

# Understanding Responses to Polysaccharide and Conjugate Vaccines in infants and adults

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Institute of Child Health,  
University College London  
London

- Biology of encapsulated bacteria and the role of the capsule
- Polysaccharides as vaccine antigens and the development of conjugates
- Pneumococci in the nasopharynx: impact of vaccines on carriage and the influence of exposure to capsule on subsequent vaccine responses
- Pneumococcal disease in the elderly: Biology and Prevention – Conjugate or polysaccharide?

# PAEDIATRIC HANDBOOK

Institute of Child Health  
University of Cape Town

## 14 MENINGITIS

A J G THOMSON

The commonest causes are bacterial and viral; rarely fungal, rickettsial or protozoal. Acute bacterial meningitis occurs more often in the paediatric age group than any other.

### ORGANISMS

Children over 3 months of age *Haemoph, meningoc, Pneumo, TB* 6-24

The overwhelming majority of cases of bacterial meningitis are due to haemophilus influenzae (less so after the age of 3 years), meningococci, and pneumococci. Tuberculous meningitis is not uncommon in South Africa. Its highest incidence is between 6 and 24 months.

Babies under 3 months of age *G-ve, strept (Bhaem Grp B)*

Here coliforms and other enteric bacteria are the commonest organisms as well as streptococci.

### DIAGNOSIS

Early clinical recognition is essential.

Neonate: Specific signs and symptoms are commonly absent and therefore there should be liberal indications for lumbar puncture. Noteworthy features may be poor sucking, hypothermia, apathy, failure to gain weight and apnoeic attacks.

Infants: Fretfulness, high pitched cry, convulsions, vomiting, pyrexia, full or tense fontanelle.

Children: Headache, fever, vomiting, photophobia, neck stiffness, positive Kernig and/or Brudzinski signs.

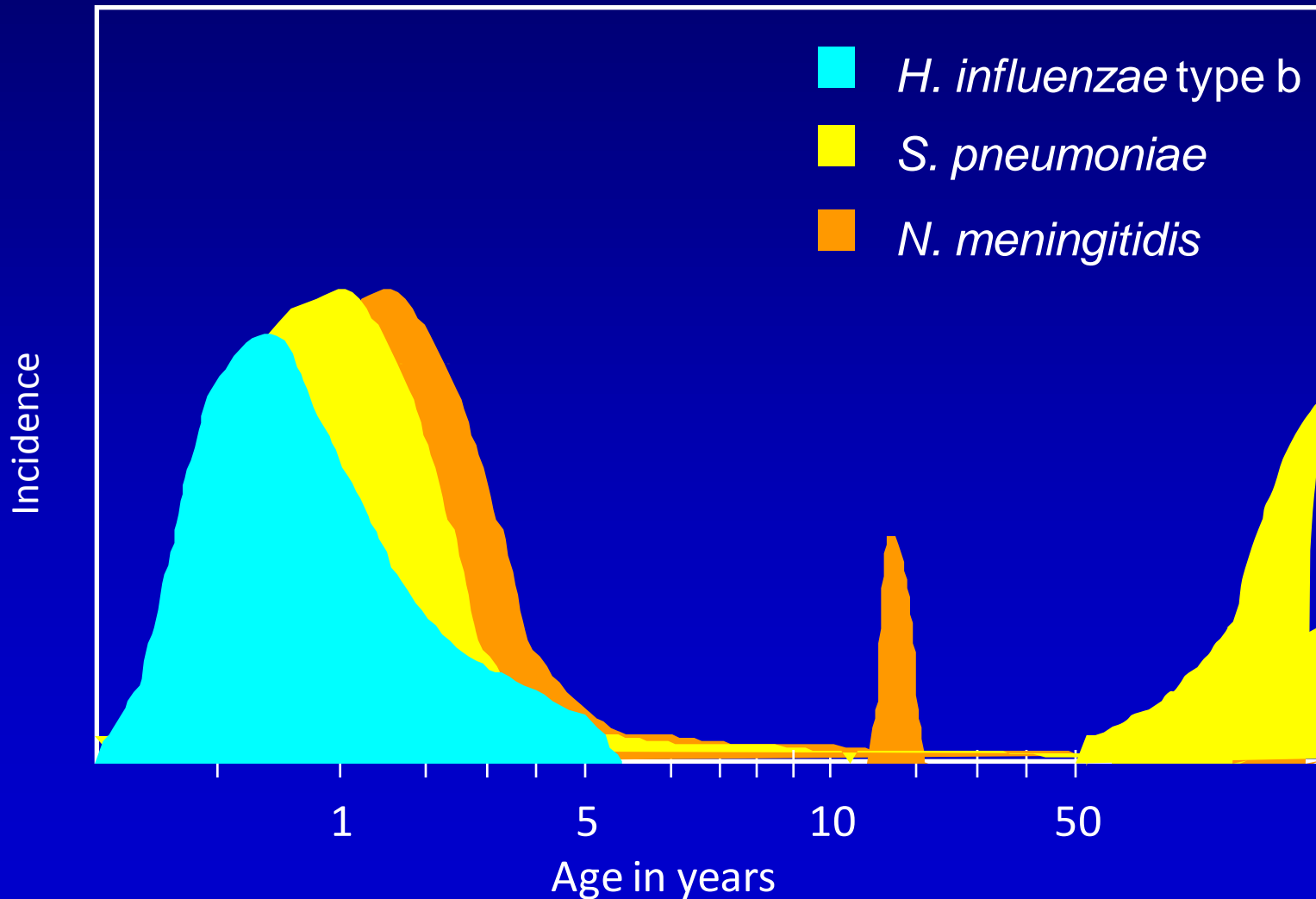
### *Specific laboratory diagnosis*

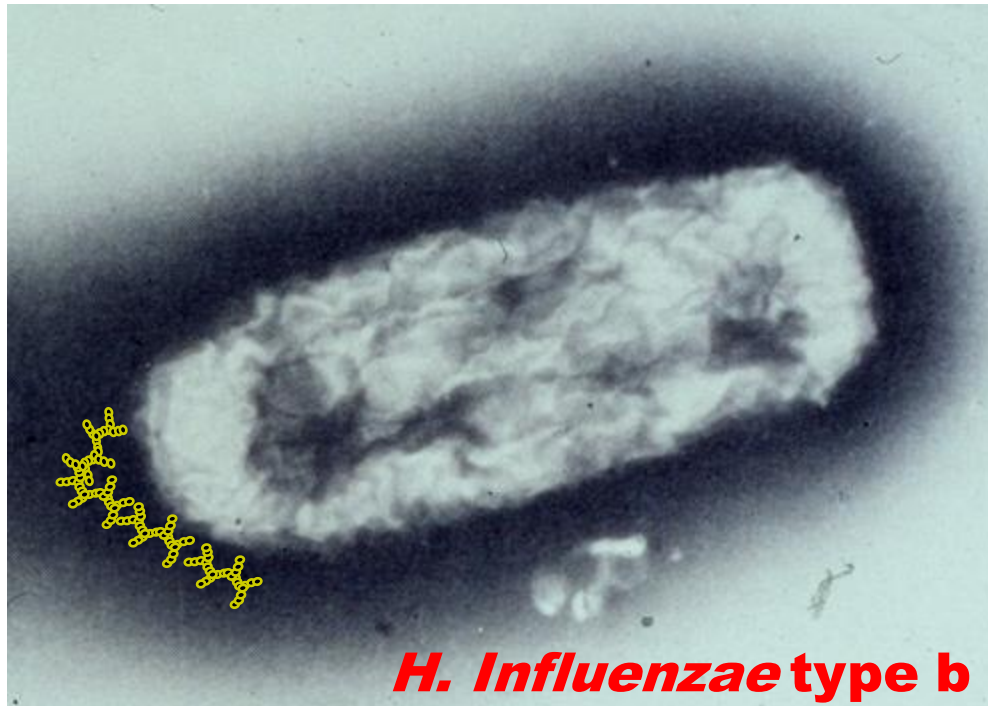
By lumbar puncture, with thorough examination of CSF, including culture and sensitivity of organisms.

Disturbed consciousness is due to cerebral oedema and must be treated at once by reducing the raised intracranial pressure. Use Mannitol and Steroids (see Chapter 15), do blood culture, start antibiotics. No LP for 12 hours. Early death may be from cerebral oedema, not meningitis.

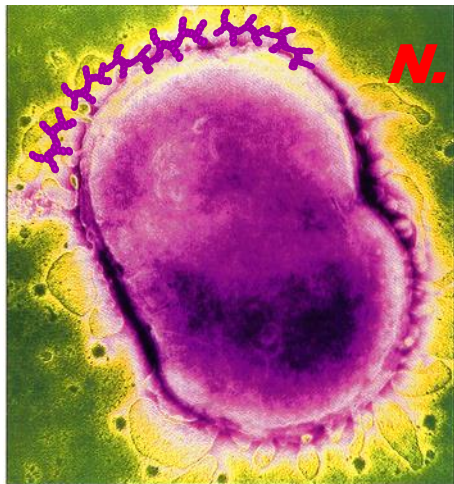
CSF ADA → TB meningitis

# Epidemiology of invasive infection due to *H. influenzae* type b, *N. meningitidis* and *S. pneumoniae*.

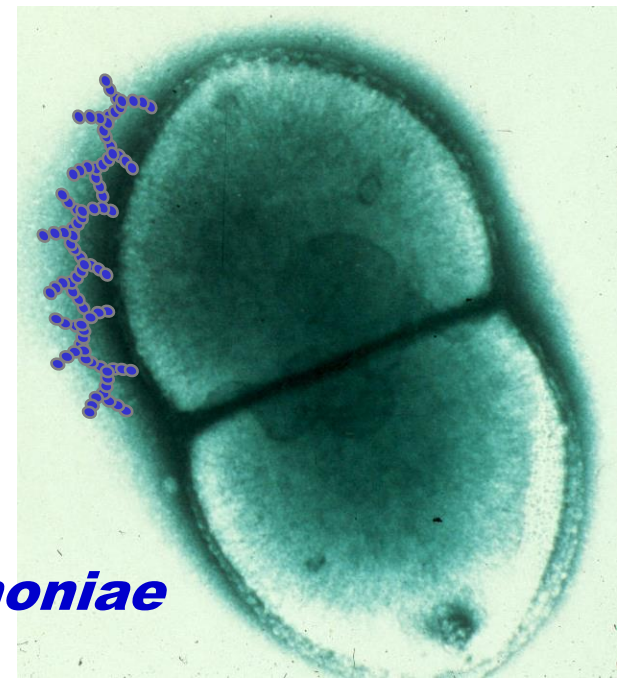




***H. Influenzae type b***

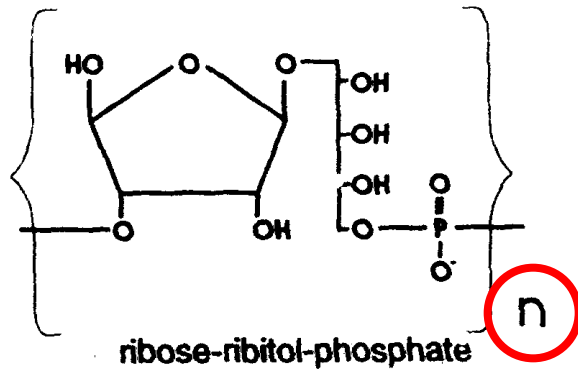


***N. meningitidis***

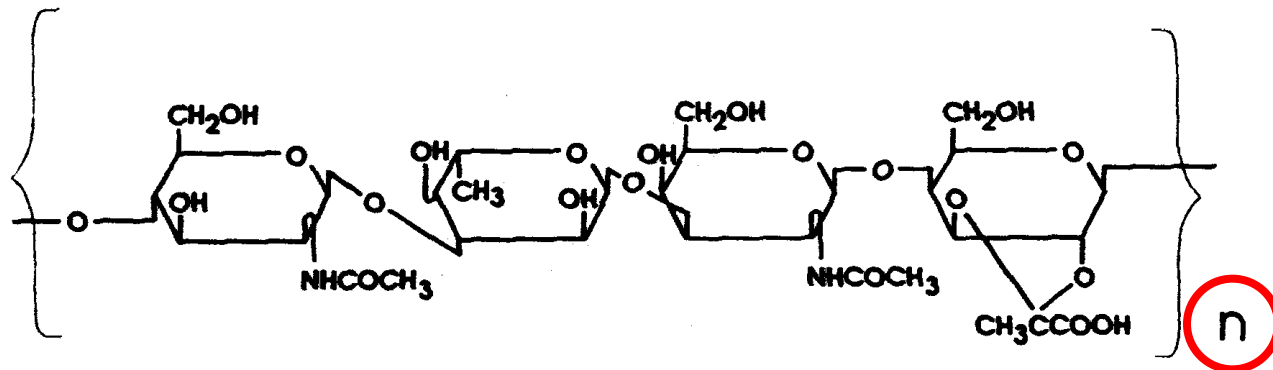


***S. pneumoniae***

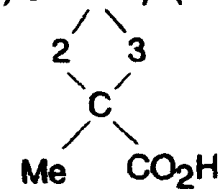
## Haemophilus influenzae type b

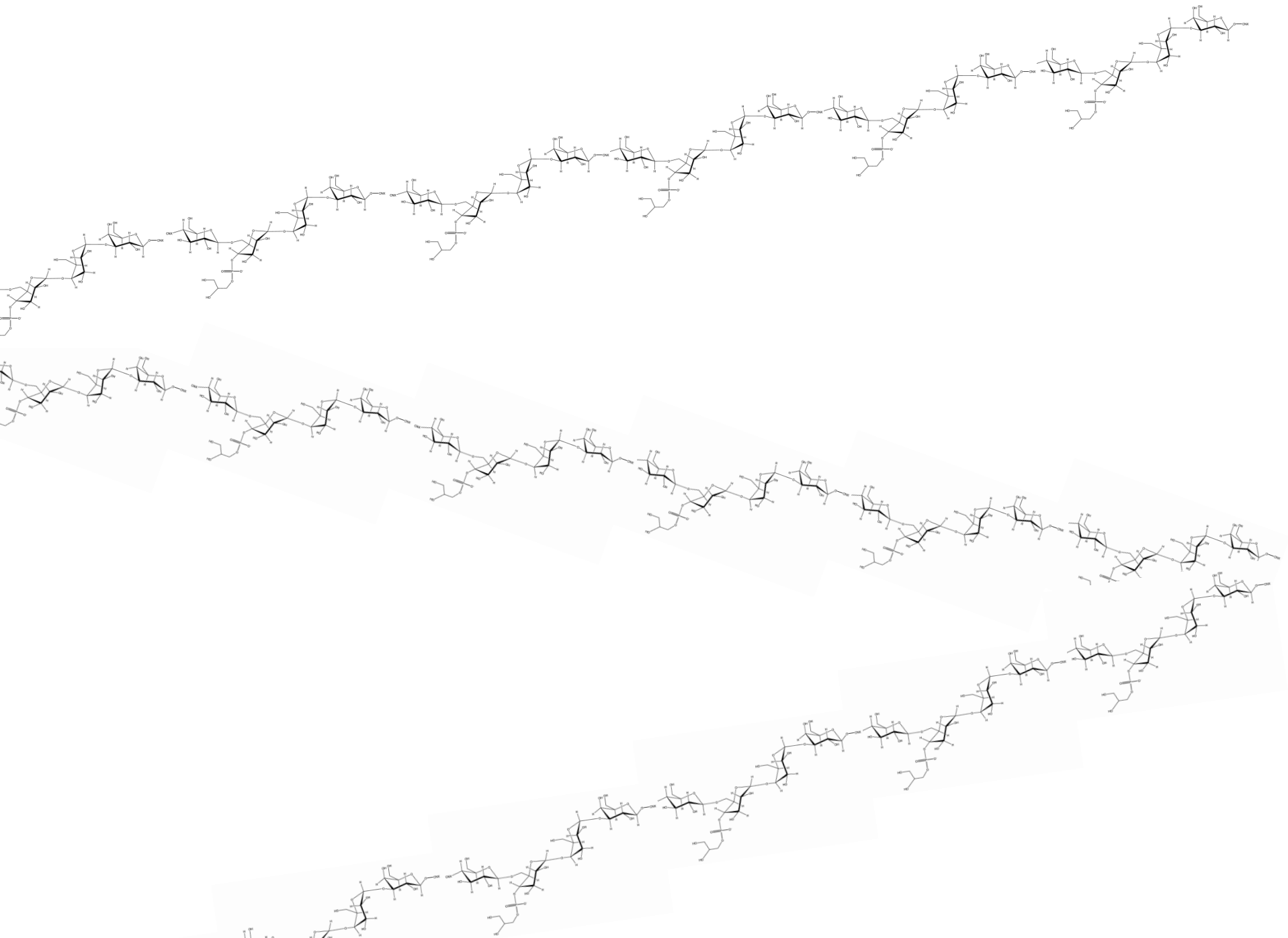


## Streptococcus pneumoniae type 4



$\rightarrow 4$ - $\beta$ -D-ManpNAc-(1-3)- $\alpha$ -L-FucpNAc-(1-3)- $\alpha$ -D-GalpNAc-(1-4)- $\alpha$ -D-Galp(1-



