

# The year in Infectious Diseases

## Part 1

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# Disclosures (2014-2019)

## ■ **Scientific boards, travel expenses, research**

- Gilead
- MSD
- Pfizer
- Astellas
- Correvio
- Mylan

# Year in ID – Part 1

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1. What was hot for viral diseases ?
2. New strategies to treat ID
3. Antibiotics flowing from the pipeline

# Year in ID – Part 1

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1. **What was hot for viral diseases ?**
2. New strategies to treat ID
3. Antibiotics flowing from the pipeline

# EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE

Democratic Republic of the Congo

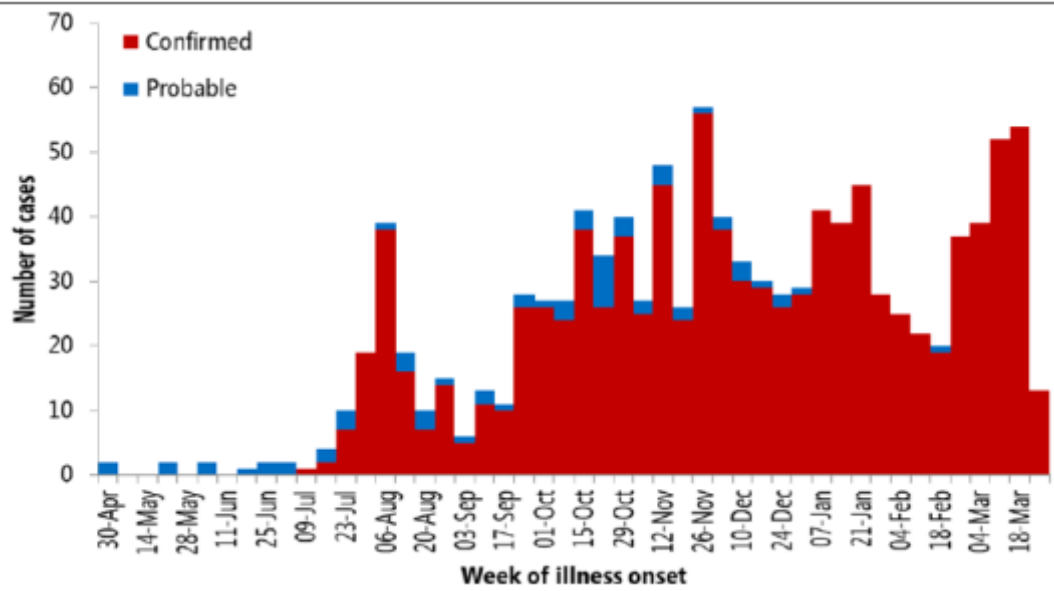


## 1. Situation update

Date of issue: 2 April 2019  
Data as reported by: 31 March 2019

Cases  
 1089

Deaths  
 679



## Uncontrolled outbreak, despite:

- 8 labs with operational PCR
- Contact surveillance
- Reinforcement of IPC
- Points of entry screening (42 M)
- Safe Dignified Burials
- Ring vaccination (95,000 to date)
- Community engagement ?

# An Epidemic of Suspicion — Ebola and Violence in the DRC

Vinh-Kim Nguyen, M.D.

## The epidemic of suspicion that fuels Ebola outbreaks

- 'Perception that *other continents care about Africans only when they get diseases that can harm them*, not when they are dying of diseases that can be treated easily and cheaply'
- Mistrust of public health authorities & international 'Ebola profiteers'

=> **Attacks of Ebola treatment units**

## Most important part of the job is

- Community engagement
- Building trust





# A Longitudinal Study of Ebola Sequelae in Liberia

## Methods:

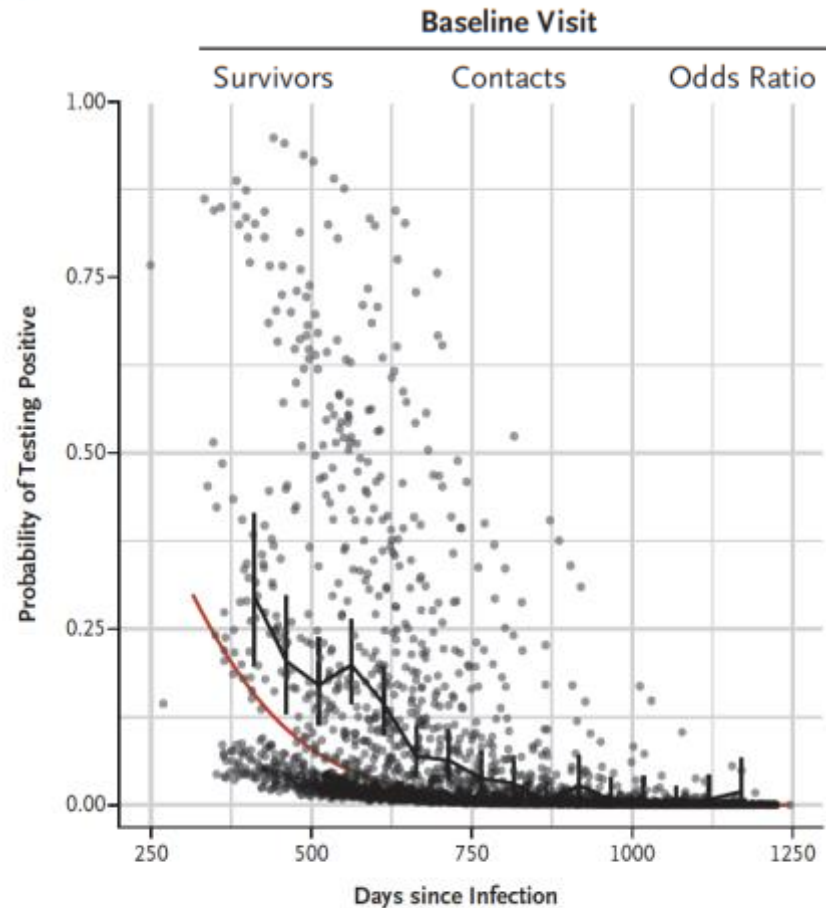
- Cohort of **EVD survivors**, n=966
- Enrolled **one year after EVD**
- Controls = close contacts, **Ab neg**, n=2350

## Messages:

- **High burden of symptoms one year post EVD**
  - Prevalence decline between year 1 & 2
- **Ebola virus RNA in semen as long as 40 Months**

Symptom or Finding

Urinary i  
Headach  
Fatigue  
Muscle |  
Memory  
Joint pai  
Chest fir  
Joint fin



