

# Surveillance for adverse events following use of live attenuated chikungunya vaccine and its use among travelers

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Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices meeting

April 16, 2025

## Background on live attenuated chikungunya vaccine

### Live attenuated chikungunya vaccine (CHIK-LA)

- Manufactured by Valneva and called IXCHIQ
- Licensed in United States in November 2023 for individuals aged ≥18 years
- Single dose primary schedule
- Licensed based on immunogenicity and safety data in ~3,500 adults



### Local and systemic adverse events in pivotal Phase 3 trial

- Safety data from 3,082 subjects
- Solicited local reactions within 10 days after vaccination
  - 15% in vaccinees vs 11% in placebo recipients
- Solicited systemic adverse events (AE) within 10 days after vaccination
  - 50% in vaccinees vs 27% in placebo recipients
  - Most common were headache, fatigue and myalgia in ~25%–30% of vaccinees

### **Comparison of adverse events in 18–64 years and ≥65 years\***

		18–64	years		≥65 years					
	Vaccine (95% Cl) (n=2,736)		Placebo (n=916)	(95% CI)	Vaccine (n=346)	(95% CI)	Placebo (n=117)	(95% CI)		
Any related AE	52%	(50%–54%)	32%	(29%–35%)	46%	(41%–52%)	26%	(18%–35%)		
Any related severe AE	2%	(2%-3%)	0.1%	(0%-0.6%)	1%	(0.3%–3%)	0	(0%-3%)		

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\*Data from pivotal Phase 3 trial

### **Chikungunya-like adverse reactions (1)**

• Fever ≥100.4°F (38°C) **and** ≥1 of:

- Arthralgia or arthritis					
- Myalgia					
- Headache					
- Back pain					
- Rash					
- Lymphadenopathy					

- Certain neurologic, cardiac, or ocular symptoms

• Symptom onset within 30 days of vaccination

Package insert – IXCHIQ (https://www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/ixchiq)

### **Chikungunya-like adverse reactions (2)**

### <u>Chikungunya-like adverse reactions</u>

- **11.7%** of vaccine recipients and 0.6% of placebo recipients
- <u>Severe reactions</u> preventing daily activity or requiring medical intervention
  - **1.6%** vaccine recipients vs 0% of placebo recipients
- **<u>Prolonged reactions</u>** with duration ≥30 days
  - 0.5% vaccine recipients vs 0% of placebo recipients

#### -WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS-----

 IXCHIQ may cause severe or prolonged chikungunya-like adverse reactions. (5.2)

### Two serious adverse events considered related to vaccination



- 58-year-old female, history of fibromyalgia and hypertension
- Severe myalgia
- Hospitalized for 6 days for pain management and diagnostic procedures



- 66-year-old male, history of hypertension
- Myalgia, high fever, atrial fibrillation, and hypovolemic hyponatremia
- Hospitalized for 4 days

### ACIP Work Group summary of CHIK-LA safety in Evidence to Recommendations, February 2024

- Reactogenic vaccine but similar adverse event rates to some other vaccines
- Important to monitor for rare adverse events post-licensure as sample size of ~3,500 vaccinated subjects too small to detect rare events

### **Post-marketing studies**

- FDA-required post-marketing studies
  - Vaccine effectiveness study in persons aged ≥12 years with safety component (Brazil)
  - Pragmatic randomized controlled trial in ≥10,000 individuals to assess effectiveness and safety

### **Post-marketing studies**

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  - Vaccine effectiveness study in persons aged ≥12 years with safety component (Brazil)
  - Pragmatic randomized controlled trial in ≥10,000 individuals to assess effectiveness and safety
- Additional safety data collection
  - Valneva conducting safety study of 5,000 U.S. travelers for medically attended adverse events of special interest
  - Observational registry study of pregnant women in Brazil

## Post-licensure surveillance for adverse events following use of CHIK-LA

### Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS)

- National reporting system for adverse events (AE) following vaccination co-managed by CDC and FDA
- Designed to detect rare or previously unreported AE or changes in reporting patterns that might signal a potential safety concern that warrants further investigation
- Anyone (e.g., healthcare providers, patients, vaccine manufacturers) can submit reports
- Effective in intended role as early warning system but limitations include
  - Under-and over-reporting, variable report quality and accuracy, lack of data on vaccine doses administered, and lack of unvaccinated comparator group
- Generally cannot determine if AEs caused by vaccine



