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Rotavirus vaccine trials in Bangladesh: Experience in phase I to IV studies

*R*otavirus is the leading cause of severe diarrhea in infants and young children, accounting for 45% of severe diarrheal disease in both developed and developing countries. Safe and effective rotavirus vaccines are needed to reduce the enormous public health burden associated with rotavirus illness, especially in developing countries. Prevention by vaccination is considered to be critical for effective control of *Rotavirus* infection since it cannot be prevented with improvements in water and sanitation. A variety of approaches to the development of *Rotavirus* vaccines have been undertaken with live oral attenuated vaccines receiving the most attention. The International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh has completed several *Rotavirus* vaccine studies and some are ongoing which ranged from phase I to licensure and post marketing evaluation of the vaccines. The trials were conducted both in rural and urban areas and the sample size was from hundreds to thousands. Findings and challenges for successful implementation of these studies will be presented.

Biography

K Zaman has been working as Senior Scientist and Epidemiologist at the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh in the Centre of Child and Adolescent Health. After completion of MBBS from Bangladesh, he has obtained MPH and PhD from the Johns Hopkins University, USA. For the last 32 years, he has gained extensive experience in the design, implementation and analysis of data from clinical and community-based epidemiological studies. His primary interest is to conduct researches on vaccines and infectious diseases. Besides clinical studies on ORS, drug trial, vaccine studies, vitamin A supplementation and hospital surveillance, he has been involved in community-based research on diarrheal and respiratory diseases and other public health problems in Bangladesh. He is currently the Principal Investigator of *Rotavirus*, Flu, pneumococcal, polio, Japanese encephalitis (JE) vaccine studies and epidemiological studies on tuberculosis in International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh. The vaccine studies included all phases I, II, III, IV and with ICH GCP maintained. He has also served as Section Editor in "Immunization" of the "*Journal of Health, Population and Nutrition*", Reviewer of more than 20 international journals, received several awards and has more than 135 publications in international journals and had 115 conference presentations.

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