**Figure 2.** Frequency of Semen Samples Testing Positive for Ebola Virus RNA



# Persistence of Zika Virus in Body Fluids — Final Report

## Zika virus persistence (ZiPer) cohort study, Puerto Rico (2016-2017): - at enrolment (acute infection, < 7 days)

### Detection of ZIKV RNA in Body Fluids and Anti-ZIKV IgM Antibody in Serum

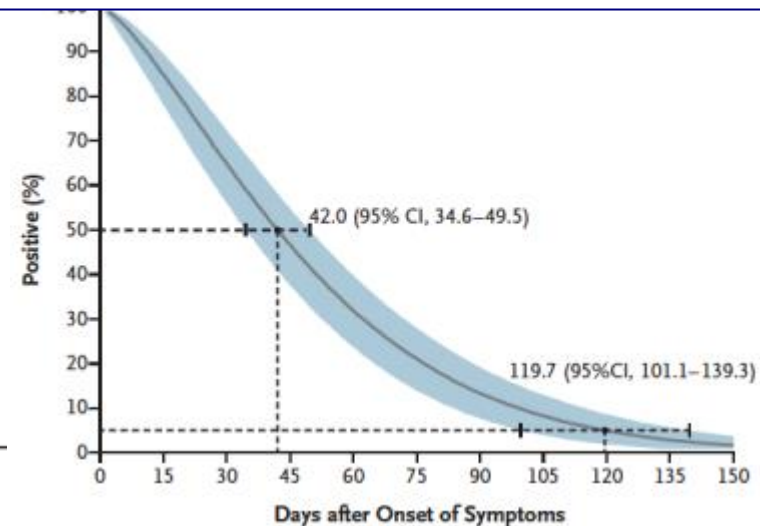
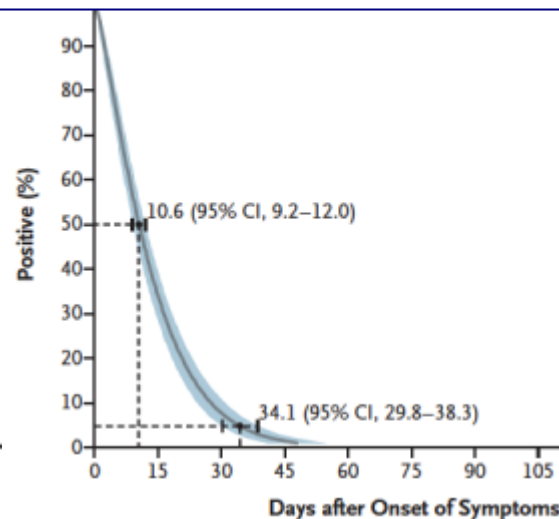
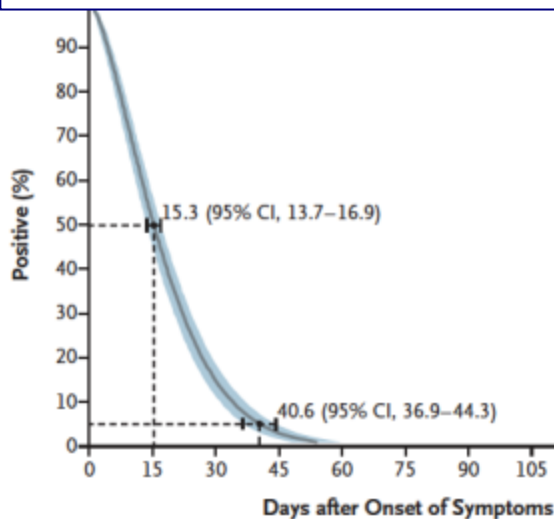
ZIKV RNA					Anti-ZIKV IgM Antibody
Serum	Urine	Saliva	Vaginal Secretions	Semen	Serum
<i>number/total number (percent)</i>					
251/284 (88.4)	136/231 (58.9)	14/291 (4.8)	3/119 (2.5)	48/94 (51.1)	284/294 (96.6)



## Persistence of Zika Virus in Body Fluids — Final Report

### Messages:

- **Men with ZIKV exposure: use condom or abstain from sex during 3 months**
- **Women with ZIKV exposure: wait at least 8 weeks before attempting conception**





# Immunogenicity, safety, and tolerability of the measles-vectored chikungunya virus vaccine MV-CHIK: a double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled and active-controlled phase 2 trial



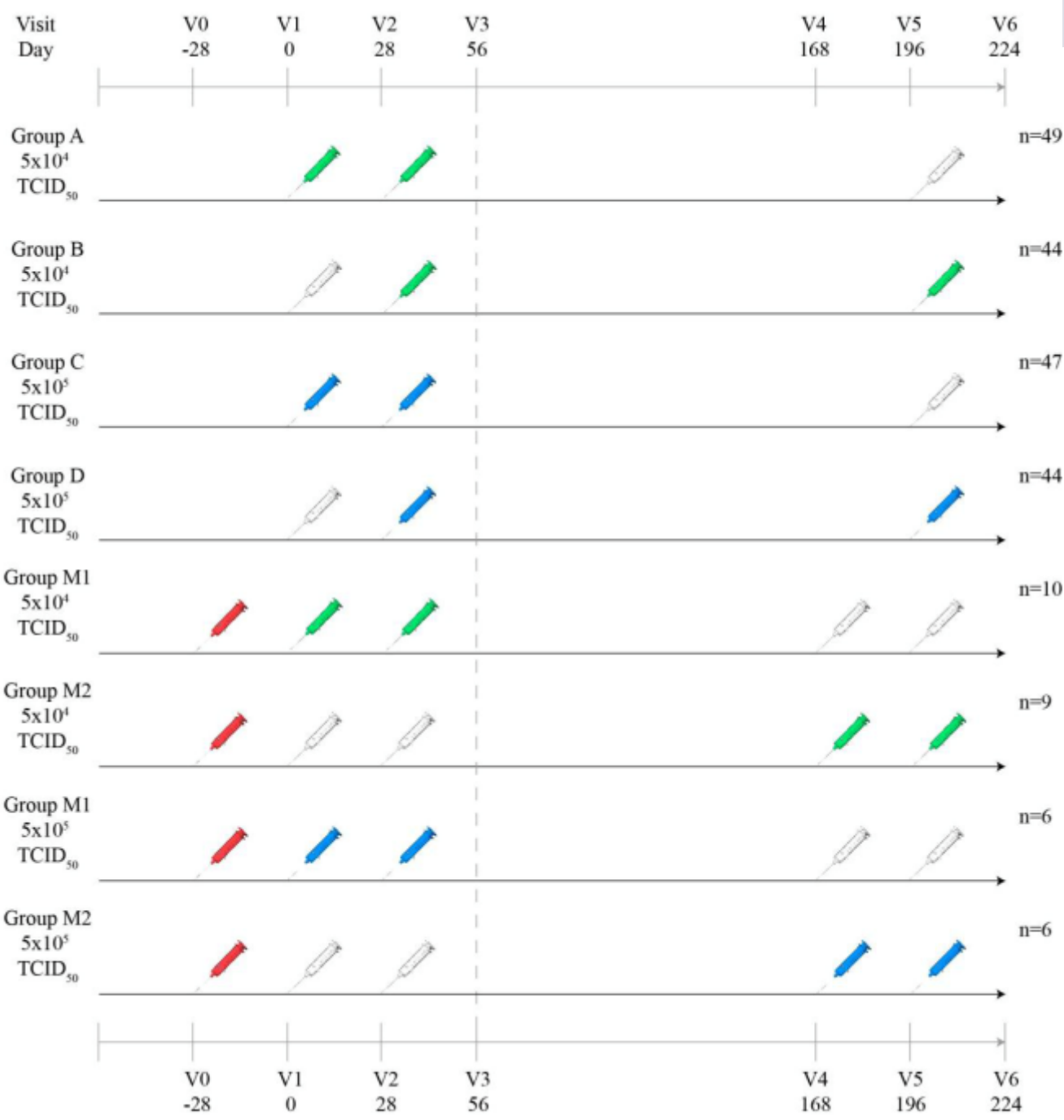
## Chikungunya

- ✓ Reported in **106 countries**
- ✓ **1.3 billion** people living in at-risk areas
- ✓ Musculoskeletal symptoms during months (50% ?)



