

# Ruth Bishop Address 2022



Australian Government



In memoriam  
Professor Ruth Bishop AC

## Speakers

- Professor Graeme Barnes AO
- Professor Julie Bines



Melbourne  
Children's

A world leader  
in child and  
adolescent  
health



The Royal  
Children's  
Hospital  
Melbourne



murdoch  
children's  
research  
institute

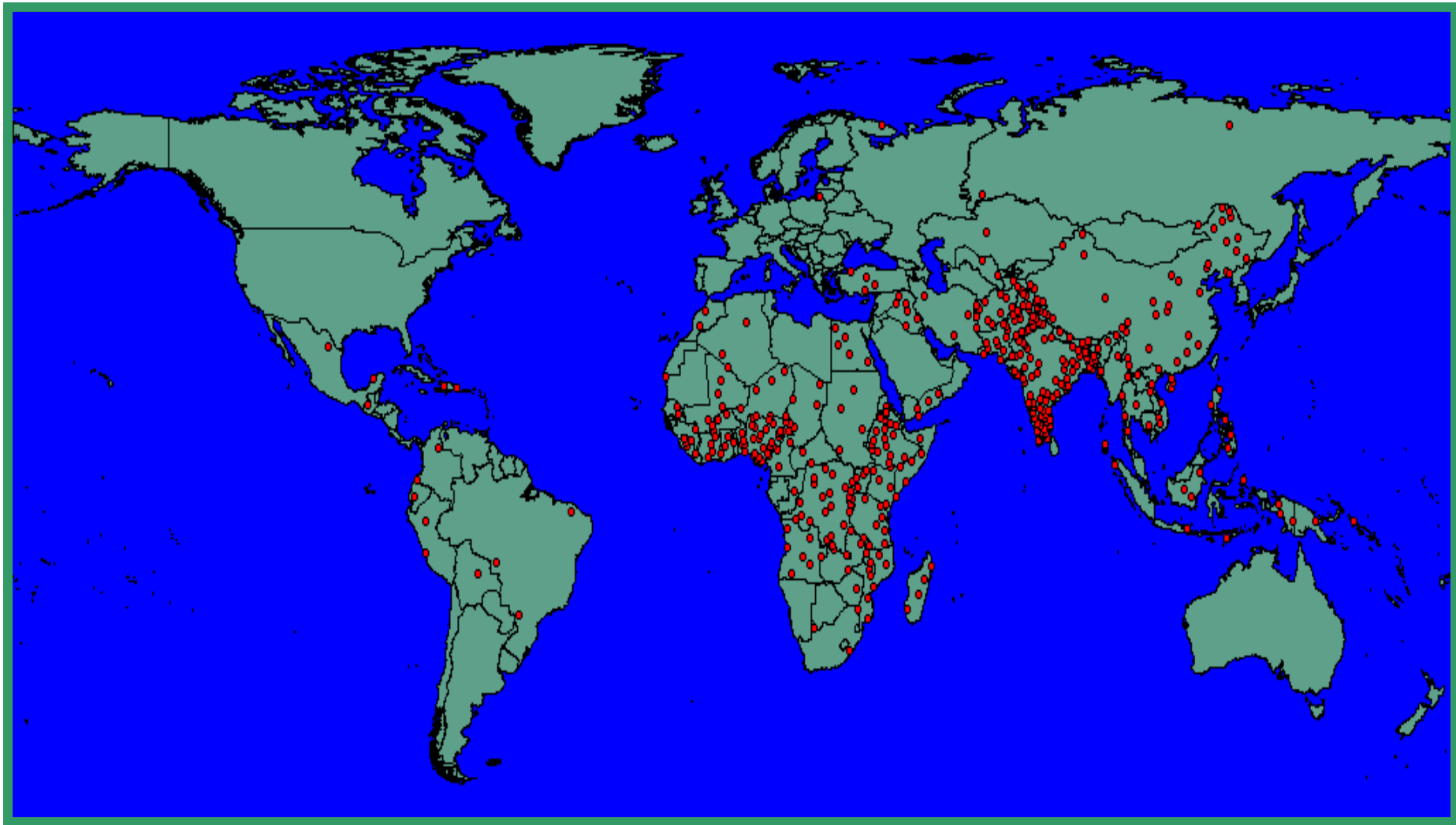


THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE





# 600,000 annual rotavirus deaths



1 dot = 1000 deaths

**CHARLOTTE ANDERSON**

MD, MSc, FRACP, FRCP

HEAD,  
GASTROENTEROLOGY  
RESEARCH UNIT, RCH

1962 - 1968

Portrait by Lillaine Gedye









**Children's Vaccine Initiative Award**



(April 1973

Aim: To look for "viral particles" in cells of duodenal mucosa from patients with acute gastroenteritis

