

# Vaccine development Strategies in Korea; from R&D to Production

Manki Song, Ph.D.

Deputy Director General of Science

Nov. 01 2023



International  
Vaccine  
Institute

# Background of Vaccine Self sufficiency

## **Importance of stable vaccine supply due to increased threat of emerging diseases**

- SARS-CoV (2002, 775/8273 global, total damage 30 billion USD)
- Avian Influenza (2003, damage 1.5 billion USD Korea, recurrence in 2013)
- Pandemic influenza (2009, 270/750,000 Korea, estimated 5 to 30 billion USD in damage in Korea)
- FMDV (2011-2015, damage 4 billion USD Korea)
- MERS-CoV, (2015, 38/186 Korea, 10 billion USD in damage in Korea)

**Vaccine self sufficiency; allows stable and low-cost supply of vaccines when you need it**

# Korea Experience: Influenza vaccine

MoTIE

Egg-based flu vaccine facilities (2005):

- Domestic flu vaccine production of 2009
- **influenza pandemic outbreak; Failed to import vaccines on time**

➡ Supply of pandemic influenza vaccine; GC Biopharma, 26 million dose, 2010.01.05

MoHW

TEPIK established (Transgovernmental Enterprise of Pandemic Influenza in Korea):

- R&D (65M US\$/6 yrs) (2010~2016)

➡ Development of cell-based influenza vaccine; SK bioscience,  
First cell-based vaccine for WHO PQ certification

MoHW: Ministry of Health & Welfare

MoTIE: Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy



# Vaccine R&D and manufacturing capacity plan by Korean Government

2016



## "Vaccine 3.0"

Infrastructure building project for vaccine self sufficiency 2016-2020

2018



- Funded by ROK government, BMGF, Korean manufacturers
- Focuses on global health R&D
- E.g. Cholera Conjugate Vaccine (CCV)

2020



- Partner with Vaccine Innovative Technology Alliance (VITAL) Korea to promote R&D for global health
- Promote vaccine sovereignty of Korea and preparedness against EID

2021

## "K-Vaccine Hub"

- Center of Excellence, providing essential support required in establishing K-Bio Hub
- **Vaccine research:** platform technology (mRNA, viral vector), adjuvant
  - **Innovation center:** vaccine evaluation system through standard assays and reagents
  - **Translational hub:** clinical development, regulatory affairs, and quality assurance
  - **Globalization:** provide networking to industry to move to the next level

Research Investment for Global Health Technology Foundation

Vaccine product development partnerships with Korean manufacturers & agencies

**OCV, TCV, HEP B, HEP A, MERS Vaccine**



- Vi-DT TCV
- iNTS



- Hep A

eu**bi**ologics

- Euvichol® & Euvichol-Plus® OCV



- Hep B microneedle patch



- MERS

**COVID-19 Vaccine<sup>1</sup>**



**2030: 80%**



2011: 20%

2022: 40%



Korea, UK, WHO

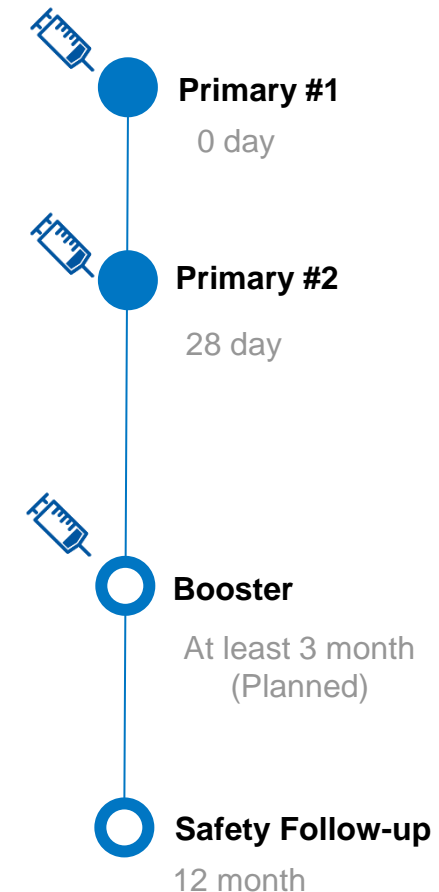
## SK bioscience co-developed SKYCovione™;

- A recombinant protein vaccine, the Institute for Protein Design (IPD) at the University of Washington
- ASO3 adjuvant from GSK
- The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation funded for early development
- CEPI Fund for clinical trials, variants research, and manufacturing process development.
- IVI supported the global clinical trial, sample analysis (with KDCA), and the regulatory process for the vaccine's licensure