**Live-attenuated, measles-vectored vaccine (MV-CHIK)**

**Phase 2 trial, healthy volunteers, Austria & Germany**





Immunogenicity, safety, and tolerability of the measles-vectored chikungunya virus vaccine MV-CHIK: a double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled and active-controlled phase 2 trial



## Messages:

- A live-attenuated measles-vectored chikungunya virus**
- Good safety & tolerability profiles (n=229)
- Highly immunogenic in healthy volunteers (>95%)**  
(i.e. high dose, **prime-boost vaccination schedule**)
- Phase 3 study to be started**

## Effect of Dengue Serostatus on Dengue Vaccine Safety and Efficacy



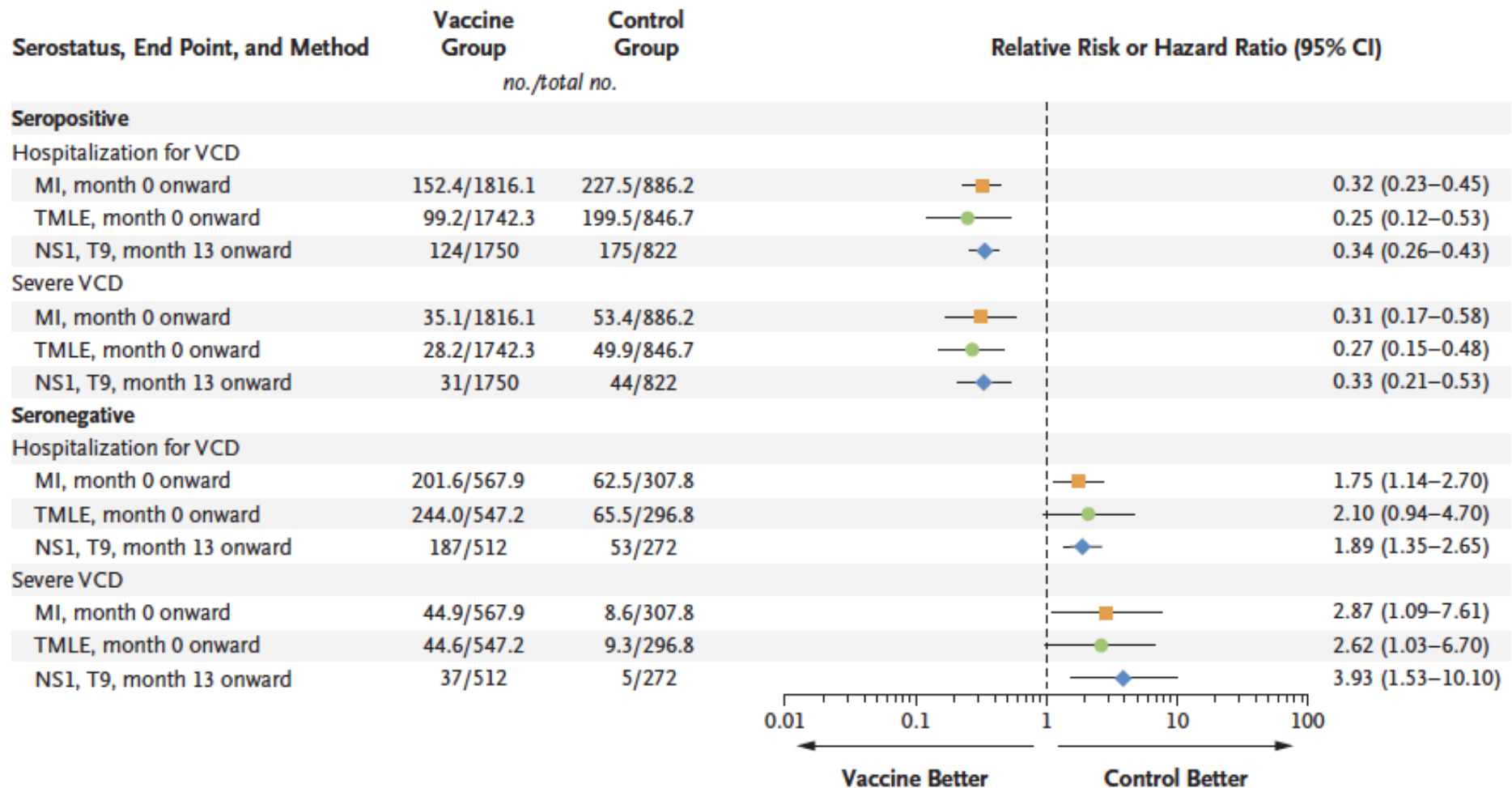
### Dengue vaccine controversy

- 400 M dengue cases/year => 3.2 M severe cases => 9000 deaths
- Tetravalent dengue vaccine => 80% efficacy to prevent hospitalisation for dengue in children 9-16 years
- Vaccination campaign in schoolchildren in Philippines (n=800,000), 2016
- Halted in 2017 because of **excess severe cases in children seronegative before vaccination**
- Partly responsible for Philippines 2019 measles outbreak ?

# Effect of Dengue Serostatus on Dengue Vaccine Safety and Efficacy



2–16 Yr of Age



# Trolleyology and the Dengue Vaccine Dilemma

Lisa Rosenbaum, M.D.

“Trolleyology” refers to a series of moral dilemmas that reveal the tensions between utilitarianism — the idea that a behavior is moral if its consequences maximize public good





World Health  
Organization

Weekly epidemiological record  
Relevé épidémiologique hebdomadaire

**Dengue vaccine: WHO  
position paper – September  
2018**

## **WHO position**

### **Messages**

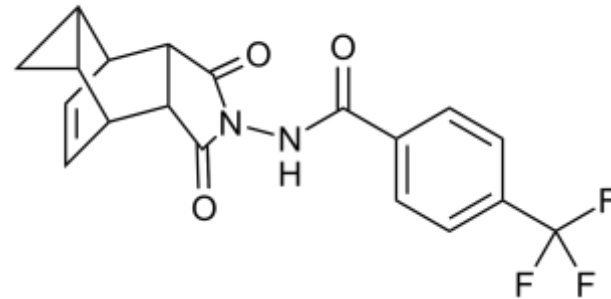
- **Prevaccination screening** is the recommended strategy
- Alternative (if not available) = **vaccination without individual screening only in countries where dengue seroprevalence is >80% by the age of 9 years**



## Oral Tecovirimat for the Treatment of Smallpox

### Tecovirimat

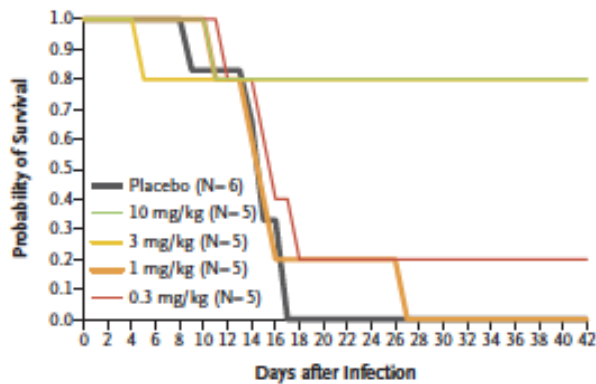
- Inhibits protein p37 => active on orthopoxviruses
  - **Smallpox eradicated**, but potential **bioterrorism** agent
- => FDA animal efficacy rule**