### Timeline

### Licensure November 2023

ACIP recommendations February 2024 Exact timing of distribution unknown\*

\*First report (non-serious event ) to VAERS received May 6, 2024

### 28 AEs reported to VAERS after CHIK-LA vaccine administered in May-Dec 2024\*



\*Excludes 1 foreign report (non-serious)

### 22 non-serious AEs



\*Syncope (n=1), flushing (n=1), rash/headache (n=1), musculoskeletal pain (n=1), low grade fever/headache (n=2), respiratory tract symptoms (n=2)

### Serious adverse events (SAEs)

### FDA definition of SAE per federal law

Any adverse event associated with use of biological product, whether or not considered product-related, that results in:

- Death
- Life-threatening adverse experience
- Inpatient hospitalization or prolongation of existing hospitalization
- Persistent or significant disability/incapacity
- Congenital anomaly/birth defect
- Other medically important event that may jeopardize patient and may require intervention to prevent one of the outcomes listed



Code of Federal Regulations Title 21 (https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-21/chapter-I/subchapter-F/part-600/subpart-D/section-600.80)

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When SAEs reported to VAERS, attempts made to collect additional information (e.g., medical records)

Code of Federal Regulations Title 21 (https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-21/chapter-I/subchapter-F/part-600/subpart-D/section-600.80)





Multiple medications to treat comorbidities Active at baseline



 Received CHIK-LA vaccine for travel to South America and Africa

Multiple medications to treat comorbidities Active at baseline

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Rece	eived							
CHII	<-LA							
(or	nly)							
Luit .								





Myalgia, arthralgia, mild fever, chills, headache, generalized weakness, brain fog, anorexia, severe fatigue, unsteady gait





Determined to have acute kidney injury likely from dehydration; brain MRI and head CT - no acute changes; discharged home









### **Case 1. Encephalopathy in 83-year-old male**

- Discharge diagnosis: Encephalopathy and generalized weakness suspected association with chikungunya vaccination
- Completely resolved after 3.5 weeks

### **Case 1. Encephalopathy in 83-year-old male**



### Case 2. 77-year-old male



Several medications to treat comorbidities Active at baseline

### Case 2. 77-year-old male



 Received CHIK-LA vaccine for travel to Southeast Asia

Several medications to treat comorbidities Active at baseline
Day 0: Received CHIK-LA &

JE-VC\*





\*JE-VC: Inactivated Vero cell culture-derived JE vaccine

Day 0: Day 4: Received Initial CHIK-LA & symptoms JE-VC JE-VC

Day 0: Day 4: Received Initial CHIK-LA & symptoms **JE-VC** 0 o Luit o Luit Severe fatigue, fever, diarrhea, myalgia, urinary

urgency









Blood cultures: no growth





## **Case 2. Encephalopathy in 77-year-old male**

 Discharge diagnosis: Acute metabolic encephalopathy – possible association with vaccination – and fever of unknown origin (resolved)



## Case 2. Encephalopathy in 77-year-old male: outcome

• At ~4 months after onset: Still recovering with ongoing weakness

# **Case 2. Encephalopathy in 77-year-old male**





Medications to manage comorbidities



• Received CHIK-LA vaccine for travel to South Asia

Medications to manage comorbidities

Day 0: Received CHIK-LA













#### Case 3. 86-year-old male Day 8: Hospitalized, Day 3: admitted to ICU Day 0: Initial Received symptoms ł CHIK-LA Hypokalemia, hypochloremia, hypocalcemia, hypomagnesemia Elevated liver function tests CT head: No acute abnormalities Chest X-ray: bilateral infiltrates Echocardiogram: Small pericardial effusion Day 13 post-vaccination serum sample: chikungunya virus RNA



# Case 3. Metabolic encephalopathy in 83-year-old male

- Discharge diagnosis:
  - Toxic metabolic encephalopathy
  - Fever possibly related to a post-vaccination inflammatory response with possible superadded bacterial pneumonia
- Mostly recovered at 1 month after discharge from hospital



Medications to manage comorbidities

\*Radiation therapy pending



• Received CHIK-LA vaccine for trip to Southeast Asia

Medications to manage comorbidities

\*Radiation therapy pending

Day 0: Received CHIK-LA\*



\*At intervals 8–15 days earlier, received six inactivated vaccines: Tdap, influenza, polio, typhoid, Japanese encephalitis, hepatitis A







