Kashangura R, Jullien S, Garner P, Johnson S

MVA85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis

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ABSTRACT

Background

Tuberculosis causes more deaths than any other infectious disease globally. Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG) is the only available vaccine, but protection is incomplete and variable. The modified Vaccinia Ankara virus expressing antigen 85A (MVA85A) is a viral vector vaccine produced to prevent tuberculosis.

Objectives

To assess and summarize the effects of the MVA85A vaccine boosting BCG in humans.

Search methods

We searched the Cochrane Infectious Diseases Group Specialized Register; Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL); MEDLINE (PubMed); Embase (Ovid); and four other databases. We searched the WHO ICTRP and ClinicalTrials.gov. All searches were run up to 10 May 2018.

Selection criteria

We evaluated randomized controlled trials of MVA85A vaccine given with BCG in people regardless of age or HIV status.

Data collection and analysis

Two review authors independently assessed the eligibility and risk of bias of trials, and extracted and analyzed data. The primary outcome was active tuberculosis disease. We summarized dichotomous outcomes using risk ratios (RR) and risk differences (RD), with 95% confidence intervals (CI). Where appropriate, we combined data in meta-analyses. Where meta-analysis was inappropriate, we summarized results narratively.
Main results

The search identified six studies relating to four Phase 2 randomized controlled trials enrolling 3838 participants. Funding was by government bodies, charities, and philanthropic donors. Five studies included infants, one of them infants born to HIV-positive mothers. One study included adults living with HIV. All trials included authors from Oxford University who led the laboratory development of the vaccine. Participants received intradermal MVA85A after BCG in some studies, and before selective deferred BCG in HIV-exposed infants.

The largest trial in 2797 African children was well conducted with low risk of bias for most parameters. Risk of bias was uncertain for selective reporting because there were no precise case definition endpoints for active tuberculosis published prior to the trial analysis.

MVA85A added to BCG compared to BCG alone probably has no effect on the risk of developing microbiologically confirmed tuberculosis (RR 0.97, 95% CI 0.58 to 1.62; 3439 participants, 2 trials; moderate-certainty evidence), or the risk of starting on tuberculosis treatment (RR 1.10, 95% CI 0.92 to 1.33; 3687 participants, 3 trials; moderate-certainty evidence). MVA85A probably has no effect on the risk of developing latent tuberculosis (RR 1.01, 95% CI 0.85 to 1.21; 3831 participants, 4 trials; moderate-certainty evidence). Vaccinating people with MVA85A in addition to BCG did not cause life-threatening serious adverse effects (RD 0.00, 95% CI -0.00 to 0.00; 3692 participants, 3 trials; high-certainty evidence). Vaccination with MVA85A is probably associated with an increased risk of local skin adverse effects (3187 participants, 3 trials; moderate-certainty evidence), but not systemic adverse effect related to vaccination (144 participants, 1 trial; low-certainty evidence). This safety profile is consistent with Phase 1 studies which outlined a transient, superficial reaction local to the injection site and mild short-lived symptoms such as malaise and fever.

Authors' conclusions

MVA85A delivered by intradermal injection in addition to BCG is safe but not effective in reducing the risk of developing tuberculosis.

Plain Language Summary

MVA85A vaccine as a booster to BCG for prevention of tuberculosis

What is the aim of this review?

The aim of this Cochrane review was to evaluate the effectiveness and safety of using MVA85A in addition to BCG compared to using BCG alone for prevention of tuberculosis.

Key messages

MVA85A in addition to BCG showed no added benefit to BCG in prevention of acquiring tuberculosis.

What was studied in the review?

Tuberculosis is an infectious airborne disease which affects the lungs and other organs in the body. It can either be active when a person shows signs and symptoms or has confirmatory tests for tuberculosis or latent when a person has inhaled the bacteria before but does not show signs and symptoms of sickness. Currently, there is only one vaccine licensed for prevention of this disease, which is called BCG. However, the ability for the BCG vaccine to prevent tuberculosis differs in different settings and patient groups resulting in tuberculosis still remaining a problem worldwide despite children being immunized. MVA85A is a vaccine that was investigated for prevention of tuberculosis with the hope that when used in addition to BCG it will improve prevention of people getting tuberculosis.

What are the main results of this review?