# Phase 3 clinical study design of SKYCovione

- SKYCovione conducted global clinical trials using ChAdOx1-S (AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine) as a reference vaccine for the purpose of evaluating humoral/cellular immunogenicity and safety in adults over 18 years of age

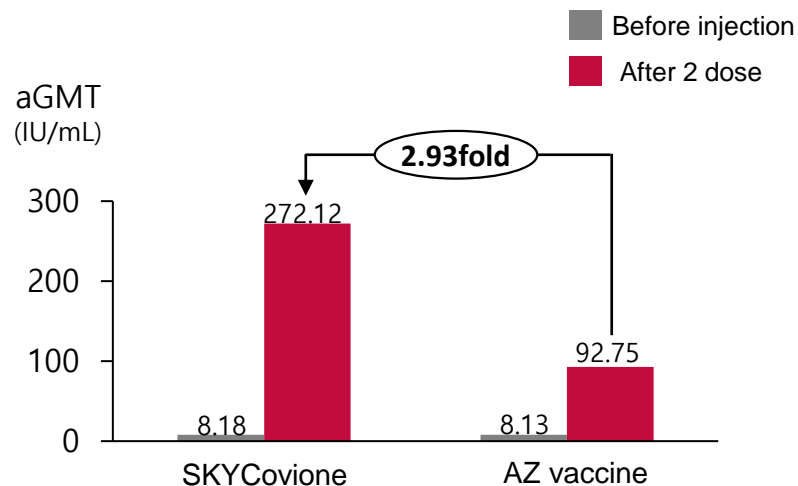
<b>Title</b>	Multicenter, parallel comparison, observer-blind, active-controlled, randomized, phase 2, phase 3 clinical trial to evaluate the immunogenicity and safety of SARS-CoV-2 recombinant protein nanoparticle vaccine (GBP510) in adults 18 years of age or older.
<b>Purpose</b>	Humoral/Cellular Immunogenicity and safety evaluation of SARS-CoV-2 recombinant protein nanoparticle vaccine (GBP510) in adults 18 Years or older
<b>Subjects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Target subjects: 3,990 adults 18 years of age or older</li><li>Countries participating in clinical trials: Korea, New Zealand, Ukraine, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam</li></ul>
<b>Dose</b>	GBP510-AS03 (25µg), reference vaccine: ChAdOx1-S (AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>2-Primary doses 4 weeks apart (on Day 0 &amp; 28 for each)</li></ul>
<b>Endpoints</b>	<b>Safety</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Solicited AE, Unsolicited AE, AESI, SAE, COVID-19 cases</li></ul> <b>Immunogenicity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>GMT(Superiority)/GMFR(Non-inferiority)/seroconversion of IgG antibody and Neutralizing antibody, and Cell-mediated response</li></ul>



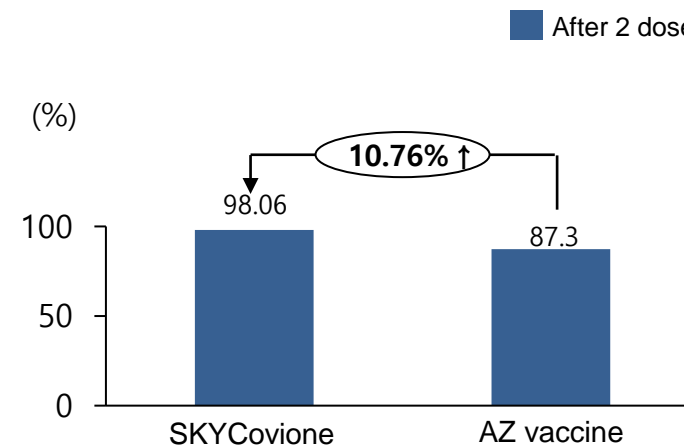
# Phase 3 study results – Primary endpoint

- The results of the phase 3 clinical trial of SKYCovione confirmed the superiority of immunogenicity compared to the reference vaccine, the same as the results of the phase 1/2