CSF pleocytosis (109 WBC/µL with mononuclear predominance; 157 RBC/µL)



CSF pleocytosis (109 WBC/µL with mononuclear predominance; 157 RBC/µL) Meningoencephalitis and respiratory PCR panels negative, CSF culture no growth



CSF pleocytosis (109 WBC/µL with mononuclear predominance; 157 RBC/µL) Meningoencephalitis and respiratory PCR panels negative, CSF culture no growth Brain MRI, CT: no acute abnormalities



CSF pleocytosis (109 WBC/µL with mononuclear predominance; 157 RBC/µL) Meningoencephalitis and respiratory PCR panels negative, CSF culture no growth Brain MRI, CT: no acute abnormalities CSF chikungunya testing: IgM and neutralizing antibodies detected



# **Case 4. Meningitis in 68-year-old male**

- Discharge diagnoses: Meningismus/aseptic meningitis likely secondary to recent vaccination
- Status: Headache and fatigue initially persisted but fully recovered by ~1 month

# Case 4. Meningitis in 68-year-old male



\*At intervals 8–15 days earlier, received six inactivated vaccines: Tdap, influenza, polio, typhoid, Japanese encephalitis, hepatitis A


Medication to manage condition



• Received CHIK-LA vaccine for trip to central America

Medication to manage condition

Day 0: Received CHIK-LA & oral typhoid vaccine\*





\*19 days prior: COVID-19 and inactivated influenza vaccines



Myalgia, fever







Nuclear stress test: suspicious for small infarct



Nuclear stress test: suspicious for small infarct

No evidence of pulmonary embolism, normal thyroid-stimulating hormone



Elevated troponin, proBNP Nuclear stress test: suspicious for small infarct

No evidence of pulmonary embolism, normal thyroid-stimulating hormone

COVID, influenza, RSV PCR: negative



# Case 5. Atrial flutter and non-ST segment elevation myocardial infarction in 67-year-old male

- Discharge diagnoses: atrial flutter with rapid ventricular response, suspected small non-ST segment elevation myocardial infarction
- Status: Fully recovered on discharge, medication ongoing 3 months later

# Case 5. Atrial flutter and non-ST segment elevation myocardial infarction in 67-year-old male with



\*19 days prior: COVID-19 and inactivated influenza vaccines



Medications to manage comorbidities



 Received CHIK-LA vaccine for planned travel to Southeast Asia

Medications to manage comorbidities

Day 0: Received CHIK-LA

& JE-VC\*



\*JE-VC: Inactivated Vero cell culture-derived JE vaccine

Day 0: Day 3: Received Initial CHIK-LA symptoms & JE-VC

> Fatigue, weakness, lightheadedness, mild shortness of breath, noted hypotension



failure

Day 0: Day 3: Day 8: Day 10: Received Initial Presented Blood CHIK-LA symptoms to internist collection & JE-VC

> Leukopenia, thrombocytopenia





## Case 6. 74-year-old male<sup>#</sup>



#### **\*SAE as "Other medically important event"**

# Case 6. Worsened and prolonged hypotension in 74year-old male

- Final diagnosis: Episode of worsened and prolonged hypotension on the background of pre-existing cardiomyopathy and hypotension - likely related to CHIK-LA vaccination
- Resolved within ~2 weeks

## Case 6. 74-year-old male<sup>#</sup>



\*JE-VC: Inactivated Vero cell culture-derived JE vaccine

#### **#SAE as "Other medically important event"**

Age	ge Co-administered Symptom						
(yrs)	Sex	Key comorbidities	vaccines	onset (days)	Discharge diagnosis(es)	Chikungunya testing	
83	Male	Coronary artery disease, chronic heart failure, chronic kidney disease, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, chronic thrombocytopenia	_	3	Encephalopathy Generalized weakness	N/A	
77	Male	Coronary artery disease, hypothyroidism, benign prostatic hyperplasia, hyperlipidemia, hypertension, IgA deficiency	Japanese encephalitis (inactivated)	4	Acute metabolic encephalopathy Fever of unknown origin	N/A	
86	Male	Diabetes mellitus, heart failure, anemia, hypertension, hypothyroidism, hyperlipidemia	_	3	Metabolic encephalopathy Fever possibly related to post- vaccination inflammatory response	RT-PCR on serum on day 13: positive	
68	Male	Prostate cancer, hypothyroidism, hypertension, dyslipidemia	+ -	5	Aseptic meningitis	IgM & neutralizing antibodies in CSF	
67	Male	Hyperlipidemia	Typhoid (oral, live)*	4	Atrial flutter Non-ST segment elevation myocardial infarction (NSTEMI)	N/A	
74	Male	Ischemic cardiomyopathy, hypotension, coronary artery disease, chronic leukopenia, chronic thrombocytopenia	Japanese encephalitis (inactivated)	3	Worsened and prolonged hypotension on background of pre-existing cardiomyopathy and hypotension	N/A	

