

Bharat Biotech's ROTAVAC 5D Receives WHO Prequalification

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- *Prequalification will fast-track procurement and global access of ROTAVAC 5D®*
- *The only rotavirus vaccine in the world to be delivered in a 0.5 ml dose volume*

INVC NEWS

Hyderabad,

Bharat Biotech today announced that the World Health Organization (WHO) has awarded prequalification to its rotavirus vaccine, **ROTAVAC 5D®**. The new variant of ROTAVAC®, **ROTAVAC 5D®**, is a unique rotavirus vaccine formulation that can be administered without a buffer. Its low dose volume (0.5 mL) facilitates easy vaccine logistics, cold chain management and low biomedical waste disposal post-vaccination. It is used for the prevention of rotavirus infection, which is prevalent in infants and young children.

WHO Prequalification enables the procurement of ROTAVAC 5D® by UN agencies namely UNICEF and PAHO. It is a validation of the global quality and safety standards required for pediatric vaccines. WHO prequalification of **ROTAVAC 5D®** will fast-track global access to this life saving vaccine.

Mrs. Suchitra Ella, Joint Managing Director, Bharat Biotech, said, "ROTAVAC® and ROTAVAC 5D® are projects conceived, innovated, and executed in India; in collaboration with Indian and Global partners. This is the culmination of a 30 year effort to develop a novel rotavirus vaccine, resulting in a major advancement in Rotavirus disease prevention and reasserts India's leadership in developing and introducing rotavirus vaccines for the world. Today's announcement is an important step to further strengthen and fulfill Bharat Biotech's vision to address neglected diseases and prevent infections that continue to affect millions in the developing world."

Bharat Biotech developed the first generation, rotavirus vaccine, ROTAVAC® under a Public-Private Partnership with the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India and 16 other international partners, making it the largest ever social innovation project for public health. In the developing world, ROTAVAC® has been instrumental in addressing deaths due to rotavirus infection. Bharat Biotech has so far supplied more than 250 million doses of ROTAVAC®.

Rotavirus is the leading cause of severe diarrhea among children less than five years of age around the world, resulting in more than 200,000 deaths and 2 million hospitalizations worldwide. Vaccinations are an important part of global public health efforts to meet the Sustainable Developmental Goals of UNDP.

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