Vaccination against SARS-CoV-2 and vaccine-induced immune thrombotic thrombocytopenia (VITT)

An international scientific webinar
Thursday, 29th April 2021, 13.00-16.20 (CEST)
(07.00-10.20 EDT)
Introduction

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On 11 March 2021, the Danish Health Authority suspended the use of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine (Vaxzevria®) pending national and international investigations into safety signals. “In the following four weeks, a new syndrome was described (Vaccine-induced Immune Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia (VITT), causality was established and a Danish-Norwegian registry study that estimated the excess of VITT following Vaxzevria® as 1 per 40,000 vaccinated. Based on these findings, and a contextual assessment of the current Danish epidemic, on 14 April 2021 the Danish Health Authority decided to continue vaccine roll-out in Denmark without Vaxzevria® within the national COVID-19 vaccine program.

The aim of this webinar is to share insights and considerations in a transparent manner. Thus, the webinar will present the latest information on the epidemiology, possible pathophysiology, diagnosis, treatment and public health implications of VITT.

Each session consists of comprehensive presentations followed by discussion, which is moderated by experts.

Programme: During the 3-hour virtual webinar, comprehensive presentations will be followed by discussions, which will be moderated by the respective experts.

Registration

Registration is required, but the webinar is open to all, free of charge.

Please register here: https://sst.evenzu.com
Programme

13.00-13.05  Welcome
Søren Brostrøm, MD, PhD, MPA, Director General, Danish Health Authority, Denmark

13.05-14.00  Session 1: Discovery of the adverse events Introduction to the theme and purpose of the webinar
Chair: Anne Mette Hvas, Professor, MD, PhD, Deputy Head of Department, Aarhus University, Denmark

The Danish experience: reactions by the authorities, scientific investigations, and public health reflections
Søren Brostrøm, MD, PhD, MPA, Director General, Danish Health Authority, Denmark

Pharmaco-epidemiological investigations within the Norwegian and Danish cohort
Anton Pottegård, Professor, MSc, PhD, University of Southern Denmark

The German experience
Andreas Greinacher, Professor, MD, DMSc. University of Greifswald, Germany

Panel discussion:
Session speakers including Beverly J. Hunt, Professor, MD, King's College London, UK.

14.00-14.05  Break
**14.05-14.50**  
**Session 2: Clinical care perspectives on vaccine-induced immune thrombotic thrombocytopenia (VITT)**  
*Chair: Lars Østergaard, Clinical Professor, MD, PhD, Chief Physician, Chair, Aarhus University, Denmark*

**Proposed case-definition of VITT and treatment algorithm**  
Jakob Stensballe, Senior Consultant, MD, PhD, Rigshospitalet, Denmark

**Biomarker investigations and genetic studies**  
Sisse Rye Ostrowski, Professor, MD, PhD, DMSc and Chief Physician, Rigshospitalet and University of Copenhagen, Denmark

**Panel discussion: State-of-the-art diagnosis & treatment of VITT**  
Anne Mette Hvas, Professor, MD, PhD, Deputy Head of Department, Aarhus University, Denmark  
Jakob Stensballe, Senior Consultant, MD, PhD, Rigshospitalet, Denmark  
Sisse Rye Ostrowski, Professor, MD, PhD, DMSc and Chief Physician, Rigshospitalet and University of Copenhagen, Denmark  
Andreas Greinacher, Professor, MD, DMSc., University of Greifswald, Germany  
Beverly J. Hunt, Professor, MD, King’s College London, UK.

**14.50-14.55**  
Break

**14.55-15.25**  
**Session 3: The importance of different adenovirus vectors in VITT**  
*Chair: Jens Lundgren, Professor, MD, DMSc, Senior Consultant, Academic Chair, Director, Rigshospitalet and University of Copenhagen, Denmark*

**US-experience from the rollout of the J&J vaccine**  
Narayan Nair, MD, Division Director, Division of Epidemiology, FDA, USA

**Discussion**  
Jens Lundgren, Professor, MD, DMSc, Rigshospitalet and University of Copenhagen, Denmark  
Narayan Nair, MD, Division Director, Division of Epidemiology, FDA, USA

**15.25-15.30**  
Break
15.30-16.15  Session 4: Difficult dilemma: the public health benefits versus risks
Chair: Jesper Hallas, Professor, MD, Dr.Med.Sc, University of Southern Denmark

What can economics contribute with?
Trygve Ottersen, MD, PhD, Director, Management and Staff for Health Services, Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Norway

Panel discussion
Siddhartha Datta, MD, MPH, Regional Adviser, Vaccine Preventable Diseases and Immunization, WHO Europe
Georgy Genov, MD, Head of Pharmacovigilance Office, within Quality and Safety of Medicines Department, European Medicines Agency, EMA
Camilla Stoltenberg, MD, PhD, Director General, Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Norway
Søren Brostrøm, MD, PhD, MPA, Director General, Danish Health Authority, Denmark

16.15-16.20  Closing remarks
Søren Brostrøm, MD, PhD, MPA, Director General, Danish Health Authority, Denmark