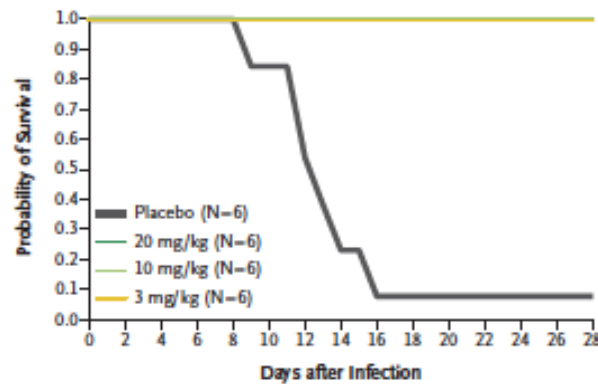


# Oral Tecovirimat for the Treatment of Smallpox

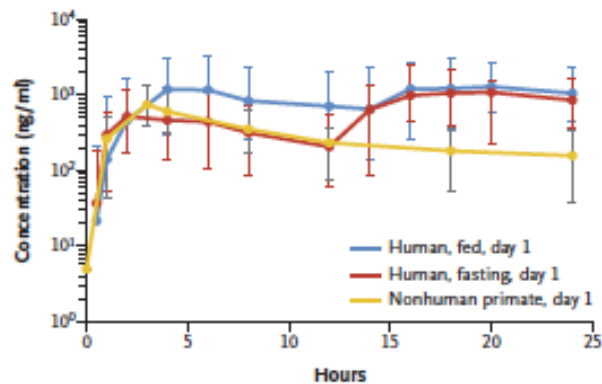
**A** Dose Exploration in Nonhuman Primates



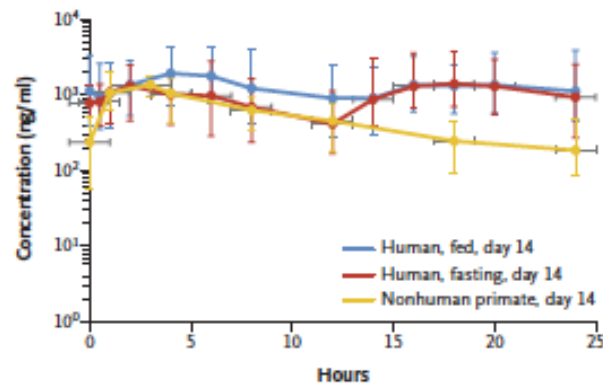
**B** Dose Exploration and Pharmacokinetics in Nonhuman Primates



**E** Human and Nonhuman Primate Pharmacokinetic Profiles after First Dose



**F** Human and Nonhuman Primate Pharmacokinetic Profiles at Steady State





## Oral Tecovirimat for the Treatment of Smallpox

**Table 3.** Adverse Events That Occurred or Worsened during Receipt of Tecovirimat or Placebo in the Overall Summary Safety Population.

Type of Event*	Placebo (N= 90)		Tecovirimat (N= 359)		Total (N= 449)	
	No. of Participants (%)	No. of Events	No. of Participants (%)	No. of Events	No. of Participants (%)	No. of Events
Any event	30 (33.3)	68	134 (37.3)	318	164 (36.5)	386
Event related to the trial agent	15 (16.7)	32	71 (19.8)	176	86 (19.2)	208
Event leading to discontinuation of trial agent	2 (2.2)	3	6 (1.7)	16	8 (1.8)	19
Serious events and events leading to death	0	0	1 (0.3)†	1	1 (0.2)	1

## Messages

- oral tecovirimat, 600 mg b.i.d. in Humans
- **PK:** drug exposure > PK targets for treatment of smallpox, based on animal experiments
- **Tolerability** OK (n=359)

# Year in ID – Part 1

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1. What was hot for viral diseases ?
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## Oral versus Intravenous Antibiotics for Bone and Joint Infection

### Treatment of complex bone & joint infections

- ✓ Guidelines: surgery + **'at least 2 to 6 weeks of parenteral ATB'**
- ✓ Hypothesis: **highly bioavailable oral antimicrobials may be as good as i.v.**

### Pragmatic noninferiority randomized trial (5% noninferiority margin)

- ✓ 26 UK sites, 2010-2015
- ✓ **Prosthetic joint or orthopedic fixation-device infections, osteomyelitis**
- ✓ **Randomization before D7** (post-surgery, or antimicrobials start)
- ✓ **Strategy trial** (i.e. antimicrobials selected by physicians in charge)
- ✓ **Open-label**, but primary outcome (**failure within one year**) categorized by an **end-point committee unaware of trial-group assignment**



# Oral versus Intravenous Antibiotics for Bone and Joint Infection

**Table 1. Baseline Characteristics of the Trial Participants.\***

Characteristic	Intravenous Group (N= 527)	Oral Group (N= 527)	Total (N= 1054)
Age — yr			
Median (interquartile range)	61 (49–70)	60 (49–70)	60 (49–70)
Range	18–92	18–91	18–92
Male sex — no. (%)	320 (60.7)	358 (67.9)	678 (64.3)
Baseline surgical procedure — no. (%)			
No implant or device present; débridement of chronic osteomyelitis performed	153 (29.0)	169 (32.1)	322 (30.6)
No implant or device present; débridement of chronic osteomyelitis not performed	25 (4.7)	29 (5.5)	54 (5.1)
Débridement and implant retention	124 (23.5)	123 (23.3)	247 (23.4)
Removal of orthopedic device for infection	89 (16.9)	78 (14.8)	167 (15.8)
Prosthetic joint implant removed	68 (12.9)	67 (12.7)	135 (12.8)
Prosthetic joint implant, one-stage revision	47 (8.9)	43 (8.2)	90 (8.5)



# Oral versus Intravenous Antibiotics for Bone and Joint Infection

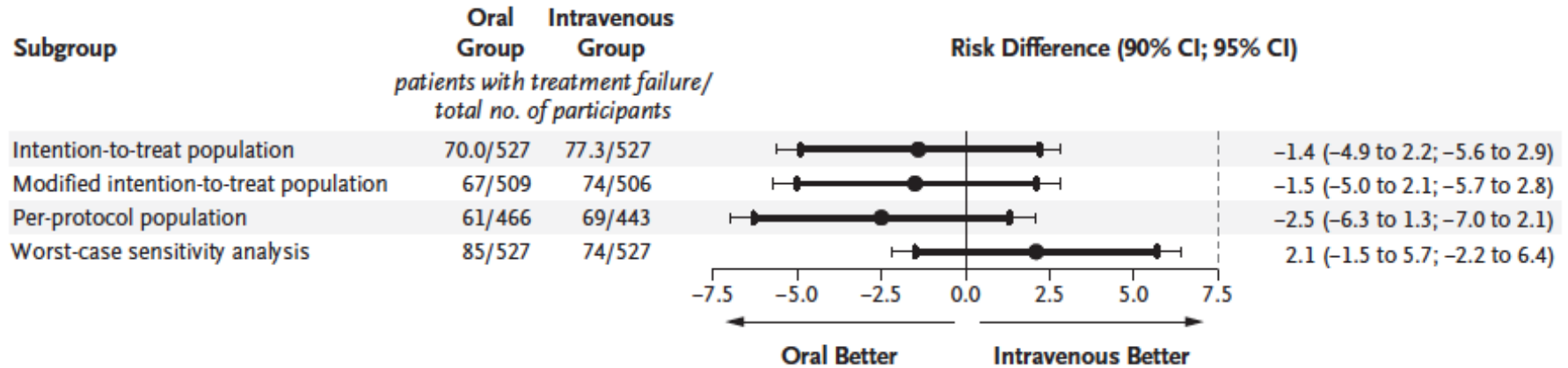
Organisms identified — no./total no. (%)§

	Intravenous Group (N=527)	Oral Group (N=527)
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	196/500 (39.2)	182/503 (36.2)
Coagulase-negative staphylococcus	137/500 (27.4)	135/503 (26.8)
Streptococcus species	72/500 (14.4)	73/503 (14.5)