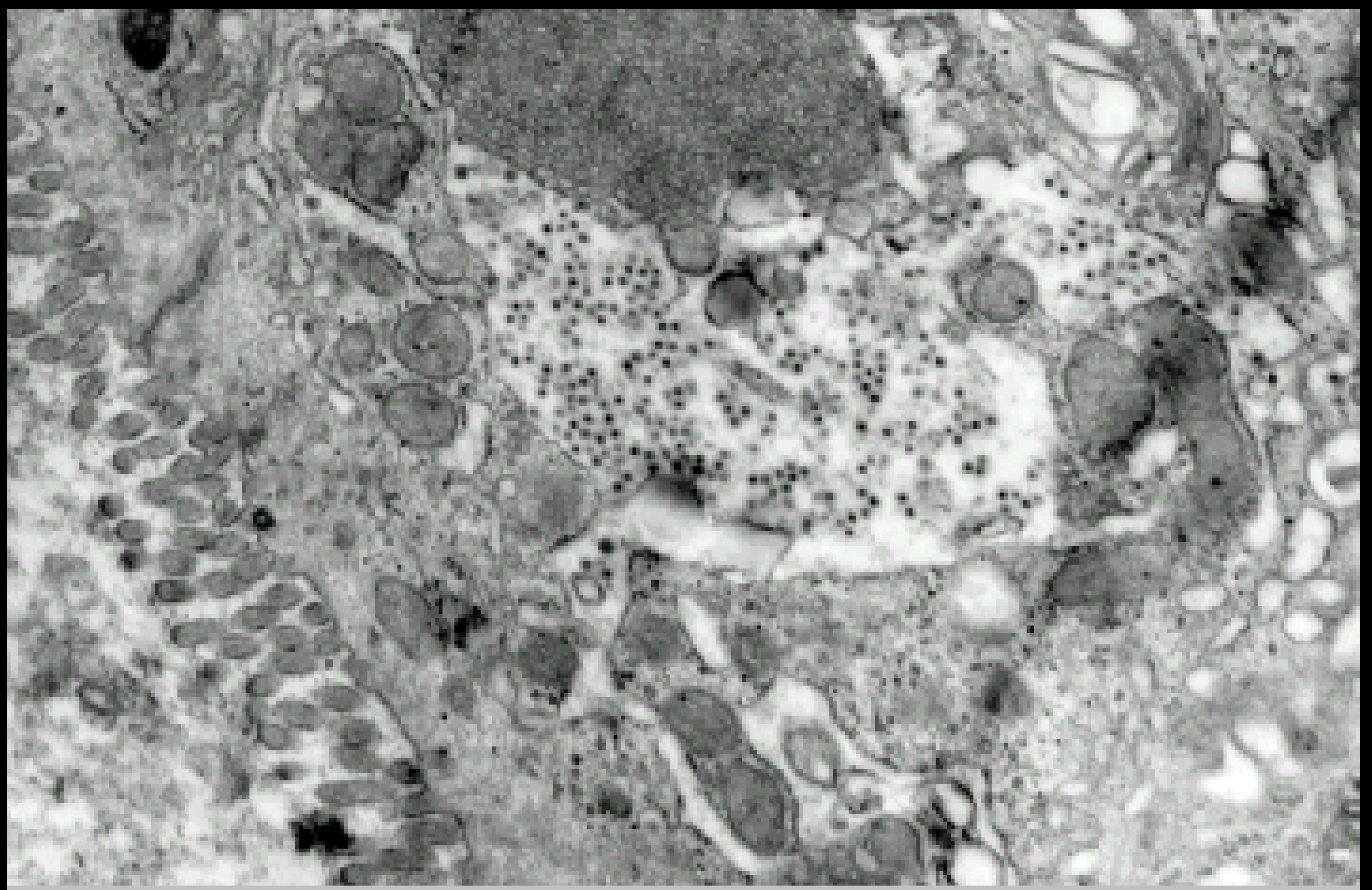
Background: no microbial or viral pathogen can be isolated from most infants with acute gastroenteritis. The clinical history of the disease indicates its infectious nature. Although it is possible that a Mycoplasma is concerned, it seems more likely that the elusive "germ" is a virus. Recent examination of faecal filtrates from adults with acute gastroenteritis show what is probably a "small virus". Since gastroenteritis is, by definition, an infection of stomach + small intestine, it is more appropriate to look for the "small virus" at these levels. Duodenal biopsy as performed in the RCH Gastro Dept. is the ideal technique for obtaining tissue during the acute stage of the disease. There are no studies in the literature of

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**ROTAVIRUS GROUP 1973**



**Brian Ruck**

**Max Murray**

**Ian Holmes**

**Geoff Davidson**

**Rudge Townley**

**Ruth Bishop**

**Anneke Veenstra**





**VIRUS PARTICLES IN EPITHELIAL CELLS  
OF DUODENAL MUCOSA FROM CHILDREN  
WITH ACUTE NON-BACTERIAL  
GASTROENTERITIS**

RUTH F. BISHOP

G. P. DAVIDSON

*Department of Gastroenterology, Royal Children's  
Hospital, Melbourne, Australia*

I. H. HOLMES

B. J. RUCK

*Department of Microbiology, University of Melbourne,  
Australia*

**Summary** Electron microscopy of duodenal mucosa from nine children with acute non-bacterial gastroenteritis revealed virus particles in epithelial cells from six patients. The morphology of the virus particles was identical in each of the six children. The virus belonged to the orbivirus group. No virus particles were observed in duodenal mucosa obtained from three of these children after clinical recovery. This orbivirus is believed to have been an important cause of sporadic gastroenteritis in children in Melbourne during the 3 months of the survey.