After examining the research published up to 10 May 2018, we included six study findings from four randomized controlled trials (clinical trials where people are randomly put into one of two or more treatment groups), enrolling 3838 children and adults. Based on these studies of mostly children and adults living in Africa, MVA85A added to BCG compared to BCG alone probably has no effect on the risk of developing active tuberculosis defined as microbiologically confirmed tuberculosis (moderate-certainty evidence) or the risk of starting on tuberculosis treatment (moderate-certainty evidence). MVA85A has no effect on the risk of developing latent tuberculosis (moderate-certainty evidence). MVA85A does not cause any life-threatening serious side effects (highly-certainty evidence). There were more local skin reactions in people vaccinated with MVA85A, however, there was no increase in overall side effects in people given MVA85A.

How up-to-date is this review?

MVA85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis (Review)

Copyright © 2019 The Authors. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews published by John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. on behalf of The Cochrane Collaboration.
The review authors searched for studies that have been published up to May 2018.
# Summary of Findings for the Main Comparison

MVA85A compared to placebo for preventing tuberculosis

**Patient or population:** HIV-positive and -negative adults and children  
**Setting:** South Africa, Senegal  
**Intervention:** MVA85A  
**Comparison:** placebo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>Anticipated absolute effects* (95% CI)</th>
<th>Relative effect (95% CI)</th>
<th>Number of participants (trials)</th>
<th>Certainty of the evidence (GRADE)</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Active tuberculosis: confirmed by culture or Xpert® MTB/RIF longest reported follow-up | Risk with placebo 17 per 1000  
16 per 1000 (10 to 28)  
Risk with MVA85A 16 per 1000  
16 per 1000 (10 to 28) | RR 0.97  
(0.58 to 1.62)  
(2 RCTs) | 3439  
(2 RCTs) | ⊕⊕⊕Moderate<sup>a,b,c</sup> | Vaccinating people with MVA85A in addition to BCG probably made little or no difference to the risk of developing active tuberculosis |
| Active tuberculosis: started on tuberculosis treatment | Risk with placebo 102 per 1000  
112 per 1000 (94 to 136)  
Risk with MVA85A 112 per 1000  
112 per 1000 (94 to 136) | RR 1.10  
(0.92 to 1.33)  
(3 RCTs) | 3687  
(3 RCTs) | ⊕⊕⊕Moderate<sup>a,c,d</sup> | Vaccinating people with MVA85A in addition to BCG probably made little or no difference to the risk of needing to start tuberculosis treatment |
| Latent tuberculosis | Risk with placebo 114 per 1000  
115 per 1000 (97 to 138)  
Risk with MVA85A 115 per 1000  
115 per 1000 (97 to 138) | RR 1.01  
(0.85 to 1.21)  
(4 RCTs) | 3831  
(4 RCTs) | ⊕⊕⊕Moderate<sup>c,d,e</sup> | Vaccinating people with MVA85A in addition to BCG probably made little or no difference to the risk of developing latent tuberculosis |
## Serious adverse effects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effect</th>
<th>Intervention 1</th>
<th>Comparator 1</th>
<th>RD</th>
<th>SE</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Evidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 per 1000</td>
<td>1 per 1000 (0 to 4)</td>
<td>RD 0.00 (-0.00 to 0.00)</td>
<td>3692</td>
<td>⊕⊕⊕⊕</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vaccinating people with MVA85A in addition to BCG did not cause life-threatening serious adverse effects.

## Adverse effects of any severity (local reactions of the skin)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effect</th>
<th>Intervention 1</th>
<th>Comparator 1</th>
<th>RD</th>
<th>SE</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Evidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vaccination with MVA85A was associated with more reactions at the site of the injection.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3187 (3 RCTs)</td>
<td>⊕⊕</td>
<td></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vaccinating people with MVA85A in addition to BCG probably increased the risk of having an adverse reaction related to vaccination at the site of the injection.

## Adverse effects of any severity (systemic symptoms)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effect</th>
<th>Intervention 1</th>
<th>Comparator 1</th>
<th>RD</th>
<th>SE</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Evidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adverse events reported included malaise, lethargy, fever, and vomiting although differences between groups were not significant at a 95% CI level.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>144 (1 RCT)</td>
<td>⊕⊕</td>
<td></td>
<td>Low</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vaccinating people with MVA85A in addition to BCG may not have been associated with an increase in adverse effects related to vaccination.

