**An experimental medicine study of seasonal influenza vaccination responses in Lymph nodE single-cell Genomics in AnCestrY (LEGACY01)**

Version 2.1 09 Aug 2022

MAIN SPONSOR: Imperial College London

FUNDERS: Chan Zuckerberg Initiative

STUDY COORDINATION CENTRE: NIHR Imperial Clinical Research Facility

IRAS Project ID: 314444

Protocol authorised by:

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| Name | Role | Date | Signature |
| Katrina Pollock | Chief Investigator | 12 Aug 2022 |  |
| Calliope Dendrou | Scientific Lead | 12 Aug 2022 |  |

The LEGACY Network is a collaboration between three partner institutions, Imperial College London, UK, the University of Oxford, UK and the Uganda Virus Research Institute, Uganda.





1. GENERAL INFORMATION

This protocol was constructed using the Imperial College Research Governance and Integrity Team template (Template Ref: RGIT\_TEMP\_027, Template V6.0 04Nov2021). The authors wish to credit the MRC CTU at UCL for use of their Protocol Template version 8.0 in drafting of this protocol, which describes the LEGACY01 study and provides information about procedures for entering participants. Every care was taken in its drafting, but corrections or amendments may be necessary. These will be circulated to investigators in the study. Problems relating to this study should be referred, in the first instance, to the Chief Investigator.

**COMPLIANCE**

The study will be conducted in compliance with the approved protocol, the Declaration of Helsinki 1996, the principles of Good Clinical Practice (GCP) ICH topic E6 (R2), and revision E6 (R3) EWG, General Data Protection Regulation and the UK Data Protection Act 2018, and the UK Policy Framework for Health and Social Care Research.

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**Patient and public involvement and engagement (PPIE) representatives:**

Two PPIE representatives have reviewed the study protocol prior to regulatory submission:

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**CLINICAL QUERIES**

Clinical queries should be directed to Katrina Pollock who will direct the query to the appropriate person.

**SPONSOR**

Imperial College London is the main research Sponsor for this study. For further information regarding the sponsorship conditions, please contact the Head of Regulatory Compliance at:

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**FUNDER**

Chan Zuckerberg Initiative

**STUDY REGISTRATION**

The LEGACY01 study has or will be registered with the ISRCTN registry.

1. GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Abbreviation** | **Expansion** |
| BMI | Body mass index |
| COVID-19 | Coronavirus disease 19 |
| CRF | Clinical Research Facility |
| CRN | Clinical Research Network |
| DNA | Deoxyribonucleic acid |
| EU | European Union |
| FDA | (US) Food and Drug Administration |
| GCP | Good Clinical Practice |
| GP | General Practitioner |
| HCA | Human Cell Atlas |
| HIV | Human Immunodeficiency Virus |
| HRA | Health Research Authority |
| ICRF | Imperial Clinical Research Facility |
| IM | Intramuscular |
| IRAS | Integrated Research Application System |
| LNC | Lymph node cells |
| MHRA | Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency |
| mL | Millilitre |
| MRC | Medical Research Council |
| mRNA | Messenger ribonucleic acid |
| NHS | National Health Service |
| NIHR | National Institute for Health Research |
| NRES | National Research Ethics Service |
| PBMC | Peripheral blood mononuclear cells |
| PI | Principal Investigator |
| PPIE | Patient and public involvement and engagement |
| QC | Quality control |
| QIV | Quadrivalent influenza vaccine |
| REC | Research Ethics Committee |
| RNA | Ribonucleic acid |
| SAE | Serious adverse event |
| SPC | Summary of Product Characteristics |
| Ultrasound | US |
| WHO | World Health Organization |

KEYWORDS

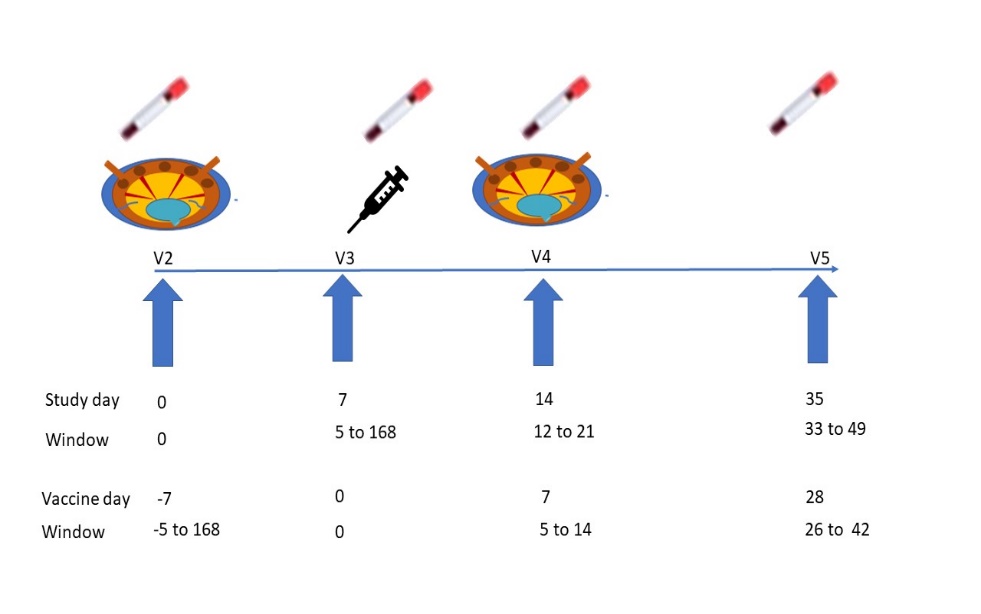
Single-cell sequencing; lymph node; influenza vaccine; ancestry

1. STUDY SUMMARY

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| TITLE | An experimental medicine study of seasonal influenza vaccination responses in Lymph nodE single-cell Genomics in AnCestrY |
| ACRONYM | LEGACY01 |
| IRAS ID | 314444 |
| SPONSOR | Imperial College London |
| DESIGN | Experimental medicine study; single arm, non-randomised, open label |
| SETTING | Secondary care (NHS) and academic research facilities |
| AIM | To investigate human immune responses in lymph node cells before and after immunisation with a seasonal influenza vaccine |
| OBJECTIVES | Primary objective: To generate a single cell atlas of lymph node cells before and after immunisation with seasonal influenza vaccine.  Secondary objective: To compare serum antibody responses before and after immunisation.  Exploratory: To compare cellular immune responses in various immune compartments e.g. blood and lymph nodes, against antigens including influenza before and after immunisation with seasonal influenza vaccine.  Exploratory: To compare immune responses in various immune compartments (e.g., blood and lymph nodes) against antigens including influenza before and after immunisation to help inform vaccine development and testing across different ethnicities.  Capacity building and training: To build capacity with respect to staff expertise and resource between the three partner institutions to support this project and future similar research. |
| OUTCOME MEASURES | Outcome measures may include but are not limited to the following assays   1. Single cell RNA sequencing analysis of LNC and matched paired PBMC 2. Binding ELISA specific for influenza/A antigens e.g. haemagglutinin 3. Intracellular cytokine secretion or activation induced marker assay of PBMC and LNC 4. Genotypic assays of areas of the genome of immunological relevance may include tests such as HLA-testing. |
| POPULATION | Healthy adults aged 18 – 55 years n=30  Cohort 1 in influenza season 2022 to 2023  Cohort 2 in influenza season 2023 to 2024 |
| ELIGIBILITY | Individuals with African or Asian ancestry |
| DURATION | Three years |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **LEGEND**  Blood draw |  |
| FNA |  |
| Vaccine |  |

