ALVAC®-HIV and AIDSVAX® B/E Prime-Boost HIV-1 Preventive Vaccine Regimen

Final Results of the Phase III Community-based Trial in Thailand

Supachai Rerks-Ngarm, Punnee Pittisutthithum, Sorachai Nitayaphan, Jaranit Kaewkungwal, Joseph Chiu, Merlin Robb, Robert Paris, Arthur Brown, Elizabeth Adams, Sanjay Gurunathan, Donald Francis, Chirasak Khamboonruang, Prasert Thongcharoen, Nelson L. Michael, Prayura Kunasol, Jerome Kim

for the MOPH-TAVEG Collaboration















The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

Vaccination with ALVAC and AIDSVAX to Prevent HIV-1 Infection in Thailand

Supachai Rerks-Ngarm, M.D., Punnee Pittisutthithum M.D., D.T.M.H., Sorachai Nitayaphan, M.D., Ph.D., Jaranit Kaewkungwal Ph.D., Joseph Chiu, M.D., Robert Paris, M.D., Nakorn Premsri, M.D., Chawetsan Namwat, M.D., Mark de Souza, Ph.D., Elizabeth Adams, M.D., Michael Benenson, M.D., Sanjay Gurunathan, M.D., Jim Tartaglia, Ph.D., John G. McNeil, M.D., Donald P. Francis, M.D., D.Sc., Donald Stablein, Ph.D., Deborah L. Birx, M.D., Supamit Chunsuttiwat, M.D., Chirasak Khamboonruang, M.D., Prasert Thongcharoen, M.D., Ph.D., Merlin L. Robb, M.D., Nelson L. Michael, M.D., Ph.D., Prayura Kunasol, M.D., and Jerome H. Kim, M.D., for the MOPH–TAVEG Investigators*

RV 144

- Trial Objectives and Design
- Demographics
- Results

Trial Objectives

Primary

- To determine whether immunization with ALVAC ®-HIV (vCP1521) boosted by AIDSVAX® B/E gp120 B/E protects Thai volunteers from HIV infection.
- To determine effect of immunization on viral load after intercurrent infection.

Secondary

- To determine effect of immunization on CD4 cell count after inter-current infection.
- To confirm the safety of this vaccine combination.
- To evaluate whether participation is associated with behavior change increasing risk of HIV infection.

Co-primary Endpoints

- Acquisition Endpoint
 - > ~50% reduction in the relative risk of infection

- Viral Load Endpoint or early Viremia
 - 0.4-log HIV RNA reduction

Study Vaccines

ALVAC®-HIV (vCP1521)

Recombinant canarypox vector vaccine genetically engineered to express HIV-1 gp120 (subtype E: 92TH023) linked to the transmembrane anchoring portion of gp41 (subtype B: LAI), and HIV-1 gag and protease (subtype B: LAI).