## Adverse events of any severity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effect</th>
<th>Intervention 1</th>
<th>Comparator 1</th>
<th>RD</th>
<th>SE</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Evidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>808 per 1000</td>
<td>849 per 1000 (824 to 873)</td>
<td>RR 1.05 (1.02 to 1.08)</td>
<td>3836</td>
<td>⊕⊕⊕⊕</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vaccination with MVA85A alone slightly increased the risk of having an adverse event.

* The risk in the intervention group (and its 95% CI) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the relative effect of the intervention (and its 95% CI).

BCG: Bacillus Calmette-Guérin; CI: confidence interval; RCT: randomized controlled trial; RD: risk difference; RR: risk ratio.

### GRADE Working Group grades of evidence

- **High certainty:** we are very confident that the true effect lies close to that of the estimate of the effect.
- **Moderate certainty:** we are moderately confident in the effect estimate: the true effect is likely to be close to the estimate of the effect, but there is a possibility that it is substantially different.
Low certainty: our confidence in the effect estimate is limited: the true effect may be substantially different from the estimate of the effect.

Very low certainty: we have very little confidence in the effect estimate: the true effect is likely to be substantially different from the estimate of effect

Not downgraded for risk of bias. The largest trial was at unclear risk of bias due to selective reporting; however, the outcomes presented were unlikely to be affected by this (Tameris 2013).

Downgraded by one level for imprecision. Few events and wide CIs containing clinically appreciable benefit and harm.

Not downgraded for indirectness. The only trial in HIV-positive adults was stopped early meaning it was underpowered to detect efficacy (Ndiaye 2015). Therefore, evidence of efficacy is more generalizable to infants; however, results in adults were consistent with little or no effect being seen across all endpoints.

Downgraded by one level for imprecision. Broad CI containing little or no effect and clinically appreciable harm.

Not downgraded for risk of bias. The largest trial was at unclear risk of bias due to selective reporting; however, the outcome of latent tuberculosis was unlikely to be affected by this (Tameris 2013).

Risk difference presented as explained in our result section.

Extensive investigation of the vaccine in Phase 1 studies outlined in the Background of this review outlined “a transient, superficial reaction local to the injection site and mild short-lived viral symptoms” consistent with the findings reported in the Phase 2 trials.

Downgraded by one level for imprecision. Broad CIs containing clinically appreciable benefit and harm.

Not downgraded for risk of bias. The largest study reported local adverse events and defined these as solicited by the vaccine (Tameris 2013).

Not downgraded for heterogeneity. While there might be some heterogeneity between the included trials in terms of time of outcome collection, the outcomes are consistent in favour to placebo as shown in Analysis 1.5.

Downgraded by one level for risk of bias. There were some deficiencies in the trial reporting these outcomes.

Additional safety data from Phase 1 studies in 712 participants did not show any adverse effect signals (see section in Background of this review).

Downgraded by one level for imprecision. Few events reported in the largest trial (Tameris 2013), data not disaggregated in the second largest trial (Ndiaye 2015).

Not downgraded for inconsistency. $I^2$ value of 37% judged to be non-significant heterogeneity.
**BACKGROUND**

**Description of the condition**

Tuberculosis is an infectious disease caused by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. It was estimated that 10 million people developed tuberculosis in 2017. Tuberculosis now ranks first, followed by HIV, as the leading cause of death from an infectious disease worldwide, killing an estimated 1.6 million people in 2017, including 300,000 people living with HIV. Over 95% of these people were living in low- and middle-income countries (WHO 2018). Tuberculosis can be classified as active when people experience signs or symptoms of tuberculosis or have radiological evidence of it. Tuberculosis can also be classified as latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI) where immunological evidence of previous exposure to *M tuberculosis* exists without clinical or radiological evidence of the disease (CDC 2000). Of healthy adults with immunological evidence of previous exposure to *M tuberculosis*, the overall lifetime risk of progressing to active disease if not treated for the infection is 5% to 10% (Harries 2006). Often this happens months or years after the initial infection in response to a weakening of the body’s immune system. The probability of developing active disease is higher in HIV-positive people, people with diabetes, and young children (Baker 2011; Perez-Velez 2012; Tiemersma 2011). Fifty percent of infants with evidence of LTBI will progress to active disease if untreated (Marais 2004). People with LTBI require early diagnosis and treatment to reduce the pool of active tuberculosis cases. This is particularly important in high-risk groups, such as those coinfected with HIV (Sharma 2012). Tuberculosis can be treated with long courses of multiple antibiotics, but the rise of HIV and spread of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) means that tuberculosis is still one of the largest threats to public health worldwide (WHO 2018). Structural determinants such as rapid urbanization of populations and economic inequalities, social determinants such as poverty and poor housing, alongside biological factors such as HIV and drug-resistant strains of tuberculosis play a vital role in the spread of tuberculosis through vulnerable populations (Daftary 2012).

The Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccine is currently the only available vaccine. Epidemiological studies indicate that it has a protective effect against tuberculosis disease in children, particularly against the more severe forms of the disease such as tuberculosis meningitis or miliary tuberculosis (Roy 2014). The effectiveness of BCG differs greatly depending on the site of infection. It has consistent protection against tuberculous meningitis and miliary disease in children but variable protection against pulmonary tuberculosis (Abubakar 2013; Colditz 1995). As a result, despite many areas achieving high coverage of BCG vaccination, the disease remains a problem, and a new tuberculosis vaccine remains an important global research priority (WHO 2018). Previously it has been impossible to ascertain reliably whether the BCG vaccine protected against active disease or infection with *M tuberculosis*. This was due to the tuberculin skin test being unable to distinguish between cases of LTBI and people who had been vaccinated with BCG (Roy 2014). Therefore, the development and use of interferon γ release assays (IGRA), which can distinguish between tuberculosis infection and vaccination, has proved useful. This has allowed researchers to establish that BCG vaccination reduces the risk of *Mycobacterium* infection in some settings (Eisenhut 2009).

**Description of the intervention**

Many researchers and policy makers emphasize that a new effective vaccine could be a major contribution to tuberculosis control and elimination as a public health problem (de Cassan 2010). There are 12 vaccine candidates in clinical trials: eight in Phase 2 or Phase 3, and four in Phase 1. They include candidates to prevent the development of tuberculosis, and candidates to help improve the outcomes of treatment for tuberculosis disease (WHO 2018). The modified Vaccinia Ankara virus-expressing antigen 85A (MVA85A) is a viral vector vaccine based on the modified Vaccinia Ankara (MVA) virus. MVA is an attenuated virus that does not replicate in human tissue and, as such, has been used as a platform to encode multiple antigens and allowing development of multivalent vaccines (Altenburg 2014). In this case, MVA has had pieces of DNA from *M tuberculosis* inserted into it, so that it expresses the antigen 85A. This antigen complex is an enzyme that is involved in the cell wall biosynthesis of *M tuberculosis* and constitutes a vital part of the way in which the bacteria forms its outer mycomembrane. This is important for the viability of the mycobacterium and works as an effective barrier to drug therapies by repelling some antibiotics and preventing them from entering the cell (Favrot 2013).

Immunological studies have shown that a prime boost strategy, where MVA85A is used to boost the effects of BCG, is effective in expanding immune responses specific to *M tuberculosis* (Beveridge 2007). Thus, MVA85A was proposed primarily as a booster to people already vaccinated with BCG (Tameris 2013). Further studies have assessed MVA85A in other regimens including in combination with other viral vector vaccines (Sheehan 2015).

**How the intervention might work**

MVA85A is the first vaccine since 1968 to be tested in efficacy trials (Tameris 2013). It has been tried with a promise of prolonged antimycobacterial immunity in human UK trials (McShane 2004), and in tuberculosis endemic areas (Hawkrige 2008). The intention is that MVA85A would boost the immune response to tuberculosis above that which is afforded by vaccination with BCG (Roy 2014). MVA85A is administered as a single intradermal dose in people who have already received BCG vaccine (Tameris 2013). Other routes have been studied in animal studies, such as intra-
venous administration (Romano 2006), and are being considered in humans (Satti 2014).

The researchers who developed the vaccine evaluated its effects in animals and conducted Phase 1 studies in humans. Early literature and reviews by the team noted the vaccine was safe and produced an immune response in several populations (McShane 2004; Rowland 2012).