FRNT<sup>1</sup> Neutralizing Ab – Superiority



SCR<sup>2</sup> - Non-inferiority



		GBP510		AZ Vaccine		P-value**
		N	Post- GMT	N	Post- GMT	
Baseline	GMT (SD)	877	8.18(1.08)	441	8.13(1.06)	0.0936
	GMR (95% CI)	1.01 [1.00, 1.01]				
GMT (FRNT) 2W after Dose 2	Adjusted GMT (SE)*	877	272.12(1.07)	441	92.75(1.07)	<0.0001
	GMR (95% CI)	2.93 [2.63, 3.27]				
SCR 2W after Dose 2	SCR	877	98.06%	441	87.30%	<0.0001
	Diff. (95% CI)	10.76% [7.68, 14.32]				

1. FRNT (Focus Reduction Neutralization Test) : SARS-CoV-2 Wild type virus ND50 Titer converted to IU/mL

2. SCR (Seroconversion Rate) : Ratio of subjects whose neutralizing antibody titers increased 4 times or more compared to before administration

\* GMTs adjusted with treatment group, age group (18~64, ≥65) as factors, and baseline antibody level as covariate

\*\*P-value for baseline GMT : t-test / P-value for adjusted GMT : ANCOVA / P-value for SCR : Chi-square test

- June 29, 2022, Skycovione was approved for use in South Korea
- May 26 2023 authorised by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), UK
- June 23, 2023, listed on the WHO Emergency Use Listing (EUL)
- South Korean government purchased 10 million doses of SKYCovione of which 600,000 doses released into hospitals

## Lessons Learned; for successful vaccine development

- International Collaborations for public sector funding and development efforts: IPD at the University of Washington, GSK, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, CEPI, IVI, AstraZeneca, Korea Government
- Good antigen and adjuvant
- Rigorous regulatory process for vaccine manufacturing and clinical evaluation
- Need Vaccine experts and trained staffs

Global Equity in Access and Development?



# International Vaccinology Course by IVI

- Established in 2000, one of the longest-running vaccinology courses in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Trained nearly 5,000 vaccine professionals from LMIC worldwide
- Collaborators: Karolinska Institutet, Sweden



- Launched in 2022, the trainings are supported by the Ministry of Health and Welfare of Republic of Korea and the WHO
- Aims to equip participants with the critical skills and knowledge needed for biomanufacturing.
- 400+ participants have taken part in the trainings.
- The entire training course is free of charge to all participants. (exclusive travel and visa costs)



# GTH-B: Introductory Course for Biologics Development and Manufacturing

- **2-week, in-person training on introduction to all aspects of biomanufacturing.**
  - Includes didactic training and interactive activities (e.g., case studies, presentations, panel discussions, etc.)
- **Participants start to build the skills and competencies needed to work along the entire cycle of vaccine development, production and licensing.**
- **Includes excursion to and networking sessions with Korea Biopharmaceutical companies and networking**
- **Two trainings held**

2022	2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• July 18-29</li><li>• 138 participants: 106 participants from 24 LMICs</li><li>• Scholarships provided by: PAVM, IDB</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• June 19-30</li><li>• 187 participants: 150 participants from 40 LMICs</li><li>• Scholarships provided by: PAVM, IDB, EAC RCE-VIHSCM, PAHO</li></ul>





# GTH-B: Introductory Course for Standard Practice (GxP)

- **3-week, in-person training**
  - Provide participants with a strong understanding of global standards for biomanufacturing (GMP, GCP, GLP, GCLP, and biosafety)
  - Includes didactic training and interactive activities (e.g., case studies, presentations, panel discussions, etc.)
  - Includes excursion to and networking sessions with Korea Biopharmaceutical companies and networking
- **First training held in Oct-Nov 2022**
  - 151 participants from 31 LMICs and 36 participants from South Korea
- **Next training is scheduled for Oct 30-Nov 17**
  - Participant confirmation ongoing: Expecting 180 participants



# Development of training programs for WHO global bio-training hub (GTH-B) in Korea (Global Bio Campus program development and planning) : **Proposed training program**

## Scope of GBC program

Scope of GBC Training					
Jobs throughout the entire cycle of biopharmaceutical and vaccine development, manufacturing, commercialization, and supply					
Manufacturing (Hands-on under GMP)	GMP	Pre-clinical (GLP)	Regulatory Affairs (WHOPQ+RAPS)	Clinical (GCP)	Supply and Marketing

