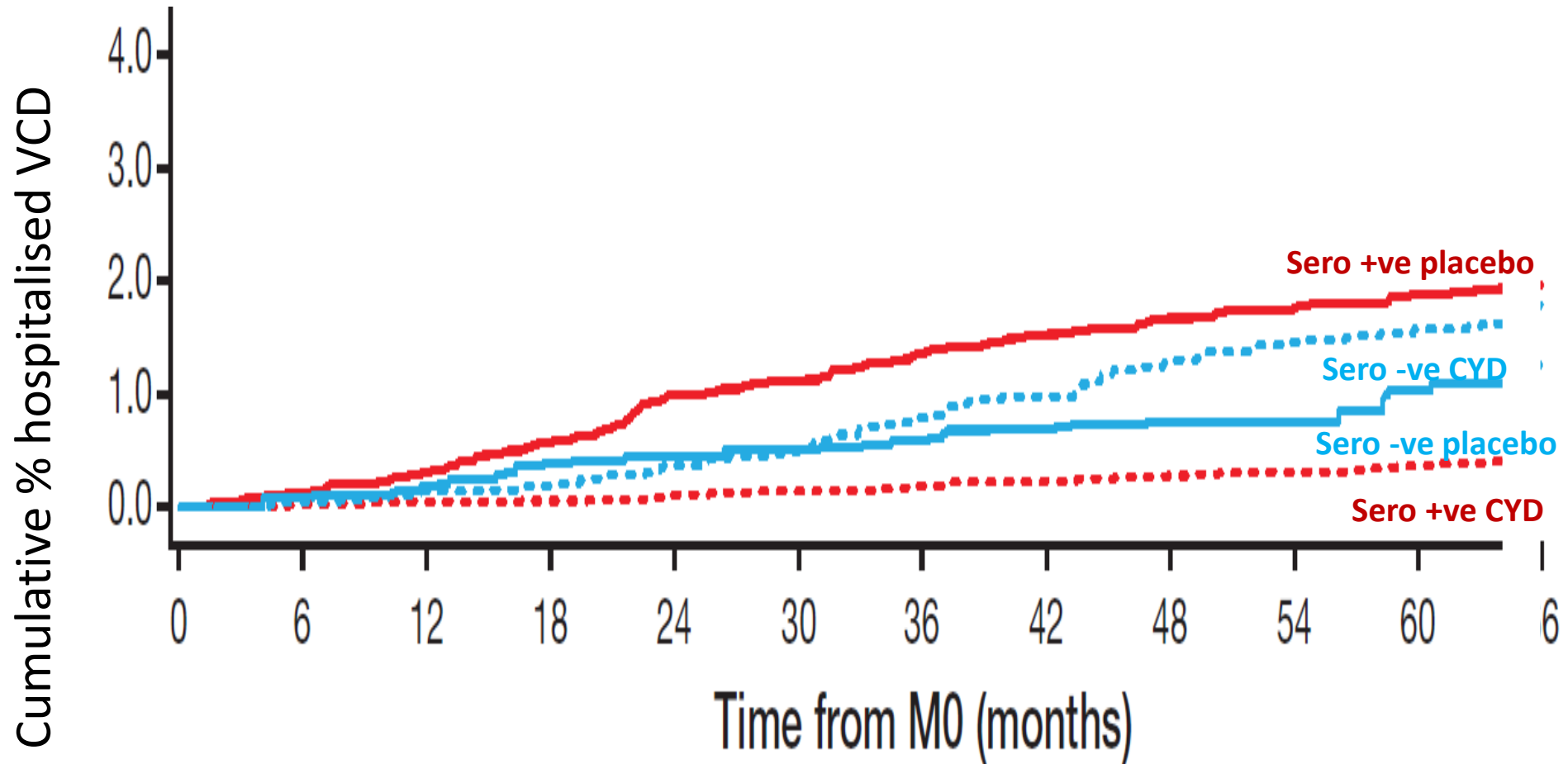
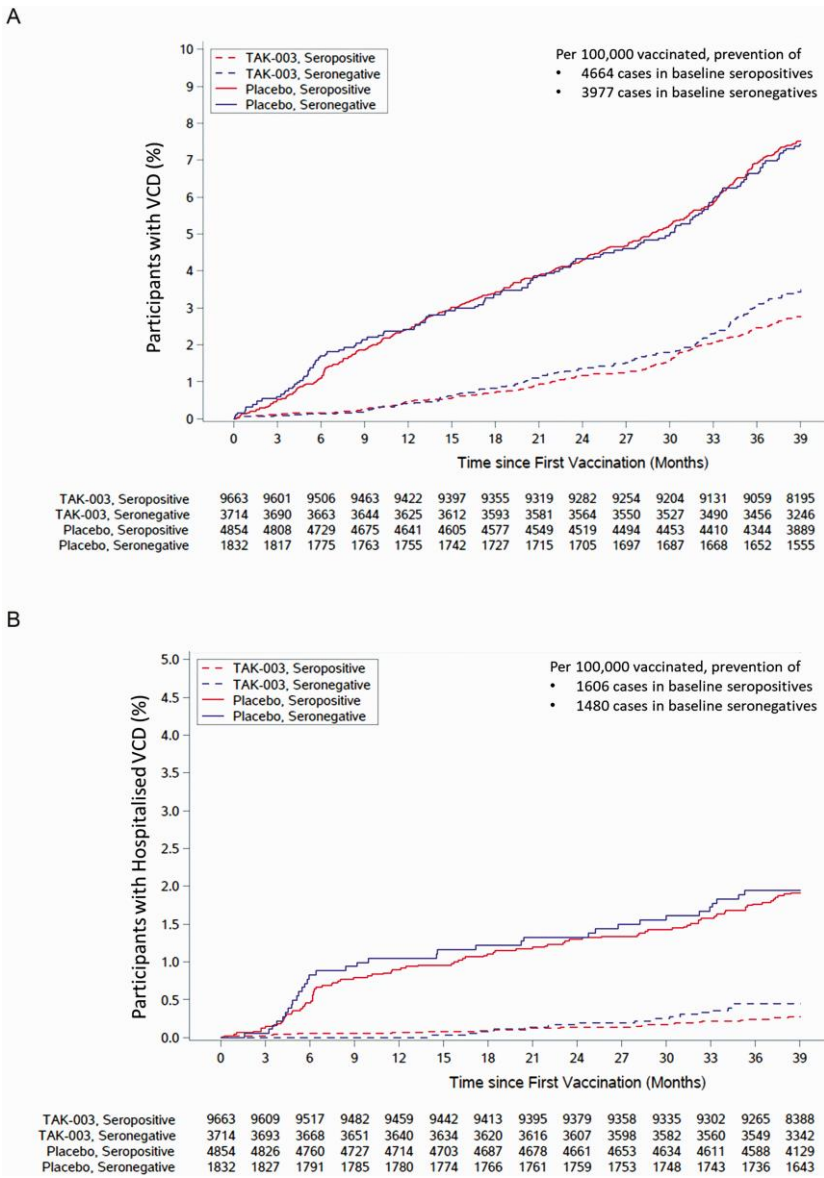


Figure 3. Cumulative incidence of (A) virologically confirmed dengue (VCD) cases and (B) hospitalized VCD cases



Risk of severe  
dengue  
associated with  
secondary  
versus primary  
infections

**Cumulative incidence (CI) of severe dengue per 1000 unvaccinated children in the  
Phase 3 trial CYD-TDV**

**RR**

**Seronegative**

**Seropositive**

**2–8 years old**

Multiple imputations methods, months 0–60

3.64

11.6

3.19

**9–16 years old**

Multiple imputations methods, months 0–60

1.74

4.80

2.76

**2–16 years old**

Multiple imputations methods, months 0–60

2.52

6.09

2.42