One independent systematic review of the animal studies, carried out by some members of this Cochrane Review team, raised questions about whether these animal studies provided evidence of efficacy in the various animal models used (Kashangura 2015), when clinical and pathological endpoints were examined in a variety of animal models subjected to challenge studies. This has led to a debate about the reporting of animal studies, in particular the lack of published protocols so that the question being tackled in an animal study is made clear in advance (Cohen 2018). These studies administered BCG, BCG and MVA85A, or no vaccine. Afterwards, animals were exposed to tuberculosis challenge. Clearly progression to clinical trial is not solely based on evidence derived from preclinical efficacy studies, and MVA85A was evaluated in a number of trials in humans before proceeding to an efficacy study (McShane 2018). However, preclinical studies remain an important component of the tuberculosis vaccine development paradigm (Barker 2012; McShane 2014).

The systematic review of animal studies pointed out that there was one study in macaques where more monkeys required euthanasia in the MVA85A plus BCG vaccine group than the BCG control group (Kashangura 2015). This led to considerable controversy as to whether the publication of the results were delayed (Cohen 2018). The findings from this study could be the result of chance; or because the vaccine impaired functional immunity; or the result of a separate adverse effect. The vaccine development team then carried out a relatively large number of safety studies in humans; and, in their words, “none of the 14 trials of MVA85A in over 400 humans (the target species) before the infant efficacy trial showed a safety signal” (McShane 2018). The standard approach for Cochrane Reviews within the Cochrane Infectious Diseases Group is to only summarize efficacy trials. However, as the primary concern of the studies included in this review was safety, we summarized the considerable number of Phase 1 studies that the researchers carried out to exclude severe adverse effects attributable to the vaccine in humans in this ‘Background’ section of the review. We searched registered clinical trial databases (ClinicalTrials.gov, World Health Organization (WHO) International Clinical Trials Registry Platform (ICTRP), Pan African Trials Registry, EU Clinical Trials Register) in June 2017 and summarized the Phase 1 studies identified in Table 1. We found 21 separate studies as registered (prospectively and retrospectively) dating from 2003 with the most recent studies scheduled to complete follow-up in 2018. In addition, we found an existing narrative review of Phase 1 studies (Rowland 2012), which summarized Phase 1 safety data relating to selected trials including unpublished data and compared this to selected trials in yellow fever and BCG.

Why it is important to do this review

Summarizing the evidence to date will be useful to the public, scientists, and to others interested in innovation in tuberculosis as a case study from laboratory development to field testing. If critical appraisal and systematic review of this vaccine in humans shows no clear effect, this raises questions about any further testing. However, as of November 2017, there were ongoing studies looking at aerosolized delivery of the vaccine (NCT01954563; NCT02532036). In 2017, studies were published that addressed the immunogenicity of the candidate tuberculosis vaccine MVA85A in Schistosomiasis-infected teenagers (Wajja 2017), and a further efficacy study in HIV-exposed infants (Nemes 2018).

OBJECTIVES

To assess and summarize the effects of the MVA85A vaccine boosting BCG in humans.

METHODS

Criteria for considering studies for this review

Types of studies

Randomized controlled trials (RCTs) that include measures of clinical efficacy (Phase 2 clinical trials).

Types of participants

Any person regardless of age or HIV status.
Types of interventions

Intervention
MVA85A vaccine regardless of vaccination schedule, dosage, route, or formulation given with BCG.

Control
BCG alone, or Candin® (Candida albicans skin test antigen).

Types of outcome measures

Primary outcomes
- Active tuberculosis, defined by:
  - clinical signs and symptoms plus confirmation by microscopy, culture, or Xpert® MTB/RIF (an automated nucleic-acid amplification test);
  - treatment commenced for tuberculosis.

Secondary outcomes
- Latent tuberculosis, diagnosed by IGRA or Mantoux without clinical or radiological evidence of active disease.