1. FLOW DIAGRAM AND STUDY SCHEDULE



**Figure 3.** Timeline of study sampling and vaccination events for enrolled participants including lymph node FNA and influenza vaccination. Participants enrol at Visit 2 and undergo paired peripheral blood and lymph node sampling, vaccination at Visit 3, repeat paired lymph node sampling at Visit 4 and then phlebotomy at Visit 5.

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**Table 1. Schedule of investigations, treatments, and assessments**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Study visit** | **V1** | **V2** | **V2a** | **V3** | **V4** | **V5** |
| Visit location | Site | Site | Remote (by phone) | Site | Site | Site |
| Visit type | Screening | Enrolment: FNA1 | Follow up | Vaccination | Follow-up: FNA2 | Follow up |
| Study week | minus 24 to minus 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 5 |
| Study day4 | minus 168 to minus 1 | 0 | 5 | 7 | 12 | 35 |
| Window (days) | NA | NA | minus 1 to plus 1 | 0 to plus 161 | minus 2 to plus 2\* | minus 2 to plus 14 |
| Informed consent | x |  |  |  |  |  |
| Demographics | x |  |  |  |  |  |
| Medical history | x |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weight and height, calculate BMI | x |  |  |  |  |  |
| Blood borne virus screen (approx. 6mL)1 | x |  |  |  |  |  |
| Laboratory safety tests (approx. 10mL)2 | x |  |  |  |  |  |
| Concomitant medication3 | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| COVID-19 symptoms and trigger COVID-19 test3 | x | x | - | x | x | x |
| Urinary pregnancy test3 | x |  |  | x |  |  |
| Symptom directed physical examination3 | x | x |  | x | x | x |
| Inspection of the FNA site3 | x | x |  | x | x | x |
| Vital signs3 | x | x |  | x | x | x |
| Ultrasound scan3 |  | x |  |  | x |  |
| Lymph node fine needle aspiration |  | x |  |  | x |  |
| Vaccination |  |  |  | x |  |  |
| Blood for serum immunoassays (6mL)3 |  | x |  | x | x | x |
| Blood for cellular and plasma immunoassays (42mL)3 |  | x |  | x | x | x |
| Blood for RNA PAXgene tube (2.5mL)3 |  |  |  | x | x |  |
| Blood for HLA testing (3-4 mL)3 |  | x |  |  |  |  |
| Adverse events check3 |  | x | x | x | x | x |
| Blood volume (approx.) (mL) | 16 | 52 | - | 50.5 | 50.5 | 48 |

1. Detection of antibodies and/or antigen for HIV, hepatitis B and hepatitis C

2. Full blood count, liver function, renal function, non-fasting glucose

3. At visits which include FNA or vaccination, there will be an AE check and vital signs pre-FNA/pre-vaccination, and again at least 30 min after. At visits which include FNA, there will be an inspection of the FNA site pre-FNA, and again at least 30 min after. All other procedures/assessments at these visits will be pre-FNA/pre-vaccination only.

4. The timings of V2a and V3 are set according to that of V2; the timings of V4 and V5 are set according to that of V3.

\* This is the preferred window. However, if the FNA2 visit cannot be scheduled within the preferred window, it can take place up to 21 days after the vaccination without being a protocol deviation. Every effort should be made to schedule the FNA2 visit as close to 5 days post-vaccination as possible.

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1. INTRODUCTION

**BACKGROUND**

The efficient development of vaccines effective against global and emerging pathogens is complicated by geographic differences in vaccine responsiveness. The relative contribution of genetic and environmental factors to differential immune responses after vaccination remains poorly defined and is complicated by the spectrum of immune cell types involved. The Lymph nodE single-cell Genomics AnCestrY LEGACY01 study will create an ethnically diverse dataset with a single-cell atlas of lymph node (LN) and blood vaccine responses. Healthy volunteers of African and Asian ancestry who have immigrated to or were born in the UK will be invited to participate. They will be asked to donate blood and lymph node samples at specific timepoints pre- and post-immunisation. LN fine-needle aspirates (FNAs) will focus on the dynamics of germinal centre formation, capturing the interplay between lymphocytes, antigen-presenting cells and the stromal microenvironment. This will generate a curated data-structure of FNA single-cell (sc)RNA-seq, blood transcriptomic, cytometric, and serological analyses, with ethnicity, genetic, demographic and clinical metadata. To facilitate atlas utilisation and enable future international adoption of this approach, data, protocols and training materials will be made open access.

**RATIONALE FOR CURRENT STUDY**

Recent infectious disease outbreaks, including the COVID-19 pandemic, have emphasized the critical need for rapid development of effective vaccines.1-5 However, recognised variation in immune responses after vaccination across populations in different countries poses a barrier to progress, and it has yet to be determined whether this variation is due to differences in genetic background, in environmental influences including past or persistent antigenic exposure, and/or other poorly defined mechanisms.6-9 Despite this known variation, the majority of mechanistic studies investigating immune responsiveness to vaccines have focused on populations of white European ancestry.10,11 In the UK, this underrepresentation of ethnic minorities in vaccine experimental medicine research is at least partly due to vaccine hesitancy amongst these groups.12

A further challenge in addressing differences in vaccine response across populations is that studies have traditionally focused on the use of peripheral blood samples, even though inflammatory and germinal centre (GC) responses mounted in the draining LNs likely dictate vaccine priming efficiency and underpin protective efficacy.13 Ultrasound (US) guided FNA is a tractable and safe approach for LN sampling, and its use has recently demonstrated a good representation of cell subtypes found in excisional biopsies, including GC cells, thereby opening invaluable new routes for assessing vaccine efficacy in humans in vivo.14-17

The LEGACY01 clinical study will address this by creating a dataset of unstimulated and stimulated in vivo immune responses to a model, seasonal influenza vaccine, from participants with African and Asian ancestry.

