CBRN Vaccines Program
Anthrax Vaccines

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BARDA Industry Day
November 12, 2013
Anthrax Threat

- Category A Threat Agent
- Department of Homeland Security issued Material Threat Determination (MTD) in 2004
- Potential for massive health, economic, social, and political disruption
- Evidence of technology to enhance release and distribution of spores (weaponized anthrax)
October 2001 Amerithrax Case

- Seven letters mailed over two weeks
- 30,000 people started on PEP antibiotics
  - 11 cases of inhalational anthrax developed
  - 5 resulted in death
- Over $225 million to decontaminate seven buildings
- Lessons Learned
  - US was vulnerable and response plans were insufficient to prevent mortality
  - Antibiotics alone were not sufficient
  - 60-day antibiotic regimen led to non-compliance
  - Additional countermeasures needed
Anthrax Vaccine Program goal is to develop a safe and effective vaccine that can be used for post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)

- **Post-exposure Prophylaxis**
- **60 day treatment course**

- **Antibiotics**
  - **Post-exposure Prophylaxis**
  - **60 day treatment course**

- **Antitoxins**
  - **Treatment of symptomatic patients**

- **Vaccines**
  - **Pre and post-exposure prophylaxis**

Support licensure of AVA for PEP and develop a next generation vaccine that can provide equivalent protection in fewer doses
Anthrax Vaccine Adsorbed (BioThrax)
2002

- FDA licensed for general-use prophylaxis (pre-exposure) in high risk groups
- Six-dose schedule
- Local site reactogenicity – subcutaneous route
- 2-year expiry
- Limited data on post-exposure prophylaxis
- Limited manufacturing capacity
Desired Anthrax Vaccine Characteristics

• FDA approved for both pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis
• Reduced schedule
• Acceptable reactogenicity
• Excellent safety profile
• Rapid time to protection
• Long duration of protective immunity
• Long shelf-life
• Ease of delivery
• No interference with concomitant drugs
• Large-scale manufacturing capacity and low cost
BioThrax Enhancements

• CDC AVRP “Phase IV” Program
  — Reduced the schedule to 5 doses (0, 1, 6, 12, 18 mo with yearly boosters)
  — Changed the route of administration from SQ to IM
  — Recommended AVA as component of a post-exposure prophylaxis regimen (0, 2, 4 wk) with concomitant antibiotics (60 days)
  — Recommended AVA for pregnant women exposed to anthrax

• Expiry dating extended from 2 to 4 yrs
• Room temperature stability dating up to 3 mo at 25°C
BARDA Anthrax Vaccine Strategy

Market surveillance - ongoing

rPA
- 3 programs as risk mitigation
- Increased stability – lyo formulation
- Adjuvants

Adeno – vector
- Single dose
- Ease of administration

AVA
- Licensure for PEP (expected 2015)
- Expand manufacturing capacity – lower $
- Adjuvant – fewer doses
- Antigen/Dose sparing clinical trial for AVA
Summary

• USG continues to expand the utility of BioThrax® through label expansions (PEP), manufacturing scale-up, stability studies, and dose/antigen-sparing strategies

• Development of recombinant anthrax vaccines (subunit, formulations, expression vector technologies) are still early in development and remain a challenge

• Development of vaccines that offer equivalent protection in fewer doses continue to be a long-term objective.