Adverse outcomes
- Adverse effects of any severity, defined as “an adverse event for which the causal relation between the intervention and the event is at least a reasonable possibility” (Loke 2011).
- Serious adverse effects, defined as an adverse event attributable to the intervention “leading to death, are life threatening, requires inpatient hospitalisation or prolongation of existing hospitalisation, or result in persistent or significant disability or incapacity” (ICH 1994).
- Adverse events of any severity, defined as “any untoward medical occurrence that may present during treatment with a pharmaceutical product but which does not necessarily have a causal relationship with this treatment” (WHO-ART 2008).
- Abnormal haematological tests during the follow-up period after being vaccinated.
- Abnormal biochemical tests during the follow-up period after being vaccinated.

Search methods for identification of studies

We conducted the literature search up to the 10 May 2018 and identified potential studies regardless of language or publication status (published, unpublished, in press, and in progress).

Electronic searches

We searched the following databases using the search terms and strategy described in Appendix 1: the Cochrane Infectious Diseases Group Specialized Register (10 May 2018); the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL, 2018, Issue 4, published in the Cochrane Library); MEDLINE (PubMed, 1966 to 10 May 2018); Embase (Ovid, 1947 to 10 May 2018); Science Citation Index-Expanded, Social Sciences Citation index, conference proceedings (Web of Science, 1900 to 10 May 2018); and CINAHL (EBSCOHost (1982 to 10 May 2018). We also searched the World Health Organization (WHO) International Clinical Trials Registry Platform (ICTRP; www.who.int/ictrp/en/), and ClinicalTrials.gov (clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/home), for trials in progress, up to 10 May 2018, using MVA85A, "modified vaccinia virus Ankara", Ag85A, “Antigen 85A”, and tuberculosis OR tuberculosis as search terms.

Searching other resources

We searched the proceedings and abstracts of the following tuberculosis conferences: Union World Conference on Lung Health, European Respiratory Society, and the International Conference of the American Thoracic Society (ATS), from 2012 to 2018. We also handsearched reference lists of relevant papers.

Data collection and analysis

Selection of studies

Two review authors independently screened all abstracts retrieved by the search strategy above using predefined eligibility criteria designed and piloted by the review authors. We excluded clearly irrelevant studies. We searched for multiple publications using studies from the same data set. We retrieved full-text copies for all trials thought to be potentially relevant. Two review authors (SoJ and SaJ) independently assessed all identified trials for inclusion in the review using the predefined inclusion criteria. We resolved any disagreements in assessment through discussion. In cases of unresolved differences, a third review author adjudicated. We kept records of the initial results and the changes after discussion. We also kept a list all studies excluded after full-text assessment in the Characteristics of excluded studies table. We illustrated the study selection process in a PRISMA diagram (Figure 1).
Figure 1. Study flow diagram.

153 records identified through database searching

0 additional records identified through other sources

152 records after duplicates removed

152 records screened

118 records excluded

34 full-text articles assessed for eligibility

28 full-text articles excluded, with reasons

6 studies included in qualitative synthesis

6 studies included in quantitative synthesis (meta-analysis)
**Data extraction and management**

We designed and piloted data extraction forms. Two review authors independently performed data extraction. We gathered information from each included trial separately on trial characteristics. These included:

- study setting, design, study duration, population sample size, and power calculations;
- baseline characteristics of study population including age, sex, weight, prematurity, HIV, other comorbidity, whether breastfeeding, race, HIV status, antiretroviral therapy (ART), CD4 count, and viral load;
- intervention and control group vaccine dosages, routes of administration, and times of vaccination;
- time of outcome measure after administering MVA85A;
- duration of follow-up, withdrawals from the study, and reasons for withdrawal.

All outcomes were dichotomous, so we tabulated the numbers of participants who developed tuberculosis or an adverse event (n) with the total sample size number (N) in each comparison group. We documented the different definitions of outcomes in the trials for further consideration and only combined data from endpoints that were similar across studies.

**Assessment of risk of bias in included studies**

We assessed risk of bias for RCTs using the Cochrane ‘Risk of bias’ tool (Higgins 2011). Two review authors independently assessed studies for risk of bias. We resolved any disagreement through discussion and, where necessary, through consultation with a third review author.

We assessed sequence generation (if predictable method used) and allocation concealment for selection bias and detection bias by looking at blinding methods. We also considered both the intention of blinding and the success of blinding for each outcome. If there was no description of the procedure, for example how randomization was done, we marked it as unclear.