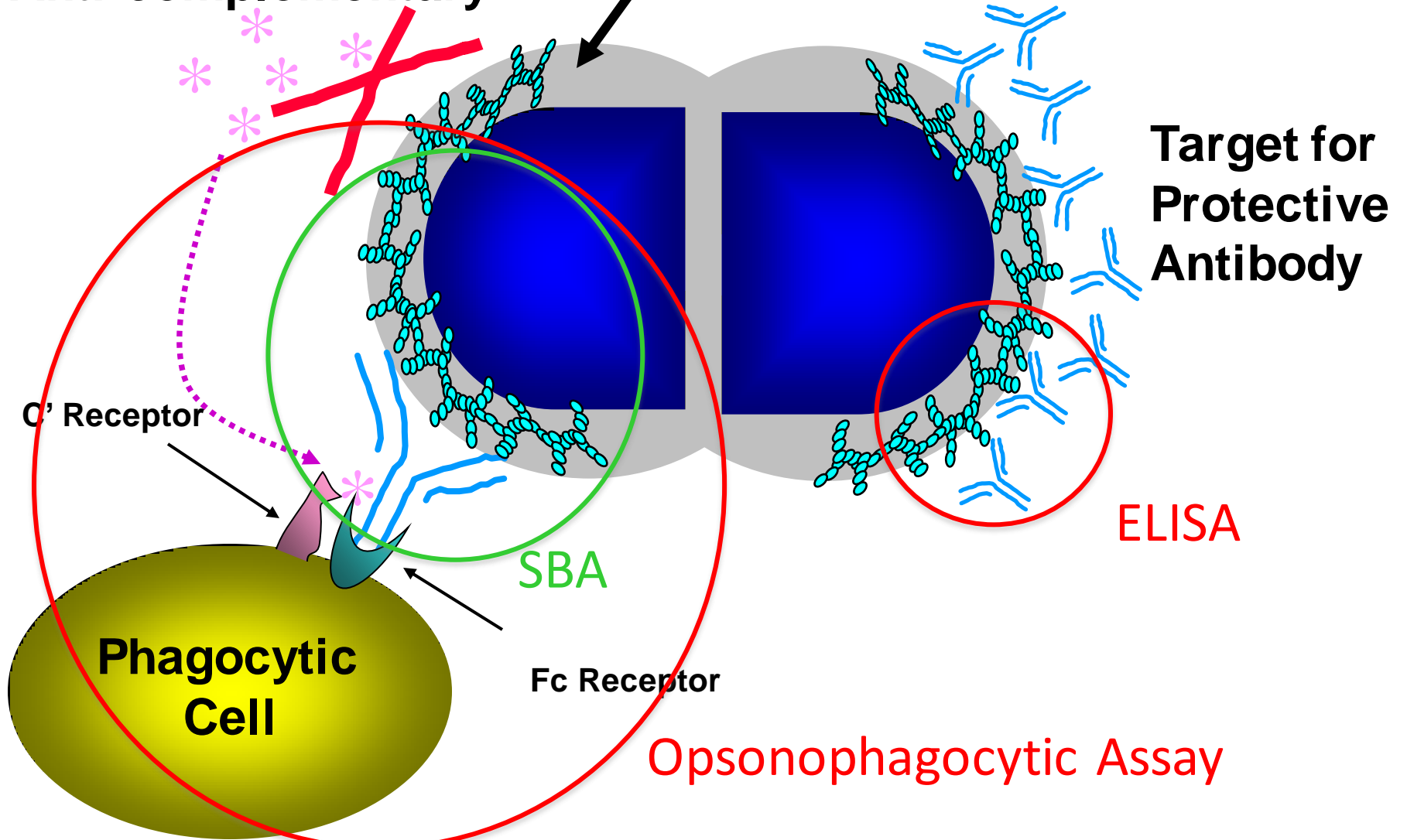


# Capsule = Virulence Factor

(94 different pneumococcal serotypes distinguished by capsule structure)

Anti-complementary

Target for Protective Antibody



C' Receptor

SBA

ELISA

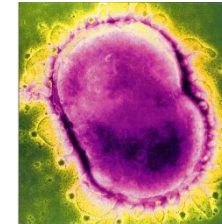
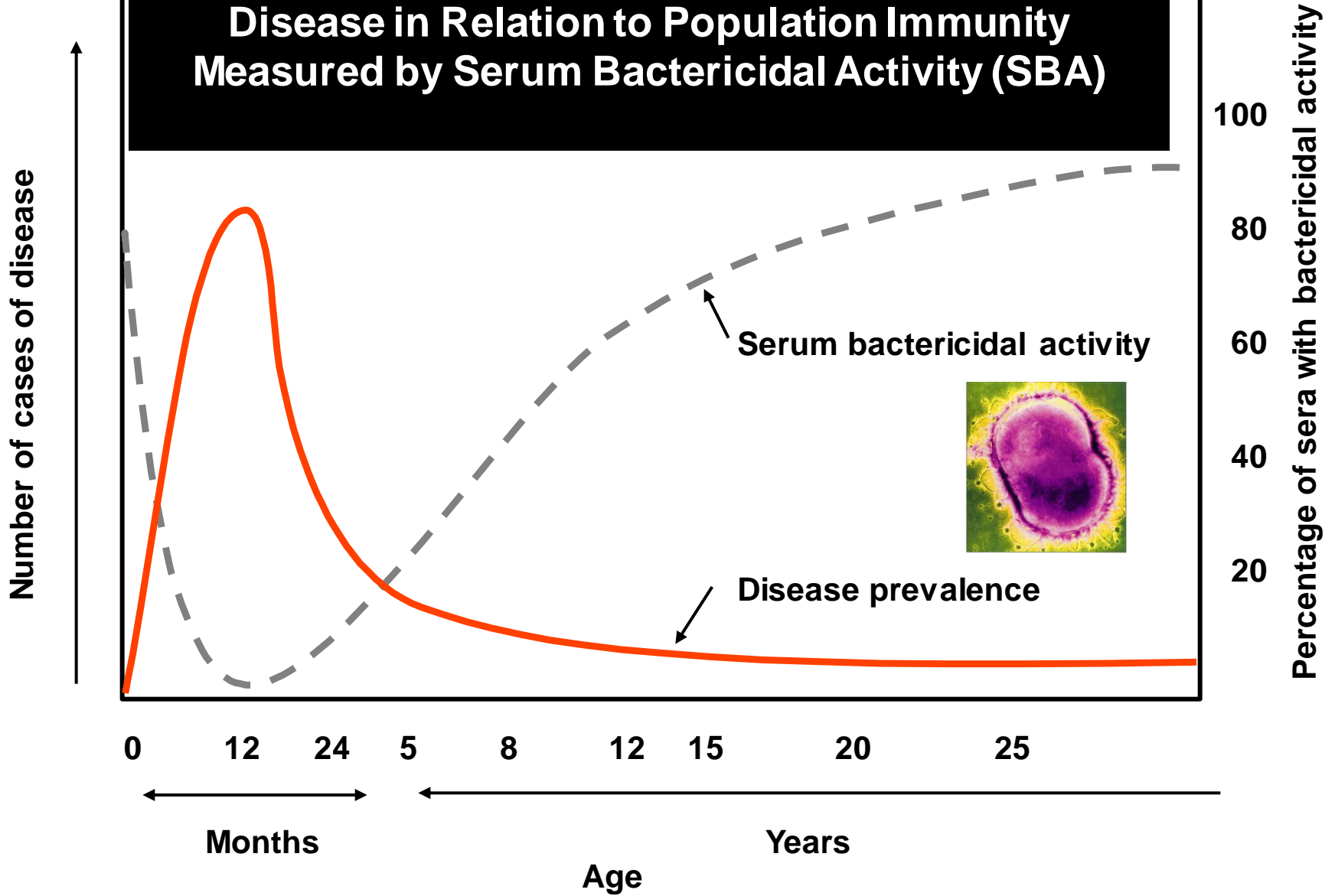
Fc Receptor

Phagocytic Cell

Opsonophagocytic Assay



# The Age-dependent Prevalence of Meningococcal Disease in Relation to Population Immunity Measured by Serum Bactericidal Activity (SBA)



# Effectiveness of Serogroup C Meningococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine: Results from a Case-Control Study in Quebec

Philippe De Wals,<sup>1,2</sup> Geneviève Deceuninck,<sup>3</sup> Gaston De Serres,<sup>1,2</sup> Jean-François Boivin,<sup>4,5</sup> Bernard Duval,<sup>2</sup> Robert Remis,<sup>6</sup> and Richard Massé<sup>2,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Social and Preventive Medicine, Laval University, <sup>2</sup>Quebec National Public Health Institute, and <sup>3</sup>Public Health Research Unit, Quebec University Hospital Centre, Quebec City, <sup>4</sup>Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, McGill University, and <sup>5</sup>Centre for Clinical Epidemiology, Jewish General Hospital, Montreal, and <sup>6</sup>Department of Public Health Sciences, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

**Vaccine Effectiveness (95% CI)**  
**After 0-2 years** **After 3-5 years**

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**6 years**

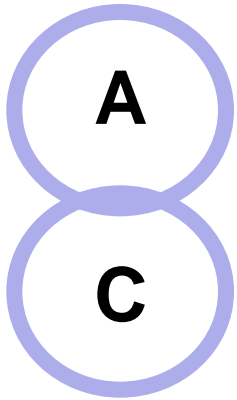
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**2-5 years**

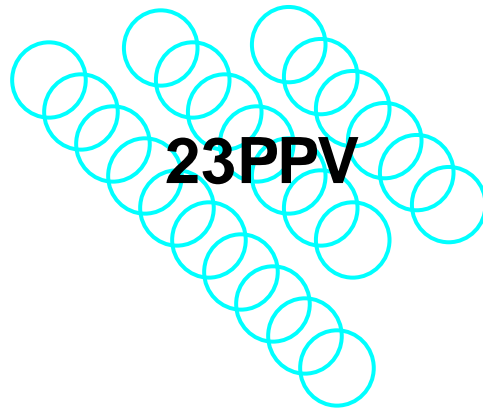
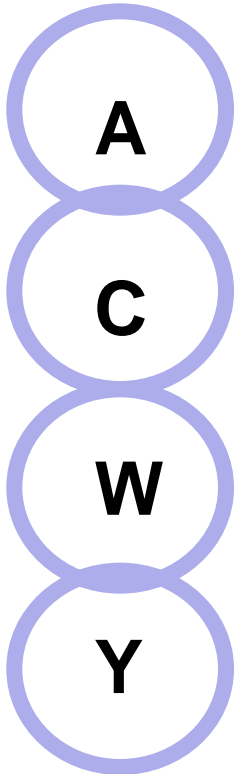
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**< 2**

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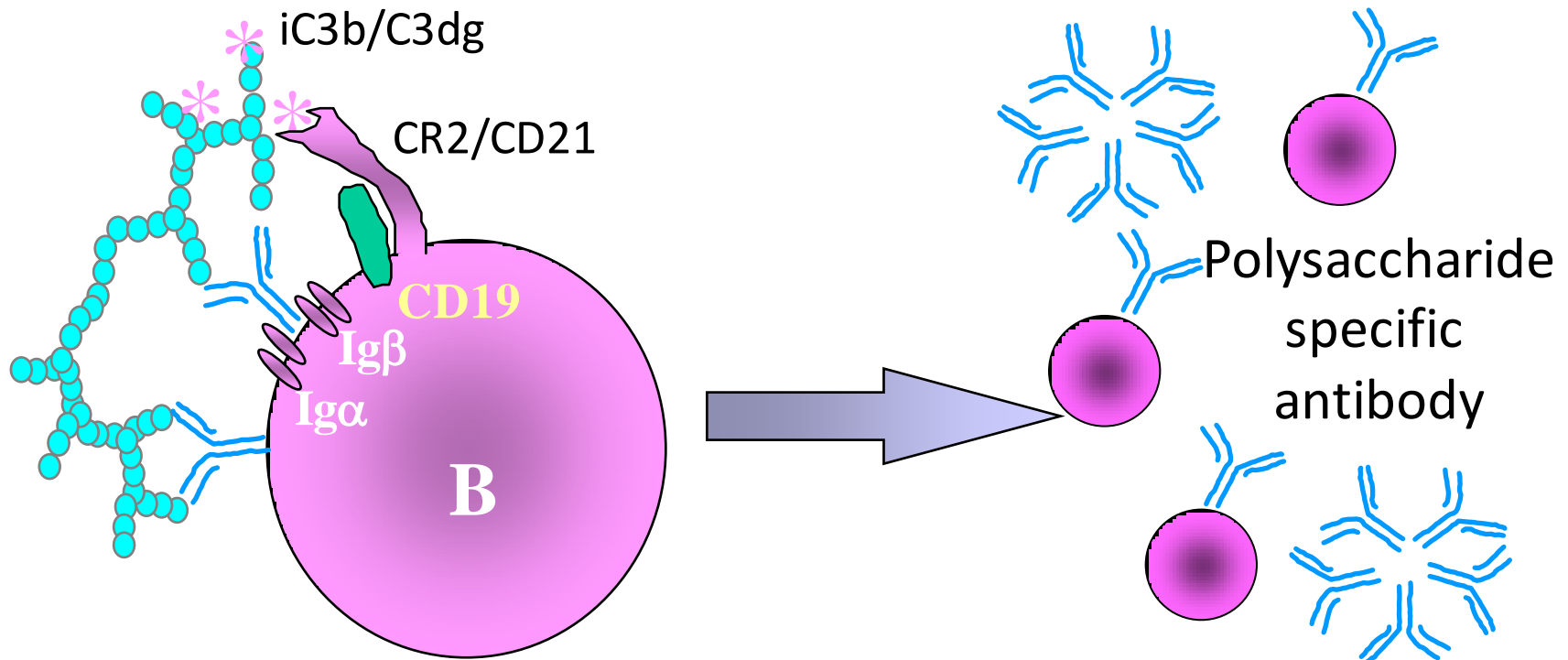


**Licensed  
Capsular  
Polysaccharide  
Vaccines**



LIMITATIONS

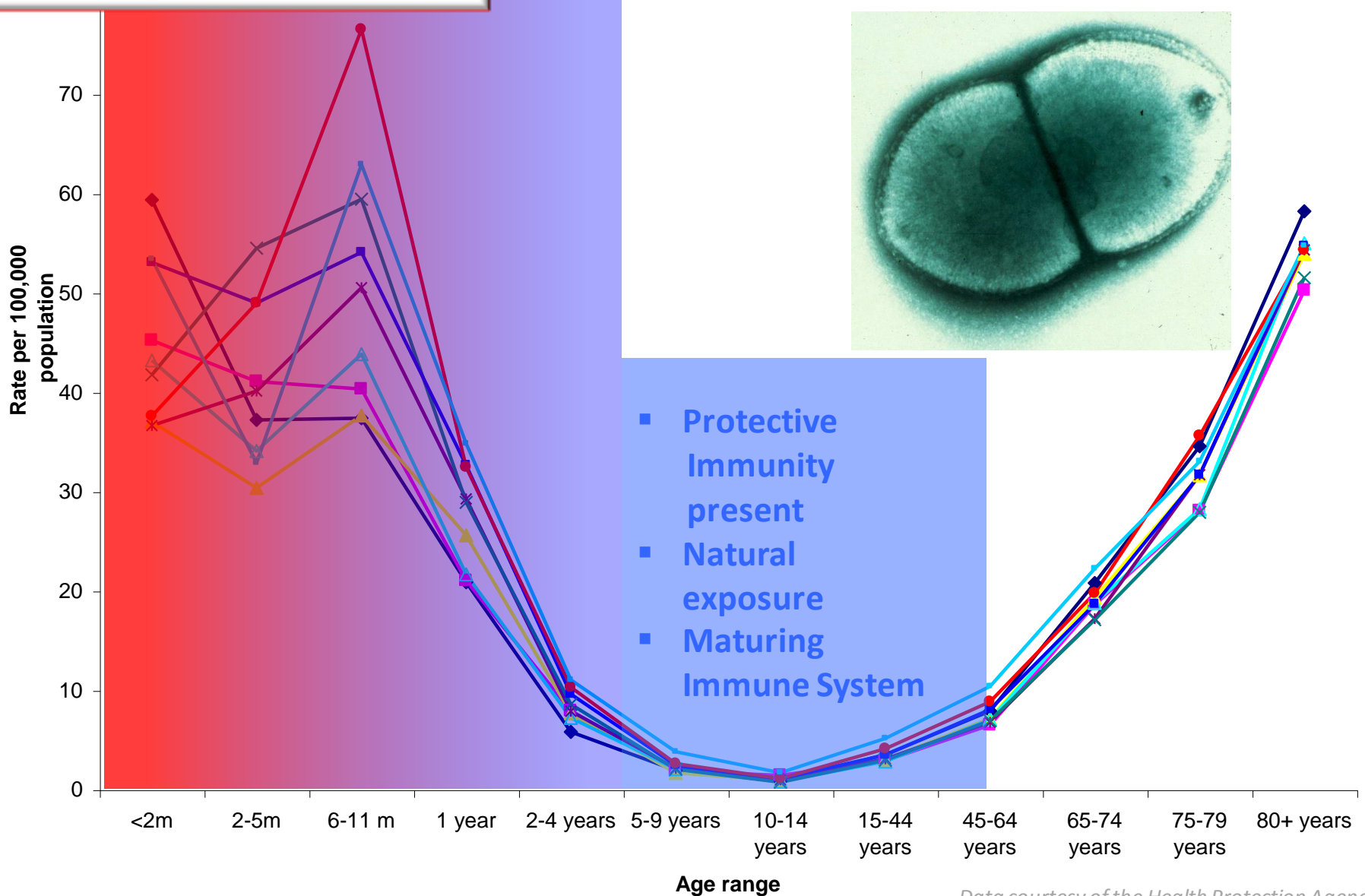
- Generally Poor Ab response  
<2 years of age
- Short Duration of Protection