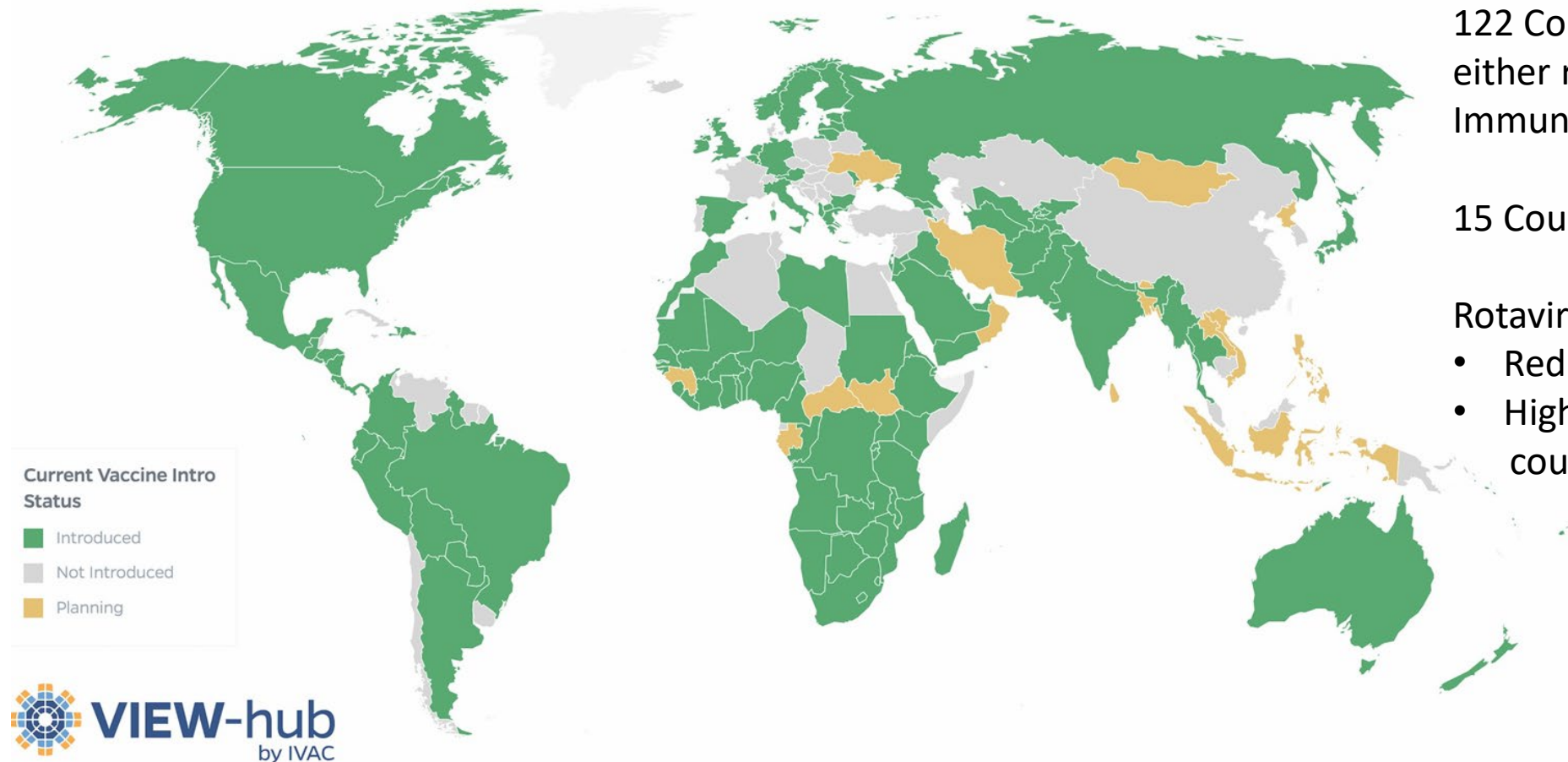






# Current Status of Rotavirus Vaccine Introduction

*In 2009 WHO Global recommendation all infants should receive rotavirus vaccines*



