

Speakers' Biographical Information

SPEAKERS

- **Pedro Alonso**, MD, PhD, University of Barcelona, Spain
- **W. Ripley Ballou**, MD, GSK Biologicals
- **Christian Loucq**, MD, The PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative
- **Pascoal Mocumbi**, MD, European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership
- **Regina Rabinovich**, MD, MPH, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

ADDITIONAL SOURCES

- **Joe Cohen**, PhD, GSK Biologicals
- **John G. McNeil**, MD, MPH, The PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative
- **John Aponte**, MD, MSc, Hospital Clinic of Barcelona
- **Eusebio Macete**, Manhica Health Research Centre (CISM), Mozambique
- **Barbara Savarese**, BScN, PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative

Pedro Alonso, MD, PhD

Director, Barcelona Center for International Health Research at the Hospital Clinic, University of Barcelona

Pedro Alonso is the Director of the Barcelona Center for International Health Research at the Hospital Clinic and Professor at the University of Barcelona. Alonso founded the Manhica Health Research Center in Mozambique in 1996 and since then has been leading its development. He has served in a number of international committees and currently Chairs the World Health Organisation's Malaria Vaccine Expert Committee.

Having worked in West, East and Southern Africa, most of his professional life has been devoted to public health in Africa, with a major emphasis in research and capacity building. Priority health issues, including malaria, HIV, Hepatitis, and other communicable diseases have been the focus of his work. The cornerstone of this research activity has been and continues to be the development and testing of new control tools against malaria as well as training young African scientists.

He studied medicine at the Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, followed post-graduate training at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and holds a PhD from the University of Barcelona.

W. Ripley Ballou, MD

Vice President, Global Clinical Research and Development, GSK Biologicals

A co-developer of the RTS,S malaria vaccine, Dr. W. Ripley Ballou currently heads up Clinical Development for GSK Bio's Adult/Adolescent and Emerging Diseases Programs that include malaria, TB, HIV and Influenza vaccine development efforts. Ballou oversees the clinical programs for RTS,S -- the world's most promising malaria vaccine candidate.

Dedicating more than 23 years to the development of RTS,S, Ballou has had his fair share of happy accidents. After completing his Internal Medicine training in the Army, he began an Infectious Diseases research fellowship in the 1980s at the US Army's Walter Reed Institute of Research (WRAIR) and in the process found himself on the doorstep of the brave new world of malaria vaccine research.

In 1987, Ballou designed and conducted a "malaria challenge" trial of the world's first malaria vaccine candidate -- he was one of six researchers who volunteered to be exposed to malaria-carrying mosquitoes after being vaccinated with an early predecessor of RTS,S. Though he and four others got sick, one volunteer was completely protected by the vaccine and this profound experience redoubled Ballou's zeal to tackle the disease.

By 1990, he was directing WRAIR's malaria vaccine program and overseeing its collaboration with GSK Biologicals, whose Adjuvant System technology would prove key to RTS,S' success. In 1995, a pivotal challenge trial with RTS,S worked: six of seven volunteers were fully protected. During this period, he built strong professional and personal ties with GSK researchers, including Joe Cohen, the inventor of RTS,S.

Following a three-year stint at MedImmune, a biotechnology company recently acquired by AstraZeneca, he joined GSK Biologicals in 2003 as Vice President, Clinical Development.

A passionate advocate of public-private partnerships, Ballou drafted the blueprint for the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative (MVI) before leaving the Army. Today he is intimately involved in GSK's partnership with the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative, as well as project coordination with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. After years of false starts in the laboratory, he is cautiously optimistic that together the world can ensure that breakthroughs like RTS,S can reach those in need and start saving lives.

The oldest of nine boys, Ballou traces his roots back to three generations of Army officers. After completing his first year at West Point, he transferred to the Georgia Institute of Technology to study applied biology. He earned his MD from Emory University's School of Medicine in Atlanta, Ga, in 1977 and entered the Army to continue his medical training. His many years of research in infectious diseases and vaccines for malaria have resulted in more than 140 scientific publications.

Christian Loucq, MD Director, PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative

Dr. Loucq directs the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative (MVI), which seeks to accelerate the development of promising malaria vaccines and ensure their availability and use in developing countries. Loucq has more than 30 years of experience in medicine, pharmaceuticals, vaccines, and global health. He joined the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative in February 2007, serving as Director of Strategy and Operations and as Interim Director until his appointment as PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative Director three months later.