Purified Polysaccharides (T independent antigens):

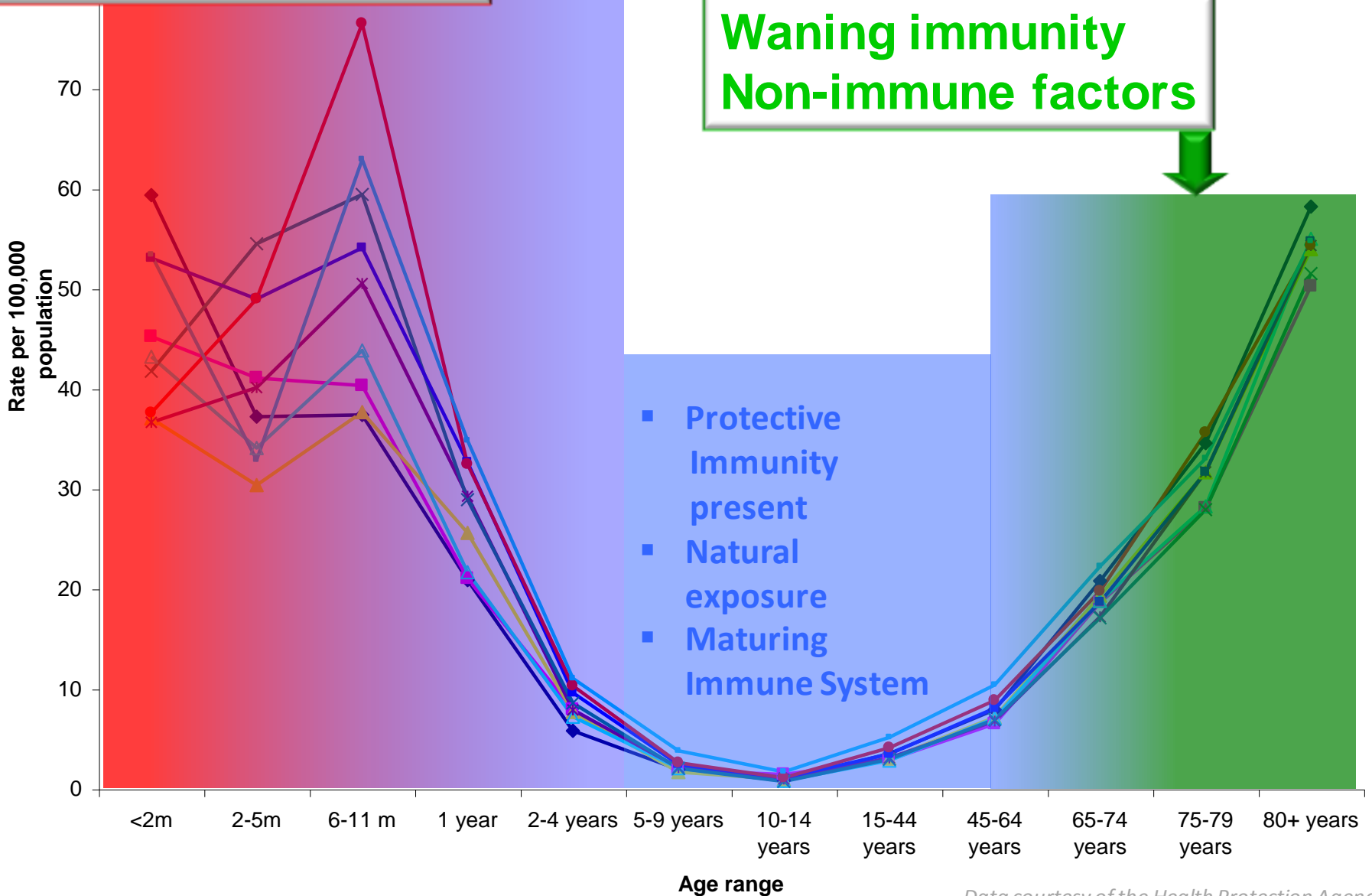
- ◆ Poor B cell response below 2yrs of age  
(absent/poorly developed marginal zones?)
- ◆ Isotype restricted at any age (IgG2)
- ◆ No evidence of B cell memory in humans
- ◆ Possible depletion/inhibition of reactive B cell pool

# Limited immune response to capsule



**Limited immune response to capsule**

**Waning immunity  
Non-immune factors**



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EXPERIMENTAL MEDICINE

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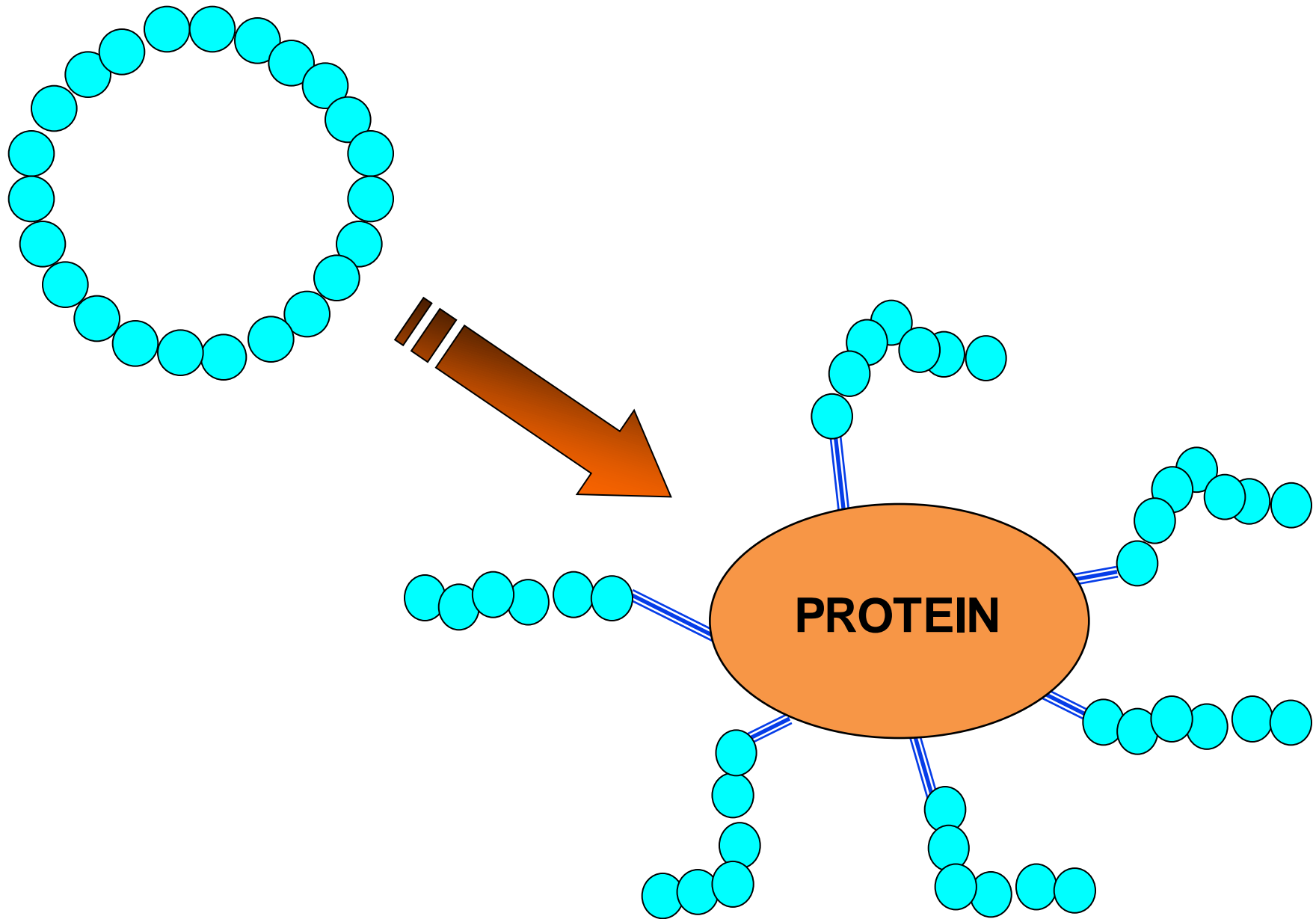
CHEMO-IMMUNOLOGICAL STUDIES ON CONJUGATED  
CARBOHYDRATE-PROTEINS

I. THE SYNTHESIS OF *p*-AMINOPHENOL  $\beta$ -GLUCOSIDE, *p*-AMINOPHENOL  
 $\beta$ -GALACTOSIDE, AND THEIR COUPLING WITH SERUM GLOBULIN

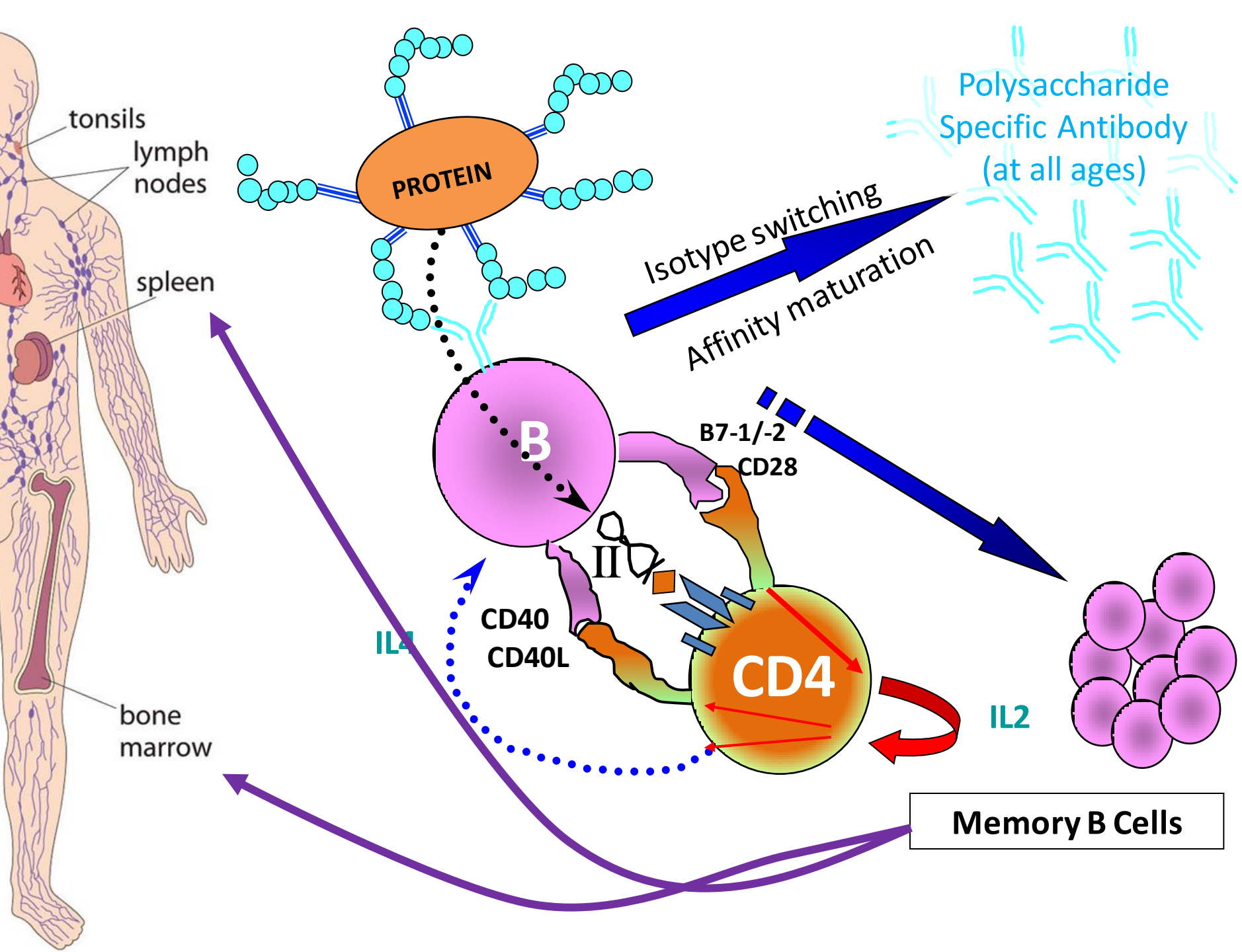
BY WALTHER F. GOEBEL, PH.D., AND OSWALD T. AVERY, M.D.

*(From the Hospital of The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research)*

(Received for publication, June 24, 1929)





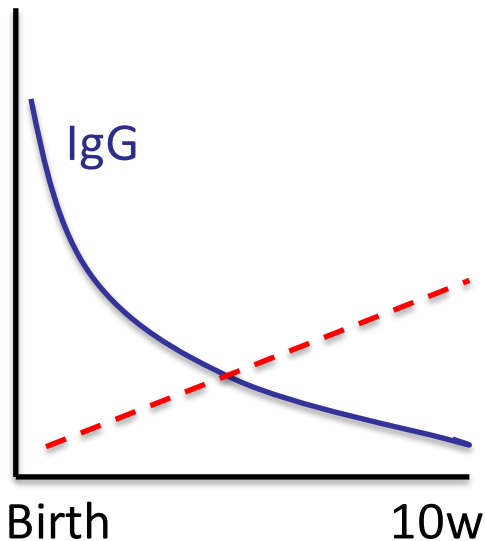


# Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine Given Shortly After Birth Stimulates Effective Antibody Concentrations and Primes Immunological Memory for Sustained Infant Protection

J. Anthony G. Scott,<sup>1,2</sup> John Ojal,<sup>1</sup> Lindsey Ashton,<sup>3</sup> Anne Muhoro,<sup>1</sup> Polly Burbidge,<sup>3</sup> and David Goldblatt<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Kenya Medical Research Institute–Wellcome Trust Research Programme, Kilifi, Kenya; <sup>2</sup>Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom; and <sup>3</sup>University College London Institute of Child Health, London, United Kingdom

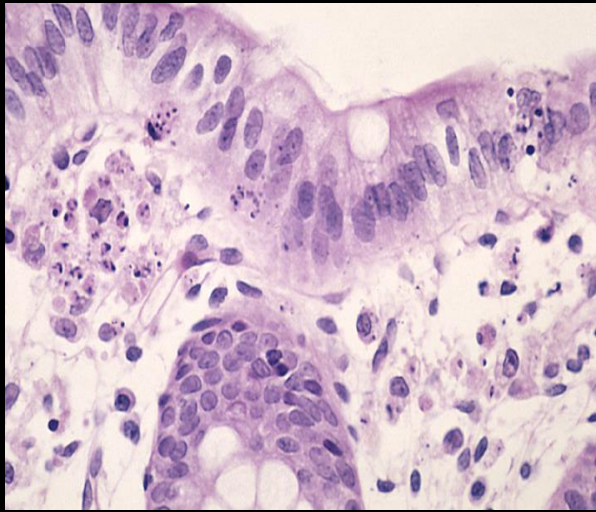
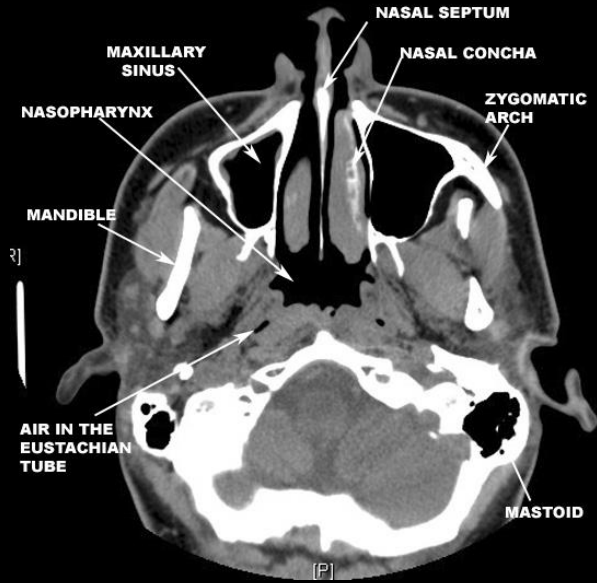
Vaccine groups:  
0/ 10/14w  
6/10/14w