122 Countries have introduced either regional or national Immunisation Programs

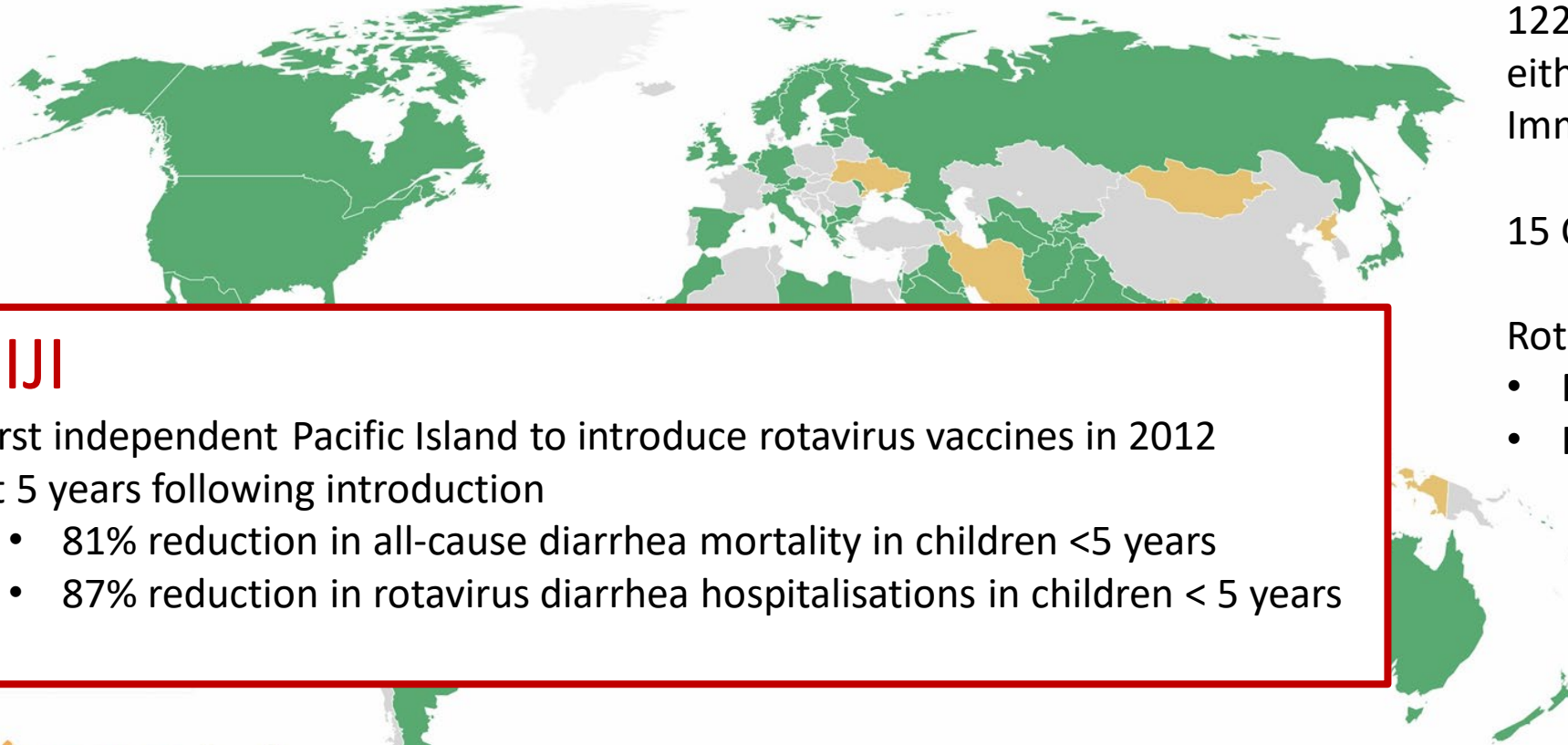
15 Countries planning

Rotavirus Vaccine observed to:

- Reduce rotavirus hospitalisations
- Highly cost effective in ALL countries where analysed