In addition, we examined the objectivity of outcome measures, use of intention-to-treat (ITT) analysis, loss to follow-up, and selective outcome reporting to assess the risk of bias in included studies. We assessed whether outcome measures were specified a priori and whether the published endpoints matched those specified in study protocols.

We assessed incomplete outcome data in each included trial to determine the proportion of missing results and whether it affected the results in terms of event risk and effect size. We assessed if reasons for missing data were related to adverse events or death from MVA85A and if missing data were balanced in the two experimental groups to have an overall decision on risk associated with incomplete outcome data.

We assessed other dimensions to risk of bias, including conflicts of interest, large differences in baseline characteristics, and early cessation of the trial.

We assessed the included trials for risk of bias of adverse events by examining if monitoring was active or passive; whether participants and outcome assessors were blinded; whether the outcome data reporting was complete; whether all participants were included; and whether data analysis was independent of pharmaceutical companies (Table 2; Bukirwa 2014). We also looked at the times when data were collected in comparison to when they were reported. All this information was included under overall study assessment of blinding, selective outcome reporting, incomplete outcome data, or other biases.

**Measures of treatment effect**

We analysed all data using Review Manager 5 (Review Manager 2014). We pooled dichotomous data using risk ratios (RR) with their corresponding 95% confidence intervals (CI). When inappropriate due to a small number of events in each group, we presented the pooled data using risk difference (RD) with their 95% CI.

**Unit of analysis issues**

For included studies that had multiple intervention arms, we included data from these studies by splitting the control group so that participants were only included in the meta-analysis once.

**Dealing with missing data**

In our protocol, we anticipated that if the amount of incomplete outcome data was such that the trials were thought to be at a high risk of bias, we may have used imputation and perform sensitivity analyses to investigate the impact of these missing data. However, we identified no studies where missing data affected our ability to measure outcomes. Therefore, we used available-case analysis, as planned in our protocol.

**Assessment of heterogeneity**

We assessed extracted data from included trials to find key differences in population groups, study setting, intervention and control groups, dosages and route of vaccine administration, or timing between BCG and boosting. We assessed degree of risk of bias, when and how the outcome was measured, and variation in treatment effects.
We determined the level of heterogeneity by inspecting forest plots for overlapping CIs. We judged a Chi\(^2\) P value significance level of 0.1 or less as likely heterogeneity. An I\(^2\) statistic value of less than 40% was regarded as not showing any significant heterogeneity.

Assessment of reporting biases

There was an insufficient number of trials included and so we were unable to assess for publication bias using funnel plots or Egger regression.

Data synthesis

We used the fixed-effect Mantel-Haenszel model for meta-analysis where there was little heterogeneity. The intention for meta-analysis of adverse outcomes was limited to three to five of the most frequent adverse effects and all those that were considered to be serious. However, due to different methods of monitoring adverse effects that in turn lead to different results where meta-analysis could not be performed, we gave a narrative report.

Subgroup analysis and investigation of heterogeneity

We intended to explore heterogeneity by: subgroup by children and adults; background prevalence of tuberculosis (or tuberculosis incidence in the control group); HIV status; and geographical location. However, there were not enough trials to explore such subgroups when we found high heterogeneity. We considered random-effects meta-analysis if subgroup analysis did not explain the heterogeneity. We applied the I\(^2\) statistic according to guidance of: less than 40% as not significant heterogeneity; 30% to 60% representing moderate heterogeneity; 50% to 90% representing substantial heterogeneity; and 75% to 100% considerable heterogeneity (Higgins 2011). We regarded a Chi\(^2\) P value significance level of 0.1 or less and an I\(^2\) statistic greater than 40% as showing significant heterogeneity, in which case we either considered a random-effects model or did not perform meta-analysis.

Sensitivity analysis

We did not perform sensitivity analysis for imputed data, risk of bias, or any other peculiarities between the trials identified during the review process.

Certainty of the evidence

We assessed the certainty of the evidence using the GRADE approach (Schünemann 2013). We constructed a ‘Summary of findings’ table, which outlines the main review findings alongside the certainty of the evidence.

RESULTS

Description of studies

Results of the search

We identified 153 records, with 152 records remaining after removing duplicates. We excluded 118 records based on title and abstract and assessed the full text of 34 articles. We excluded 28 full-text articles. Six articles fulfilled the eligibility criteria and were included in the review. See Figure 1 for the flow diagram of inclusion and exclusion of studies in the review.