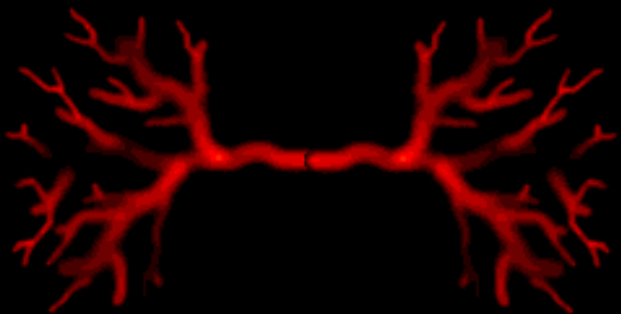
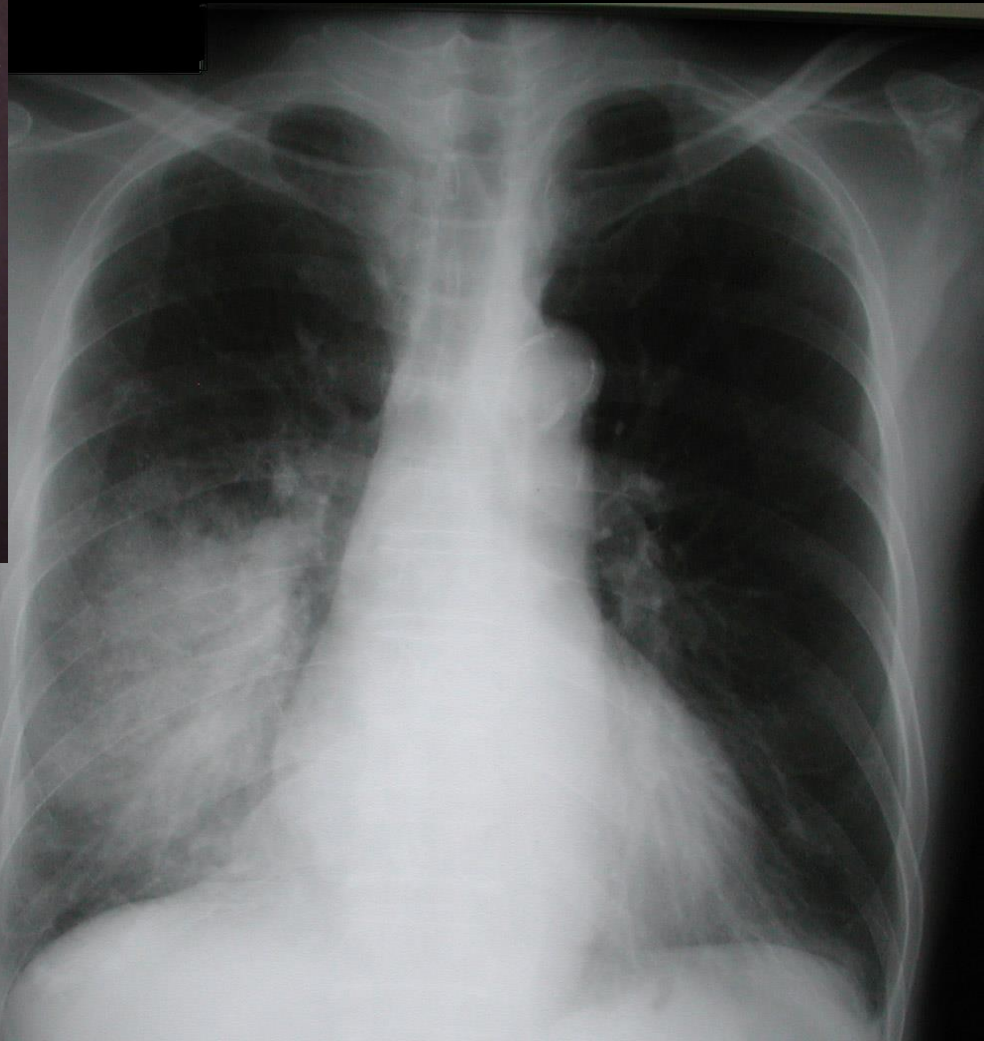
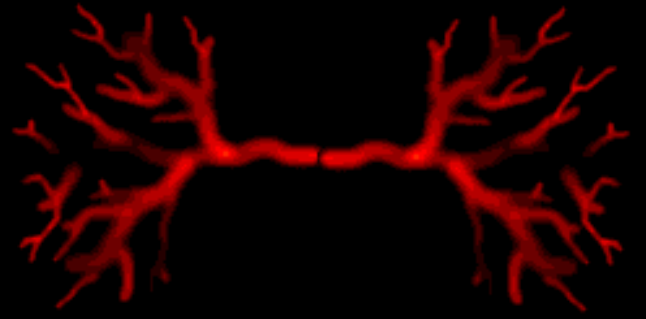
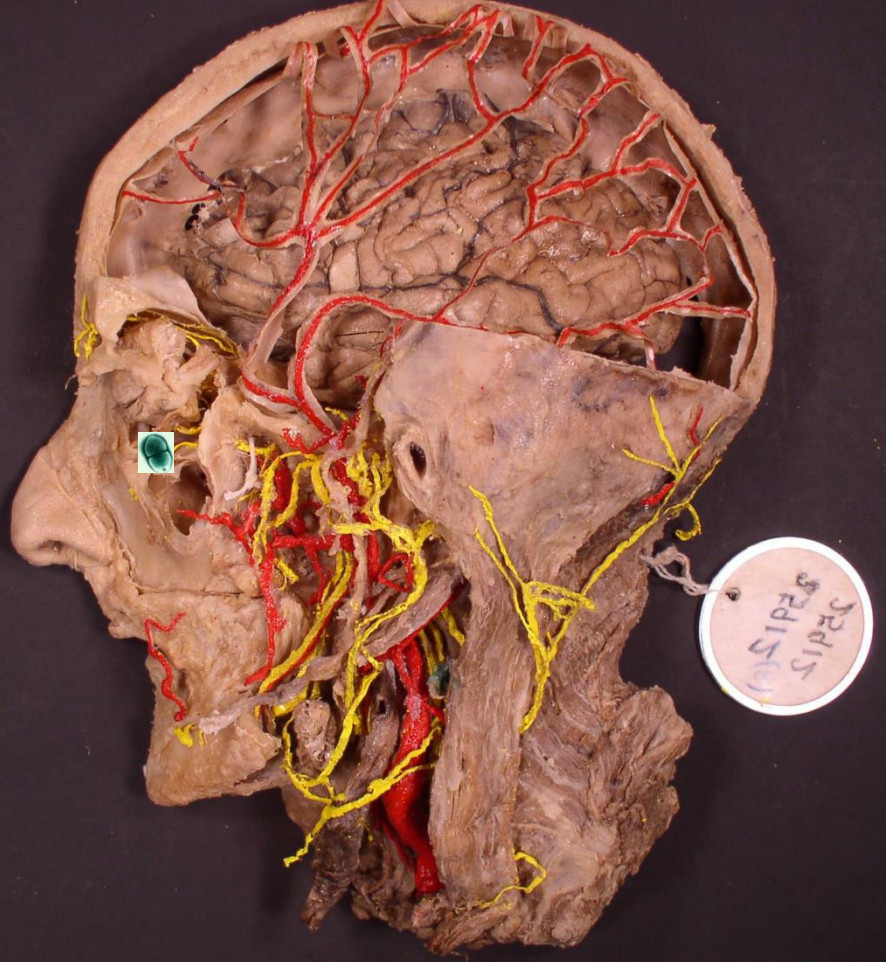


Decay rate  
in  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}/\text{week}$   
(EPI group)

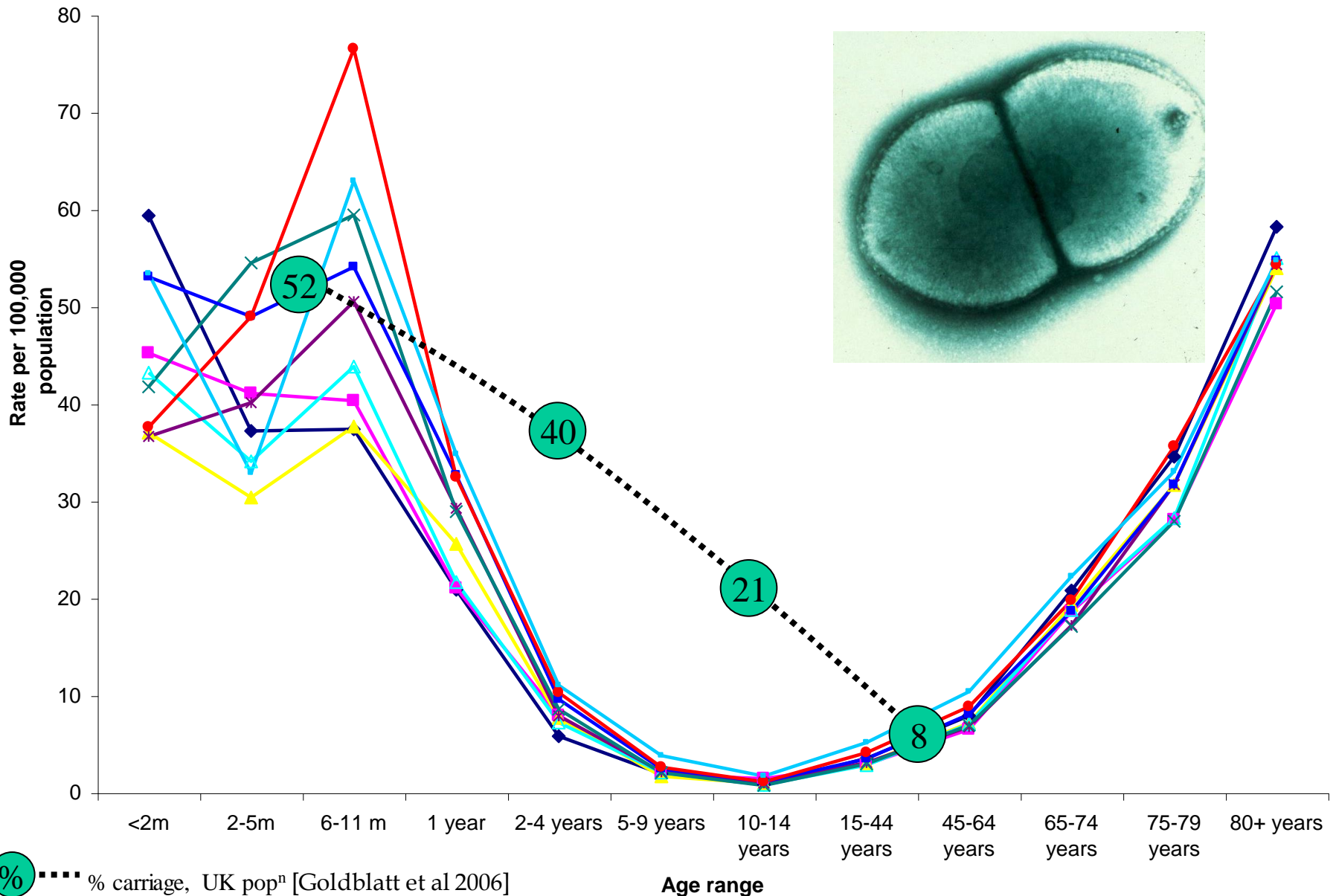
Serotype	Decay rate in $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}/\text{week}$ (EPI group)
4	0.176
6B	0.170
9V	0.157
14	0.142
18C	0.182
19F	0.185
23F	0.153

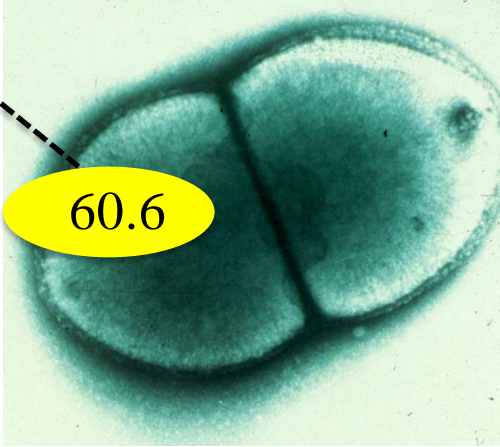
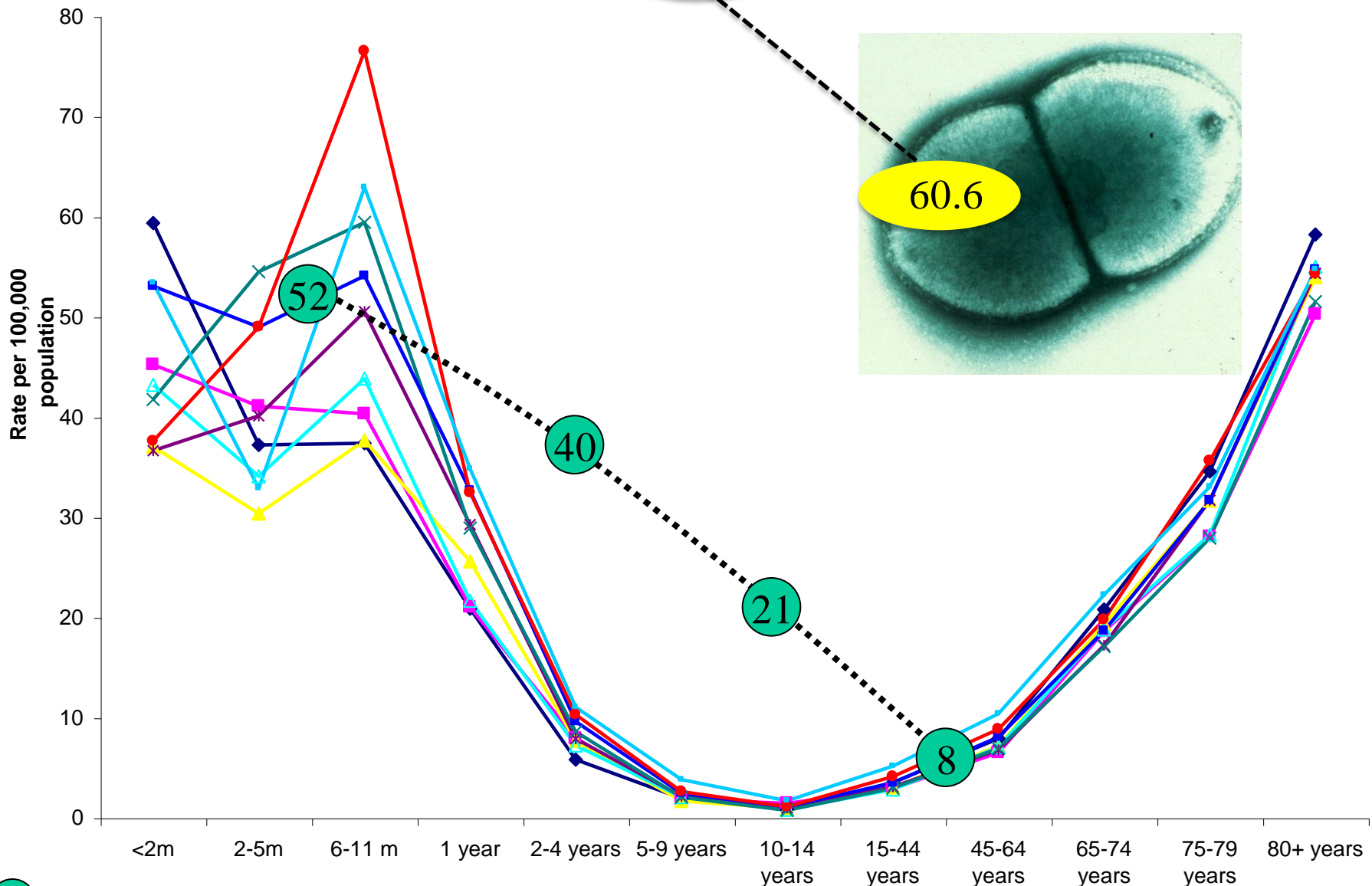
Observed concentration  
at 10 weeks versus  
concentration  
predicted from  
cord blood  
(newborn group),  
geometric mean  
ratio (95% CI)





# Invasive pneumococcal disease incidence rate per 100,000 population by age grouping England and Wales, 1996-2005





---(%)--- % carriage, UK pop<sup>n</sup> [Goldblatt et al 2006]