**ROLE OF THE PARTNER INSTITUTIONS**

Imperial College London is the Sponsor for the study. Recruitment and study visits will be at the NIHR Imperial Clinical Research Facility, Hammersmith Hospital, Du Cane Road, London W12 0HS. Imperial College London and Imperial CRF will manage the study. The University of Oxford will receive and process samples and run laboratory analysis of blood and lymph node tissues led by Dr Calli Dendrou at the Wellcome Centre for Human Genetics. The Uganda Virus Research Institute will support establishment of a framework for delivering single-cell vaccine studies at international sites such as Uganda. Specifically, they will appoint and support the training of a visiting Clinical Research Fellow to the UK at Imperial College London and the University of Oxford. All centres will support the patient and public involvement and engagement activities of the study.

**HUMAN CELL ATLAS**

LEGACY01 is one of the Ancestry Networks for the Human Cell Atlas funded by the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative. The goal of these networks is to generate single-cell data from ancestrally diverse tissue samples, which will be uploaded and made available as open access research data for the Human Cell Atlas18.

**STUDY AIM, OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOME MEASURES**

The aim of the study is to investigate human immune responses in lymph node cells before and after immunisation with a seasonal influenza vaccine

Primary objective: To generate a single cell atlas of lymph node cells before and after immunisation with seasonal influenza vaccine.

Secondary objective: To compare serum antibody responses before and after immunisation.

Exploratory: To compare immune responses in various immune compartments (e.g., blood and lymph nodes) against antigens including influenza before and after immunisation to help inform vaccine development and testing across different ethnicities.

Capacity building and training: To build capacity with respect to staff expertise and resource between the three partner institutions to support this project and future similar research.

Outcome measures may include but are not limited to the following assays:

1. Single cell RNA sequencing analysis of LNC and matched paired PBMC
2. Binding ELISA specific for influenza/A antigens e.g., haemagglutinin
3. Intracellular cytokine secretion or activation induced marker assay of PBMC and LNC
4. Genotypic assays such as HLA-testing.
5. STUDY DESIGN

Interventional experimental medicine study using a model vaccine, seasonal influenza vaccine, as a probe to stimulate the immune system in vivo with sampling to collect serum, plasma, PBMC and LNC at specified time points pre and post immunisation. The study is single arm, non-randomised and open label.

Duration: Three years

Number and type of subjects: Thirty healthy adult volunteers of African or Asian ancestry will be enrolled. Participants may enrol into either cohort 1 (influenza season 2022-2023) or cohort 2 (influenza season 2023-2024).

Study intervention: A single dose of a licensed seasonal influenza vaccine will be administered intramuscularly into the upper outer third of the deltoid muscle. See Appendix 1 for current (2021-2022) recommendations for seasonal influenza vaccines in the UK.

**INFLUENZA VACCINE**

The influenza vaccine of choice for this study is adjuvanted quadrivalent influenza vaccine (aQIV), also marketed as Fluad Tetra (Seqirus UK Ltd). One 0.5 mL dose of aQIV contains 15 micrograms of haemagglutinin from two A and two B strains of influenza propagated in hens’ eggs. It is adjuvanted with MF59C.1 which contains per 0.5ml dose, squalene (9.75 mg), polysorbate 80 (1.175 mg), sorbitan trioleate (1.175 mg), sodium citrate (0.66 mg) and citric acid (0.04 mg).

Clinical studies have been conducted in individuals aged 65 years and over and in children aged 6 months to 6 years. In studies V118\_20 and V118\_18, n=4269 subjects aged 64 years and older were vaccinated. AEs were injection site pain (16.3% and 31.9%), fatigue (10.5% and 16.0%) and headache (10.8% and 12.0%) and resolved within three days. In the first study, during the 2017-2018 Northern Hemisphere influenza season Fluad Tetra met non-inferiority for influenza A/H1N1, A/H3N2, B/Yamagata and B/Victoria and superiority for the B strains not included in the Fluad aTIV comparators, aTIV-1 and aTIV-219,20

Study V118\_05 assessed Fluad Tetra in children aged 6 months to 6 years and elicited a higher immune response than the non-adjuvanted vaccine that persisted to 12 months. A higher incidence of local and systemic reactions was reported. Although acceptable immunogenicity was reported, the vaccine did not meet its primary efficacy endpoint in this paediatric study.

Safety and immunogenicity data of Fluad, the trivalent formulation, is relevant for aQIV because they have similar compositions and are manufactured in the same way. Post marketing surveillance data are not available yet for aQIV but are available for Fluad and are detailed in Appendix 3. 21

The aQIV is licensed for clinical use in patients aged 65 years and over due to its immunogenicity profile in this age group. Coupled with the paediatric data, it is expected that this vaccine will deliver high titres of influenza-specific antibody at least equivalent to the unadjuvanted vaccine which includes 15 g of haemagluttinin per strain and which is currently widely used in younger adults. aQIV contains haemagglutinin from four strains of influenza virus. As a result, participants choosing to enter this study during the Northern hemisphere influenza season and who receive the study vaccine are not expected to be disadvantaged compared with individuals who receive an influenza vaccine through the NHS.

An adjuvanted vaccine is chosen for this experimental medicine study in order to investigate lymph node responses to immunisation where the adjuvant will stimulate a local innate response. It is expected that swelling of the cortex will be visible using greyscale (or conventional) US. The published safety and tolerability profile of aQIV is in line with expected responses for an influenza vaccine. A similar safety and tolerability profile is expected in adults aged 18 – 55 years.

Participants will undergo a fine needle aspiration of a suitable axillary lymph node on two occasions at sites ipsilateral and contralateral to the site of injection.

1. PARTICIPANT ENTRY

**PRE-REGISTRATION EVALUATIONS**

Participants will attend a screening visit and provide written informed consent to enrol onto the study.

**PARTICIPANT INCLUSION CRITERIA**

* Healthy adults aged 18 years to 55 years on the day of screening
* Willing and able to provide written informed consent
* Identifies as having African or Asian ancestryi
* Usually resident in the UK for at least 5 years prior to screening
* If female and of childbearing potentialii not pregnant on the day of screening and willing to use a highly effective form of contraception until 12 weeks after the study immunisationiii.
* Willing to avoid all other vaccines within 4 weeks either side of the study injection and fine needle aspirationiv.
* Willing and able to comply with the visit schedule and provide samples.
* Willing to grant authorised persons access to his/her trial related medical record and GP records either directly or indirectly.

i A list of ethnic groups in the UK is available at [List of ethnic groups - GOV.UK (ethnicity-facts-figures.service.gov.uk)](https://www.ethnicity-facts-figures.service.gov.uk/style-guide/ethnic-groups).

ii A woman will be considered of childbearing potential following menarche and until becoming post-menopausal unless permanently sterile. Permanent sterilisation methods include hysterectomy, bilateral salpingectomy and bilateral oophorectomy. A post-menopausal state is defined as no menses for 12 months without an alternative medical cause.

iii Highly effective forms of contraception include medical sterilisation of a women or her partner, hormonal methods of contraception that prevent ovulation and intrauterine devices or systems. Barrier methods of contraception are not considered highly effective. Abstinence should be the preferred and usual lifestyle of the participant.

iv An exception is made for authorised or licensed COVID-19 vaccination according to national clinical directives. A gap of at least 28 days either side of an FNA is preferred but where there is clinical imperative a shorter gap is acceptable. Where a COVID-19 vaccine is scheduled near to an FNA, the FNA should occur before the vaccination where possible.

