

## Novartis Vaccines Institute for Global Health

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### **Mission**

Novartis Vaccines Institute for Global Health (NVGH) is a research institute dedicated to the translational research and development of vaccines for diseases that are not receiving adequate attention, especially those diseases which are particularly devastating to developing countries.

Effective and affordable vaccines for those who need them

### **About NVGH**

NVGH enhances Novartis' longstanding commitment to corporate citizenship as evidenced by the company's numerous initiatives to improve access to medicines, and now vaccines, globally. Novartis believes in the importance of a long-term commitment to reducing global disease burden and to improving the prosperity and health of populations of developing nations. With its not-for-profit mission, NVGH builds on the research and development expertise and assets within Novartis to help address the vast unmet medical need that exists for vaccines that can prevent some of the developing world's most prevalent diseases.

Enhancing Novartis' commitment to corporate citizenship with a not-for-profit mission

NVGH is located on the Novartis campus in Siena, Italy where it shares the world-class facilities, and technologies that the company possesses at its vaccines research headquarters.

NVGH has started developing conjugate vaccines for enteric diseases. Initial disease areas of focus will be *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhi, *Salmonella paratyphi* A and nontyphoidal salmonellae, which are important causes of infection and disease in children.

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### **Training and Capacity Building**

NVGH is looking to recruit the best scientists in the world, and as a major center of excellence, offers exceptional teaching and training opportunities for post-doctoral fellows and graduate students.

Exceptional teaching and training opportunities

### **Unmet Need**

To address an increasingly dire, global healthcare crisis, the world's health leaders are rallying around humanitarian and corporate citizenship initiatives to create incentives to inoculate against the diseases that affect the world's poorest communities.

Understanding the need: gaps in funding, research and global immunization coverage

Despite these efforts however, the Commission on Health Research for Development reports that less than 10% of investment in health research goes to diseases that affect 90% of the world. And only a fraction of that 10% is invested in vaccines research and development for diseases affecting the most impoverished countries.

<sup>1</sup>

Vaccines have saved billions of lives in the past century and are still the least expensive way of controlling the spread of infectious diseases. Without a concerted and unprecedented effort to address the gaps in funding, research and global immunization coverage, developing countries will continue to be plagued by some of the most devastating diseases and face the re-introduction of old diseases and the emergence of new infections. <sup>2</sup>

### **A Public Private Partnership**

Novartis believes that our R&D efforts in the area of neglected diseases can be further strengthened through the establishment of a partnership with numerous public and private organizations within both the developing and industrialized world.

Dedicated to global collaboration to achieve results

The Institute works in partnership with universities, research institutes and other public and private organizations to develop the scientific basis for vaccine development. NVGH bridges an existing gap between the discovery of promising vaccine candidates in academic and research institutes and the manufacturing and distribution of vaccines by providing the facilities and expertise for scale vaccine production and human proof of concept studies.

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NVGH will collaborate with organizations such as the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization, the WHO and UNICEF, which are working hard to bring international attention to this important issue.

Through global cooperation we aim to bring much needed effective and affordable vaccines to the people who need them most.

### Endnotes

1. Global Forum for Health Research, Commission on Health Research for Development, 2000.
2. World Health Organization, “Low investment in immunization and vaccines threatens Global Health”, <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/pr87/en/index.htm> 1, 20 November 2002