



Statement from Dr. K. Zaman 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

“Rotavirus is responsible for an estimated 200,000 deaths in children in Asia under the age of five each year. This amounts to nearly one-third of all annual rotavirus related fatalities in children in this age group,” said Dr. K. Zaman, scientist and epidemiologist, child health unit, public health sciences division at the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR, B). “Safe and effective rotavirus vaccines are needed to save lives and reduce the enormous public health burden associated with rotavirus, especially in developing countries. Prevention through vaccination is critical for effective control of rotavirus. And, more broadly, the inclusion of rotavirus vaccines in the routine childhood immunization program in developing countries will help achieve the Millennium Development Goal of reducing childhood mortality.”

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

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