ANTIBODY-DEPENDENT CELL-MEDIATED CYTOTOXIC RESPONSES IN PARTICIPANTS ENROLLED IN A PHASE I/II ALVAC-HIV/AIDSVAX®B/E PRIME-BOOST HIV-1 VACCINE TRIAL IN THAILAND


Antibody-dependent cell-mediated cytotoxicity (ADCC) was assessed in volunteers participating in an ALVAC-HIV (vCP1521)/-AIDSVAX® B/E gp120 prime-boost vaccine trial in Thailand. ADCC activity was measured using chromium release from gp120 subtype B- and CRF01_AE-coated targets in 95 vaccinees and 28 placebo recipients. There was a significant difference in the magnitude of the ADCC response to both targets between vaccinees and placebo recipients. The frequency of responders to subtype B and to CRF01_AE was 96% and 84% in the vaccine group versus 11% and 7% in the placebo group. The results demonstrate that this HIV vaccine is a potent inducer of ADCC activity and may be an additional protection of this prime-boost vaccine in preventing HIV disease.


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BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES AMONG VOLUNTEERS IN A PREVENTIVE HIV VACCINE TRIAL IN THAILAND


Summary: Behavioral and social issues were investigated in 363 phase I/II preventive HIV-1 vaccine trial volunteers in Thailand. These issues included risk behavior, HIV knowledge, distress, and social consequences of vaccine trial participation. Data were collected at baseline and at 4-, 8-, and 12-month follow-up visits. Volunteers reported relatively low levels of risk behaviors at baseline and at follow-up. Overtly negative reactions from family or friends were reported by 5.9%. No experiences of discrimination in employment, health care, or insurance were reported. Mean levels of distress were low throughout the trial, and HIV-related knowledge was high, although it was common to consider the possibility of HIV transmission through casual contact. Findings add to the evidence that preventive HIV vaccine trials are feasible in Thailand.