



CENTRE POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT DES VACCINS, MALI

Projet des Maladies Infectieuses

Directeur General : Samba Ousmane SOW, M.D., M.Sc.
Associate Professor of Medicine

Projet des Maladies Infectieuses: Measles Vaccine Initiative ♦ Enteric Disease Project ♦ Pneumococcus, Meningococcus, & *Haemophilus influenzae* Prevention Program
Projet de Paludisme: Bandiagara Malaria Project ♦ Malaria Training Program

Statement from Dr. Samba Ousmane Sow on the World Health Organization (WHO) Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) Decision to Approve Rotavirus Vaccines for Global Use

Embargoed for release: June 5, 2009 10:00 am CET; 4:00 am EST

“The difference between whether or not a child survives rotavirus — the most common and fatal diarrheal disease — often comes down to geography,” said Dr. Samba Ousmane Sow, associate professor of medicine at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. “Children in developing countries in Africa are more likely to die from rotavirus and the severe dehydration it can lead to than children in countries such as the U.S. simply because they lack access to the medical care needed to prevent and treat rotavirus. By making rotavirus vaccines widely available to children around the world, we can change this.”

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

To schedule a phone interview with Dr. Samba Ousmane Sow, please contact:

Paul Quirk
202-572-2879; 202-549-5394 (cell)
paul.quirk@gmmb.com

Jen Farber
202-572-2878; 202-277-6089 (cell)
jen.farber@gmmb.com

###