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U.S. CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

CISA Clinical Immunization Safety Assessment (CISA) Project

8 participating medical research centers with vaccine safety experts



- clinical consult services<sup>+</sup>
- support enhanced surveillance
- clinical research

<sup>†</sup>More information about clinical consults available at <u>https://www.cdc.gov/vaccine-safety-systems/hcp/cisa/index.html</u>

# Summary of CISA review of SAEs following CHIK-LA reported to VAERS

- Available medical records for each of neurologic (n=4) and cardiac (n=2) reports reviewed with experts in vaccine safety, infectious diseases, cardiology and neurology
- For each report, at least one CISA expert considered association of CHIK-LA with SAE plausible
- However, experts noted difficulty differentiating between general reactogenicity in older patients with comorbidities leading to SAE versus chikungunya vaccine causing SAE

## **Generally cannot determine causality from VAERS data**

- Temporal association ≠ causal association
- Sometimes concomitant or recent administration of other vaccines
- Comprehensive investigations of possible etiologies not always conducted or available
- Unlike in controlled clinical trials, no unvaccinated comparator group





or 3 patients with co-administration of other vaccines (i.e., JE, typhoid), association with other vaccines less likely<sup>1-3</sup>



nvestigations did not indicate clear alternate etiologies for any patient and most (n=5) discharge summaries noted potential association with vaccination



For 2 cases with chikungunya laboratory testing, results suggested an association with CHIK-LA

All events began within 3–5 days of vaccination

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## **CHIK-LA and SAEs in persons ≥65 years**

- Immunosenescence affects older person's ability to adequately control replication of live attenuated vaccine virus
  - Example: With live attenuated yellow fever vaccine, SAEs more frequent in older persons, and age ≥60 years is precaution for use
- Wild-type chikungunya virus infections more likely to result in severe disease in older adults

# **Estimating incidence of SAEs after CHIK-LA**

- Difficult as <u>limited</u> data on vaccine doses **distributed** and <u>very limited</u> data on doses **administered**
- Obtained data from commercial source (IQVIA; private-sector company that provides healthcare data)
  - Sales data: Weekly Sales Perspectives (WSP) data are unprojected (i.e., actual) sales for prescription products (vaccinations) sold to retail, non-retail, and mail channels and capture about ~90% of total sales\*
  - Administration data: National Prescription Audit (NPA) data represent projected estimates of vaccinations administered in retail and long-term care pharmacies

#### CHIK-LA (IXCHIQ) weekly and cumulative <u>sales</u> as of week ending December 27, 2024 IQVIA SMART Weekly Sales Perspective (WSP)

IQVIA data cannot be shared further due to data use and clearance requirements set by IQVIA.


# CHIK-LA (IXCHIQ) weekly and cumulative vaccinations <u>administered in pharmacies</u>, as of week ending December 27, 2024. IQVIA SMART NPA Weekly Extended Insights

IQVIA data cannot be shared further due to data use and clearance requirements set by IQVIA.



#### CHIK-LA (IXCHIQ) pharmacy administrations by age, March 3–December 27, 2024 IQVIA SMART NPA Weekly Extended Insights



IQVIA data cannot be shared further due to data use and clearance requirements set by IQVIA.