His professional experience spans the globe: Born and educated in France, he has lived and worked in Algeria, Belgium, Chad, China, India, the Netherlands, Niger, Switzerland, Thailand, and the United Kingdom. Loucq has managed vaccine businesses in China, India, and Thailand and has been involved in most stages of vaccine development. He has worked with large vaccine companies, such as GlaxoSmithKline and Sanofi Pasteur, and biotech companies including Rhein Biotech and Acambis. He has extensive experience partnering with local governments, building public-private partnerships, and setting up local private collaborations.

Loucq earned his state doctorate of human medicine at the University of Paris X and a diploma of public health and tropical medicine from the University of Aix-Marseilles.

Pascoal Mocumbi, MD**High Representative of the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP), and former Prime Minister and Minister of Health of Mozambique**

Dr. Pascoal Mocumbi is the High Representative of the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) since March 2004. His mandate is to raise the visibility of the EDCTP and gain political support, particular within Africa, and to contribute to the EDCTP's fundraising activities.

The Partnership aims to contribute towards reducing the burden of the main poverty-related diseases and transferring empowerment to the developing world. Its goal is to accelerate the development of new clinical interventions in order to fight malaria, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis, and build leadership in health research in developing countries, so that they will be able to diagnose and respond to their own needs.

Mocumbi was Prime Minister of the Republic of Mozambique from 1994 to 2004. Prior to that, he headed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs during eight years and the Ministry of Health for six years. He received his medical degree from the University of Lausanne, and has practiced medicine as obstetrician and gynaecologist in hospitals throughout Mozambique. Mocumbi also has an active role in global health initiatives, serving on the board of the International Women's Health Coalition (IWHC) and the Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV).

Regina Rabinovich, MD, MPH**Director, Infectious Diseases, Global Health Program, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**

Dr. Regina Rabinovich directs the foundation's Infectious Diseases initiative. Her portfolio includes more than \$1 billion in grants for prevention, treatment, and research of malaria and other infectious diseases.

Prior to joining the foundation, Rabinovich served in various positions at the U.S. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), focusing on the development and evaluation of vaccines. She participated in the Children's Vaccine Initiative, a global effort to prevent infectious diseases in children in the developing world, and served as liaison to the National Vaccine Program Office, focusing on vaccine safety and vaccine research. As chief of the Clinical and Regulatory Affairs Branch of the Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, she managed the evaluation of candidate vaccines through a network of U.S. clinical research units. During her tenure as branch chief, the units completed large multi-center trials of pertussis and influenza vaccines, as well as a number of phase I trials of platform technologies such as an edible vaccine, and vaccines for malaria and rotavirus.

In 1999, Rabinovich became director of the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative, a project funded by the foundation to advance efforts to develop promising malaria vaccine candidates.

Rabinovich received her medical degree from Southern Illinois University in 1982 and her Master of Public Health degree from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. She joined NIAID's Epidemiology Training Program as a fellow in 1988.

Joe Cohen, PhD**Vice-President, Emerging Diseases & HIV & Vaccines R&D, GSK Biologicals**

Dr. Joe Cohen is the co-inventor and one of the original patent holders of RTS,S, the world's only proven malaria vaccine. He is currently the Vice President of R&D for Vaccines for Emerging Diseases and HIV at GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) Biologicals, where he manages early development

of vaccines against some of the world's toughest diseases, including GSK's TB, HIV and malaria vaccines.

Cohen left academic research in 1984 to join the vaccines division of GlaxoSmithKline (then SmithKline-RIT). Three years later, Cohen took over the reins of the company's Malaria Vaccine Program.

A few years earlier, scientists had completed the genetic sequence of a critical circumsporozoite protein (CSP), the stealth protein that enabled the parasite to escape detection by the human immune system.

Cohen and his team thought they could stabilize the vaccine and increase its immunogenicity by fusing the CS protein to a form of the recombinant technology found in GSK's successful Hepatitis B vaccine. After two years and multiple tweaks, the resulting RTS,S molecule was stable and was well recognized by the human immune system. When the team added GSK's proprietary Adjuvant Systems, the immune response was even better. Cohen and his colleagues have since spent more than two decades perfecting and building upon this "fundamental insight."

The first large-scale proof of Cohen's idea came in 2004, when a clinical trial of the vaccine in 2,000 children in Mozambique demonstrated that the vaccine provides close to 58 percent protection against severe malaria.

Since helping to engineer GSK Biologicals' agreement with the non-profit PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative in 2001, Cohen has championed the public-private partnership model to tackle neglected diseases, calling GSK Bio's joint efforts first with Walter Reed Army Institute of Research and later with the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative "a public-private partnership before its time".

