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UNIVERSITY OF GHANA, LEGON

**Statement from George Armah on the World Health Organization (WHO) Strategic Advisory
Group of Experts (SAGE) Decision to Approve Rotavirus Vaccines for Global Use**

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“After studying rotavirus for more than 25 years, I know the burden of the diarrheal disease in developing nations in Africa all too well. More than 83 percent of children in the region will become sick with it before reaching 18 months of age. Rotavirus takes the lives of thousands of young children around the world each year, and it takes an emotional toll on countless parents who, in some cases, have traveled miles on foot desperately seeking treatment for their children suffering from it,” said George Armah, a veteran investigator and professor at the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research in Ghana. “But while rotavirus is one of the most common and deadly diarrheal diseases, it is also one of the most preventable – with vaccination. The WHO decision supporting global use of rotavirus vaccines will help save children’s lives around the world.”

For more information, please visit <http://www.path.org/news/pr090605-who-rotavirus.php>.

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