AIDSVAX® B/E

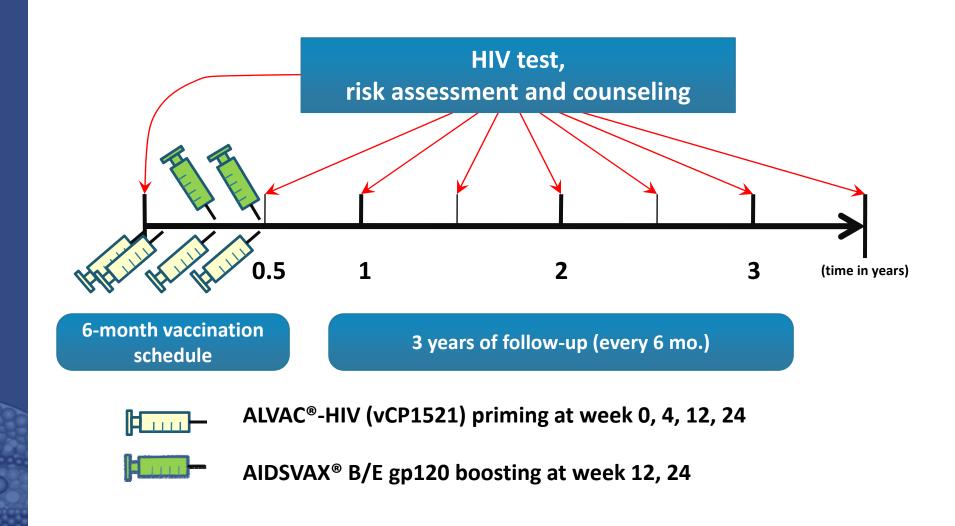
5

 Bivalent HIV gp120 envelope glycoprotein vaccine containing a subtype E envelope from the HIV-1 strain CM244 and a subtype B envelope from the HIV-1 strain MN.

Design

- Community-based, randomized, double-blind, placebocontrolled trial (vaccine: placebo 1:1)
- Volunteers: HIV negative, 18-30 years of age
- Excluded: chronic disease, pregnancy or breastfeeding
- 6-month period of study vaccinations
- HIV testing every 6 months for 3 years post-vaccination

Vaccination and Follow-up Schedule



Important Milestones

24 September 2003 Screening began

20 October 2003 First vaccination

30 December 2005 Enrollment completed

31 July 2006 Vaccination completed

July 2007 DSMB Interim Analysis (based on mITT statistical

plan)