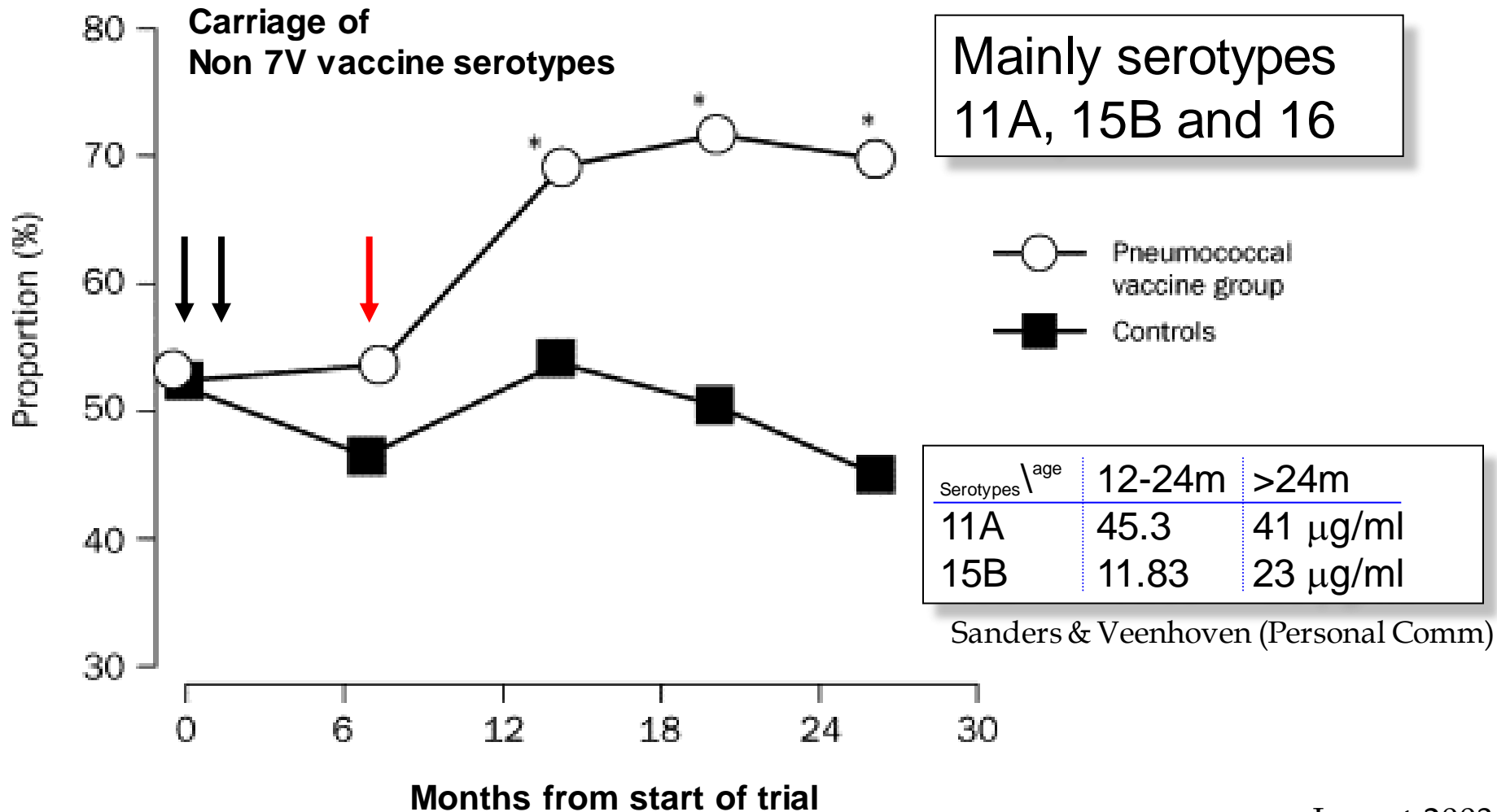
Age range % Roca et al PLOS Medicine 2011

↓ = conjugate vaccine

↓ = 23V polysaccharide vaccine

## Effect of conjugate pneumococcal vaccine followed by polysaccharide pneumococcal vaccine on recurrent acute otitis media: a randomised study

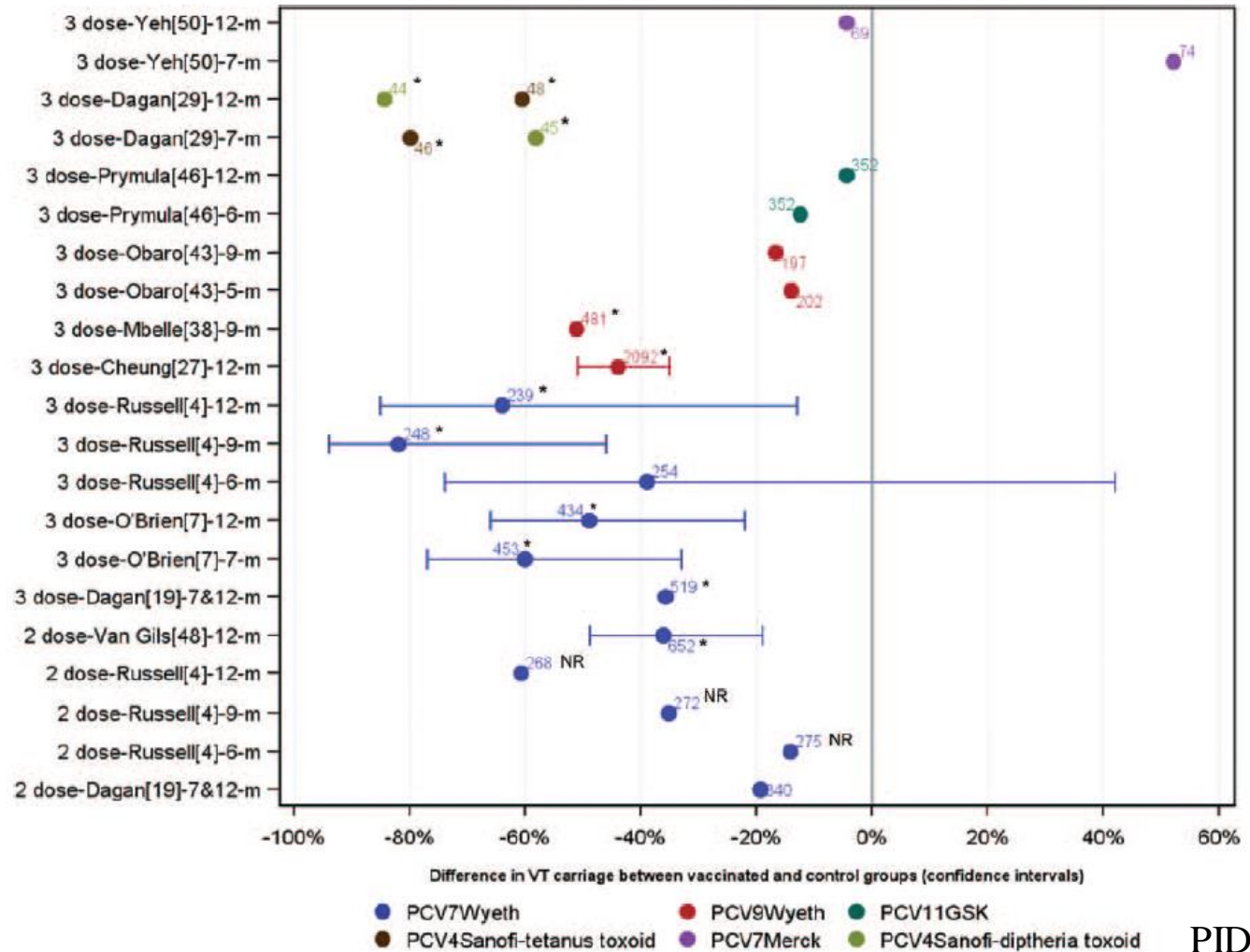
Reinier Veenhoven, Debby Bogaert, Cuno Uiterwaal, Carole Brouwer, Herma Kiezebrink, Jacob Bruin, Ed Uzeman, Peter Hermans, Ronald de Groot, Ben Zegers, Wietse Kuis, Ger Rijkers, Anne Schilder, Elisabeth Sanders



# Systematic Review of the Effect of Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine Dosing Schedules on Vaccine-type Nasopharyngeal Carriage

Katherine E. Fleming-Dutra, MD,\*† Laura Conklin, MD,† Jennifer D. Loo, MPH,† Maria Deloria Knoll, PhD,‡ Daniel E. Park, MSPH,‡ Jennifer Kirk, MSc,§ David Goldblatt, MBChB, PhD,¶ Cynthia G. Whitney, MD, MPH,† and Katherine L. O'Brien, MD, MPH‡

Difference in VT Carriage Prevalence: Vaccinated vs Unvaccinated/ Placebo for Carriage in 1<sup>st</sup> year of life





High Circulating IgG following  
Polysaccharide Vaccine

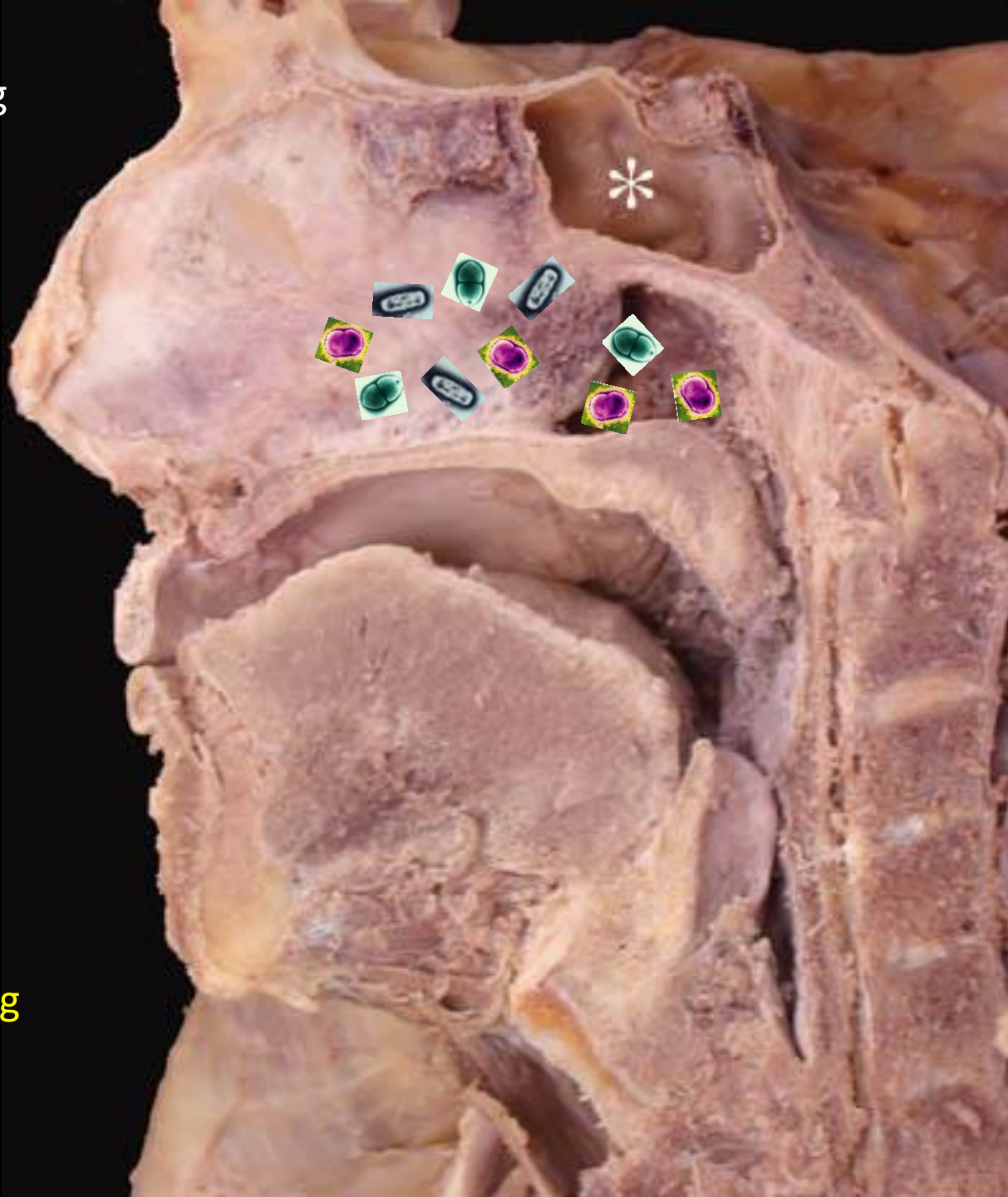


No Impact on Carriage

Carriage reduced



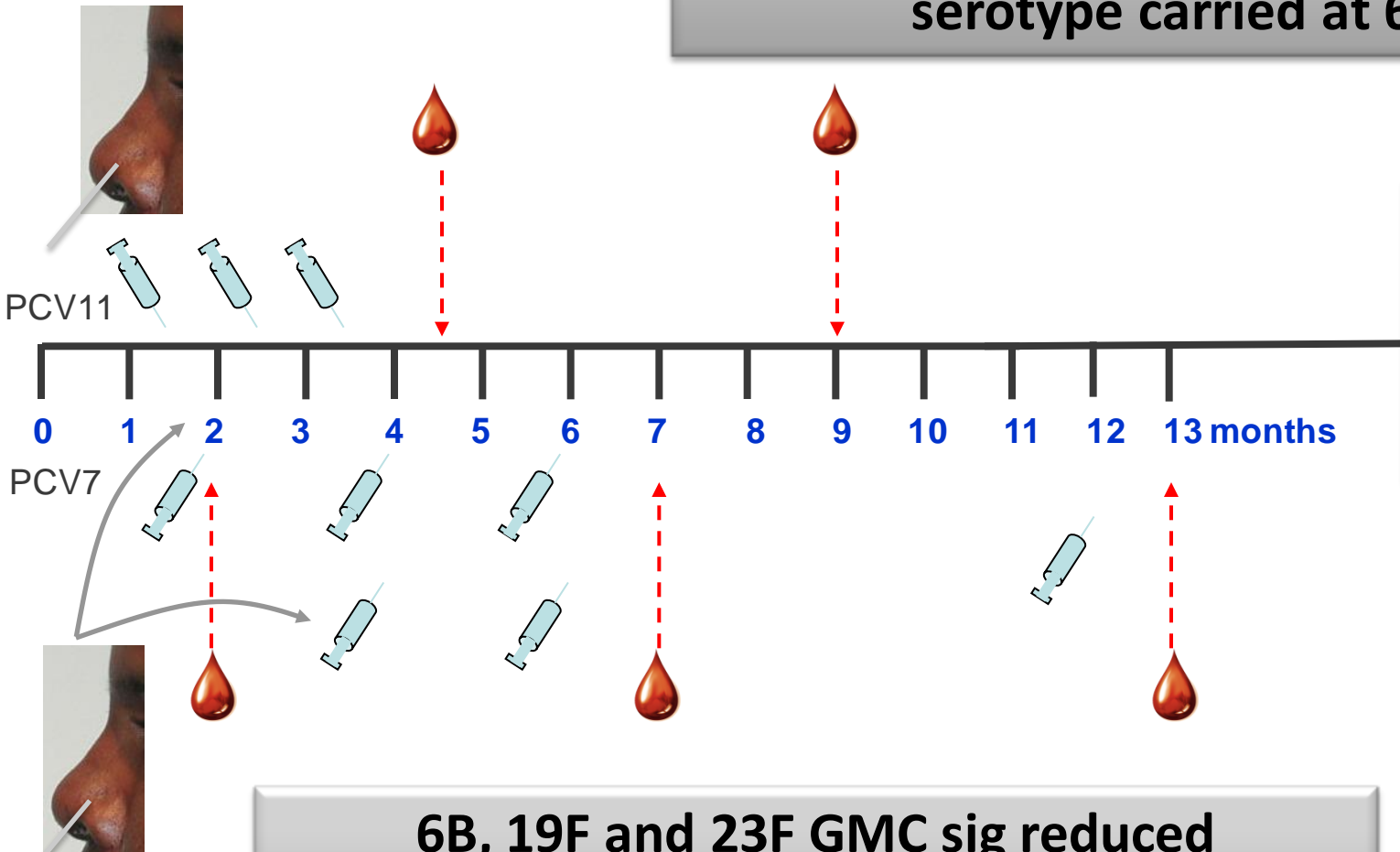
High Circulating IgG following  
Conjugate Vaccine





Vakevainen et al J Paeds 2010

**6B, 19F and 23F GMC sig reduced @ 18w and 9m if homologous serotype carried at 6w**



**Impact of Carriage on Vaccine Responses**

**6B, 19F and 23F GMC sig reduced to 1° and boost if homologous serotypes detected**



Dagan et al JID 2010

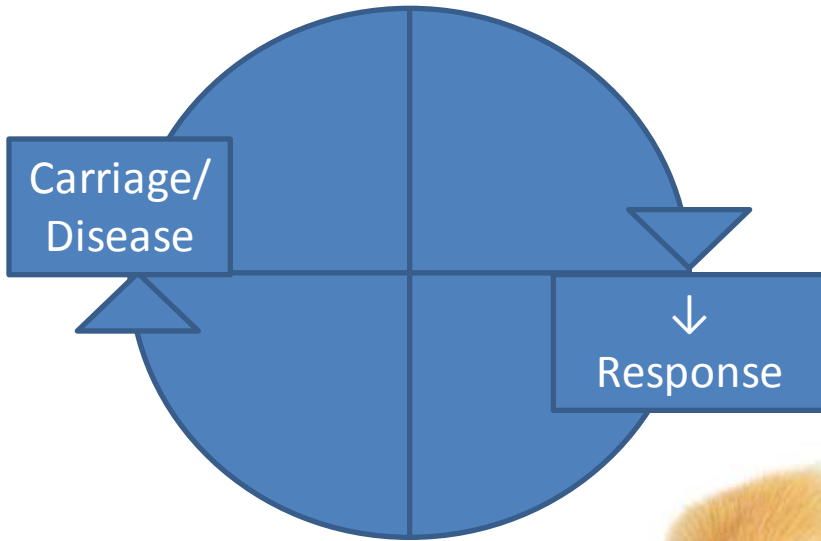
## Serotype-Specific Immune Unresponsiveness to Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine following Invasive Pneumococcal Disease<sup>∇</sup>

Ray Borrow,<sup>1\*</sup> Elaine Stanford,<sup>1</sup> Pauline Waight,<sup>2</sup> Matthew Helbert,<sup>3</sup> Paul Balmer,<sup>1</sup>  
Rosalind Warrington,<sup>1</sup> Mary Slack,<sup>4</sup> Robert George,<sup>4</sup> and Elizabeth Miller<sup>2</sup>

