



BactiVac 7th Annual Network Meeting - Programme

10 – 12 November 2026

Rio Othon Palace Hotel, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

DAY 1 – Tuesday 10 November 2026

Time	Activity
08:30	Registration and refreshments
Session name: Infection and vaccine landscape in South America	
09:00	BactiVac Network opening address <i>Prof Adam Cunningham, BactiVac Network Director, UK</i>
09:10	Fiocruz opening address <i>Speaker TBC</i>
09:20	Contextualising the bacterial infectious burden in South America <i>Lely Stella Guzman Barrera, International Advisor on Immunisation, Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO), Brazil</i>
09:50	Local Surveillance, Global Goals: tracking Group A and B Streptococcus in Rio de Janeiro <i>Prof Tatiana Pinto, Associate Professor, Instituto de Microbiologia, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>
10:20	Refreshment break
10:50	Group photo
11:00	Speed networking session
12:00	Lunch
Session name: Vaccines against challenging pathogens	
13:00	Antistaphylococcal vaccines: A possible dream or a nightmare? Pros e cons of an antistaph vaccine. <i>Dr José Procopio Senna, Senior Research Specialist, Fiocruz, Brazil</i>
13:30	Development of the 9-valent vaccine (ExPEC9V) in preventing invasive <i>E.coli</i> Disease in older adults and the outcome of E.mbrace phase 3 clinical study. <i>Dr Germie van den Dobbelsteen, Executive Director Bacterial Vaccines, Communicable Diseases, J&J Innovative Medicine, The Netherlands</i>
14:00	The current status of vaccines against <i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> <i>Prof Stephen Baker, Principal Scientist, A*STAR Infectious Diseases Labs (A*STAR IDL), Agency for Science, Technology and Research, Singapore</i>
14:30	Opportunities for community led vaccine development: CARB-X <i>Dr Vega Masignani, Alliance Director, CARB-X, Italy</i>
15:00	Panel discussion: Overcoming difficulties against challenging pathogens
15:30	Refreshment break



Session name: Lessons from Streptococcus as an exemplar	
16:00	Particulate pneumococcal vaccines <i>Dr Eliane Miyaji, Research Scientist, Instituto Butantan, Brazil</i>
16:30	Preclinical assessment of non-M protein group A Streptococcal vaccines <i>Prof Mark Walker, Group Leader, Institute for Molecular Bioscience, The University of Queensland, Australia</i>
17:00	Phase III and IV GBS maternal vaccine trials in Africa (PROTECT project) <i>Dr Eve Nakabembe, Senior Obstetrician Gynaecologist, Makerere University College of Health Sciences, Uganda</i>
17:30	<i>Close of day 1 programme</i>
19:00	Conference dinner – The Rio Othon Palace Hotel

DAY 2 – Wednesday 11 November 2026

Time	Activity
Session name: Correlates of protection and approaches to facilitate success	
09:00	The role of correlates of protection in overcoming barriers to vaccine development <i>Dr Deborah King, Vaccines Research Lead, Wellcome Trust, UK</i>
09:30	Assay development in vitro <i>Prof Marcela Pasetti, Professor, Microbiology and Immunology, University of Maryland, USA</i>
10:00	Using NMR spectroscopy to facilitate the development and licensure of multivalent glycoconjugate vaccines <i>Prof Neil Ravenscroft, Emeritus Professor, University of Cape Town, South Africa</i>
10:30	Importance of serum standards as tools to help develop immunoassays and correlates of protection <i>Dr Caroline Vipond, Principal Investigator, Vaccines Research and Development, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), UK</i>
11:00	<i>Refreshment break</i>
Session name: Correlates of protection and approaches to facilitate success	
11:30	Agnostic approaches to vaccine design - developing a pan serovar Salmonella vaccine <i>Prof Ian Henderson, Executive Director, Institute for Molecular Bioscience, University of Queensland, Australia</i>
12:00	Human challenge models <i>Dr Melissa Kapulu, Principal Research Investigator, KEMRI-Wellcome Trust, Kenya</i>
12:30	Establishing and extending challenge models to understand correlates of protection <i>Speaker TBC</i>
13:00	Talk Title TBC <i>Speaker TBC</i>



13:30	Panel and audience discussion
14:00	Lunch
Session name: Selected oral presentations	
15:00	Oral presentations from selected poster abstracts <i>See Appendix 1 – to follow</i>
16:00	Refreshment break
Session name: Bridging career paths – supporting the pipeline	
16:30	Panel discussion: From bench to beyond - career journeys in bacterial vaccinology
17:30	Abstract poster viewing session and drinks reception
19:30	Close of day 2 programme

Day 3 – Thursday 12 November 2026

Time	Activity
Session name: Innovation and impact in vaccine manufacturing	
09:00	Technology transfers and their impact: A case study of Biovac’s oral cholera vaccine – made in Africa, tested in Africa, for the world <i>Dr Ebrahim Mohamed, Head of Scientific Working Group, The Biovac Institute, South Africa</i>
09:30	Cross-cutting manufacturing: translating animal vaccine expertise to human vaccines <i>Dr Bernado Lozano-Dubernard, CEO, Avimex, Mexico</i>
10:00	Bharat Biotech: Case studies on developing novel vaccines with clinical endpoints (not immune bridging) <i>Dr Madhu Emmadi, Senior Manager, Bharat Biotech International Limited, India</i>
10:30	Refreshment break
Session name: Enhancing global excellence to deliver the vaccines we need	
11:00	Accessing donor support in vaccine development <i>Dr Helene Bæk Juel, Senior Scientific Manager, Novo Nordisk Foundation, Denmark</i>
11:30	Talk Title TBC Speaker TBC
12:00	Introduction to Global-South led funding initiative: The BRIGHT Fund <i>Dr Sushant Sahastrabudhe, Associate Director General, International Vaccine Institute (IVI), South Korea</i>
12.30	Promoting vaccine development and implementation Speaker TBC



13:00	Lunch
Session name: Evidencing priorities – selling to funders and providers	
14:00	The importance of combination vaccines to reduce anti-microbial resistance <i>Dr Birgitte Giersing, Technical Officer, World Health Organisation (WHO), Switzerland</i>
14:30	Decision making for implementing vaccines <i>Dr Ignacio Esteban, Paediatrician and Epidemiologist, Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation (GAVI), Argentina</i>
15:00	When Vaccines Protect More Than the Vaccinated <i>Dr Senjuti Saha, Deputy Executive Director, Child Health Research Foundation, Bangladesh</i>
15:30	BactiVac Network Closing Address <i>Prof Adam Cunningham, BactiVac Network Director, UK</i>
15:45	Close of Programme