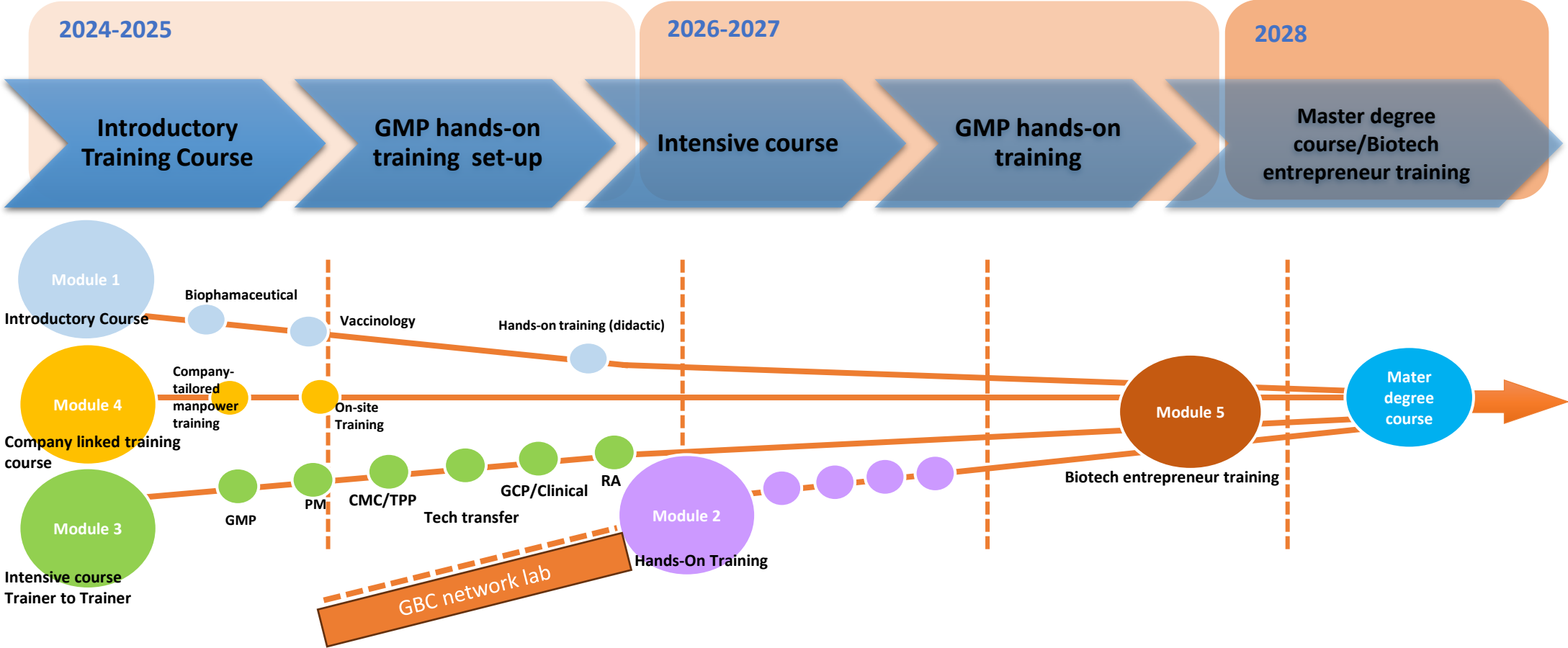
Job diversity in GBC training programs		
Specialized training by career unit		
Entry Level / Junior specialist	Senior / Manager	Director/C-Level
Basic/intermediate level overview program	Intensive / advanced program Trainer to Trainer Training (TTT)	Biotech entrepreneur training

## Major 6 modules of GBC Training Program

GBC Training Program Module					
Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5	Module 6
Introductory training course	Hands-on training	Intensive course	Company-linked training program	Biotech entrepreneur training	Master Degree
Training to strengthen basic knowledge of biopharmaceutical and vaccine development	Vaccine and biopharmaceutical hands-on training at GMP-like facility	Trainer to Trainer level training, In-depth training for each job of vaccine/biopharmaceutical industry	Training based on industry needs and on-site training programs	Biopharmaceutical entrepreneurship training to build a domestic biopharmaceutical ecosystem	Master's degree program combining GBC training program and internship Master degree in biopharmaceutical science and Vaccinology

# Development of training programs for WHO global bio-training hub (GTH-B) in Korea (Global Bio Campus program development and planning): **Operation model**

Propose the efficient 6 biomanufacturing training module programs and operation model contributing to global bio campus.







International  
Vaccine  
Institute

# Thank You!



**IVI website**

[www.ivi.int](http://www.ivi.int)



**Like us**

<https://www.facebook.com/InternationalVaccineInstitute>



**Follow us**

<https://twitter.com/IVIHeadquarters>