**PARTICIPANT EXCLUSION CRITERIA**

* Pregnant or lactating
* Has a significant clinical history, physical finding on clinical examination or laboratory finding during screening, or presence of a disease that is active or requires treatment to control it, including cardiac, respiratory, endocrine, metabolic, autoimmune, liver, neurological, oncological, psychiatric, immunosuppressive/immunodeficient or other disorders which in the opinion of the investigator is not compatible with healthy status, may compromise the volunteer’s safety, preclude vaccination or tissue sampling or compromise interpretation of the immune response to vaccine. Individuals with mild/moderate, well-controlled comorbidities are allowed.
* Body mass index of 30 or greater
* History of anaphylaxis or angioedema
* History of severe or multiple allergies to drugs or pharmaceutical agents or contraindicated from receiving influenza vaccine or local anaesthetic including lidocaine.
* History of severe local or general reaction to vaccination defined as:

local: extensive, indurated redness and swelling involving most of the arm, not resolving within 72 hours

general: fever ≥39.5 °C within 48 hours; bronchospasm; laryngeal oedema; collapse; convulsions or encephalopathy within 72 hours

* Receipt of any immunosuppressive agents within 18 weeks of screening by any route other than topical
* Prescribed regular blood thinning medication likely to induce bruising or bleeding on fine needle aspiration
* Detection of antibodies to hepatitis C
* Detection of antibodies to HIV
* Detection of anti-hepatitis B core antibodies
* Participating in a clinical trial with an investigational drug or device or treated with an investigational drug within 28 days of screening.

**WITHDRAWAL CRITERIA**

Participants are free to withdraw from the study at any time and for any reason without prejudicing their usual medical care.

Discontinuing sample donation: those participants who choose to discontinue lymph node tissue donation can be followed up to donate blood samples. Those participants where the investigator chooses to discontinue tissue donation can be followed up to donate blood samples.

Participants who choose to discontinue all (blood and lymph node) sample donation will be withdrawn from the study once the investigator deems it safe to do so.

Withdrawing from vaccination: Those participants who choose not to, or are unable to, have an influenza vaccine as part of the study schedule can continue to provide lymph node and blood samples.

Additional volunteers may be enrolled to replace withdrawn participants or those who are unable to complete the study schedule of visits per protocol for any reason.

**COENROLMENT GUIDELINES**

Participants will be entered into the TOPS database to prevent over-volunteering. Co-enrolment into another study is discouraged but can be allowed at the discretion of the investigator where neither the safety of the participant nor the integrity of the data is at risk. An example would be co-enrolment into an observational study with either no sampling or a low volume blood draw.

1. ADVERSE EVENTS

**DEFINITIONS**

Adverse Event (AE): any untoward medical occurrence in a patient or clinical study subject.

Serious Adverse Event (SAE): any untoward medical occurrence or effect that:

Results in death

Is life-threatening – refers to an event in which the subject was at risk of death at the time of the event; it does not refer to an event which hypothetically might have caused death if it were more severe

Requires hospitalisation, or prolongation of existing inpatients’ hospitalisation

Results in persistent or significant disability or incapacity

Is a congenital anomaly or birth defect

Medical judgement should be exercised in deciding whether an AE is serious in other situations. Important AEs that are not immediately life-threatening or do not result in death or hospitalisation but may jeopardise the subject or may require intervention to prevent one of the other outcomes listed in the definition above, should also be considered serious.

**REPORTING PROCEDURES**

Adverse events should be reported depending on the nature of the event and the reporting procedures below should be followed. Any questions concerning adverse event reporting should be directed to the Chief Investigator in the first instance. Events should be graded according to the FDA: Toxicity Grading Scale for Healthy Adult and Adolescent Volunteers Enrolled in Preventive Vaccine Clinical Trials, taking account of local laboratory reference ranges. <https://www.fda.gov/media/73679/download>

**NON-SERIOUS AES**

These will be recorded in the following instances:

Those occurring in the 5 days following lymph node tissue sampling

Those occurring in the 28 days following influenza vaccination

**SERIOUS AES**

SAEs must be recorded during the entire study.

An SAE form should be completed and emailed to the Chief Investigator within 24 hours. However, hospitalisations for elective treatment of a pre-existing condition do not need reporting as SAEs.

All SAEs should be reported to theREC which gave favourable opinion of the study,where in the opinion of the Chief Investigator the event was:

‘related’, i.e. resulted from the administration of any of the research procedures; and

‘unexpected’, i.e. an event that is not listed in the protocol as an expected occurrence

Reports of related and unexpected SAEs should be submitted within 15 days of the Chief Investigator becoming aware of the event, using the NRES SAE form for non-IMP studies. The Chief Investigator must also notify the Sponsor of all related and unexpected SAEs.

The aQIV is subject to additional monitoring. At the Chief Investigator's discretion, side effects of vaccination that are suspected adverse reactions will be reported to the MHRA via its Yellow Card Scheme: [www.mhra.gov/yellowcard](file:///\\DIRONE\Shared%20Data\Imperial%20CRF\STUDY%20FOLDER\LEGACY01\2.%20Protocol\Draft%20and%20word%20versions\www.mhra.gov\yellowcard)

**CONTACT DETAILS FOR REPORTING SAES**

**Please send SAE forms to the Chief Investigator: katrina.pollock@nhs.net**

**Tel: +44(0)203 313 8073 (Mon to Fri 09.00 – 17.00)**

**The Chief Investigator is responsible for onward reporting of SAEs to the REC and Sponsor (RGIT@imperial.ac.uk)**

1. ASSESSMENT AND FOLLOW-UP

Participants who may be eligible will be identified through access to the NIHR Imperial CRF healthy volunteer database, and through advertising the study across multiple outlets including in the community, in the workplace and online. Written information about the study will be made available on request. Interested potential participants will be invited for a face-to-face screening visit.

**STUDY ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE**

Participants will be followed up according to the study schedule in Table 1. Participants will attend a screening visit at the study site, and they will be asked to provide proof of identity at the visit. Written informed consent will be obtained from participants before undergoing study procedures. The visits in the study assessment schedule are a screening visit (V1), an enrolment visit at which the first FNA will be performed (V2), a vaccination visit (V3), a follow-up visit at which the second FNA will be performed (V4) and a final follow-up visit (V5). In addition, participants will be contacted by telephone (V2a) a few days after the first FNA at V2.