	Participants randomized to IV Antibiotic* (N = 521)	Participants randomized to PO Antibiotic* (N = 523)
Glycopeptides <sup>a</sup> (IV)	214 (41.1%)	22 (4.2%)
Penicillins (IV)	38 (7.3%)	11 (2.1%)
Cephalosporins (IV)	173 (33.2%)	8 (1.5%)
Carbapenems (IV)	41 (7.9%)	5 (1.0%)
Other single IV antibiotic	35 (6.7%)	2 (0.4%)
Combination IV antibiotics	35 (6.7%)	6 (1.1%)
Penicillins (PO)	8 (1.5%)	83 (15.9%)
Quinolones <sup>b</sup> (PO)	33 (6.3%)	191 (36.5%)
Tetracyclines <sup>c</sup> (PO)	4 (0.8%)	57 (10.9%)
Macrolides / Lincosamide <sup>d</sup> (PO)	10 (1.9%)	68 (13.0%)
Other single PO antibiotic (PO)	10 (1.9%)	54 (10.3%)
Combination PO antibiotics (PO)	13 (2.5%)	87 (16.6%)



# Oral versus Intravenous Antibiotics for Bone and Joint Infection



## Message

- It is safe to switch to oral treatment at D7 for complex bone and joint infections, when susceptible to bioavailable antimicrobial agents



# Partial Oral versus Intravenous Antibiotic Treatment of Endocarditis

## Left-sided infective endocarditis (IE)

- ✓ European & US Guidelines: **4 to 6 weeks of parenteral ATB**
- ✓ Hypothesis: In **stable patients, shift from i.v. to oral treatment is safe & effective**

## Randomized noninferiority trial (10% noninferiority margin)

- ✓ Nationwide study (**Danemark, 2011-2017**)
- ✓ **Prosthetic or native valve, left-sided IE**
- ✓ **Staphylococci, streptococci, or *E. faecalis* definite IE (Duke)**
- ✓ **Randomization if 'stable' after at least 10 days of appropriate i.v. treatment...  
... and still at least 10 days of IE treatment remaining**
- ✓ **Open-label, but primary outcome (failure within 6 months) categorized by an end-point committee unaware of trial-group assignment**



# Partial Oral versus Intravenous Antibiotic Treatment of Endocarditis

## Oral regimens recommended

- ✓ Pre-specified combinations

Methicillin sensitive *Staphylococcus aureus* and coagulase-negative staphylococci

- 1) Dicloxacillin 1 g x 4 and fusidic acid 0.75 g x 2
- 2) Dicloxacillin 1 g x 4 and rifampicin 0.6 g x 2
- 3) Linezolid 0.6 g x 2 and fusidic acid 0.75g x 2
- 4) Linezolid 0.6 g x 2 and rifampicin 0.6 g x 2

*Enterococcus faecalis*:

- 1) Amoxicillin 1 g x 4 and rifampicin 0.6 g x 2
- 2) Amoxicillin 1 g x 4 and moxifloxacin 0.4 g x 1
- 3) Linezolid 0.6 g x 2 and rifampicin 0.6 g x 2
- 4) Linezolid 0.6 g x 2 and moxifloxacin 0.4 g x 1

➤ 1954 patients with left-sided IE screened, 400 patients enrolled



# Partial Oral versus Intravenous Antibiotic Treatment of Endocarditis

**Table 2.** Distribution of the Four Components of the Primary Composite Outcome.\*

Component	Intravenous Treatment (N = 199)	Oral Treatment (N = 201)	Difference	Hazard Ratio (95% CI)
	<i>number (percent)</i>		<i>percentage points (95% CI)</i>	
All-cause mortality	13 (6.5)	7 (3.5)	3.0 (-1.4 to 7.7)	0.53 (0.21 to 1.32)
Unplanned cardiac surgery	6 (3.0)	6 (3.0)	0 (-3.3 to 3.4)	0.99 (0.32 to 3.07)
Embolic event	3 (1.5)	3 (1.5)	0 (-2.4 to 2.4)	0.97 (0.20 to 4.82)
Relapse of the positive blood culture†	5 (2.5)	5 (2.5)	0 (-3.1 to 3.1)	0.97 (0.28 to 3.33)



# Partial Oral versus Intravenous Antibiotic Treatment of Endocarditis

## Message

- It is safe to switch to oral treatment (combination) after D10 for left-sided IE, in stable patients



## Procalcitonin-Guided Use of Antibiotics for Lower Respiratory Tract Infection

- ✓ 14 US Hosp.
  - ✓ **high adherence to quality measures** for pneumonia
  - ✓ **Not PCT users**
- ✓ **Step 1: Clinicians trained about**
  - ✓ recommendations for treatment of lower RTI
  - ✓ interpretation of PCT assays
- ✓ **Inclusion (Emergency dept, 2014-2017)**
  - ✓ patients with **suspected lower RTI & physician uncertain whether ATB indicated**
- ✓ **Two arms**
  - ✓ **Treatment guided by PCT results**
  - ✓ **Usual care**

### **PCT ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ )**

- If  $<0.1 \Rightarrow$  ATB strongly discouraged
- If  $0.1-0.25 \Rightarrow$  ATB discouraged
- If  $0.25-0.5 \Rightarrow$  ATB recommended
- If  $> 0.5 \Rightarrow$  ATB strongly recommended



# Procalcitonin-Guided Use of Antibiotics for Lower Respiratory Tract Infection

## Primary outcome = Antibiotic days by day 30

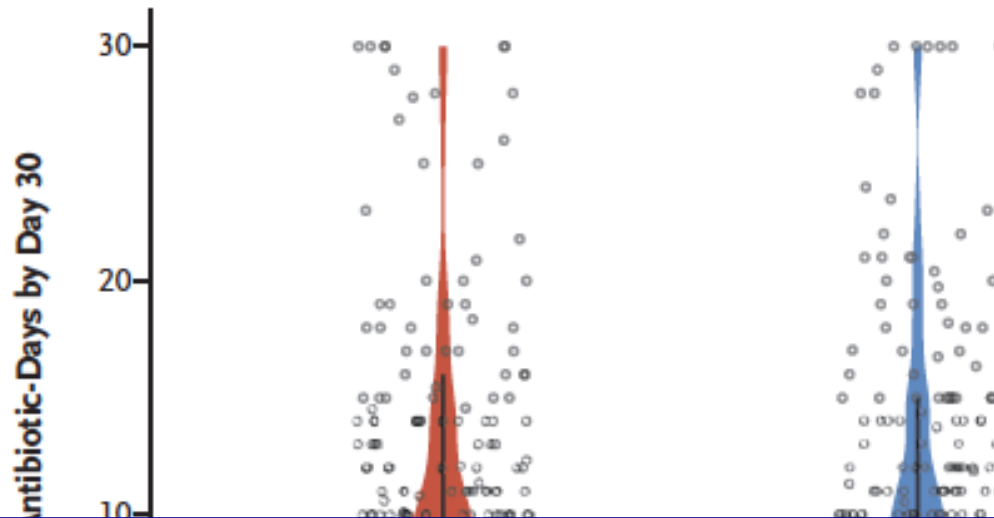
**Table 2. Antibiotic Exposure.\***

Outcome	Procalcitonin (N=826)	Usual Care (N=830)	Difference (95% or 99.86% CI)†
Intention-to-treat population‡			
Antibiotic-days by day 30§	4.2±5.8	4.3±5.6	-0.05 (-0.6 to 0.5)
Received any antibiotics by day 30 — estimated no. (%)¶	471 (57.0)	513 (61.8)	-4.8 (-12.7 to 3.0)
Antibiotic prescription in ED — estimated no. (%)¶	282 (34.1)	321 (38.7)	-4.6 (-12.2 to 3.0)
Antibiotic-days during hospital stay	2.6±3.3	2.7±3.0	-0.1 (-0.8 to 0.6)
Hospital length of stay — days	5.0±4.4	4.7±3.5	0.3 (-0.2 to 0.9)
Per-protocol population**			
No. of patients	696	830	
Antibiotic-days by day 30	4.2±5.7	4.3±5.7	-0.1 (-0.7 to 0.6)