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## FIJI

First independent Pacific Island to introduce rotavirus vaccines in 2012

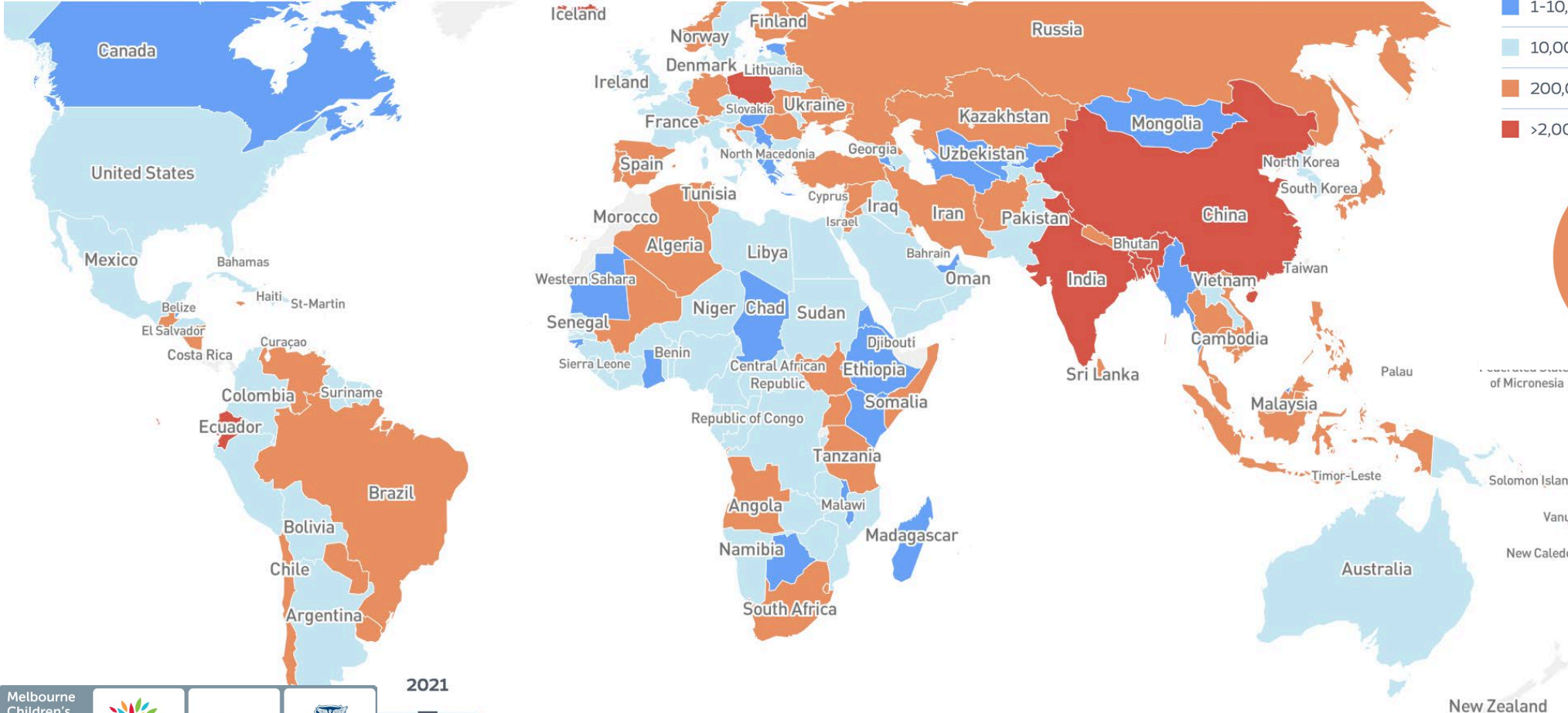
At 5 years following introduction

- 81% reduction in all-cause diarrhea mortality in children <5 years
- 87% reduction in rotavirus diarrhea hospitalisations in children < 5 years



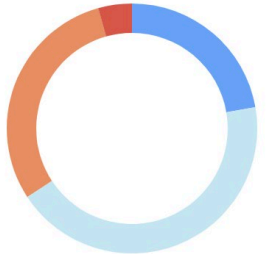
# Worldwide, 58.6 million or 40% children lack access to rotavirus vaccines

*Indo-Pacific region lagging with ~30 million children still unvaccinated*



Overview - 2021

	Global	Gavi
1-10,000	41	11
10,001-200,000	80	30
200,001-2,000,000	55	10
>2,000,000	8	1



# Challenges to current rotavirus vaccines

- Rotavirus vaccines have lower coverage compared with other vaccines
- Less effective in high child mortality regions in Asia and Africa

Median Vaccine Effectiveness estimated <12mo of age

- Low mortality 86% (95%CI: 81-90)
  - Medium mortality 77% (95%CI: 66, 85),
  - High mortality 63% (95%CI: 54, 70)
- Reduced duration of protection in high mortality regions







# RV3-BB Rotavirus Vaccine





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# RV3-BB Rotavirus Vaccine

*Human neonatal rotavirus vaccine to target protection from birth*

## Novel Vaccine

- Based on unique neonatal strain (RV3) identified in Melbourne newborn nurseries in 1980s
- Associated with asymptomatic infection
- Developed at MCRI to high titre in WHO prequalified vero cell line suitable for vaccines
- Oral 1ml, 3 dose course, co-administered with EPI vaccines

## Novel Administration Schedule

- First dose at Birth or from 6 weeks

## Novel Approach to Development

- Developed in collaboration with partners at Universitas Gadjadara and BioFarma Indonesia
- Licensed to other emerging country vaccine manufacturers in Indo-Pacific region

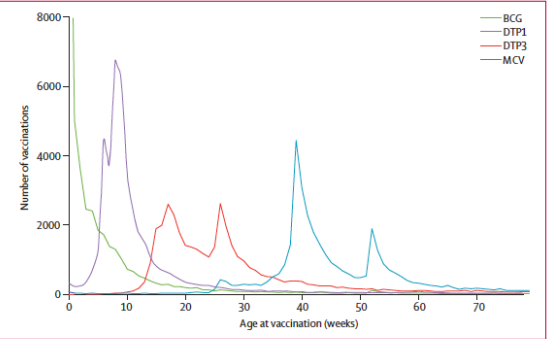


Figure 2: Age distributions for administration of BCG, DTP1, DTP3, and MCV1 vaccines, based on card dates only in children aged 18–35.9 months  
 BCG–bacille Calmette–Guérin. DTP–diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis. MCV–measles-containing vaccine.