**PROCEDURES DURING THE SCREENING PERIOD**

**Informed consent**

Participants will be given written information about the study, the sampling procedures, the vaccine and the data collection and sharing. Those who wish to proceed will be asked to sign a witnessed consent form before undergoing screening investigations. A copy will be provided to the participant, and one kept in the study file according to local SOPs.

**Eligibility**

Eligibility will be assessed by means of demographics, medical history, medications, physical examination and laboratory investigations. Screening examination will include clinical observations (blood pressure, temperature and pulse), height and weight, inspection of the FNA sites (skin and an assessment of lymph nodes). Symptom directed examination will be at discretion of the physician. During the study, participants should not take any aspirin or medication that may increase risk of bleeding 7 days before each procedure. Enrolment of participants who usually take these medications for any reason will be at the discretion of the investigator.

**Clinical laboratory investigations**

Tests to be conducted at screening are in Table 1 and its footnotes. Individuals with laboratory abnormalities at screening considered clinically significant by the investigator and likely to interfere with the conduct of the study will not be eligible for enrolment.

**PROCEDURES AT ENROLMENT AND FOLLOW UP**

**Fine needle aspiration**

Participants will undergo fine needle aspiration of suitable axillary lymph nodes at enrolment, and again after receiving immunisation. The process for sampling is described in Appendix 2.

**Injection**

Intramuscular injection of seasonal influenza vaccine into the deltoid muscle of participants’ choice will be according to standard clinical practice. The arm injected will be recorded. Prior to receiving the injection, the participant will have vital signs measured. A temperature of 37.8 °C or above would prevent injection on the day. Introduction of new concomitant medications such as immunosuppressive medications, or new acute illness may prevent injection on the day at discretion of the investigator. Participants will remain at the study site for at least 30 min after injection, for safety reasons.

**COVID-19**

Participants will be asked about COVID-19 symptoms at every visit. Presence of highly likely COVID-19 symptoms in the opinion of the investigator will trigger a PCR or lateral flow test (which can be self-taken) in accordance with NHS guidance. The visit will be delayed until the result is known. A negative response will allow the visit to continue per protocol.

A positive response will delay the visit until the NHS stipulated period of isolation is complete.

**Receiving an authorised COVID-19 vaccine**

It is anticipated that volunteers entering the study will already have received a full course of COVID-19 vaccination as defined by the Green Book chapter 14a. If they have not done so, volunteers are encouraged to receive a full course of COVID-19 vaccination at least 28 days before enrolling onto the study. Volunteers who enrol and subsequently become eligible for an authorised COVID-19 vaccine booster through standard NHS care can receive the vaccine during the study. A gap of at least 28 days either side of an FNA is preferred but where there is clinical imperative a shorter gap is acceptable. Where a COVID-19 vaccine is scheduled near to an FNA, the FNA should occur before the vaccination where possible.

**PROCEDURES FOR ASSESSING SAFETY**

Seasonal influenza vaccine is a widely used licensed product with a well described post-licensure safety profile. Detailed information on safety data available for aQIV is available in section 2 study design and in Appendix 1. aQIV is subject to additional monitoring and healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via the Yellow Card Scheme: www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard

Fine needle aspiration is a standard and well-tolerated clinical technique. Safety assessments on the study will be limited to assessing the safety and tolerability of study procedures purely in order to safeguard the wellbeing of participants, in accordance with the experimental medicine framework for the study. There are no safety-related objectives of the study.

**PROCEDURES FOR ASSESSING IMMUNE RESPONSES**

Whole blood and lymph node samples will be collected to assess cellular immunity and humoral immunity and DNA extracted for genomic analysis such as HLA typing. Whole blood will be collected at Visits 2 and 3-5. Lymph node samples will be collected at Visits 2 and 4. Pax gene tubes for assessing the RNA transcriptome will be collected at Visits 3 and 4.

**INCIDENTAL FINDINGS**

An incidental finding is one that has potential health or reproductive importance, which is discovered unexpectedly but is unrelated to the purpose or aims of the study e.g., an abnormal laboratory safety test result. Local site (NIHR Imperial CRF) procedures will be followed. Depending on the nature of the finding, the subject might have to be withdrawn or vaccination or sampling discontinued, and his/her GP informed.

**LOSS TO FOLLOW-UP**

Participants who do not attend scheduled visits will be contacted according to local standard procedures which includes contacting through telephone and NHS text. Every reasonable attempt will be made to maintain contact with participants during their participation in the study.

**STUDY CLOSURE**

The study will be closed when all participants have completed their final follow-up visit and assessments are completed including those to determine resolution of any adverse events and the data recorded and locked.

1. QUALITY ASSURANCE AND CONTROL

Quality assurance (QA) includes all the planned and systematic actions established to ensure the study is performed and data generated, recorded and reported in compliance with the principles of GCP and any regulatory requirements. Quality control (QC) includes the operations to ensure that requirements for the study activities are fulfilled.

**SAFETY AND RIGHTS OF PARTICIPANTS**

Participants will be donating tissue and undergoing immunisation using procedures that are commonly undertaken for patients in the NHS. Confidential information will be kept allowing safety assessments to be made throughout the study.

**PROJECT DESIGN AND RELIABILITY**

A feasibility study is already underway lead by the Chief Investigator (EAVI2020\_01 FNA sub study). This study has indicated that lymph node sampling is feasible, safe and with ample yields to be undertaken as part of human vaccine research.

**CLINICAL DATA RECORDING AND MONITORING**

Worksheets for the study will be created for each study visit. Completed worksheets will undergo regular QC assessments by the study clinical team. Data will be stored by means of an electronic database using REDCap or similar software system.

**AUDITS**

The study may be subject to audit by Imperial College London, under its remit as sponsor, and other regulatory bodies to ensure adherence to GCP and the UK Policy Framework for Health and Social Care Research.

1. STATISTICS AND DATA ANALYSIS

Thirty volunteers will be enrolled.

Ultrasound images will be collected using the software provided with the US machine operating system. These may be securely shared for storage on a secure password protected computer as anonymised images using the US applications such as ApliGate, developed by Canon for the secure sharing of images. Ultrasound images will be stored with the unique study identifier for each participant, the date of the scan and the initials of the person performing the examination.

