

DENGUE VIRUS VACCINES

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Dengue virus is a flavivirus that is transmitted by mosquito



Rathore APS & St. John AL. Cross-Reactive Immunity Among Flaviviruses. Front. Immunol., 26 February 2020

Most DENV cases in the USA are travel-related, but there is local transmission in Florida and US Territories



US States

DENV infection typically causes a febrile illness

Symptoms of **DENGUE**

World Health Organization Western Pacific Region

The most common symptom of dengue is high fever (40°C/ 104°F) usually accompanied by two or more of the following symptoms:





Headache

and





Joint, bone or muscle pains



Symptoms of dengue (who.int)

DENV infection can advance to more severe disease

Symptoms of **DENGUE**

World Health Organization Western Pacific Region

The most common symptom of dengue is high fever (40°C/ 104°F) usually accompanied by two or more of the following symptoms:



Swollen glands

and the



Headache Pain behind the eyes





Joint, bone or muscle pains



Nausea, vomiting

Severe DENGUE



People who get sick with dengue may develop severe dengue which can be deadly. **WATCH OUT** for the warning signs and symptoms and seek immediate medical care if severe dengue is suspected.

- Severe abdominal pain
 Persistent vomiting
- Bleeding gums
- Vomiting blood
- Rapid breathing
- Fatigue/ restlessness

Paracetamol can be taken to bring down fever and pain. Avoid aspirin and ibuprofen.

Symptoms of dengue (who.int)

Severe dengue (who.int)

Treatment for DENV is primarily supportive care

Oral or IV hydration



Fatality Rate



Only a small fraction of DENV infections lead to severe disease



There are many factors that influence the clinical severity of dengue infection



TM Sharp, et al. Lancet Infect Dis. 2022 Feb;22(2):e42-e51.

Antibody-dependent enhancement has been a major challenge for development of DENV vaccines



TM Sharp, et al. Lancet Infect Dis. 2022 Feb;22(2):e42-e51.

The risk of severe DENV disease increases upon secondary infection and decreases thereafter



referred to as Antibody-Dependent Enhancement (ADE)

DENV is a complicated target with 4 serotypes



Flaviviruses take multiple forms



Flaviviruses are moving targets

Viral "Breathing"



Courtesy of Ted Pierson

Flaviviruses are moving targets

Viral "Breathing"



Recognition of these different forms is a high bar for antibodies



Courtesy of Ted Pierson

All antibodies can enhance, but poorly neutralizing antibodies have a higher potential for enhancement

Amount of Antibody

Strength of Antibody Binding

Binding Site Availability on Virus



All antibodies can enhance, but poorly neutralizing antibodies have a higher potential for enhancement



All antibodies can enhance, but poorly neutralizing antibodies have a higher potential for enhancement



In vitro systems and animal models do not recapitulate human outcomes



Despite the complexity, DENV vaccines will prevent significant illness and morbidity

DENGUE VIRUS VACCINES

Flavivirus surface proteins are highly ordered and the major target of neutralizing antibodies



Side View



Virus Particle



Top Down

The most advanced DENV candidates are quadrivalent live-attenuated vaccines



Virus growth in people



Do not cause disease



One for each serotype

The most advanced DENV candidates are quadrivalent live-attenuated vaccines



The 3 live-attenuated DENV vaccines use different backbones



Dengvaxia elicits a different hierarchy of serotypespecific efficacy and enhances risk in seronegatives



Adapted from: L Wilkens et al. Pathogens 2020, 9(6), 470

Efficacy and safety of Dengvaxia differs between DENV naïve and DENV experienced people



Dengvaxia vaccination of seronegative people acts like a first DENV Exposure



The live-attenuated DENV vaccines elicit a different hierarchy of serotype-specific efficacy



Adapted from: L Wilkens et al. Pathogens 2020, 9(6), 470

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Key Take-aways

- Severe DENV infection is rare but serious
 - Severity of DENV infection is multifactorial
 - Including complex antibody response
- DENV vaccines prevent significant morbidity
- Live-attenuated DENV vaccines are Safe and Efficacious in Seropositives
- Safety and efficacy are less clear for Seronegatives, and will need to be evaluated for each vaccine

Questions?