Address gap in protection in very young

Improve coverage

Overcome barriers to vaccine take

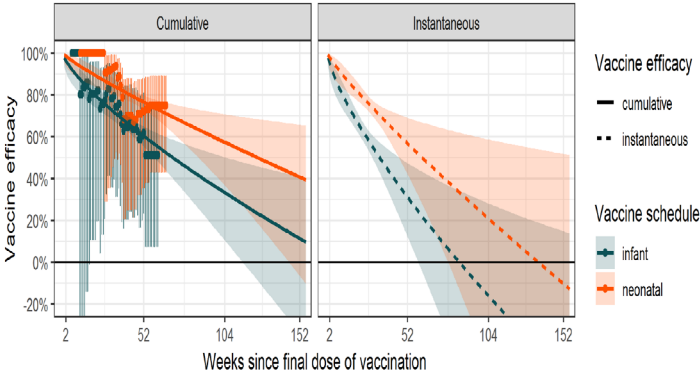
Gastric pH  
 Complex gut microbiome  
 Enteric enteropathy

# Birth dose schedule

Increase duration of protection

Potential to improve benefit-risk

*“Neonatal schedules that involve giving the first two doses as early as possible (ie, with BCG and DTP1) had the fewest excess intussusception deaths and favourable benefit–risk ratios compared with other schedules”*



Efficacy of live oral rotavirus vaccines by duration of follow-up: a meta-regression of randomized controlled clinical trials  
 A Clark, K Van Zandvoort, S Flache, C Sanderson, J Bines, J Tate, U Parashar, M Jit  
 Lancet Infectious Diseases 2019 19(7): 717-727

Mortality reduction benefits and intussusception risks of rotavirus vaccination in 135 low-income and middle-income countries: a modelling analysis of current and alternative schedules

Andrew Clark, Jacqueline Tate, Umesh Parashar, Mark Jit, Mateusz Hasso-Agopowicz, Nicholas Henschke, Benjamin Lopman, Kevin Van Zandvoort, Clint Pecenko, Paul Fine, Colin Sanderson



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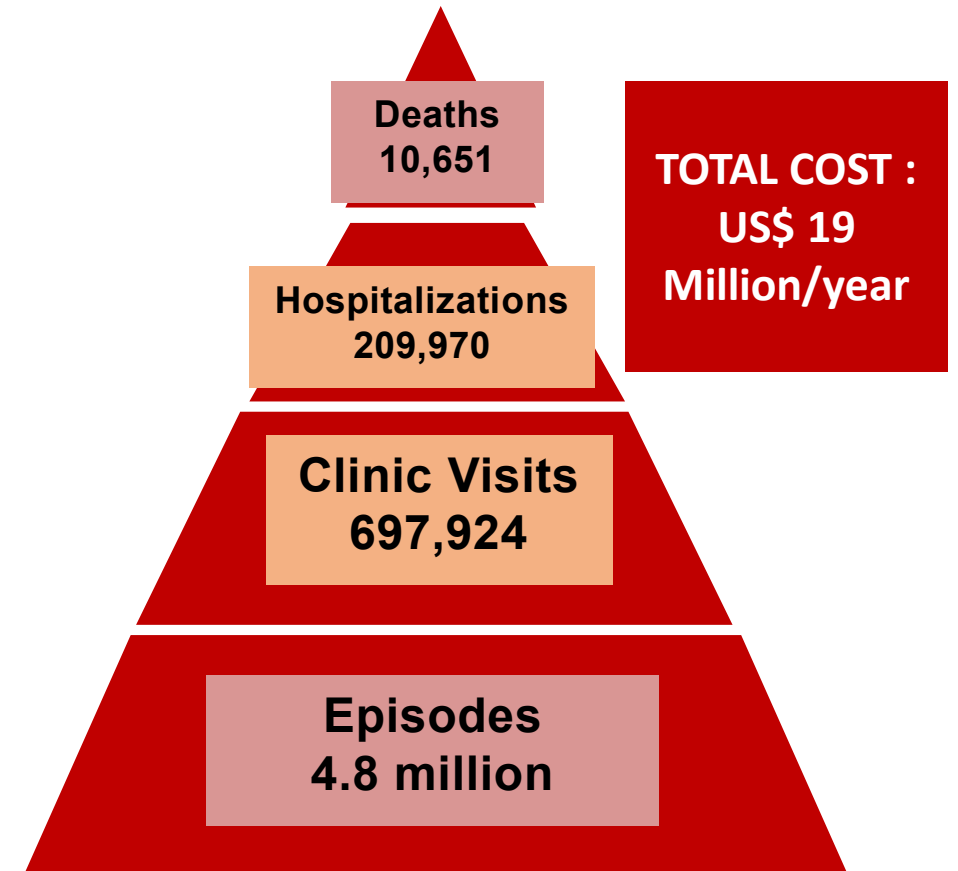
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# Indonesia and the need for a rotavirus vaccine