For single cell RNA-seq experiments, we anticipate capturing ~3,000-5,000 cells per sample after quality control (QC) and filtering. Sequencing, batch correction, filtering, QC, doublet removal, ambient RNA correction and correction for multiple testing will be performed according to single-cell RNA-seq best practices using established pipelines and tools (e.g. https://github.com/DendrouLab; COMBAT Consortium 2022). Statistical and outcome measures will typically be assessed through ANOVA, Wilcoxon rank, and Fisher exact tests. Dimensionality reduction processes will be used to understand data structure and to identify clusters and cell types for statistical testing. Differential cluster abundance and differential gene expression using pseudobulk counts will be performed using relevant edgeR packages and applying a Benjamini-Hochberg multiple testing correction. Power calculations for single-cell RNA-seq data analysis are based on relevant available data (e.g., Turner et al. 2020), and for assessing differential abundance and gene expression, for instance, we estimate that n=10 individuals per group are required to have >80% power to detect 30% differences between longitudinal samples (pre and post vaccination), with a false discovery rate of 5%. Given that there is expected variation in sample yield after fine needle aspiration which may be anatomically determined, there is a 50% overage in each group to allow for this and for any participants lost to follow up bringing the total to n=30.

Single-cell repertoire analyses will be performed as previously described22,23,24. Briefly, T cell receptor (TCR) and B cell receptor (BCR) outputs from CellRanger will be further filtered and processed to remove homotypic doublets and low-quality droplets and annotated using IMGT. Single-cell TCR clonality measurements will include Shannon diversity calculation using the entropy R package, and mean clone size estimation by bootstrapped down-sampling. Single-cell BCR clonality measurements will include clonal expansion index calculation based on the Gini index of the number of total BCRs per clone, whilst the clonal diversification index is calculated as the Gini index of the number of unique BCRs per clone.

For bulk sequencing, standard pipelines will be used for data processing (COMBAT Consortium 2022). Principal component analysis will be used for initial analyses of the normalised and filtered data. Differential expression analysis of the normalised data will be performed using the limma R package for example, with pathway enrichment analysis being performed using the Reactome pathways via the XGR R package with Fisher’s exact test. Weighted gene correlation network analysis will be applied to identify modules of highly correlated genes. Bulk repertoire analyses will include filtering for base quality amongst other quality control checks, followed by TCR chain/Ig isotype frequency estimates and usage, CDR3 length characterisation, and somatic hypermutation and BCR class-switching analyses.

For flow cytometric analyses, data will be analysed using FlowJo, with appropriate control/validation with non-specific isotype controls and beads to ensure stable equipment calibration over time, as well as use of gating templates. For functional/serological analyses, assays will be performed in duplicate or triplicate with appropriate repeat experiments to ensure reproducibility of findings. Appropriate tests (e.g., t-tests, Wilcoxon rank-sum tests) for assessing inter-group differences will be performed using R, python or GraphPad Prism as required.

Data generated and all appropriate documentation will be stored for a minimum of 10 years after the completion of the study, including the follow-up period.

1. REGULATORY ISSUES

**ETHICS APPROVAL**

The Study Coordination Centre will obtain approval from an NHS Research Ethics Committee (REC) and Health Research Authority (HRA). The study must also receive confirmation of capacity and capability from Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust before accepting participants into the study or any research activity is carried out. The study will be conducted in accordance with the recommendations for physicians involved in research on human subjects adopted by the 18th World Medical Assembly, Helsinki 1964 and later revisions.

**CONSENT**

Consent to enter the study must be sought from each participant only after a full explanation has been given, an information leaflet offered, and time allowed for consideration. Signed participant consent should be obtained. The right of the participant to refuse to participate without giving reasons must be respected. After the participant has entered the study, the clinician remains free to give alternative treatment to that specified in the protocol or to withdraw participant from lymph node sample donation at any stage if he/she feels it is in the participant’s best interest, but the reasons for doing so should be recorded. In these cases, the participants remain within the study for the purposes of follow-up and data analysis. All participants are free to withdraw at any time from the protocol treatment without giving reasons and without prejudicing further treatment.

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

Definition of terms

Pseudonymised data can be linked to an individual e.g., through a coded study key kept at the NHS study site.

Anonymised data cannot be linked directly back to an individual e.g., aggregated data for publication.

The Chief Investigator will preserve the confidentiality of participants taking part in the study and is registered under the Data Protection Act.

Individuals will receive a single non-transferable study code when attending screening for the study and keep the same code upon enrolment to the study. Data collected for the study will be pseudonymised by means of a coded study key kept at the NHS study site (Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust. Pseudonymised data will be transferred from the study site to Imperial College London and University of Oxford for analysis without the study key. Anonymised data will be published.

1. INDEMNITY

Imperial College London holds negligent harm and non-negligent harm insurance policies which apply to this study. Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust holds standard NHS Hospital Indemnity and insurance cover with NHS Resolution for NHS Trusts in England, which apply to this study.

**SPONSOR**

Imperial College London will act as the main Sponsor for this study. Delegated responsibilities will be assigned to Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust.

1. FUNDING

The Chan Zuckerberg Initiative is funding this study. Participants will be paid for each visit they complete, for their inconvenience and travel, at the end of their participation in the study, as follows:

* Screening (V1): £10
* Visits which include an FNA (V2 and V4): £120
* Vaccination visit (V3): £80
* Follow-up visit V5: £60

1. STUDY MANAGEMENT

The day-to-day management of the study will be co-ordinated through NIHR Imperial CRF and the study manager Aime Palomeras.

**LABORATORY DATA RECORDING AND MONITORING**

Laboratory data management for the study will be co-ordinated by Calli Dendrou, Brian Marsden and Teresa Lambe at the University of Oxford. Data will be stored with linked anonymised (pseudonymised) codes, and all files and databases will be password protected and held on password protected computers. Pseudanonymised identifiers will be kept on a secured NHS workstation at NIHR Imperial CRF before transfer of the minimally required demographic metadata (e.g. sex and age) to study scientists in Oxford.

Raw and analysed sequencing, genetic, flow cytometric and serological data will be collated and stored on a restricted access site on a University of Oxford computational cluster (BMRC) and will be managed and curated according to established protocols. The storage system of the computational cluster is resilient to disk failure and data are automatically backed up to linked off-site servers. Data files will be clearly labelled and associated (cleaned and anonymised) metadata will be stored in tab-delimited text files so as to document the provenance of the data. Where automated analyses are performed, these will be version controlled and the commands used will be recorded in log files. Data arising from smaller-scale laboratory analyses will be recorded in hard copy or electronic laboratory notebooks according to standard University practices. Data (and analysis scripts) will be maintained in this way for ten years after study completion.

**PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE**

Imperial College London and University of Oxford are the principal partners for delivery of the study in the UK. These two institutions will partner with Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI), who will be responsible for international capacity building to undertake future single-cell and lymphatic tissue focussed vaccine research under the umbrella of the LEGACY Network.

1. PATIENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) in research is research being carried out ‘with’ or ‘by’ members of the public rather than ‘to’, ‘about’ or ‘for’ them. The term “patient and public” includes patients, participants, carers and people who use health and social care services as well as people from specific communities and from organisations that represent people who use services.

