



Statement from Dr. Vesta Richardson on new data from separate studies in Mexico and Africa on the effectiveness of rotavirus vaccine

“After the government introduced rotavirus vaccination in 2006, a marked decline in childhood deaths – a 35 percent reduction – occurred in Mexico. We are tremendously pleased about these results which strongly reinforce our decision to vaccinate infants against this deadly disease,” said Dr. Vesta Richardson, general director, National Center for Health of Infancy and Adolescence, National Immunization Council and Child Health Program, Mexico (NIACCHO). “This is particularly striking because over the past two decades, the government of Mexico has responded to the high burden of diarrhea deaths with a combination of public health approaches such as aggressive rehydration and promotion of breastfeeding. However, as our study showed, the winter diarrhea deaths, which are likely to be rotavirus, persisted until we introduced the vaccine.”

For more information, please visit: <http://www.path.org/news/pr100127-nejm-english.php> or <http://www.path.org/news/pr100127-nejm-spanish.php>

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