Born and raised in Cairo, Egypt, Cohen immigrated to France in 1962. He won a fellowship to study agricultural engineering at the University of Nancy, France, and then moved to the United States to study molecular biology at the City University of New York's Brooklyn College, where he earned his Ph.D. in 1979. He completed his post-doctoral studies at New York's Albert Einstein College of Medicine and later taught there before joining GSK Bio. Cohen has published more than 50 articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals and helped to create GSK Bio's new division for Vaccines for Emerging Diseases & HIV. Cohen now lives in Brussels, Belgium.

John G. McNeil, MD, MPH
Director, Research and Development, PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative

Dr. John McNeil is the Director of Research and Development at the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative where he is responsible for the development and management of the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative portfolio of candidate vaccines. Prior to joining PATH, McNeil was the Chief of the Laboratory of Advanced Clinical Development at the Dale and Betty Bumpers Vaccine Research Center (VRC) at the National Institutes of Health, which involved creation of novel alliances for the development and management of international trials of VRC's HIV vaccine candidates. Previously, McNeil served 23 years in the US Army Medical Corps, retiring at the rank of Colonel. Much of his military career was focused on studies of the distribution and determinants of HIV infection and in HIV vaccine research and development.

For 12 years, McNeil was responsible for building and managing a research consortium of international investigators, public health experts and biopharmaceutical manufacturers focusing on development of HIV candidates designed for testing and evaluation in SE Asia. McNeil was the program champion for the first US government-sponsored efficacy trial of an HIV candidate vaccine, which commenced in Thailand in 2003 and is expected to complete in 2009. He was

also the product manager for HIV vaccines for the US Army Medical Research and Material Command at Fort Detrick, Maryland.

McNeil obtained his MD from Wake Forest University and his MPH from the Harvard School of Public Health. He is board certified in Preventive Medicine and Public Health.

John Aponte, MD, MSc

First Author of *Lancet* Study, Head of the Statistics Unit at the Hospital Clinic of Barcelona

John Aponte is the head of the statistics unit and the Hospital Clinic of Barcelona. He obtained an MSc in Medical Statistics from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and graduated with a degree in medicine from the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogotá, Colombia. Aponte has worked on the evaluation of malaria control tools in endemic countries since 1991. He joined Dr. Alonso's team in 1996. He has participated in the design, implementation and analysis of several clinical trials, including the evaluation of prophylaxis against malaria during the first year of life in endemic regions, the evaluation of intermittent treatment in infants, and the evaluation of malaria vaccines both in Tanzania and in Mozambique. He is the head of the Statistics Unit at the Centre de Recerca en Salut Internacional de Barcelona (CRESIB), Hospital Clinic of Barcelona.

Eusebio Macete, MD, MPH

Researcher, Manhica Health Research Centre (CISM), Mozambique

Eusebio Macete obtained his Masters Degree in Public Health from the Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona, Spain and graduated with a degree in medicine from the Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo, Mozambique. Macete worked in the Epidemiology Department at the Mozambique Ministry of Health from 1996 to 1999. He joined Dr. Alonso's team at CISM in 1999 as a part of the Ministry of Health/National Directorate of Health. In 2002, he became a Centre Coordinator for the Manhica Health Research Centre (CISM). Over the last 6 months, he has been working on malaria vaccines at the World Health Organization in Geneva as an intern. He has participated in the design, implementation and analysis of several clinical trials, including the evaluation of intermittent treatment in infants, and the evaluation of malaria vaccines in Mozambique. Currently he is the Co-Chair of the Clinical Trials Partnership Committee (CTPC).

Barbara Savarese, BScN

Head of Clinical Operations, PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative

Barbara joined the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative (MVI) in early 2006 after a 19 year career at the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Her background and training is in nursing and clinical research. She received a BScN from Emory University and completed advanced training in clinical research at the NIH Clinical Center.

Initially, Barbara worked in the NIH wards and clinic as a study coordinator on trials related to HIV, oncology, and sexually transmitted infections. Subsequently, she was appointed project officer and assisted in the development and administration of clinical trial networks, including the AIDS Vaccine Evaluation Unit and the Sexually Transmitted Infections Group. These activities involved setting up trial sites internationally.

Prior to joining NIH, Barbara served as a public health nurse during the early HIV/AIDS epidemic in the United States and worked to establish a home care non-profit hospice organization.

At the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative Barbara leads a multidisciplinary team in the clinical development of the RTS,S malaria vaccine in partnership with GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals. She is passionate about the work supporting the development of ten African clinical research centers that will conduct a pivotal Phase 3 efficacy trial on RTS,S and carry out research on other PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative vaccine candidates as they enter the field.