Spring 2009 Communication Plan finalized

Commitment to ensuring that the Thai people

would be the first to learn the outcome

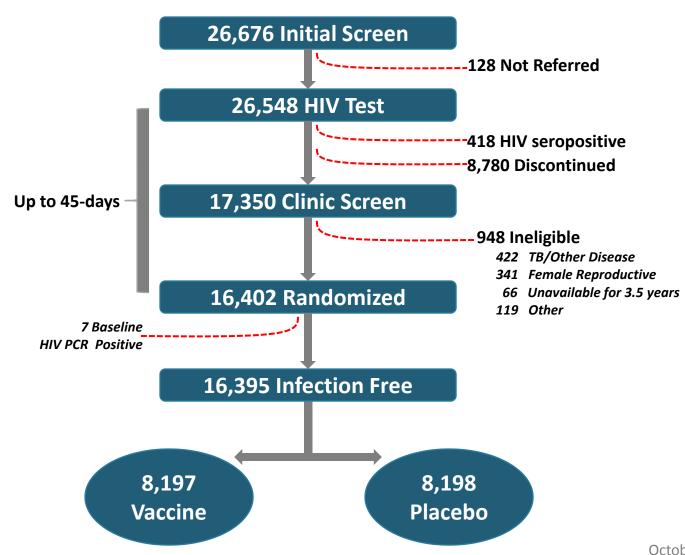
irrespective of the final result

June 2009 Study Follow-up Complete

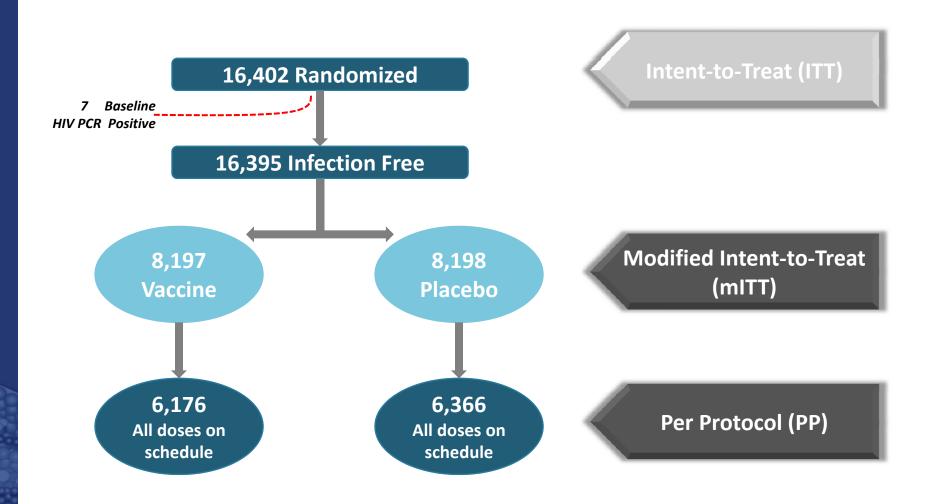
RV 144

- Trial Objectives and Design
- Demographics
- Results

From Screening to Vaccination



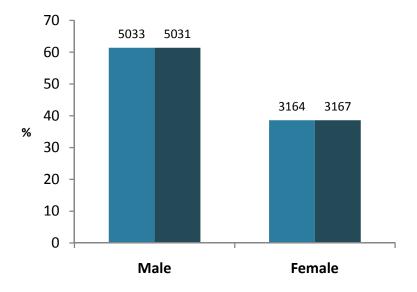
Definition of Analytical Methods

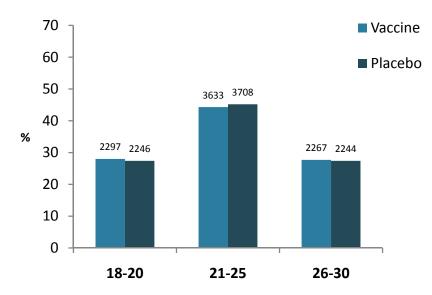


Baseline Demographics

Gender

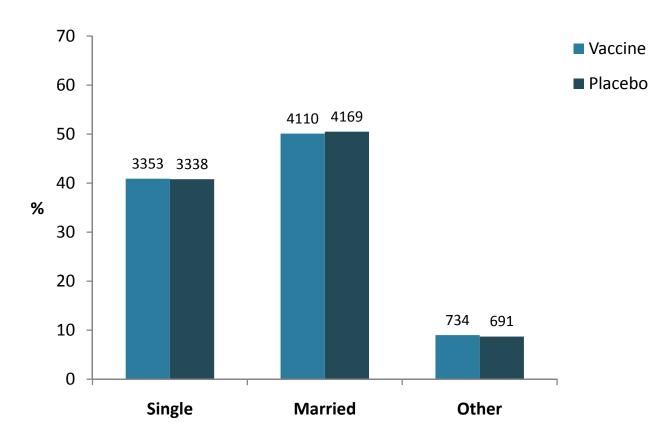
Age





Baseline Demographics

Marital Status



Other: Widowed, Separated, Divorced

Definition of Risk Behavior

- High Risk: Self-assessment as high risk OR self-report of one or more high-risk behavior(s) in the previous six months
 - Needle-sharing
 - STI symptoms
 - Sex with HIV-positive partner
 - No condom use during highrisk encounters

- Occupation entertainment
- Occupation CSW
- Jail drug injection
 - Multiple sex partners

Baseline Demographics

Sexual Partner Frequency	Vaccine n (%)	Placebo n (%)
0 Sex Partners	1864 (22.7)	1801 (22.0)
1 Sex Partner	5428 (66.2)	5495 (67.0)
>1 Sex Partners	619 (7.6)	620 (7.6)
No Answer	280 (3.4)	273 (3.3)
Missing Value	6 (0.1)	9 (0.1)

Other Risk Behaviors (from a list of 8 criteria)

