

From: Chen, Ping (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Tue, 27 Feb 2018 01:51:58 +0000
To: Handley, Gray (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Rosa, William (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bernabe, Gayle (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Meegan, James (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: Re: 2/26/2018 updates

I am not sure when the article would be published. I think it is soon.

Nancy is scheduled to return to US in Jun. She is in DC now trying to figure out the logistics. She has two local staff. [REDACTED] (b) (5)

[REDACTED] The EEID meeting is in April 9-11 in Shenzhen. So it is before the closing.

(b) (5)

Thanks

Ping

Ping Chen, PhD

Director of NIAID Office in China

Office of Global Research, NIAID, NIH

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From: Handley, Gray (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2018 11:14:14 PM
To: Chen, Ping (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Rosa, William (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bernabe, Gayle (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Meegan, James (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: 2/26/2018 updates

Thanks, Ping. All quite interesting developments.

Where will the flu article be published and when?

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Will NSF close before their environmental health meeting?

Gray

From: Chen, Ping (NIH/NIAID) [E]

Sent: Monday, February 26, 2018 2:42 AM

To: Bernabe, Gayle (NIH/NIAID) [E] (b) (6); Meegan, James (NIH/NIAID) [E]

(b) (6); Handley, Gray (NIH/NIAID) [E] (b) (6)

Cc: Rosa, William (NIH/NIAID) [E] (b) (6); Chen, Ping (NIH/NIAID) [E]

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Subject: 2/26/2018 updates

Good morning.

Just a brief update.

Last week was a short week as we return to work from the Chinese New Year holiday on Wednesday.

Last week Shirley Chen sent me the following news from China on a type of new flu vaccine using nano-technology from China's Wuhan Institute of Virology (the institute with the P4 lab). I shared the information with embassy's ESTH and Wuhan Consulate as they are always interested in news report on health (please reference the news below). I wanted to learn more about this vaccine. So I did search at the institute's website using both Chinese and English. When I could not find any, I did broader search but still could not find any information. Later ESTH got back to me and said they could not find anything either. Any link related to this topic was blocked. The next day they found all links they previous found were gone. So the ESTH officer Sarah Oh decided to write a night note (I never knew this before. It is used to inform embassy something is unusual in a brief paragraph). Here is the night note Sarah and I developed and shared.

News Reports of Development of New Flu Vaccine Censored

(SBU) English-language media reported that a research group from Wuhan Institute of Virology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, developed a new type of flu vaccine using nano-

technology. The reported nano-vaccine is delivered intranasally and can target broad-spectrum flu viruses and induce robust immune responses in mice. A broad spectrum or universal flu vaccine is urgently needed to protect populations from flu infection worldwide. However, the effort of searching for more information on this vaccine candidate has gone nowhere. Chinese-language media initially showed links to related articles, but blocked full access to them. Chinese media has now blocked all mention of this announcement. It is unclear why this scientific-based research development has been censored as the Chinese government usually welcomes the announcement of scientific breakthroughs and has been generally open to discussions on flu.

(ESTH- Sarah Oh, NIAID/NIH- Ping Chen)

I then contacted the scientist mentioned in the news directly. Prof. Cui responded to my email the same day and shared the manuscript (accepted for publication but has not been printed) with me. I did not sense any concern for sharing the manuscript with me. So we really don't understand why the news on this was blocked or inconveniently unavailable.

I finally received the presentations from the AMR meeting. Will work with DMID on how we can distribute them.

I have completed the questionnaires for renewing my security clearance last week and submitted today.

(b) (5)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Have a nice week.

Ping

Chinese scientists develop new flu vaccine

Source: Xinhua | 2018-02-17 18:29:04 | Editor: Lifang



WUHAN, Feb. 17 (Xinhua) -- A research group from Wuhan Institute of Virology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, announced that they have developed a new type of flu vaccine using nano-technology.

The intranasal nano-vaccine can target broad-spectrum flu viruses and induces robust immune responses, said Cui Zongqiang, leader of the research group.

"In our study, an intranasal nanovaccine worked well against infections of H1N1 and H9N2 virus in mice," Cui said.

"The results suggest that the 3M2e-rHF nanoparticle is a promising, needle-free, intranasally administered, cross-protective influenza vaccine," he said.

Across China, measures have been taken contain the winter flu outbreak. Experts said flu infections this winter are 71 percent above the average for the same period in the previous three years, with child cases rising sharply.

Flu outbreaks have been also reported worldwide including the [United States](#), Canada, Britain, Italy, North Africa, [Japan](#), and the Republic of Korea since winter last year.

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