The protocol has been reviewed and approved by the LEGACY01 PPIE committee.

1. PUBLICATION POLICY

The preparation of a manuscript for publication in a peer-reviewed professional journal or an abstract for presentation, oral or written, to a learned society or symposium will be discussed on the study calls and with the PPIE Advisory Group. Details of dissemination can be found in the study specific communication plan.

Authorship will reflect work done by the investigators and other personnel involved in the analysis and interpretation of the data, in accordance with generally recognised principles of scientific collaboration.

1. DATA AND SAMPLE SHARING

The protocol will be published and made open access during the study.

During the study, data will be shared through controlled access using the following principles:

No data should be released that would compromise an ongoing trial or study.

There must be a strong scientific or other legitimate rationale for the data to be used for the requested purpose.

Investigators have a period of exclusivity in which to pursue their aims with the data before data are made available to other researchers.

Adequate resources must be available in order to comply in a timely manner or at all, and the scientific aims of the study must justify the use of such resources.

Data exchange complies with Information Governance and Data Security Policies in all the relevant countries.

Researchers wishing to access study data should contact the chief investigator in the first instance.

New algorithms or methods of value to the broader community will be shared online via the GitHub and/or protocols.io websites.

At the end of the study, single-cell data will be archived and made open access as part of the Human Cell Atlas data portal (<https://data.humancellatlas.org/>), and other data (e.g., imaging, bulk RNA sequencing, genotyping, flow cytometric, and serological data) will be made open access through deposition in the European Genome-phenome Archive (EGA; https//ega-archive.org), Cytobank (https://mrc.cytobank.org/cytobank/) and Zenodo ([https://zenodo.org](https://zenodo.org/)), for example. Meta-data deposited along with the sequencing data will be MINSEQE-compliant.

1. PROTOCOL AMENDMENTS

The protocol v2.0 will be the first version approved for use.

1. REFERENCES
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26. APPENDIX 1. INFLUENZA VACCINE USE IN THE UK

**Table S1 All influenza vaccines marketed in the UK for the 2022 to 2023 season (as of 14 Apr 2022)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Supplier** | **Name of product** | **Vaccine type** | **Age indications** | **Ovalbumin content micrograms per dose** | **Contact details** |
| AstraZeneca UK Ltd | Fluenz® Tetra | Quadrivalent LAIV (live attenuated influenza vaccine) supplied as nasal spray suspension | From 24 months to less than 18 years of age | Less than 0.024 micrograms per 0.2 ml dose | 0845 139 0000 |
| MASTA | Quadrivalent influenza vaccine | QIVe (standard egg-grown quadrivalent influenza vaccine), split virion, inactivated | From 6 months | Equal to or less than 0.05 micrograms per 0.5 ml dose | 0113 238 7552 |
| MASTA | Quadrivalent Influvac® sub-unit Tetra▾ | QIVe (standard egg-grown quadrivalent influenza vaccine), surface antigen, inactivated | From 6 months | Equal to or less than 0.1 micrograms per 0.5 ml dose | 0113 238 7552 |
| Sanofi Pasteur | Quadrivalent influenza vaccine | QIVe (standard egg-grown quadrivalent influenza vaccine), split virion, inactivated | From 6 months | Equal to or less than 0.05 micrograms per 0.5 ml dose | 0800 854 430 |
| Viatris (formerly Mylan) | Quadrivalent Influvac® sub-unit Tetra▾ | QIVe (standard egg-grown quadrivalent influenza vaccine), surface antigen, inactivated | From 6 months | Equal to or less than 0.1 micrograms per 0.5 ml dose | 0800 358 7468 |
| Seqirus UK Ltd | Cell-based quadrivalent influenza vaccine Seqirus▾ | QIVc (cell-grown quadrivalent influenza vaccine), surface antigen, inactivated | From 2 years | Egg-free | 08457 451 500 |
| Sanofi Pasteur | Supemtek▾ | QIVr (quadrivalent influenza vaccine (recombinant, prepared in cell culture)) | From 18 years | Egg-free | 0800 854 430 |
| **Seqirus UK Ltd** | **Adjuvanted Quadrivalent Influenza Vaccine Seqirus▾** | **aQIV (adjuvanted egg-grown quadrivalent influenza vaccine) surface antigen, inactivated, adjuvanted with MF59C.1** | **From 65 years** | **Equal to or less than 1 micrograms per 0.5 ml dose** | **08457 451 500** |

The vaccine to be used in LEGACY01 study is in bold text.

Source: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/influenza-vaccines-marketed-in-the-uk/all-influenza-vaccines-marketed-in-the-uk-for-the-2022-to-2023-season

**Table S2 All influenza vaccines marketed in the UK for the 2021 to 2022 season (as of 23 Jun 2021)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Supplier** | **Name of product** | **Vaccine type** | **Age indications** | **Ovalbumin content micrograms/dose** | **Contact details** |
| AstraZeneca UK Ltd | Fluenz® Tetra | Quadrivalent LAIV (live attenuated influenza vaccine) supplied as nasal spray suspension | From 24 months to less than 18 years of age | Less than 0.024 micrograms per 0.2 ml dose | 0845 139 0000 |
| MASTA | Quadrivalent Influenza vaccine | QIVe (standard egg-grown quadrivalent influenza vaccine), split virion, inactivated | From 6 months | Equal to or less than 0.05 micrograms per 0.5 ml dose | 0113 238 7552 |
| Sanofi Pasteur Vaccines | Quadrivalent Influenza vaccine | QIVe (standard egg-grown quadrivalent Influenza vaccine), split virion, inactivated | From 6 months | Equal to or less than 0.05 micrograms per 0.5 ml dose | 0800 854 430 |
| Viatris (formerly Mylan) | Quadrivalent Influvac® sub-unit Tetra▾ | QIVe (standard egg-grown quadrivalent Influenza vaccine), surface antigen, inactivated | From 6 months | Equal to or less than 0.1 micrograms per 0.5 ml dose | 0800 358 7468 |
| Seqirus UK Ltd | Flucelvax® Tetra▾ | QIVc (cell-grown quadrivalent Influenza vaccine), surface antigen, inactivated | From 2 years | Egg-free | 08457 451 500 |
| Sanofi Pasteur Vaccines | Supemtek▾ | QIVr (quadrivalent Influenza vaccine (recombinant, prepared in cell culture)) | From 18 years | Egg-free | 0800 854 430 |
| Seqirus UK Ltd | Fluad Tetra▾ | aQIV (egg-grown quadrivalent Influenza vaccine), surface antigen, inactivated, adjuvanted with MF59C.1 | From 65 years | Equal to or less than 1 micrograms per 0.5 ml dose | 08457 451 500 |

Source: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/influenza-vaccine-ovalbumin-content/influenza-vaccines-2020-to-2021-flu-season

**COMPOSITION**

One 0.5 mL dose of aQIV contains 15 micrograms of haemagglutinin from two A and two B strains of influenza propagated in hens’ eggs and adjuvanted with MF59C.1 which contains per 0.5mL dose, squalene (9.75 mg), polysorbate 80 (1.175 mg), sorbitan trioleate (1.175 mg), sodium citrate (0.66 mg) and citric acid (0.04 mg).