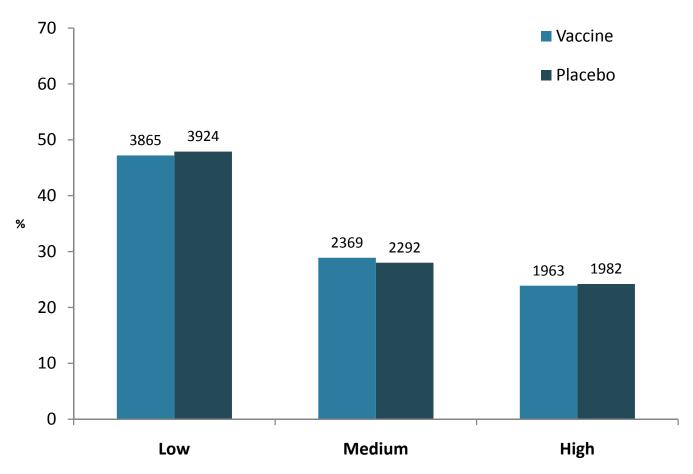
Same-gender partner	184 (2.2%)	182 (2.2%)
Needle-sharing	68 (0.8%)	65 (0.8%)

Definition of Risk Behavior

- Low Risk
 - Self-assessment as low risk AND self report of no high-risk behavior in the previous six months
- Medium Risk
 - Neither low risk nor high risk (as defined above)

Baseline Demographics

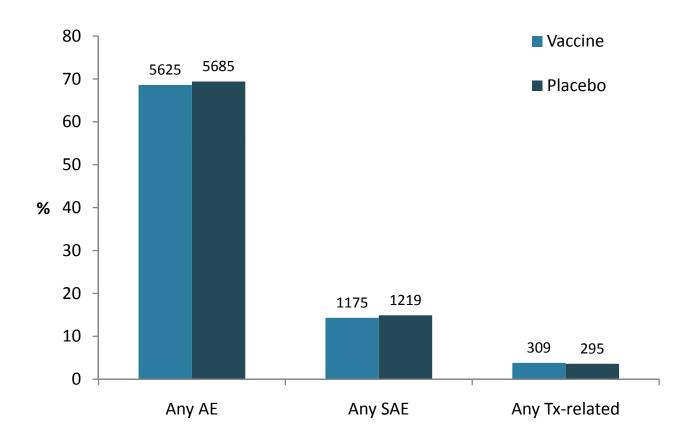
Risk Behavior



RV 144

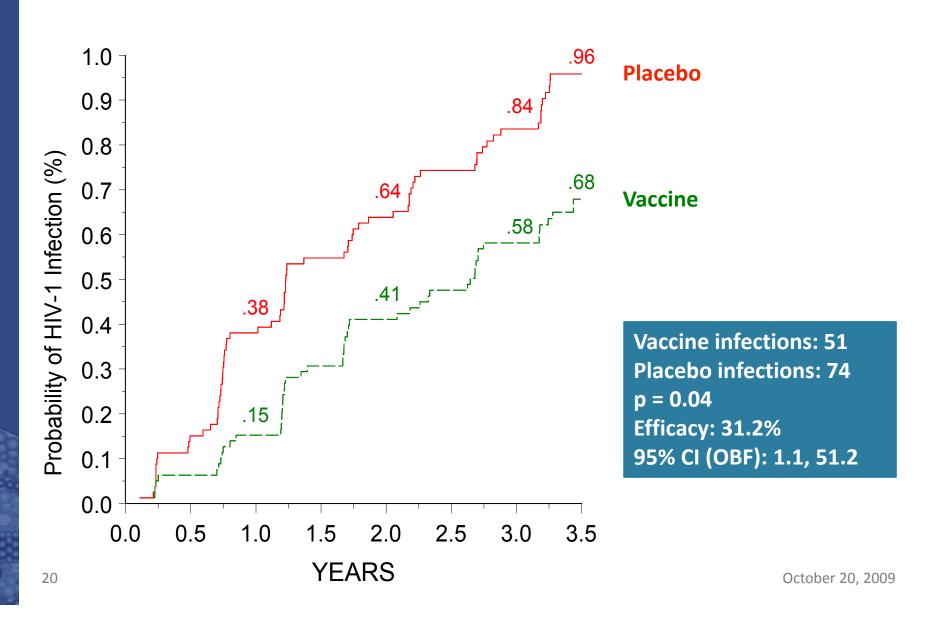
- Trial Objectives and Design
- Demographics
- Results