NB. Adverse outcomes similar in both arms ( $P < 0.0001$  for noninferiority)



# Procalcitonin-Guided Use of Antibiotics for Lower Respiratory Tract Infection



## Message

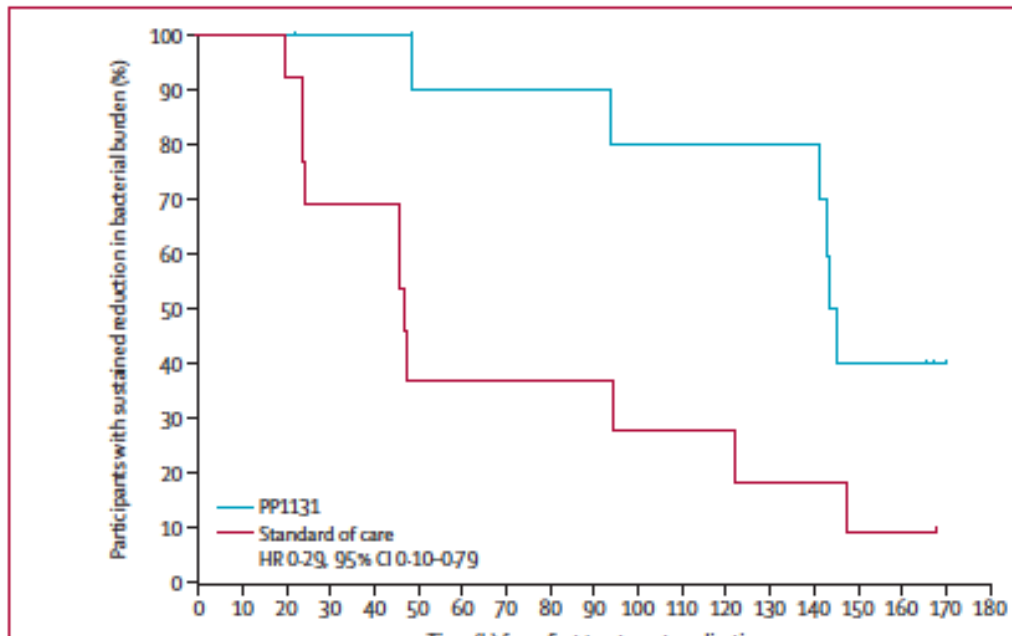
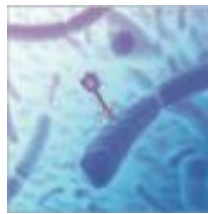
- For well-trained physicians, rapid access to PCT assays does not reduce the use of antibiotics for suspected lower RTI in the emergency department

Efficacy and tolerability of a cocktail of bacteriophages to treat burn wounds infected by *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (PhagoBurn): a randomised, controlled, double-blind phase 1/2 trial



- ✓ **First multicentric, international, RCT on phages**
- ✓ **Nine burn centers (France, Belgium), 2015-2017**
- ✓ **Inclusion: patients with burn wounds clinically infected, *P. aeruginosa***
- ✓ ***Randomization (double-blind)* => 1/d, x 7 days**
  - ✓ ***cocktail of 12 natural lytic anti-*P. aeruginosa* phages*** ( $10^6$  PFU/mL, PP1131)
  - ✓ **standard of care = 1% sulfadiazine silver emulsion cream**
- ✓ **Primary criteria = microbiologic** (sustained reduction in bacterial burden)
- ✓ **Planned enrolment = 125 patients**

# Efficacy and tolerability of a cocktail of bacteriophages to treat burn wounds infected by *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (PhagoBurn): a randomised, controlled, double-blind phase 1/2 trial



## Messages

- Phages efficacy will be complicated to assess
- RCT on phages are feasible (& required !)



## Azithromycin to Reduce Childhood Mortality in Sub-Saharan Africa

### ✓ **Background**

- ✓ **Trachoma-control** programs include **mass distribution of azithromycin**
- ✓ Azithromycin may also **reduce incidence of malaria, infectious diarrhea & CAP**

### ✓ **Cluster-randomized trial in Malawi, Niger, and Tanzania (2014-2017)**

- ✓ Unit of randomization = communities
- ✓ **Twice yearly mass distributions of azithro (20 mg/kg), or placebo**

### ✓ **Target = children, 1-59 months (n = 190,000)**

### ✓ **Primary criteria = all-cause mortality**



## Azithromycin to Reduce Childhood Mortality in Sub-Saharan Africa

in 60 Overall Malawi Niger Tanzania

### Messages

- Mass distribution of azithromycin** in children 1-59 months **reduced mortality by 15%** in 3 Sub-Saharan Africa countries
  - Especially**
    - In young infants (<6 months)
    - In countries with highest child mortality (Niger)
  - Comments**
    - **Causes of death (verbal autopsy): malaria (41%), diarrhea (18%), and pneumonia (12%)**
    - **The effect gradually increased, from 7% (Months 0-6) to 22% (Month 18-24)**
    - **Emergence of macrolide resistance (*S. pneumoniae*, *E. coli*)**
- => Sustainability ??

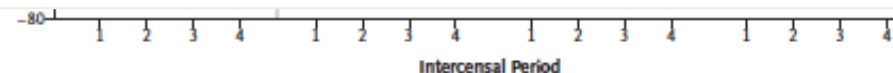


Figure 4. Efficacy of Azithromycin over Time.



# Antibiotic prescription for febrile children in European emergency departments: a cross-sectional, observational study

## To quantify & explain variability in ATB prescription in European paediatric emergency departments

- Observational study of febrile children attending ED depts (n=28, 11 countries)
- One random sampling day/month, 2014-2016 => 5177 children

	Proportion of children prescribed antibiotics	Proportion of prescriptions for second-line antibiotics
Total population	1454/4560 (32%)	893/1454 (61%)
Per country		
Turkey	450/708 (64%)	363/450 (81%)
UK	57/145 (39%)	45/57 (79%)
Hungary	41/111 (37%)	29/41 (71%)
Italy	149/446 (33%)	120/149 (81%)
Romania	87/282 (31%)	81/87 (93%)
Spain	161/631 (26%)	68/161 (42%)
Portugal	177/698 (25%)	56/177 (32%)
Denmark	6/24 (25%)	2/6 (33%)
France	208/926 (22%)	70/208 (34%)
Netherlands	37/161 (23%)	18/37 (49%)
Switzerland	81/428 (19%)	41/81 (51%)