By comparison, one 0.5 mL dose of Supemtek contains 45 micrograms of influenza virus haemagglutinin from two A strains and two B strains produced by recombinant DNA technology using a baculovirus expression system in an insect cell line derived from Spodoptera frugiperda.

**Table S3 Comparison of Supemtek and aQIV: safety data**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Very common**  **(≥1/10)** | **Common**  **(≥1/100 to <1/10)** | **Uncommon**  **(≥1/1,000 to <1/100)** | **Rare** |
| aQIV: Adverse reactions reported following vaccination in elderly subjects 65 years and older in clinical trials | Headache, injection site pain, fatigue | Nausea, diarrhoea, myalgia, arthralgia, ecchymosis, chills, erythema, induration, ILI | Vomiting, fever ≥38C |  |
| Supemtek Adverse reactions reported following vaccination in adults 18 years and older during clinical trials and post-marketing surveillance | Headache, fatigue, myalgia, arthralgia, local tenderness,  local pain | Nausea, firmness / swelling, redness, fever, shivering / chills, | Cough,  oropharyngeal pain, diarrhoea, pruritus, dermatitis, rash flu-like symptoms, injection site pruritus, | Dizziness, urticaria |

aQIV: no post marketing data are yet available. Fluad trivalent formulation has post marketing reports of thrombocytopaenia, lymphadenopathy, extensive limb swelling, allergy/anaphylaxis, angioedema, muscular weakness, Encephalomyelitis, Guillain-Barré syndrome, convulsions, neuritis, neuralgia, paraesthesia, generalised skin reactions including erythema multiforme, urticaria, pruritus or non-specific rash, and vasculitis with transient renal involvement.

Supemtek: Hypersensitivity including anaphylaxis has been reported with an unknown frequency. Guillain-Barre syndrome has been reported with an unknown frequency and a causal relationship has not been established.

**Table S4 Comparison of Supemtek and aQIV: immunogenicity data in older adults\***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Lineage | A | A | B | B |
| aQIV: 65 years and older GMT | A/H1N1 | A/H3N2 | B/Yamagata | B/Victoria |
| 65.0  (57.8; 73.1) | 294.9  (261.9; 332.1) | 24.7  (22.7; 26.8) | 30.8  (28.3; 33.5) |
| aQIV: 65 years and older seroconversion rate | 35.2  (32.0; 38.5) | 39.3  (36.1; 42.7) | 16.4  (14.0; 19.0) | 13.4  (11.2; 15.9) |
| Supemtek  adults > 50 years  GMT | A/California/7/2009 (H1N1) | A/Texas/50/2012 (H3N2) | B/Massachusetts/02/2012 (Yamagata lineage) | B/Brisbane/60/2008 (Victoria lineage) |
| 190 (164;221) | 522 (462;589) | 55 (48;64) | 29 (26;33) |
| Supemtek  adults > 50 years  seroconversion rate | 44.9 (39.3; 50.6) | 54.5 (48.8; 60.1) | 38.9 (33.4; 44.5) | 21.0 (16.6; 25.9) |

\*immunogenicity data for younger adults are not on the SmPC for aQIV

[Supemtek solution for injection in pre-filled syringe - Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC) - (emc) (medicines.org.uk)](https://www2.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/12761/smpc)

[Adjuvanted Quadrivalent Influenza Vaccine (Surface Antigen, Inactivated) Seqirus suspension for injection in pre-filled syringe Influenza vaccine, Adjuvanted with MF59C.1 - Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC) - (emc) (medicines.org.uk)](https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/11679/smpc)

1. APPENDIX 2. FINE NEEDLE ASPIRATION OF THE LYMPH NODE

A medical practitioner will carry out the FNA using clinical facilities at Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, London, UK. Eligibility to undergo the procedure will be confirmed, paying attention to

Blood thinning medication likely to induce bruising taken prior to aspiration

Signs of local infection

Pain or swelling at any sites of potential lymph node sampling

Allergy to local anaesthetic

Any other medical reason, which the PI deems significant to warrant exclusion from the FNA

Participants will have a set of observations performed including temperature, blood pressure and pulse rate.

The FNA will be conducted using standard aseptic technique under ultrasound guidance. During the procedure, the ipsilateral and contralateral lymph nodes in the axilla will be located by physical examination of the full lymphatic system, and then under US guidance. A sterile needle and syringe will be used to aspirate material from lymph nodes on each side using 3-5 passes. Where necessary local anaesthesia will be employed to numb the area prior to sampling, using a standard local anaesthetic e.g., 1% lidocaine.

At each visit for FNA sampling a paired peripheral blood sample will be taken using standard non touch aseptic phlebotomy technique.

Lymph node samples will be placed into pre-prepared and labelled specimen pots and placed with the blood tubes in an appropriate transportation container. They will be transferred to the receiving laboratory where they will be processed upon receipt.  The equipment necessary will all be made available on the day, including an US machine, and equipment for FNA (disinfectant, local anaesthetic, needles, 5ml syringes, air-tight specimen tubes prepared with R10 transport medium).

Participants will be observed for a minimum of 30 minutes after the procedure. There will be an AE check and FNA site inspection at least 30 minutes post-FNA.

**EXPECTED ADVERSE EVENTS AND GRADING**

Expected adverse events following lymph node aspiration include sample site pain or tenderness. Haematoma is a rare risk, and minimal bleeding may occur after the aspiration but should resolve spontaneously, and participants at increased risk due to blood-thinning medication will be excluded. Bruising may occur but is expected to fade after 2 weeks. Participants will be provided with information regarding expected adverse events in a participant information leaflet and adverse events will be monitored and reported as per standard AE reporting for the LEGACY01 study.

1. APPENDIX 3. POST MARKETING SURVEILLANCE FOR FLUAD

Adverse reactions reported in post marketing surveillance of the aTIV, FLUAD include thrombocytopenia including severe thrombocytopaenia in very rare cases, lymphadenopathy, asthenia, Influenza-Like Illness (ILI), swelling and redness of injected limb, allergic reactions including, rarely anaphylactic shock, anaphylaxis and angioedema, pain in the extremity, muscular weakness, encephalomyelitis, Guillain-Barré Syndrome, convulsions, neuritis, neuralgia, paraesthesia, syncope, presyncope, generalised skin reactions including erythema multiforme, urticaria, pruritus or non-specific rash, vasculitis which possibly associated with transient renal involvement.

<https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/9223/smpc>