TABLE 4. Vaccination, infection, and specific IgG characteristics of children who were immunologically unresponsive to a particular serotype

Case	Age (mo) when IPD occurred	Ages (mo) at which PCV7 administered	Time (days) from last dose of PCV7 to blood sample	Infecting serotype	Serotype-specific IgG concn (μg/ml) following last dose of PCV7 <sup>a</sup>						
					4	6B	9V	14	18C	19F	23F
1	13.2	15, 17, and 19	78	18C	20.09	8.66	3.82	0.93	<b>0.02</b>	5.18	5.94
2	13.2	15, 19, and 25	28	18C	25.45	12.29	7.86	6.11	<b>0.03</b>	4.93	61.54
3	8.9	10, 14, 16, and 19	30	19F	6.64	6.27	1.63	6.47	5.65	<b>0.29</b>	6.85
4	7.0	8, 10, 12, and 14	28	6B	18.41	<b>0.34</b>	5.95	22.73	19.96	14.06	182.74
5	3.1	2, 5, 8, 14, and 17	60	6B	6.53	<b>0.05</b>	6.65	3.95	8.18	5.15	58.29
6	16.3	13, 20, and 23	45	6B	3.27	<b>0.01</b>	1.95	6.89	2.92	3.10	12.16
7	12.7	8, 11, 14, and 21	28	6B	100.24	<b>0.01</b>	56.24	115.36	83.37	31.29	39.14
8	12.5	14, 17, and 19	29	14	2.16	1.71	5.19	<b>0.25</b>	4.45	1.17	4.18
9	9.4	12, 14, and 17	36	14	19.41	<b>0.08</b>	6.17	7.35	20.15	9.18	15.84
10	13.7	13, 16, 20, and 26	49	7F	1.85	<b>0.08</b>	3.14	22.66	28.21	15.15	7.37

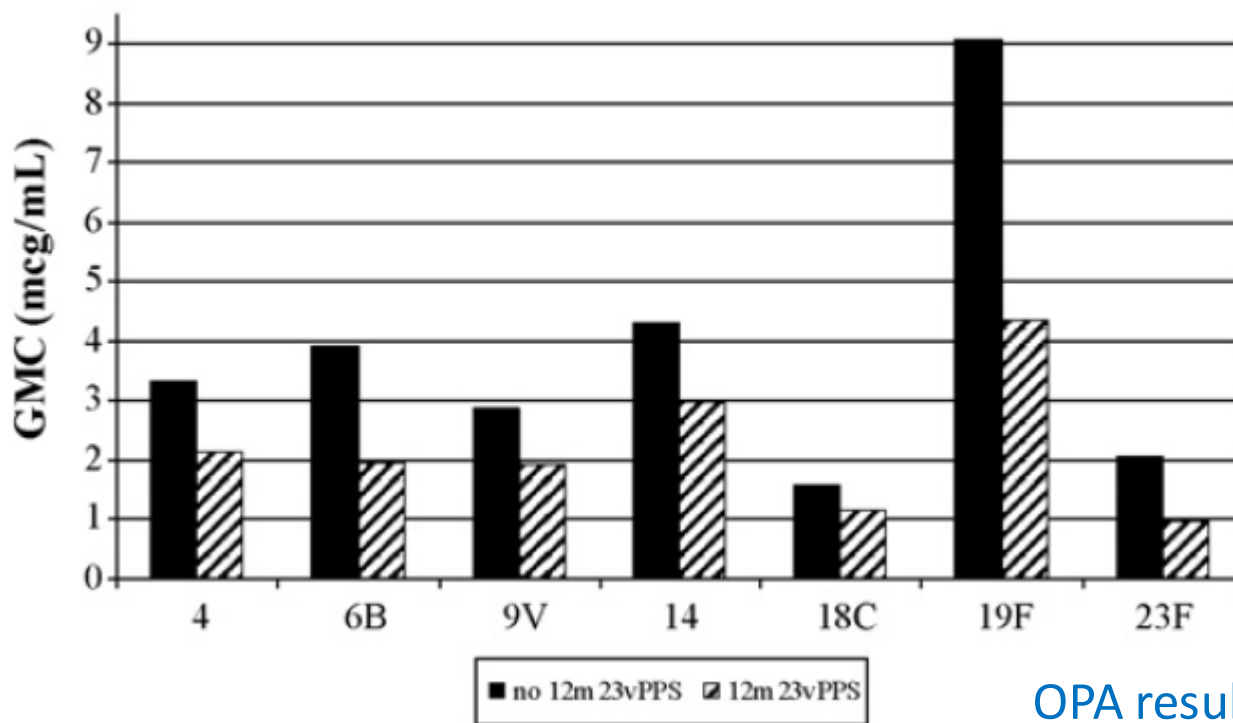
<sup>a</sup> The value for the serotype to which each child was immunologically unresponsive is in bold font.





## Hyporesponsiveness to re-challenge dose following pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine at 12 months of age, a randomized controlled trial

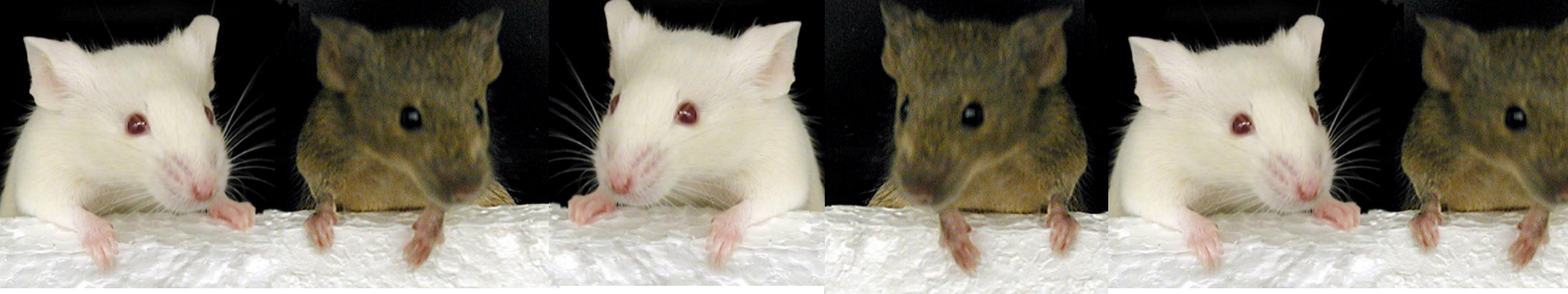
F.M. Russell<sup>a,\*</sup>, J.R. Carapetis<sup>b</sup>, A. Balloch<sup>c</sup>, P.V. Licciardi<sup>c</sup>, A.W.J. Jenney<sup>a</sup>, L. Tikoduadua<sup>d</sup>,  
L. Waqatakirewa<sup>d</sup>, J. Pryor<sup>e</sup>, J. Nelson<sup>b</sup>, G.B. Byrnes<sup>f</sup>, Y.B. Cheung<sup>g,h</sup>, M.L.K. Tang<sup>c,i,j</sup>, E.K. Mulholland<sup>b,k</sup>



Infant PCV7 Prime  
2/3/4m of age  
↓  
Half received  
PPV23 Boost @12m  
↓  
All received  
0.1ml (20%) PPV23  
(@17m)

OPA results similar

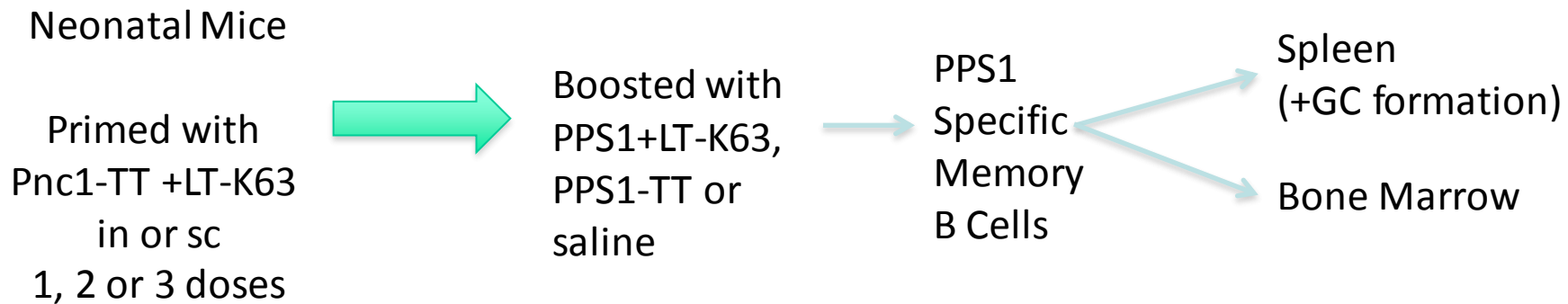
Russell et al Vaccine 2011



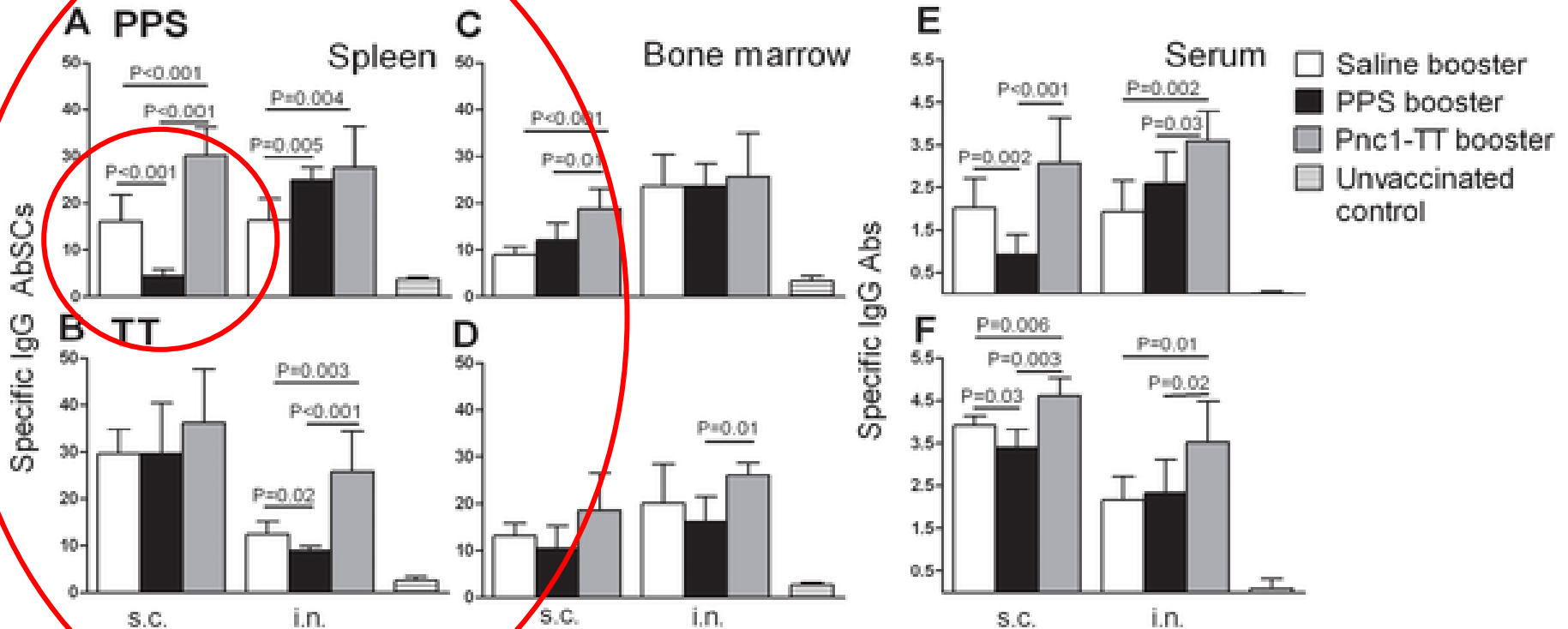
# Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Abrogates Conjugate-Induced Germinal Center Reaction and Depletes Antibody Secreting Cell Pool, Causing Hyporesponsiveness

Stefania P. Bjarnarson<sup>1,2</sup>, Hreinn Benonisson<sup>1,2</sup>, Giuseppe Del Giudice<sup>3</sup>, Ingileif Jonsdottir<sup>1,2,4\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Landspítali, The National University Hospital of Iceland, Department of Immunology, Reykjavik, Iceland, <sup>2</sup> University of Iceland, Faculty of Medicine, Reykjavik, Iceland, <sup>3</sup> Novartis Vaccines and Diagnostics, Siena, Italy, <sup>4</sup> deCODE Genetics, Reykjavik, Iceland

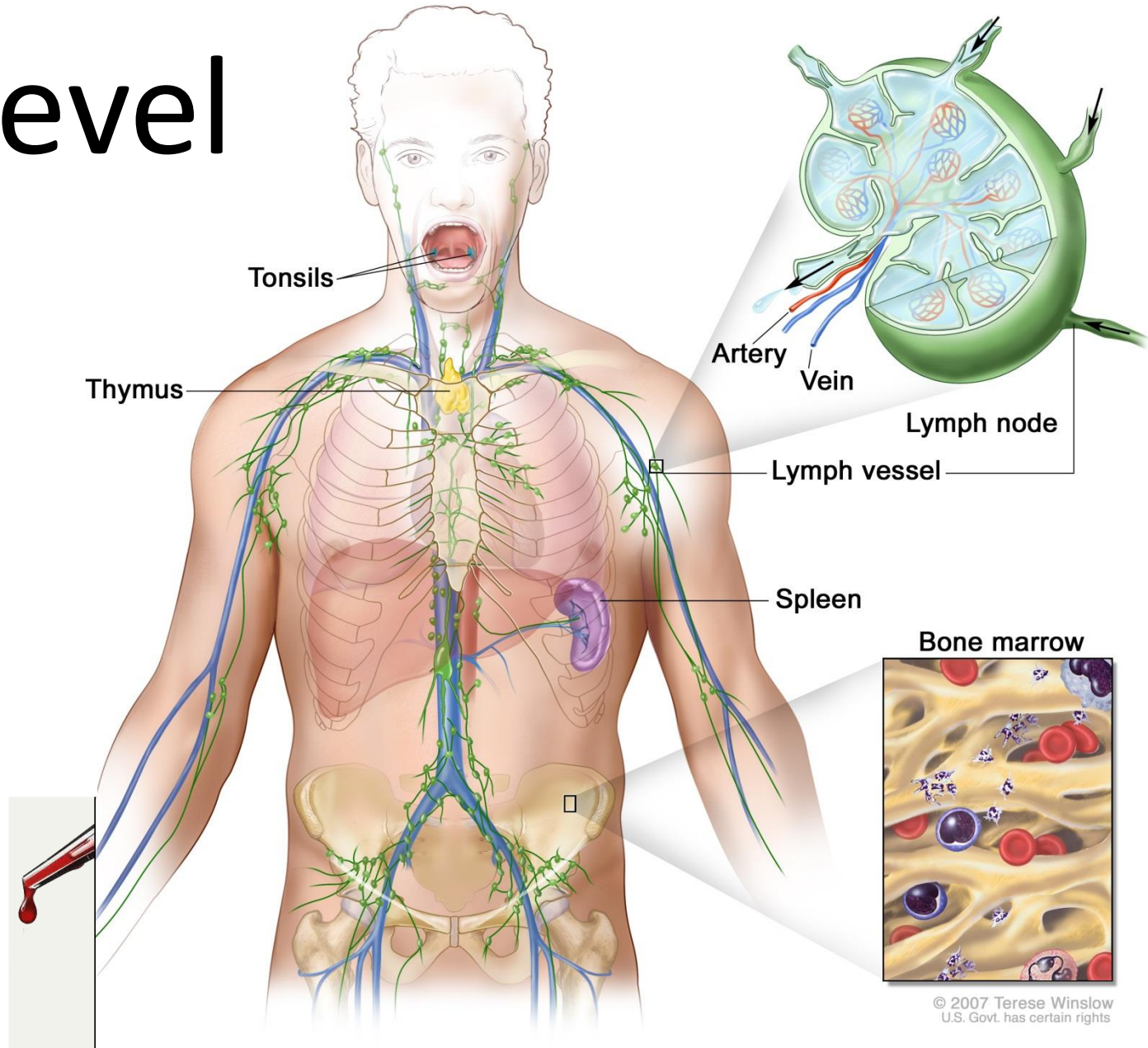


**Figure 1. Subcutaneous administration of PPS-1 booster depletes Pnc1-TT-induced PPS-1-specific AbSC pool in the spleen.**



Bjarnarson SP, Benonisson H, Del Giudice G, Jonsdottir I (2013) Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Abrogates Conjugate-Induced Germinal Center Reaction and Depletes Antibody Secreting Cell Pool, Causing Hyporesponsiveness. PLoS ONE 8(9): e72588. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0072588 <http://www.plosone.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pone.0072588>