# Antibiotic prescription for febrile children in European emergency departments: a cross-sectional, observational study

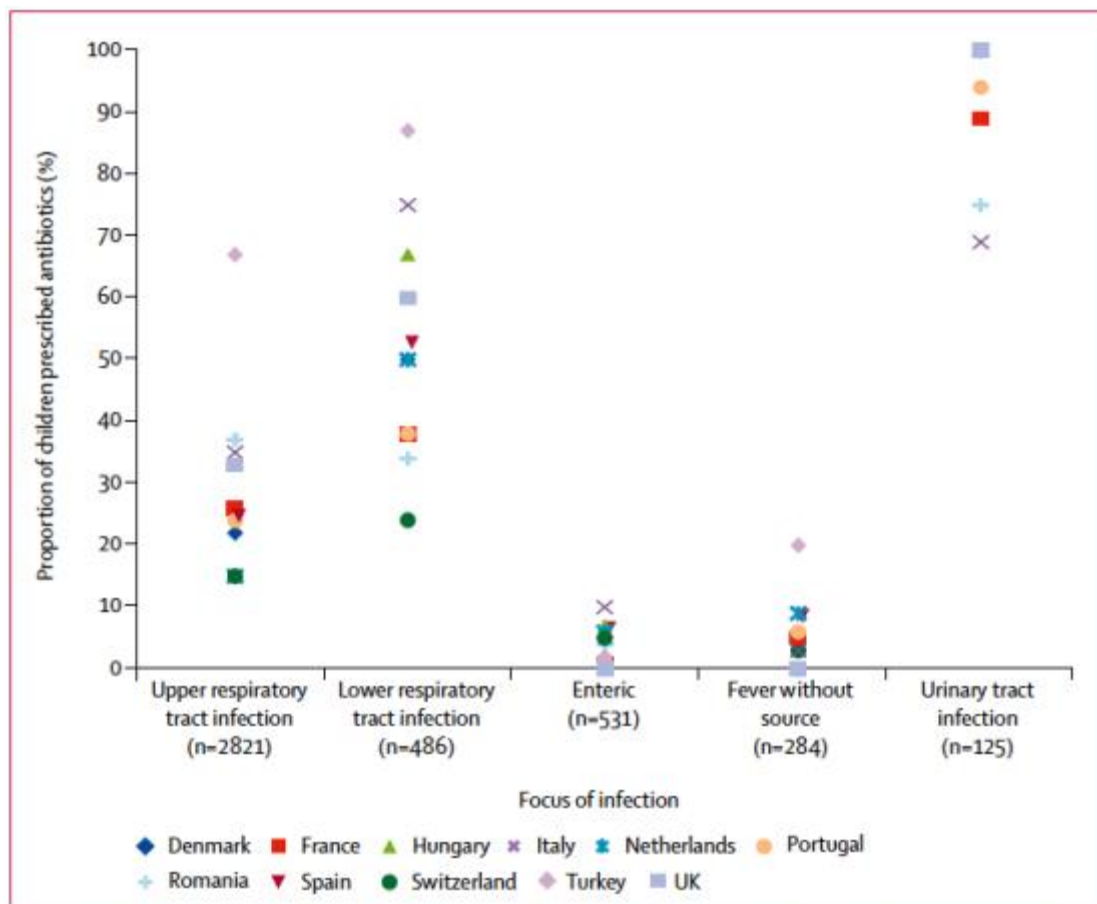


Figure 3: Variability in antibiotic prescription across countries for the most frequent foci of infection in 4560 children without comorbidities

**Message.** The high variability of ATB use in European ED

# Year in ID – Part 1

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1. What was hot for viral diseases ?
2. New strategies to treat ID
3. **Antibiotics flowing from the pipeline (n=3)**

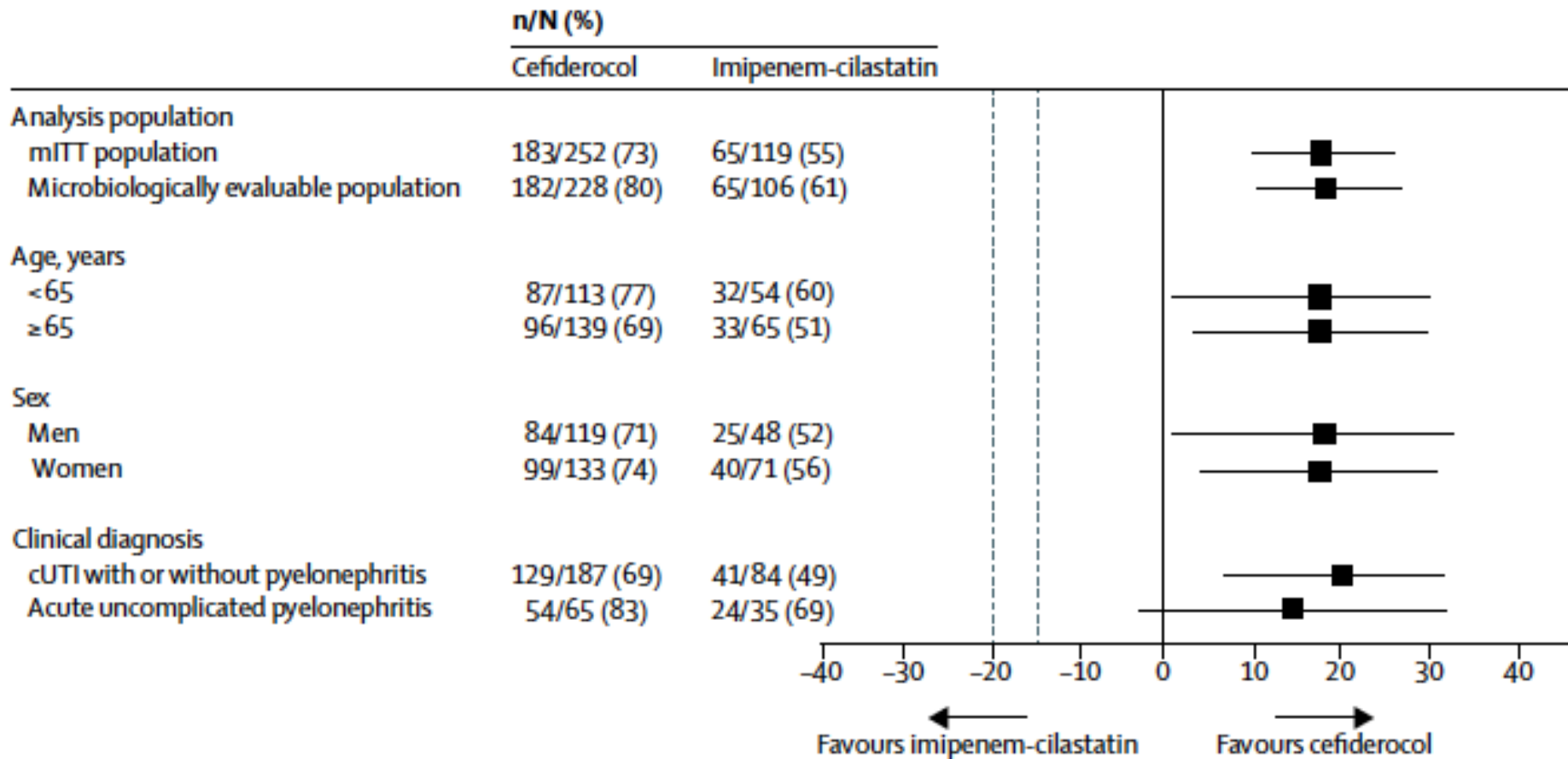
# Cefiderocol versus imipenem-cilastatin for the treatment of complicated urinary tract infections caused by Gram-negative uropathogens: a phase 2, randomised, double-blind, non-inferiority trial



