



AIDS Vaccine Science: Hot Seat

Training Session

May 2015

INTRODUCTION

Objectives

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Identify key facts about the current state of vaccine research and development.
- Explain key concepts about vaccine research in a succinct way.

Method

Tiered question and answer

Materials Required

Flip chart paper and markers

Tape

Extra chair for 'Hot Seat'

Handouts

- *AIDS Vaccine Key Messages, HIV Vaccine Awareness Day 2015*
- *AIDS Vaccine Overview 2015 Infographic*
- *AIDS Vaccines: The basics—PowerPoint slide set*
- *AIDS Vaccine Science for Busy Advocates*
 - *Antibody Research: Progress on a powerful immune response*
 - *Passive Immunization: An important piece of the puzzle*
- *AVAC Report 2014/5*

Time Required

60 minutes

Optimal Group Size

10-20 training participants

Important Note to Trainer:

This is a relatively advanced session for HIV prevention research advocates. For beginner audiences, we recommend that you first lead a discussion on HIV vaccine basics. Please refer to the list of references; AVAC's PowerPoint presentation, *AIDS Vaccines: The basics* is very useful for lay audiences. You may also consider providing copies of relevant materials to participants.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TRAINER

Preparation

1. Read through the *AIDS Vaccine Science for Busy Advocates* handout series and the section on vaccines in *AVAC Report 2014/5* (pp. 24-29); review *AIDS Vaccine Overview 2015 Infographic*. Be sure you are comfortable with all content. If not, reach out to a local expert, colleague, or your AVAC contact person to discuss any questions.
2. Review Hot Seat Questions (see below) and ensure you can identify all answers in the materials above.
3. Consider the knowledge level and size of your training group, and prioritize questions to use in your session. Note that questions are marked 'Basic' or 'Advanced'.
4. Gather flip charts and markers.
5. Make a copy of handouts for each participant.
6. Collect a copy of the *AVAC Report 2014/5* for each participant. (If you need copies of materials, please contact AVAC at www.avac.org/orderpublications.)
7. Co-facilitation for this session is recommended; identify and coordinate with a co-facilitator.

Helpful resources:

- AVAC's *Resource Database*
- *AIDS Vaccine Literacy "VaxLit" Toolkit*: <http://www.iavi.org/Information-Center/Publications/Pages/Vaxlit-Toolkit.aspx>

Delivery

STEP ONE, less than 5 minutes

- Place a chair at the front of the room. Explain that this is the 'Hot Seat'.
- Tell the group that each participant will take a turn in the 'Hot Seat' where they will answer questions about vaccine research, practice talking about vaccine concepts, and build skills for advocating for vaccine research to secondary audiences.
- Explain that participants are not expected to have a full grasp or the ability to explain all of the concepts comprehensively. This session is to help build those skills.

STEP TWO, approx. 20 minutes: Distribute all handouts and give participants 10 minutes to review them. Lead a brief, participatory discussion around the messages. Use flip charts to write key points and draw helpful graphics for explanation.

- ➔ **SUGGESTION:** You may want to write each word in the 'Glossary' section of the Busy Advocates Fact Sheets on a flip chart and ensure that the group understands the terms.
- ➔ **TIP:** Avoid reading through the handouts aloud. Instead, make this an interactive discussion where you engage trainees in the information. Make sure to answer questions or probe participants if they seem confused.

STEP THREE, approx. 30 minutes:

- Ask for a volunteer to sit in the 'Hot Seat'.
- Ask the participant a 'Basic' question from the 'Hot Seat Questions'.



- Correct any errors and offer additional information as needed, until the question is answered correctly and comprehensively.
- Invite another participant to sit in the 'Hot Seat'; repeat process for all participants.
- Repeat process for as many participants as possible using 'Advanced' questions.
- Repeat as many rounds as you can in the allotted time.

STEP FOUR, approx. 10 minutes:

- Debrief by asking the participants the following questions:
 - Which questions were most difficult to answer? Which concepts were most difficult to explain? Why?
 - What did you learn from this exercise that will help you with discussing vaccines with other people?
 - What skills or knowledge do you still need to develop in order to explain vaccine concepts and the state of the research?
- List participant responses on a flip chart for closing and follow up.

CLOSING

Close by asking participants to share something they learned from another trainee, or something that was explained in a very understandable way. Make note of any unanswered questions or necessary follow-up.

TRAINER'S NOTES

About AVAC | AVAC is a non-profit organization that uses education, policy analysis, advocacy and a network of global collaborations to accelerate the ethical development and global delivery of new HIV prevention options as part of a comprehensive response to the pandemic.



Hot Seat Questions

The lists below contain questions to ask participants while in the Hot Seat. Choose at least one question from each list for each participant. Try not to repeat questions.

Basic Questions

- What is a (preventive) vaccine?
- How is a preventive vaccine different from a therapeutic vaccine?
- Are HIV vaccines currently being researched for use in HIV-negative people, HIV-positive people, or both?
- What arms of the immune system would an effective HIV vaccine most likely stimulate?
- How do we know that HIV vaccines cannot cause HIV infection?
- Which trial in 2009 showed that a vaccine could prevent risk of HIV infection?
- Where did the RV144 trial take place? What level of efficacy did it show?
- What does **P5** stand for?
- In which countries are current P5-led trials being conducted?
- What is the vaccine strategy being tested in P5 trials?
- In what year should the first P5 efficacy trial begin?
- Which pharmaceutical company is currently leading and conducting its own clinical development program of an HIV vaccine?
Bonus: What is the name of the vaccine?
- What is a mosaic vaccine?
- Around how many clinical trials of preventive vaccines—in any phase—are currently underway?
Choices: 5-10, around 30, more than 100
- How many efficacy trials are planned to be running as of 2019? (4)
- A broadly neutralizing antibody acts in what way? Choose from: (1) it binds to the outer surface of HIV, rendering it harmless; (2) it enhances the production of T-cells; (3) it binds to only one strain of HIV
- As of 2015, which bNAb currently has a clinical development path to efficacy testing?

Advanced Questions

- What are the names of the two tracks of clinical trials in Southern Africa being conducted by the P5?
Bonus: Explain what is being tested in each track.
- Define the term 'vector' (in reference to its use in an HIV vaccine).
Bonus: What is a replicating vector?
- What is an adjuvant, as used in an HIV vaccine?
Bonus: What adjuvants are being tested in P5 trials?
- As of 2015, which adenovirus vectors are being carried forward as components of vaccines for clinical development?
- What is the meaning of passive immunization?
- How does passive immunization differ from administration of a preventive vaccine?
- How many bNAbs have gone through or are currently in human testing, as of April 2015?
Bonus: Name the bNAbs.