# Responses at the B Cell level



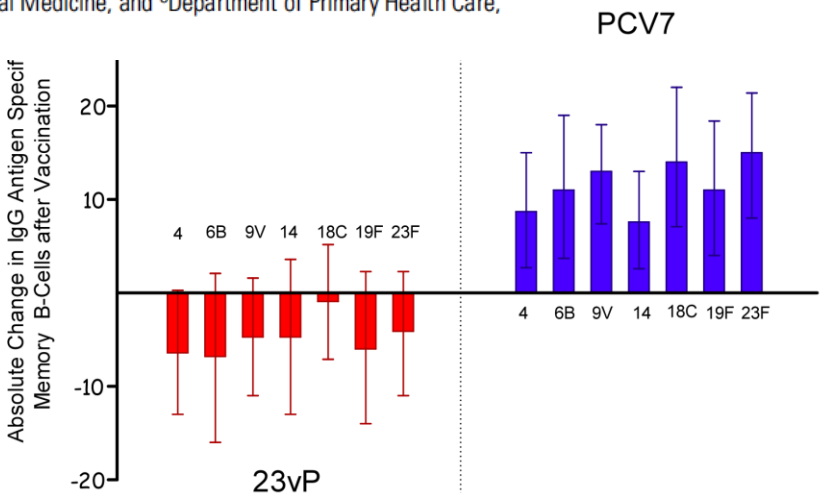


# Pneumococcal Conjugate and Plain Polysaccharide Vaccines Have Divergent Effects on Antigen-Specific B Cells

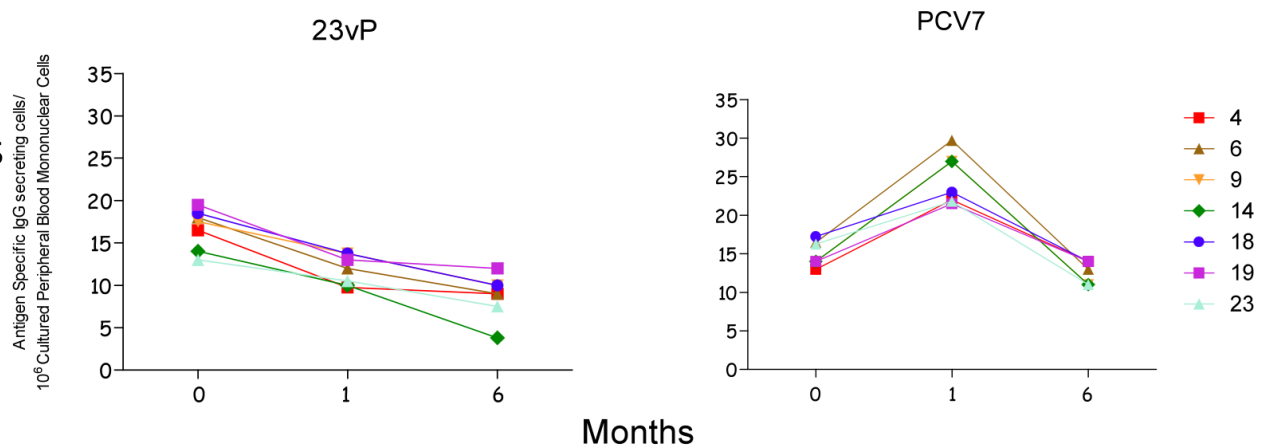
Elizabeth A. Clutterbuck,<sup>1,a</sup> Rajeka Lazarus,<sup>1,a</sup> Ly-Mee Yu,<sup>2</sup> Jaclyn Bowman,<sup>1</sup> Elizabeth A. L. Bateman,<sup>1,b</sup> Linda Diggle,<sup>1,c</sup> Brian Angus,<sup>3</sup> Tim E. Peto,<sup>3</sup> Peter C. Beverley,<sup>4</sup> David Mant,<sup>5</sup> and Andrew J. Pollard<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Oxford Vaccine Group, Department of Paediatrics, University of Oxford; <sup>2</sup>The Centre for Statistics in Medicine, Oxford; <sup>3</sup>Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine, <sup>4</sup>The Peter Medawar Building for Pathogen Research, Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine, and <sup>5</sup>Department of Primary Health Care, University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Over 1 month



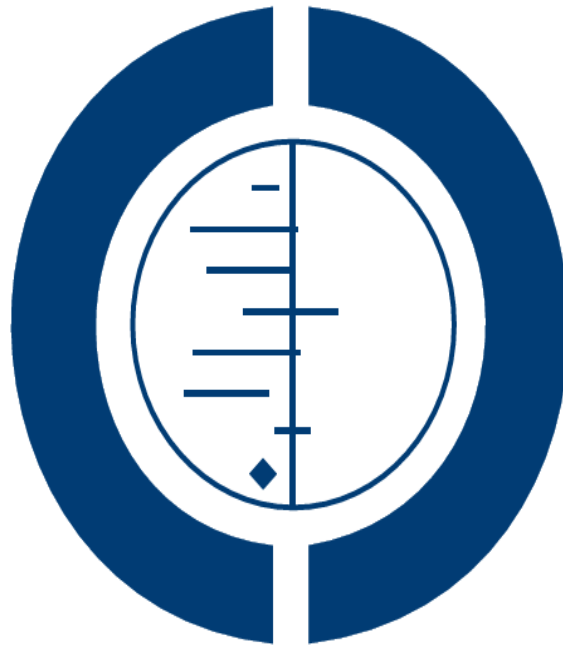
Over 6 months



Pneumococcal  
Polysaccharide or  
Conjugate Vaccines  
In Adults?

# Vaccines for preventing pneumococcal infection in adults (Review)

Moberley S, Holden J, Tatham DP, Andrews RM



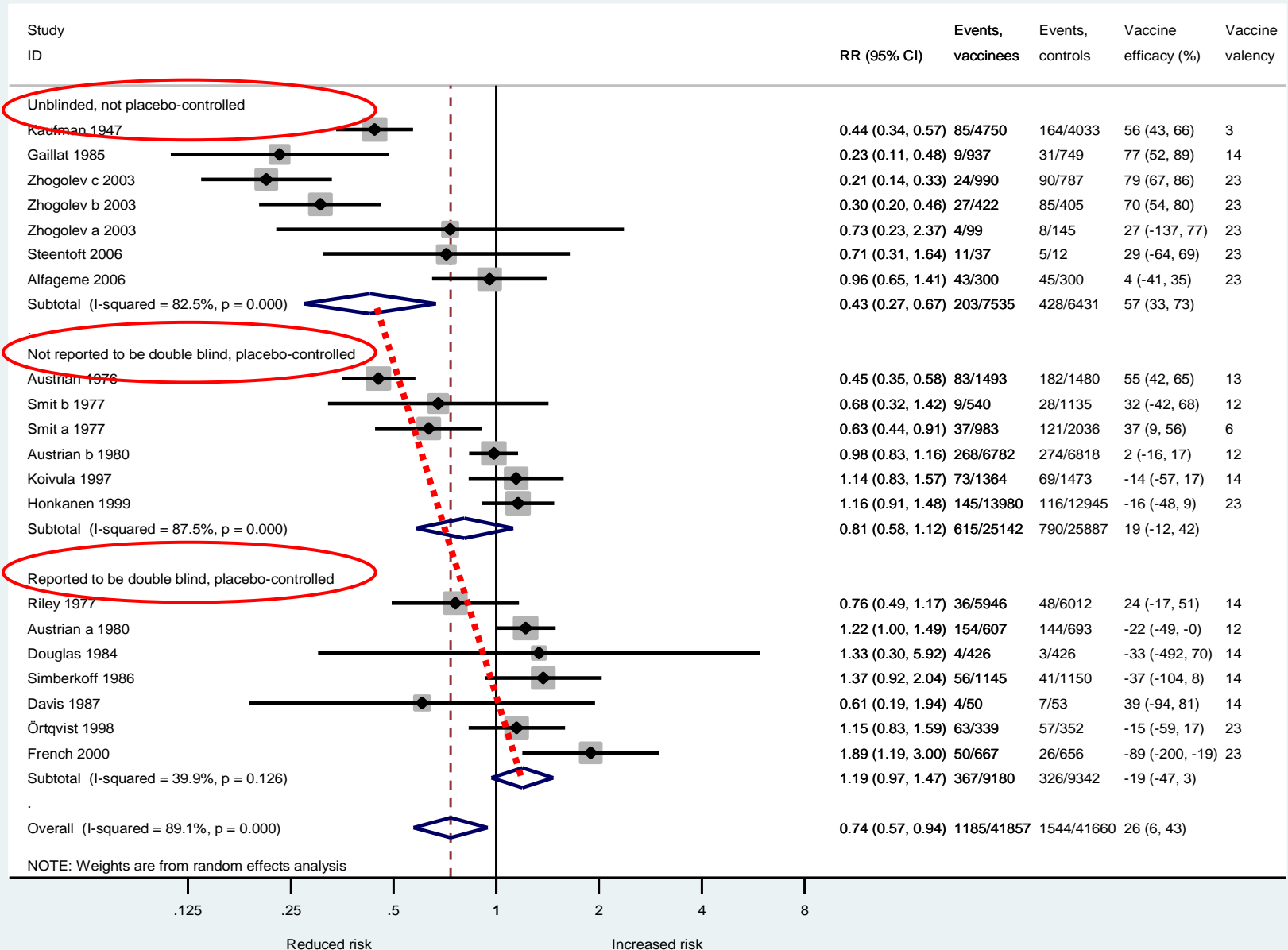
**THE COCHRANE  
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2008

- PPV prevents IPD in healthy adults
- RCT's less clear in chronic illness
- No evidence for pneumonia prevention or mortality reduction

# All cause pneumonia, cases/episodes combined

## By blinding



## PNEUMOCOCCAL VACCINATION POLICY IN EUROPE

RG Pebody<sup>1</sup>, T Leino<sup>2</sup>, H Nohynek<sup>2</sup>, W Hellenbrand<sup>3</sup>, S Salmaso<sup>4</sup>, P Ruutu<sup>2</sup>

TABLE 2

Country-specific recommendations for use of pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine by risk group in 19 European countries

	AUS	BEL	CZE	CYP	DEN	ENG	EST	FIN	FRA	GER	IRE	LAT	LIT	LUX	NET	NOR	SLO	SWE	SWI
Splenic dysfunction	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>1</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Chronic cardiovascular disease	Yes	Yes <sup>2</sup>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Chronic pulmonary disease	Yes	Yes <sup>2</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Diabetes mellitus	Yes	Yes <sup>2</sup>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Alcoholism	Yes	Yes <sup>2</sup>	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	na	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
Chronic liver disease	Yes	Yes <sup>2</sup>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
CSF fluid leak	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	na	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Immunodeficiency	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
HIV infected	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
> 65 years of age	Yes <sup>4</sup>	Yes <sup>4</sup>	Yes <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>5</sup>	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>4</sup>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>3</sup>	Yes
In nursing home	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	na	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No

1 Children only

2 &gt;45 years old

3 In some regions

4 &gt;60 years old

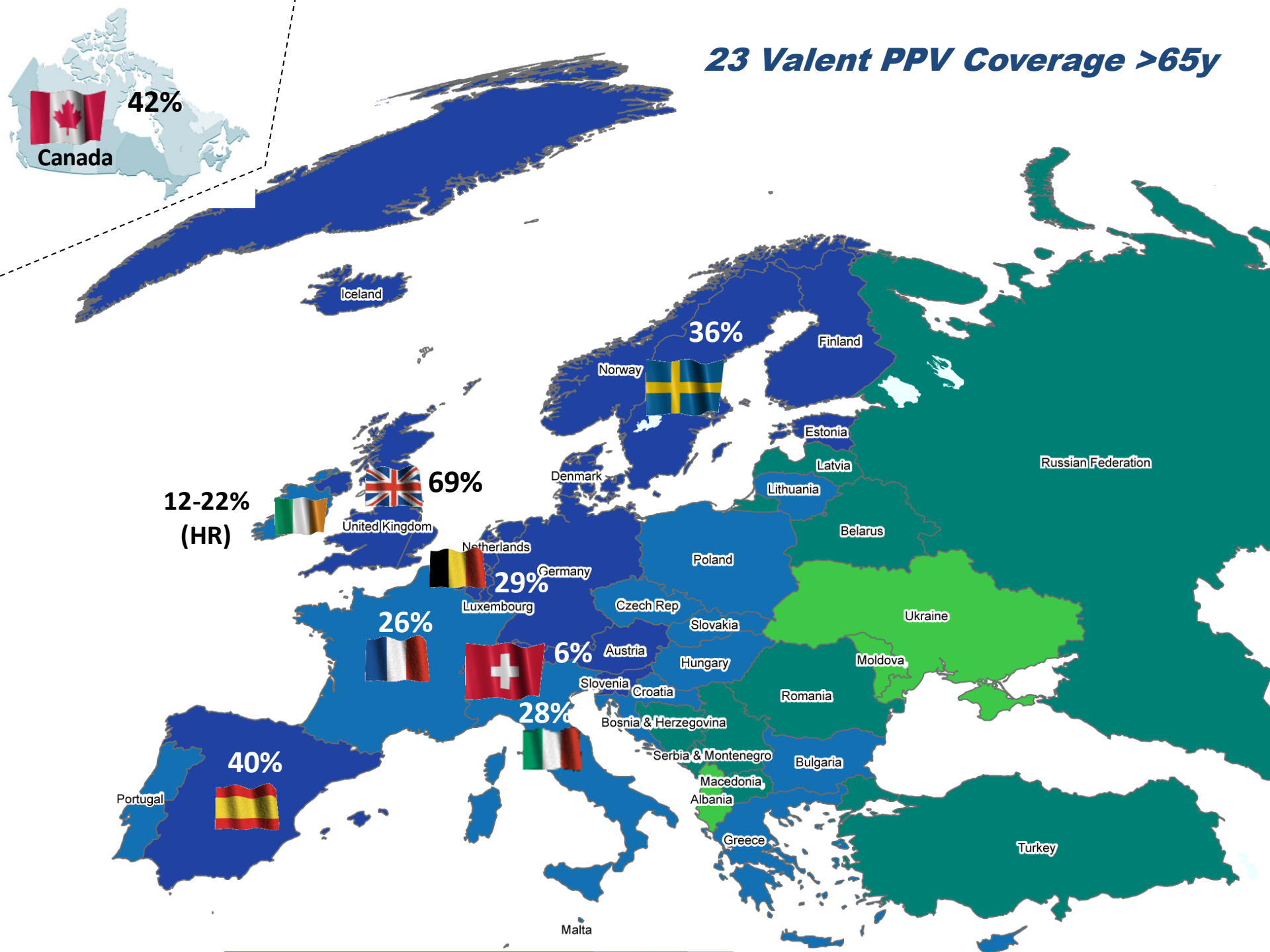
5 Phased introduction from 2003 onwards

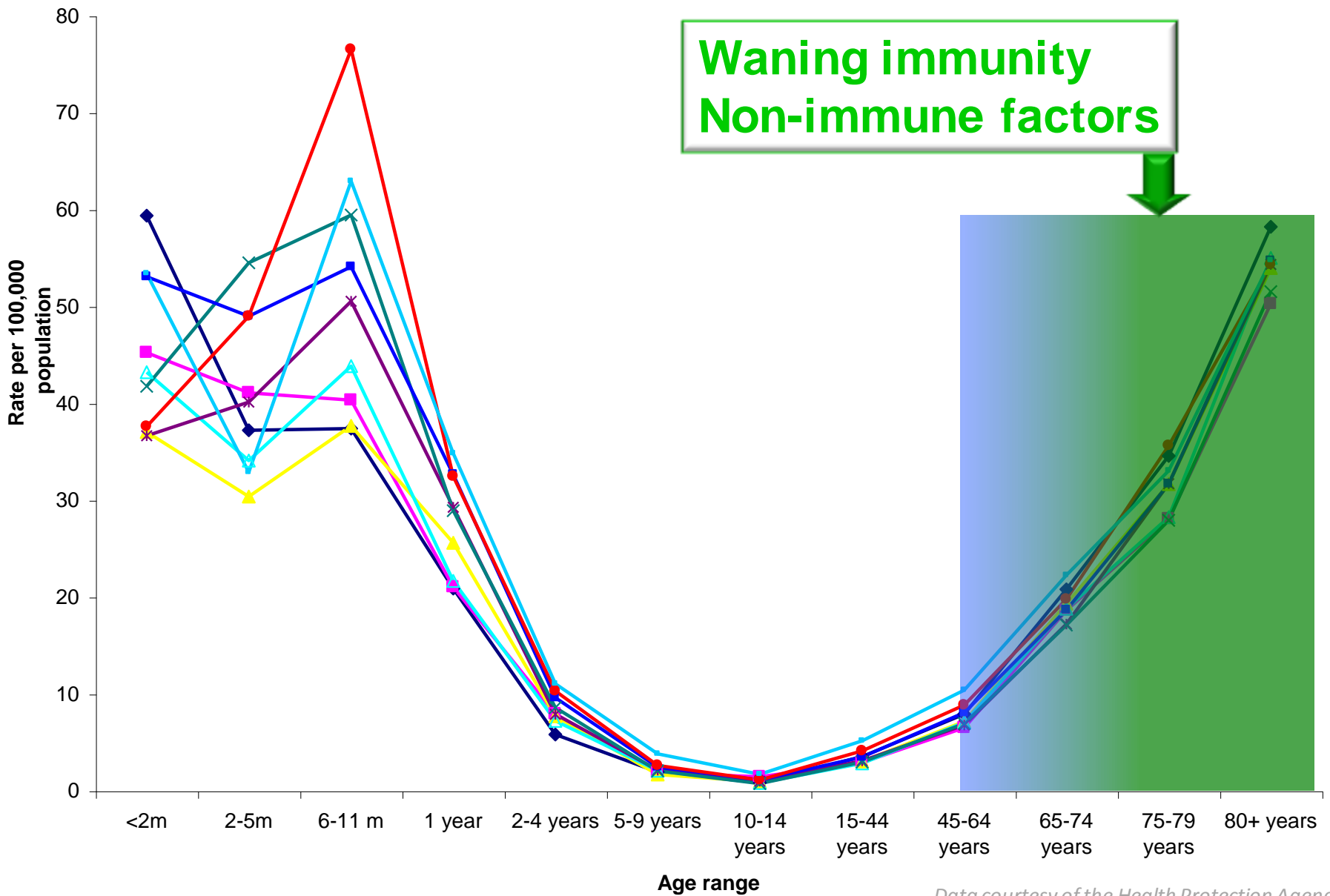
6 Under consideration

na= not available

Information not available for Slovak Republic

# 23 Valent PPV Coverage >65y







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## The early kinetics of circulating pneumococcal-specific memory B cells following pneumococcal conjugate and plain polysaccharide vaccines in the elderly

