

Invasive Meningococcal Disease in Canada: Identifying Research Priorities by Virtual Round Table

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Disclosure Statement

Disclosure of Relationship	Company/Organization
I am a member of an Advisory Board or equivalent with a commercial organization.	GSK
I am a member of a Speaker Bureau.	
I have received payment from a commercial organization (including gifts or other consideration or 'in kind' compensation).	No
I hold a patent for a product referred to in the CME/CPD program or that is marketing by a commercial organization	No
I hold a patent for a product referred to in the CME/CPD program or that is marketing by a commercial organization	No
I hold investments in a pharmaceutical organization, medical devices company or communications firms.	No
I am currently participating in or have participated in a clinical trial within the past two years.).	Merck GSK Novartis Sanofi Pasteur

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

- 3 different types of meningococcal vaccines are available in Canada to prevent invasive meningococcal disease (IMD).
- Program decision-makers must decide what is most cost effective programs to implement
- To make decisions and evaluate on-going programs decision-makers need data
- The objective of Research Round Table (RRT) was to identify and prioritize current research priorities for IMD control in Canada using a virtual RRT



METHODS

- November, 2013 a planning committee was formed of meningococcal experts
- Program received CME accreditation with appropriate COI disclosures
- Canadian researchers, decision-makers, immunization providers, manufacturers and other stakeholders invited to participate in person or web-cast
- 4 presentations
 - Global Meningococcal Disease Prevention
 - Canadian Research on Epidemiology, Surveillance & Carriage
 - Canadian Vaccine Acceptance
 - Canadian Economic Modeling



METHODS

- Followed up presentations with questions and opportunity to identify research priorities
- Speakers and participants identified research priorities prior to, during and after the presentations
- All participants invited to participate in an on-line survey to rank the identified research priorities using a five-points Likert-scale. Average score was computed to rank the research priorities



RESULTS

- 127 registered for session
- 72 signed into web-cast
- 29 attended in person
- 28 research priorities were identified
- 21 participants ranked the priorities
 - Unknown denominator
- In feedback only 1/30 complained about industry registering as participants



Overall Rankings

1. Effectiveness of MeningB vaccine in routine use

Overall	University	Government	Industry
4.62	4.64	4.67	4.50

2. Duration of protection of MeningB by age group

Overall	University	Government	Industry
4.33	4.55	4.00	4.25



Overall Rankings

3. Molecular epidemiology of MeningB strains, especially from vaccine failures and outbreaks

Overall	University	Government	Industry
4.32	4.50	3.80	4.50

4. Effect of MeningB on carriage, potential for herd immunity

Overall	University	Government	Industry
4.29	4.64	4.17	3.50



Overall Rankings

5. Protocols to facilitate research during MeningB outbreaks including the role of density of colonization and herd immunity.

Overall	University	Government	Industry
4.05	4.00	3.83	4.50

6. Potential of MeningB cross-protection against other meningococcal sero-groups

Overall	University	Government	Industry
4.00	4.09	3.83	4.00



Overall Rankings

7. Basis for MeningB vaccine failures

Overall	University	Government	Industry
3.95	4.00	4.00	3.67

8. Significance of fever, potential febrile seizures, acetaminophen use. Possible increase in health care utilization for adverse effects following MeningB immunization

Overall	University	Government	Industry
3.95	3.82	4.00	4.25



Overall Rankings

9. Enhanced PCR diagnostics for MeningB strain monitoring

Overall	University	Government	Industry
3.95	4.10	3.60	4.00

10. Potential dose sparing of MeningB, alternative schedules e.g. 2+1 infant schedule, non-inferior to a 3+1 schedule?

Overall	University	Government	Industry
3.90	3.91	3.50	4.50



Overall Rankings

11. Monitoring rate of febrile seizures after infant immunization with MeningB vaccine

Overall	University	Government	Industry
3.90	3.55	4.50	4.00

12. Best integrated use of other available meningococcal vaccines

Overall	University	Government	Industry
3.86	3.64	4.50	3.50



CONCLUSIONS

- Virtual RRT provided an opportunity for a diverse group of experts and stakeholders to identify and rank research priorities
- Process is an important step towards determining optimal use of meningococcal vaccines within Canada
- Method used is feasible, economical and allows for broader input on planning research agendas for new vaccines in a geographically large country



CONCLUSIONS

- Such activities can be used by decision-makers and funding agencies to help with the prioritizing needs
 - It was an inclusive process
 - BUT the participation in priority setting was low
 - Is this a useful tool for research priority setting?
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- **The Research Round Table can still be viewed at the CAIRE website under Archived courses and lectures, www.caire.ca**