## High rotavirus disease burden

- ~4.77 million babies born annually
- High child mortality region
  - Infant mortality is 20 per 1,000 live births
  - child mortality is 24 per 1,000 live births
- Diarrhea was causes:
  - ~12% deaths in <12months of age
  - ~10% of deaths at ages 1-4 years
- ~45-60% diarrhea-related hospitalisations in children <5 years due to rotavirus



# Indonesia and the need for a rotavirus vaccine



## Vaccine manufacturing capability

### Bio Farma

- State owned vaccine manufacturer
- Supplies Indonesian National Immunisation Program
- Supplies UNICEF and >100 countries



Bio Farma has partnered with MCRI >15 years in development of the RV3-BB rotavirus vaccine

## Advantages of Bio Farma's RV3 vaccine for Indonesia

- Self-sufficiency of vaccine production & security
- Low cost, affordable
- Porcine free manufacture to meet Halal requirements
- Economic development

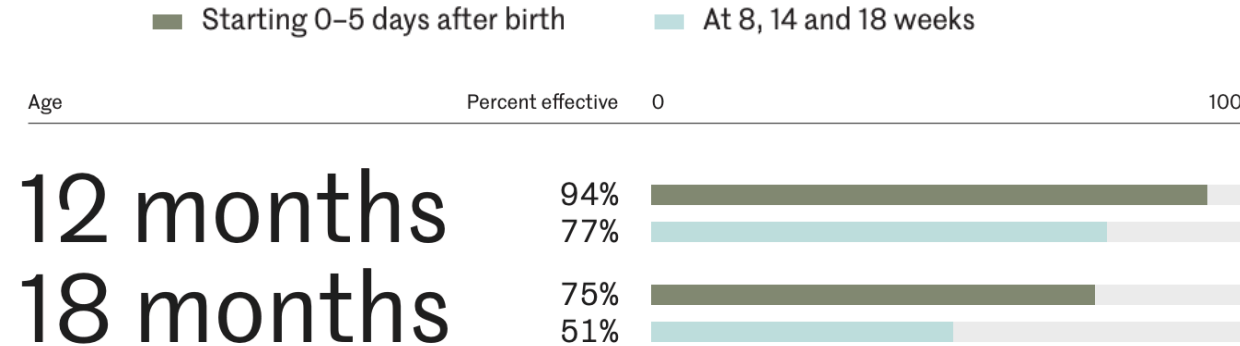


# RV3-BB rotavirus vaccine protects against rotavirus disease in Indonesian children

Double blind randomized clinical trial  
 Yogyakarta and Central Java  
 >1600 infants  
 >500 researchers, primary health centre staff and midwives  
 Supported by grants from NHMRC & Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation



## Vaccine Efficacy against severe rotavirus gastroenteritis



The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

### Human Neonatal Rotavirus Vaccine (RV3-BB) to Target Rotavirus from Birth

J.E. Bines, J. At Thobari, C.D. Satria, A. Handley, E. Watts, D. Cowley, H. Nirwati, J. Ackland, J. Standish, F. Justice, G. Byars, K.J. Lee, G.L. Barnes, N.S. Bachtiar, A. Viska Icanervilia, K. Boniface, N. Bogdanovic-Sakran, D. Pavlic, R.F. Bishop, C.D. Kirkwood, J.P. Buttery, and Y. Soenarto

New England Journal of Medicine 22 February 2018



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# Update on RV3-BB vaccine development in Indonesia

## Support development of BioFarma RV3 vaccine

Technology transfer: vaccine growth, assays etc

Large scale process development, formulation development  
(*Batavia BioSciences, University of Kansas; funding BMGF*)