Helen E. Baxendale<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Sheila M. Keating<sup>b</sup>, Marina Johnson<sup>b</sup>, Jo Southern<sup>c</sup>, Elizabeth Miller<sup>c</sup>, David Goldblatt<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Immunology, University College London Medical School, Royal Free Hospital Campus, London NW3 2PF, UK

<sup>b</sup> UCL Institute of Child Health, 30 Guilford Street, London WC1N 1EH, UK

<sup>c</sup> Health Protection Agency



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## Circulating pneumococcal specific plasma and memory B cells in the elderly two years after pneumococcal conjugate versus polysaccharide vaccination

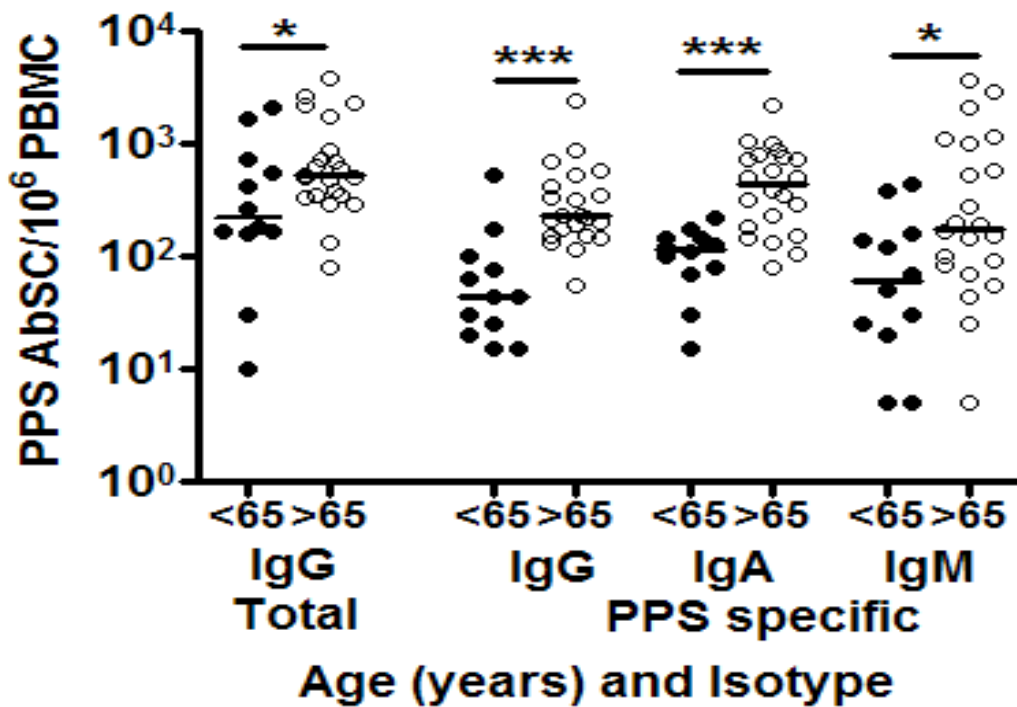
Helen E. Baxendale<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Marina Johnson<sup>b</sup>, Sheila M. Keating<sup>b</sup>, Lindsey Ashton<sup>b</sup>, Polly Burbidge<sup>b</sup>, Sarah Woodgate<sup>b</sup>, Jo Southern<sup>c</sup>, Elizabeth Miller<sup>c</sup>, David Goldblatt<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Immunology, University College London Medical School, Royal Free Hospital Campus, London NW3 2PF, UK

<sup>b</sup> UCL Institute of Child Health, 30 Guilford Street, London WC1N 1EH, UK

<sup>c</sup> Health Protection Agency, Centre for Infections, 61 Colindale Avenue, London NW9 5EQ, UK

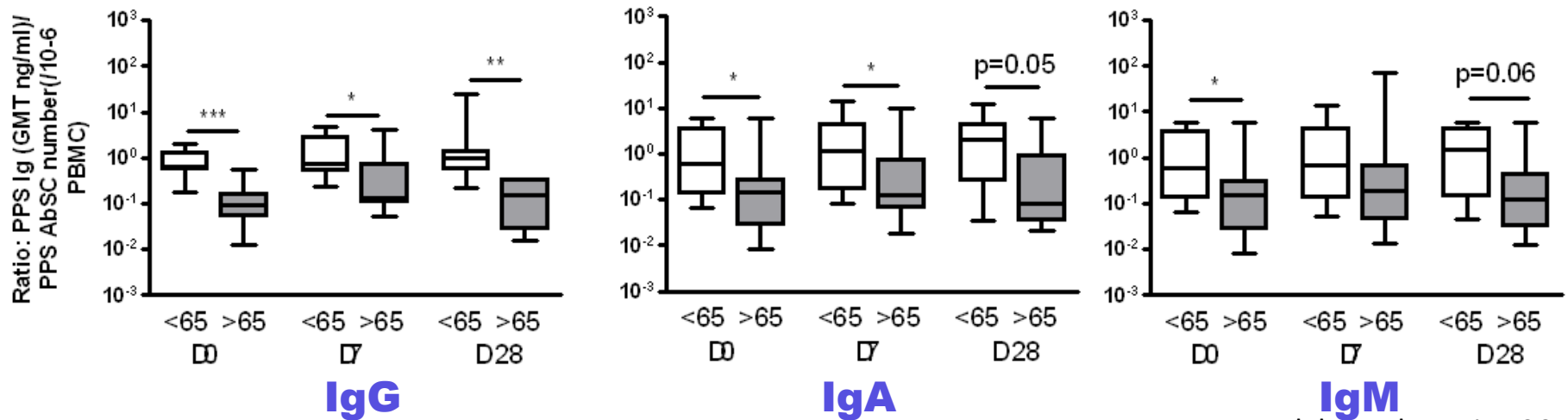




**Increase in Polysaccharide Specific Plasma Cells with age**

*(n=12 and 23)*

**Reduction in Polysaccharide Specific Ab produced per Plasma cell with age**



# Increasing age but reduced function





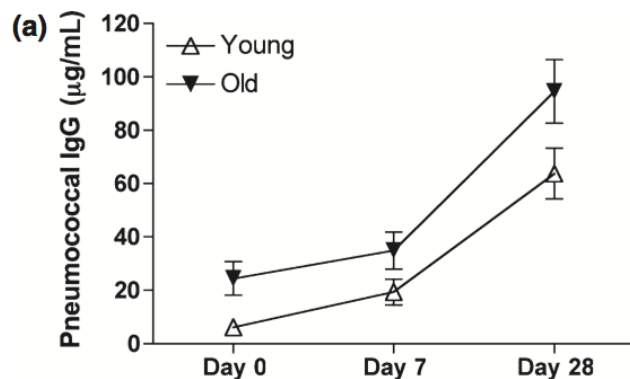
# Vaccination-induced changes in human B-cell repertoire and pneumococcal IgM and IgA antibody at different ages

Alexander Ademokun,<sup>1</sup> Yu-Chang Wu,<sup>1</sup> Victoria Martin,<sup>1</sup>  
Rajive Mitra,<sup>2</sup> Ulrich Sack,<sup>3</sup> Helen Baxendale,<sup>4</sup> David  
Kipling<sup>5</sup> and Deborah K. Dunn-Walters<sup>1</sup>

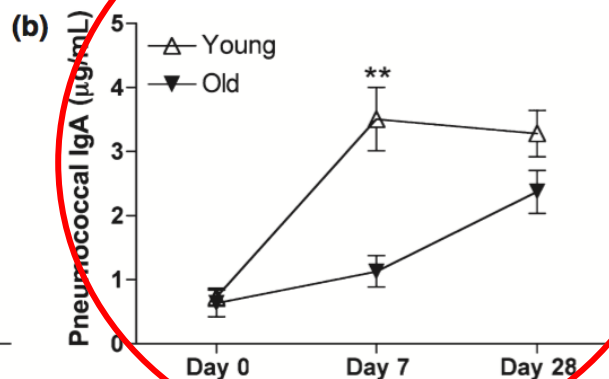
2 groups of adults: 18-49y (n=39), 65-89y (n=27)

Pneumovax 23™ (Sanofi Pasteur MSD), bled day 7 and 28

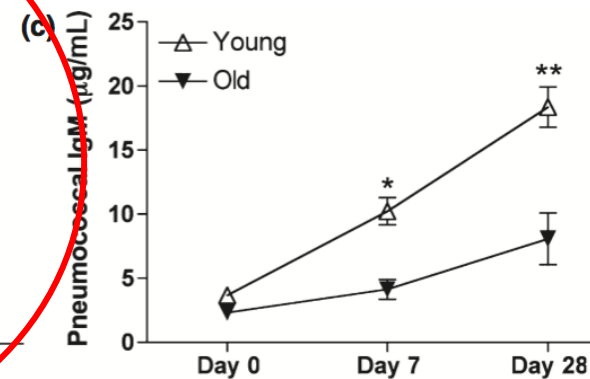
## IgG



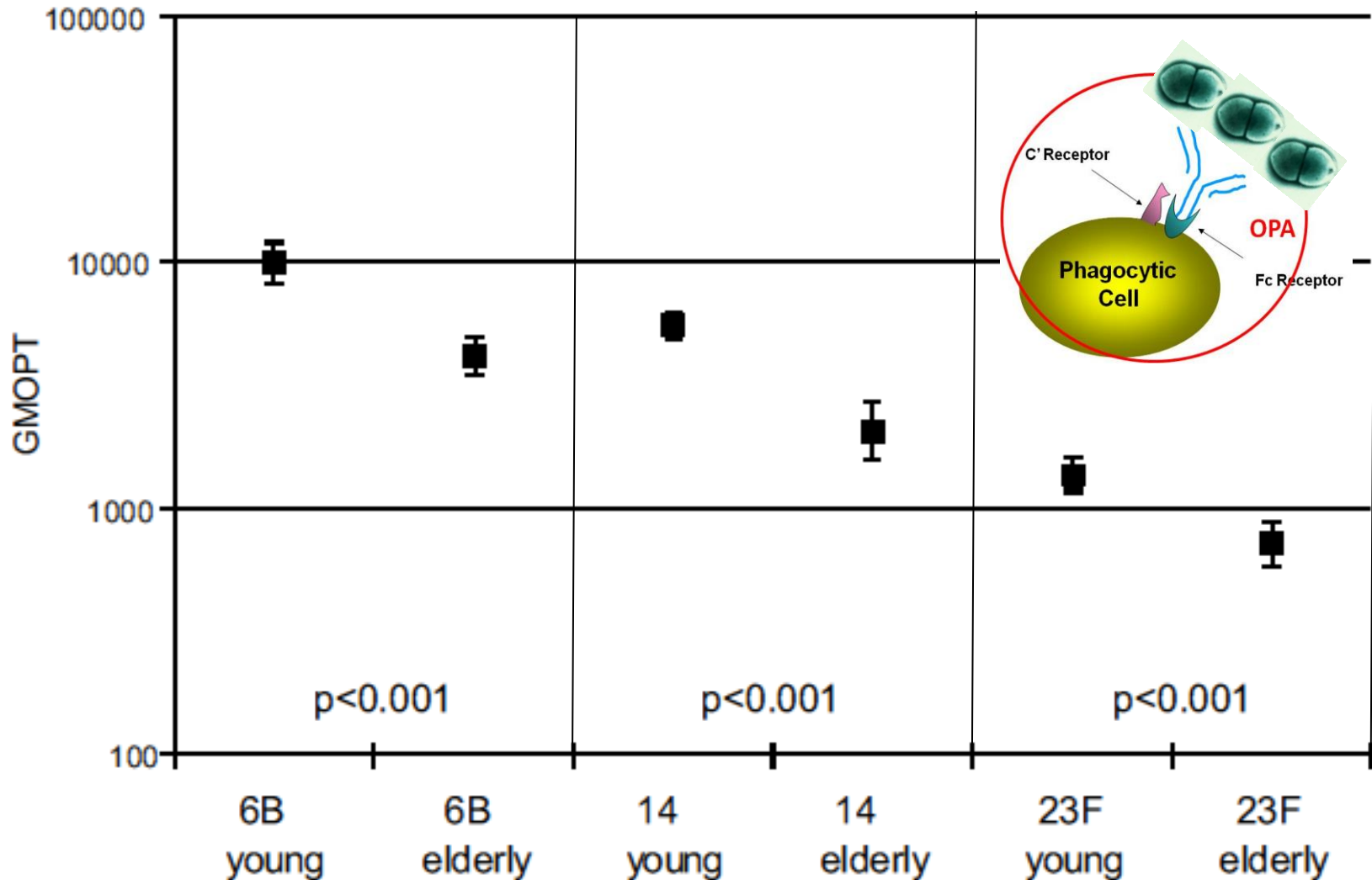
## IgA



## IgM



# Phagocytes from the young (mean age 34y) & elderly (mean age 74y) differ in their capacity to kill pneumococci



# Summary of Head to Head PCV vs PPV immunogenicity studies in healthy adults

# Rationale and design of a RCT of 13-valent conjugated pneumococcal vaccine efficacy and safety in older adults

E. Hak<sup>1,2\*</sup>, D.E. Grobbee<sup>1</sup>, E.A.M. Sande<sup>1</sup>, J. Bolkenbaas<sup>1</sup>, S.M. Huijts<sup>1</sup>, W.C. Gruber<sup>3</sup>,  
S. Tansey<sup>3</sup>, A. McDonough<sup>3</sup>, J. van Klingeren<sup>3</sup>, A.J. van Alphen<sup>4</sup>, M.J.M. Bonten<sup>1,5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Julius Center for Health Care, Departments of <sup>2</sup>Pediatric Immunology and Infectious Diseases, and <sup>3</sup>Immunology, University Medical Center Utrecht, the Netherlands, <sup>3</sup>Wyeth Vaccines Research, New York, USA, <sup>4</sup>Netherlands Vaccine Institute, Bilthoven, the Netherlands. \*Corresponding author: tel.: +31 (0)88-756 82 14, fax: +31 (0)88-76 80 99,

Results announced at the 9<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Pneumococci and Pneumococcal disease, Hyderabad, India, March 2014

- 84,496 Dutch volunteers  $\geq$  65yrs old
- Randomised to PCV13 or control
- Primary Endpoint: Accrual of Vaccine Type Community Acquired Pneumonia (CAP)
- Other endpoints:
  - VT non bacteraemic/non invasive pneumococcal CAP
  - VT invasive Pneumococcal Disease
- Vaccine type pneumonia confirmed by Serotype Specific Urinary Antigen Detection

## Primary and Secondary Objectives: Per Protocol

Efficacy Endpoint	Vaccine Group		VE (%)	95.2% CI	p-Value
	PCV13 (n=42,240)	Placebo (n=42,256)			
First episode of confirmed VT pneumococcal CAP	49	90	45.56	(21.82, 62.49)	0.0006
First episode of confirmed NB/NI VT pneumococcal CAP	33	60	45.00	(14.21, 65.31)	0.0067
First episode of VT-IPD	7	28	75.00	(41.43, 90.78)*	0.0005

\* 95% Confidence Intervals



- Vaccine was safe
- Most prominent effects were on serotypes 3, 7F and 19A  
{Holland introduced PCV7 into the NIP in 2008 and PCV10 in March 2011, all 13 serotypes were circulating during the study}
- Effectiveness was stable over the period of observation (mean 3.97 years)
- No effect on mortality

# Summary

1. Polysaccharides remain interesting!
2. They are limited as pure vaccine antigens
3. Conjugated to proteins they make powerful vaccines
4. Exposure to pure polysaccharides as
  - i. vaccine antigens
  - ii. through infection or
  - iii. NP carriageinterferes with the immune system and effects subsequent responses.
5. This may be related to B cell apoptosis
6. There may be an as yet unrecognised role for T cells in polysaccharide immunity
7. In healthy adults PCV can prevent pneumonia, this will intensify the debate about PCV use in adults.