Safety and Reactogenicity

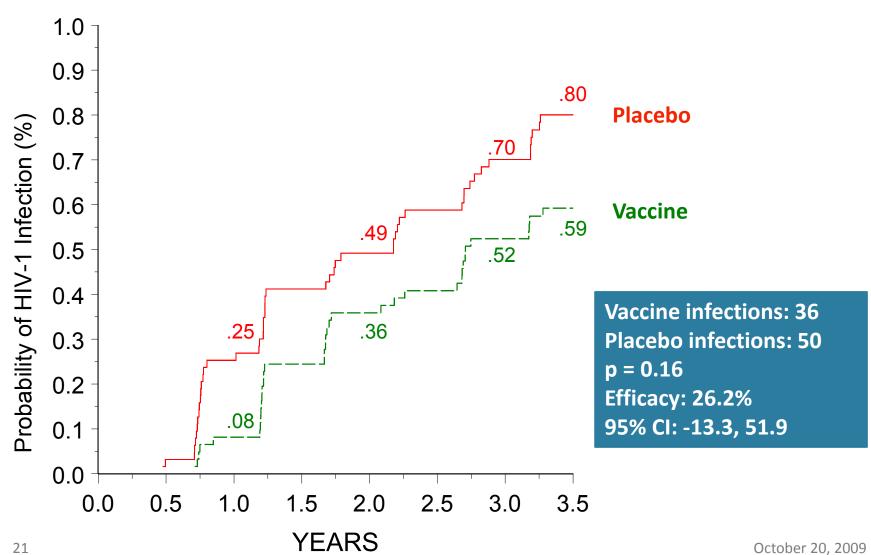


The vaccine regimen was safe and well tolerated.

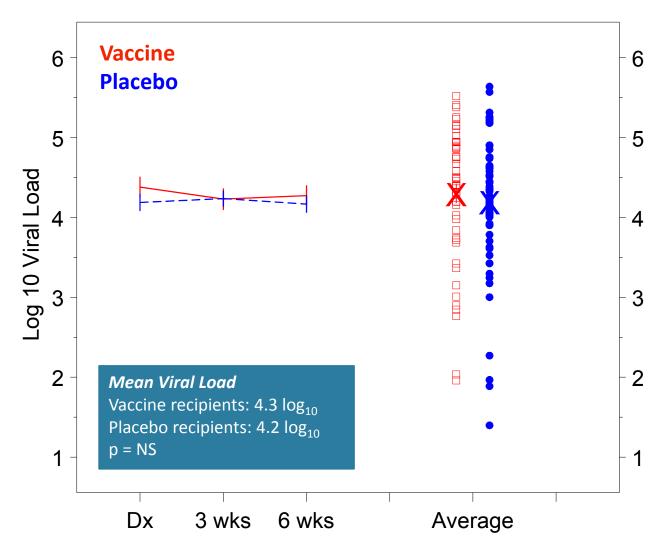
Acquisition Endpoint: Modified Intent-to-Treat (mITT)



Acquisition Endpoint: Per Protocol (PP)



Early Viremia Endpoint



Conclusions

- 1. The observed vaccine efficacy in the mITT analysis was 31.2% [p = 0.04, 95% CI (OBF) 1.1, 52.1].
- 2. PP and mITT results were qualitatively consistent.
- 3. There is no difference in early viremia between vaccine and placebo recipients.
- 4. The vaccine regimen is safe and well tolerated.
- 5. Self-reported behavioral risk was the same in vaccine and placebo groups.

Acknowledgements

- RV144 volunteers and community members
- AFRIMS US and Thai Component
- Division of AIDS, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH
- Faculty of Tropical Medicine, Mahidol University
- Global Solutions for Infectious Diseases
- Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine
- Ministry of Public Health, Thailand
- sanofi pasteur
- U.S. Military HIV Research Program, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research; U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command