Clinical development: Phase 3 to be completed in Q1 2023

## Cost-effectiveness Study of introduction into the NIP

Highly cost-effective <<1GDP/per capita

## Modelled impact of RV3-BB vaccine on rotavirus disease

95% reduction of infection & disease when vaccine coverage is 85%

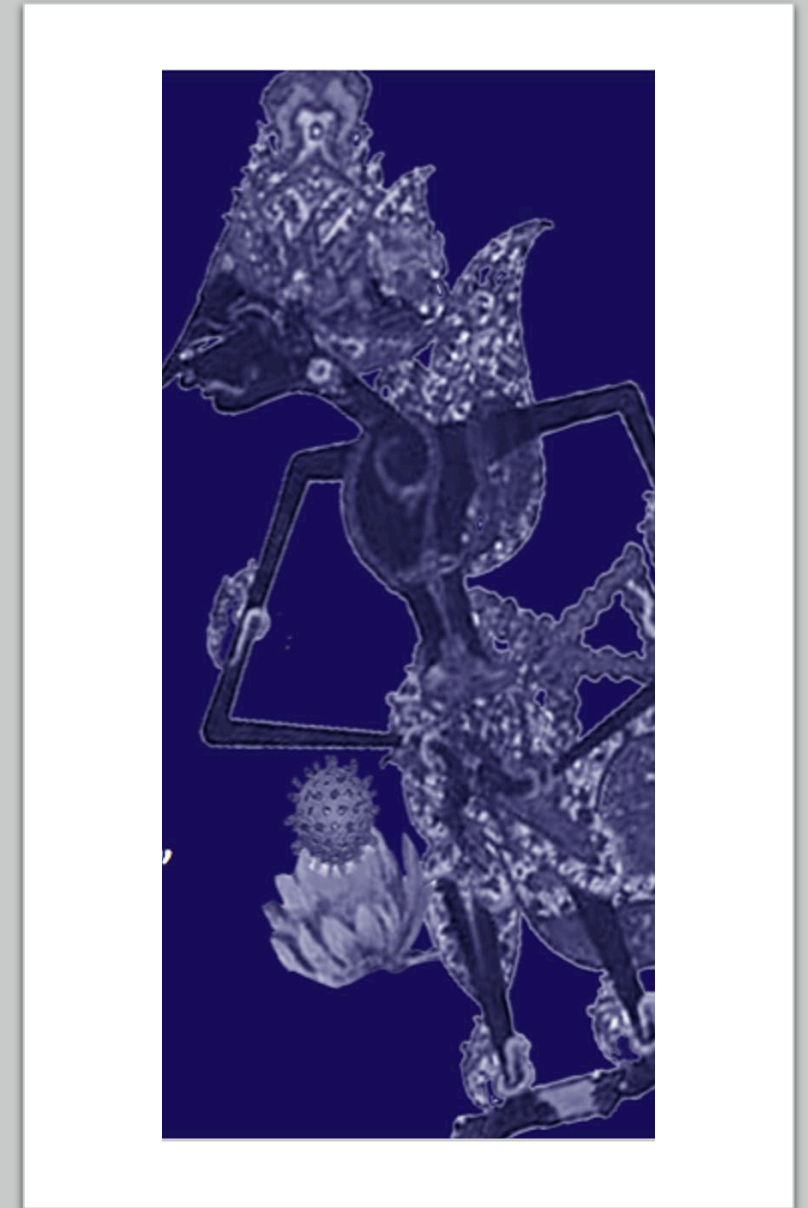
84% reduction even if coverage is 55%

## RV3-BB vaccine immunogenicity not impacted by:

Co-administration with Oral Polio Vaccine

Genetic differences in histoblood group antigens

Breast milk antibodies or maternal antibodies







Indonesia plans to introduce the  
Bio Farma manufactured RV3 vaccine  
into the National Immunisation Program  
from 2023



**Broad range of Enteric Disease research**

Gut microbiome & virome  
Changes in genetic diversity of rotavirus  
Rotavirus vaccine "Escape"

**Global Paediatric Diarrhea Surveillance Program**  
Global multi-enteric pathogen diagnostic platform

**Development of Enteric Vaccines**

Novel vaccine candidates  
Novel vaccine schedules  
Clinical vaccine trials  
Cost-effective analysis  
Support commercial  
Antimicrobial Resistance

**Wastewater Surveillance Indonesia**

COVID-19  
Typhoid

**COVID-19**

COVID and the gut  
Long-term impact of COVID in Indonesian children  
Probiotics in modifying disease in Indonesian children



**Collaborating Centre for Child Health  
WPRO Rotavirus Regional Reference  
Laboratory**

PhD & Masters UOM students from the IP region

PRIME Health partnership sponsored by Indonesian Gov  
*(Universitas Indonesia, Gadjra Mada Uni, Uni Airlangga, Uni Melb)*

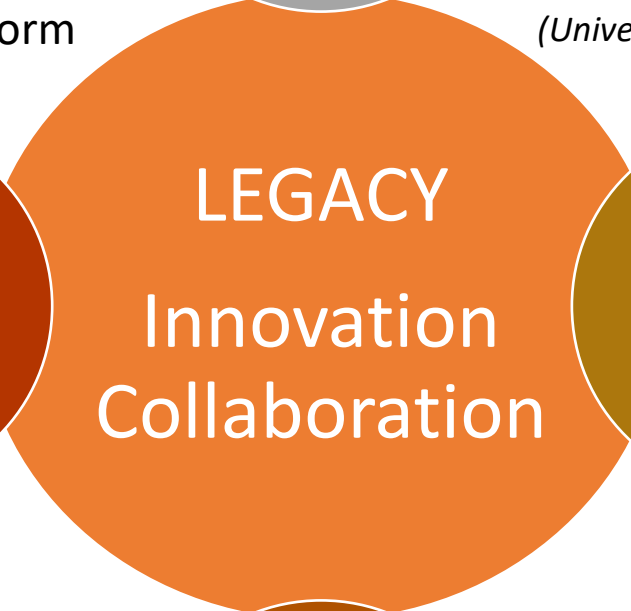
Laboratory training –  
surveillance, research,  
commercial partners

Teaching & training in  
Global Health & Vaccinology

Supporting and mentoring future leaders



Support between colleagues during during crisis:  
COVID-19 pandemic  
Acute Kidney Injury





# Thank you for attending the Ruth Bishop Address 2022

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