N=928

# Risk estimates for SAEs and hospitalizations among persons aged ≥65 years\*

	No. events	Estimated rate of events per 100,000 doses administered (95% CI)	Estimated rate of doses administered resulting in 1 event (95% CI)	
SAEs	6	82 per 100,000 (30–180)	1 SAE per 1,220 doses (1 per 3,333 doses to 1 per 556 doses)	

\*Based on VAERS reports, IQVIA data on doses distributed (N=13,891 doses), and IQVIA data that 52.7% (n=7,320) administered to persons aged ≥65 yrs

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Hospitalizations	5	68 per 100,000 (20–160)	1 hospitalization per 1,471 doses (1 per 5,000 doses to 1 per 625 doses)

\*Based on VAERS reports, IQVIA data on doses distributed (N=13,891 doses), and IQVIA data that 52.7% (n=7,320) administered to persons aged ≥65 yrs

### **Limitations of risk estimates**

- Calculations limited by potential imprecision in numerator and denominator data
  - Unknown completeness of reporting of events to VAERS
  - Potential inaccuracies in vaccine administration data overall and by age group
- All VAERS SAE reports included in calculations but cannot confirm causal link between vaccination and all reported events
- Overall low certainty in estimates

### Update: 2025 VAERS data

- Updated data as of March 21, 2025
  - <u>0 SAEs</u> and 9 non-serious AEs reported to VAERS in United States<sup>\*</sup>
  - Additional ~4,250 CHIK-LA doses sold#
- Risk estimates not updated for this presentation
  - Delays in CHIK-LA reports to VAERS (median 13 days)
  - ~2,375 doses sold in last ~2 weeks of 2024 and likely not administered in 2024
  - Unknown impact of CDC alert in February 2025 about hospitalizations after CHIK-LA in ages ≥65 years
  - With updated data, risk estimates lower but within 95% confidence limits of previous estimates

\*Excludes 6 (non-serious) reports from other countries; #IQVIA data

#### Vaccine recommendations

#### Notice

CDC is currently investigating five hospitalizations for cardiac (heart) or neurologic (nervous system) events following vaccination with IXCHIQ among people 65 years and older. Findings from the investigations will be further discussed with national immunization experts at an Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) meeting. We will provide more information as it becomes available. If you are traveling to an area with risk for chikungunya, talk to your healthcare provider about the possible benefits and risks for vaccination based on your age, destination, and other factors.

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https://www.cdc.gov/chikungunya/prevention/chikungunya-vaccine.html

# Work Group considerations regarding SAEs following CHIK-LA

All SAEs in persons aged  $\geq$ 65 years









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Association of CHIK-LA with SAEs is plausible, but causal association for each event not determined

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Findings considered preliminary because in clinical trials and post-licensure use, CHIK-LA only administered to ~7,700 persons aged ≥65 years

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VAERS intended to be early warning system to flag potential safety issues; signal identified for persons aged ≥65 years, but further investigation warranted to better define true risk

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For individual travelers aged ≥65 years, risk-benefit assessment needed to weigh risks of disease vs risks of vaccination because vaccine use might be supported in certain higher-risk settings (e.g., outbreak) given known risks for severe disease and hospitalization in this age group

### Age ≥65 years should be a precaution<sup>\*</sup> for use of CHIK-LA

- In general, vaccination should be deferred
- Vaccination might be indicated if benefit from protection from vaccination outweighs risk for adverse reaction

# Work Group proposes revising recommendations for use of CHIK-LA among travelers

- In accordance with updated Evidence to Recommendations for travelers presented in earlier presentation for CHIK-VLP
- In consideration of safety signal following use of vaccine in persons aged ≥65 years

# **Existing CHIK-LA recommendations for travelers\***

Chikungunya vaccine is **recommended** for persons aged ≥18 years traveling to a country or territory where there is a chikungunya outbreak.

In addition, chikungunya vaccine **may be considered** for the following persons traveling to a country or territory without an outbreak but with evidence of chikungunya virus transmission among humans within the last 5 years

- Persons aged >65 years, particularly those with underlying medical conditions, who are likely to have at least moderate exposure to mosquitoes, OR
- Persons staying for a cumulative period of 6 months or more

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- Persons staying for a cumulative period of 6 months or more

# **Revised draft recommendations for CHIK-LA among travelers<sup>#</sup>**

ACIP <u>recommends</u> live attenuated chikungunya vaccine or persons aged  $\geq$ 18 years traveling to a country or territory where there is a chikungunya outbreak.

In addition, live attenuated chikungunya vaccine <u>may be considered</u> for persons aged ≥18 years<sup>#</sup> traveling or taking up residence in a country or territory without an outbreak but with elevated risk for US travelers if planning travel for an extended period of time e.g., 6 months or more.

## Acknowledgements

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- Michael McNeil
- Elaine Miller

#### Immunization Services Division, CDC

- Seth Meador
- Suchita Patel

Clinical Immunization Safety Assessment (CISA) vaccine safety experts

For more information, contact CDC 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636) TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

