

## Roll out of Pentavalent Vaccine & Rotavirus Vaccine

The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia has introduced a new vaccine into the immunization program in 2013, Pentavalent vaccine, administered for 2 months to one year old infants. "One shot, for five protections", this pentavalent vaccine will protect infants against five infectious diseases with one shot namely, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Hepatitis B (HB) and Haemophilus influenzae Type B (HIB). Pentavalent vaccine produced by Bio Farma is the result of an extensive vaccine development since 2007 involving five antigens namely Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Hepatitis B (DPT-HB) and Haemophilus Influenzae type B vaccine. This vaccine was launched on 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2013, in Karawang-West Java. The combination of the five antigens is possible due to similar immunization schedule of the five antigens, given to infants 2, 3 and 4 months of age. Consequently, the infants will be given 3 three shots at these intervals each containing the five antigens. Corporate Secretary of Bio Farma, Mr. Rahman Rustan, said that this vaccine would undoubtedly increase affordability. Besides reducing the frequency of injections given to infants, Pentavalent vaccine is more efficient and eco-friendly "Pentavalent vaccine is expected to reduce the number of needles required for administration, cold storage as well as environmental-friendly and reducing waste" Rahman added that it would not be surprising that Pentavalent vaccine would be predicted to dominate the purchase of vaccines from the vaccine producers of developing countries, said Rahman Rustan during the visit of international Journalists to Bio Farma, 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2013 **Clinical Trial** Dr. Novilia S. Bachtiar, Clinical Trial and Surveillance Senior Manager of Bio Farma added that clinical trial for Pentavalent vaccine was conducted since 2010 and successfully passed phase III clinical trial. The trial was conducted in collaboration with Hasan Sadikin Hospital /Medical Faculty of Pajajaran University and Cipto Mangunkusumo Hospital / Medical Faculty of University of Indonesia. Pentavalent vaccine has been registered with the National Agency for Drug & Food Control (NADFC) and approved accordingly. "in 2013 Pentavalent vaccine was supplied to four provinces, including West Java, Bali, NTB and Yogyakarta, while in 2014 to all 33 provinces of Indonesia" Bio Farma predicted that Pentavalent vaccine demand in Indonesia will reach 15 million doses per year. This prediction is based on the average birth cohort in Indonesia of 5 million a year. Beside the fulfillment for domestic demand, Bio Farma also plans to export the vaccine to other countries after the vaccine has acquired WHO prequalification anticipated by early 2015. *Rotavirus vaccine Clinical Trial* Rotavirus vaccine (vaccine for diarrhoeal infection) clinical trial is currently being conducted (phase IIB trial), which began in January 2013, in collaboration with the Faculty of Medicine, University of Gadjah Mada, involving approximately 1600 infants in Yogyakarta and Central Java.

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**About Bio Farma** Bio Farma is the sole vaccine and immunosera producer for humans in Indonesia. Currently, the need for EPI vaccines in Indonesia is supplied solely by Bio Farma having manufactured and distributed more than 1.8 billion doses of vaccines per year for the national immunization program. Bio Farma has an outstanding international reputation based on the WHO prequalification for all of its Expanded Program on Immunization vaccines (EPI) and vaccine products. At this moment, Bio Farma products are exported to countries around the world through direct distribution or through various agencies such as UNICEF. Bio Farma is committed to fully conduct environmental-friendly business operations and products; in 2008-2013 Bio Farma was awarded green PROPER and 2014 Gold PROPER, from The Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Indonesia, Global Green Award, and the Best Export Performance award from the Ministry of Trade in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 proof of Bio Farma's consistent exceptional performance.

For more information: [www.biofarma.co.id](http://www.biofarma.co.id) For further information : N.Nurlaela Corporate Communications Manager PT Bio Farma (Persero) Jl. Pasteur No 28 Bandung - Indonesia +62 22 2033755 +62 22 2041306 e-mail : [lala@biofarma.co.id](mailto:lala@biofarma.co.id) ; [corcom@biofarma.co.id](http://corcom@biofarma.co.id)

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