- ✓ **Cefiderocol**
  - ✓ **Siderophore cephalosporin**
  - ✓ Broad activity against **Enterobacteriaceae**, and **non-fermenting bacteria**, including **carbapenem-resistant strains**
- ✓ **Inclusion: Complicated UTI or non-complicated pyelonephritis (>18 y)**
  - ✓ *Arm 1*: Cefiderocol, 2 g (1 h i.v.), x 3/d x 7-14 days
  - ✓ *Arm 2*: Imipenem-cilastatin, 1 g x 3/d x 7-14 days
- ✓ **2015-2016, 67 sites (15 countries)**
- ✓ **Primary criteria**, test of cure (D7 post-treatment) clinical + microbiological



# Cefiderocol versus imipenem-cilastatin for the treatment of complicated urinary tract infections caused by Gram-negative uropathogens: a phase 2, randomised, double-blind, non-inferiority trial



# Cefiderocol versus imipenem-cilastatin for the treatment of complicated urinary tract infections caused by Gram-negative uropathogens: a phase 2, randomised, double-blind, non-inferiority trial



## Messages

- Cefiderocol efficacy & tolerability OK (n=303)
- 50% males, 50% pyelonephritis, mortality < 1%

**NB.** For *P. aeruginosa*, success rates 47% (7/15) for cefiderocol, vs. 50% (2/4) for imipenem

# Single-Dose Zoliflodacin (ETX0914) for Treatment of Urogenital Gonorrhoea



- ✓ **Gonorrhoea, emerging**
  - ✓ Incidence & resistance
- ✓ **Zoliflodacin**
  - ✓ A new class (spiropyrimidine-trione inhibits DNA synthesis)
  - ✓ Active against **ciprofloxacin-resistant & ceftriaxone-resistant *N. gonorrhoeae***
- ✓ **Uncomplicated** urogenital gonorrhoea, 2014-15, sexual health clinics (US)
  - ✓ Arm 1: **Zoliflodacin, single oral dose, 2 or 3 g**
  - ✓ Arm 2: **Ceftriaxone, single i.m. dose, 500 mg**
- ✓ **Open-label, primary criteria, TOC (D6<sub>±</sub>2), microbiological**

# Single-Dose Zoliflodacin (ETX0914) for Treatment of Urogenital Gonorrhea



## Messages

- **A promising new drug for urogenital gonorrhea**  
(new class, single oral dose...)
- Concerns about **lower efficacy on pharyngeal carriage** (public health issue)

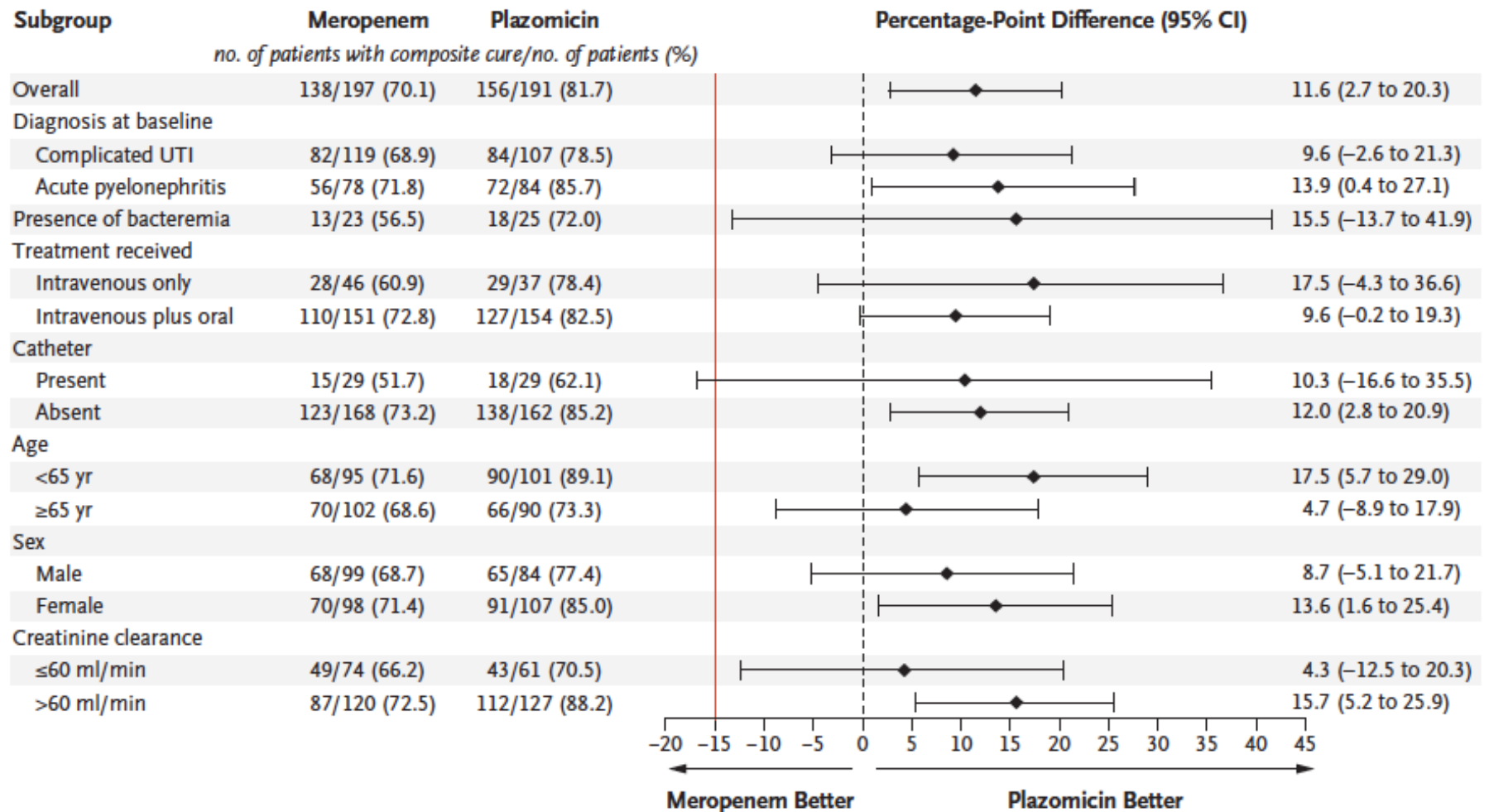
## Once-Daily Plazomicin for Complicated Urinary Tract Infections



- ✓ **Plazomicin**
  - ✓ Aminoglycoside with **bactericidal** activity against **MDR (including carbapenem-resistant) Enterobacteriaceae**
- ✓ **Inclusion:** Complicated UTI, including pyelonephritis (adults)
  - ✓ *Arm 1:* Plazomicin, 15 mg/kg o.d. x 7-10 days
  - ✓ *Arm 2:* Meropenem, 1 g x 3/d x 7-10 days
  - Optional oral step-down after D4
- ✓ **2016, 68 sites (North America & Europe)**
- ✓ **Primary criteria, D5 & D15-19 post-treatment, clinical + microbiological**



# Once-Daily Plazomicin for Complicated Urinary Tract Infections



**Figure 1.** Composite Cure at the Test-of-Cure Visit, According to Patient Subgroups in the Microbiologic Modified Intention-to-Treat Population. 9



## Plazomicin for Infections Caused by Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae

### Messages

Promising drug for treatment of **Carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriae (CPE)**

Pending post-marketing data on clinical/microbiological efficacy...

No. at Risk	Days							No. of Patients with Increase/ Total No. of Patients
	2/12	4/12	6/12	8/12	10/12	12/12	8/16	
Plazomicin	17	16	16	15	12	11	9	
Colistin	20	18	16	11	9	8	7	

See you next year !

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**18-21, April, 2020**

