

# 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Flu

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*Anthony S Gilbert*

hVIVO, UK

## The human viral challenge model: Accelerating drug and vaccine development

Since the beginning of the millennium, human viral challenge studies have successfully been conducted at hVIVO to develop a series of well-characterized virus stocks, whilst demonstrating that the Human Viral Challenge Model (HVCN) could be effective in offering clients a faster and cost effective route to market for their therapeutics. The Human Viral Challenge Model enables global pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, as well as leading academic groups and government institutions, to undertake scientific research, accelerate the drug development timeline and reduce the cost of bringing antiviral drugs, vaccines and diagnostics to market. The HVCN also enables fundamental research into the human response to infection and crucial research into modes of infection and transmission between individuals in the community. As hVIVO has grown and developed, the HVCN has become widely accepted as an alternative to traditional early stage field trials to show the efficacy of antiviral and vaccine therapeutics in Influenza, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and Human Rhinovirus (HRV). By monitoring the entire disease lifecycle as subjects move from healthy to sick and recover back to healthy again, we can obtain high quality, longitudinal data from the before, during and after phases of disease. The model can be used to study the efficacy of new therapies and also to study the target disease itself.

## Biography

Anthony S Gilbert has obtained his Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery degree from the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa. He is a Member of the Institute of Clinical Research. He has served as an expert Member and Vice Chair of a National Research Ethics Service (NRES) committee, having been appointed by the Health Research Authority in the UK. As a Principal Investigator, he has supervised and conducted viral challenge studies in order to further the quest to bring safer and more effective vaccines and antivirals to the global community. His research has been published in several medical and scientific journals, including Nature Medicine.

[a.gilbert@hvivo.com](mailto:a.gilbert@hvivo.com)

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