Included studies

Six studies (3838 participants) that met our inclusion criteria reported findings from four Phase 2 clinical trials (Ndiaye 2015; Nemes 2018; Scriba 2011; Tameris 2013). Andrews 2017 and Bunyasi 2017 presented data based on the Tameris 2013 clinical trial. The six included studies are described in the Characteristics of included studies table.

Setting and time

All took place in South Africa involving rural and urban areas between 2008 and 2015, with one trial that took place at two sites: South Africa and Senegal (Ndiaye 2015).

Source of funding

Aeras sponsored five trials (Andrews 2017; Bunyasi 2017; Ndiaye 2015; Nemes 2018; Tameris 2013). The University of Oxford sponsored one trial (Scriba 2011). The Wellcome Trust funded all the trials. Other funders were Oxford Emergent Tuberculosis Consortium (OETC) for Ndiaye 2015 and Tameris 2013, the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for Ndiaye 2015, the UK Medical Research Council for Nemes 2018, and the European Commission for Scriba 2011. Andrews 2017 and Bunyasi 2017 conducted further follow-up based on the participants enrolled in Tameris 2013, and mentioned that there was no specific additional funding for the analysis performed.

Participants

Five trials included infants (Andrews 2017; Bunyasi 2017; Nemes 2018; Scriba 2011; Tameris 2013). One trial assessed the efficacy and safety of the vaccine in adults with HIV (Ndiaye 2015). Tameris 2013 and Scriba 2011 recruited infants who were HIV-negative, while Nemes 2018 assessed the vaccine in newborns of
HIV-positive mothers. None of the trials reported other morbidities. In Tameris 2013, 412 (29.4%) participants in the intervention group and 268 (26.4%) participants in the control group were preterm.

Interventions

Intervention

All the infants in the intervention groups received a single dose of intradermal MVA85A. In the trial recruiting adults, the 324 adults allocated in the intervention group received a second dose (booster) of intradermal vaccine six months after the first dose (Ndiaye 2015). The vaccine was given at a dose of $1 \times 10^8$ plaque-forming units (pfu) in Ndiaye 2015, Nemes 2018, and Tameris 2013. Scriba 2011 assessed three different doses of the vaccine by giving a dose of $2.5 \times 10^7$ pfu, $5 \times 10^7$ pfu and $1 \times 10^8$ pfu to 36 participants in each of the three groups. All the infants in Scriba 2011 and Tameris 2013 received the BCG vaccine in the first four weeks of life, prior to receiving the MVA85A vaccine, as an inclusion criteria. Nemes 2018 gave the MVA85A vaccine to the neonates in the first 96 hours of life, with no prior administration of BCG, and gave BCG at eight weeks of age only to HIV-negative infants. Ndiaye 2015 did not mention whether the adults they recruited received BCG.

Comparator

Five trials gave Candida skin test antigen (Candin®) as a placebo, using the same route (intradermal) and schedule (one or two doses) as for the intervention group in each of the trial (Andrews 2017; Bunyasi 2017; Ndiaye 2015; Nemes 2018; Tameris 2013). Scriba 2011 gave the infants in the comparator group one dose of pneumococcal 7-valent conjugate vaccine by the intramuscular route.

Outcomes

Three studies reported different endpoints as measures of tuberculosis disease (Ndiaye 2015; Nemes 2018; Tameris 2013). These are compared in Table 3. All the included studies reported data on latent tuberculosis (or tuberculosis infection) to assess either efficacy or safety outcomes. Four trials looked at safety outcomes, including adverse effects of any severity, serious adverse effects, and adverse events of any severity (Ndiaye 2015; Nemes 2018; Scriba 2011; Tameris 2013). Tameris 2013 collected data on biochemical or haematological blood test findings but did not report this element of their primary outcome. Ndiaye 2015 collected data on blood tests but did not report disaggregated findings. Only Scriba 2011 and Nemes 2018 reported on blood test data collected.

Length and method of follow-up

Scriba 2011 followed up participants for 24 weeks, Nemes 2018 for 52 weeks, Ndiaye 2015 for at least six months after the last participant was enrolled, and Tameris 2013 for up to 39 months. Andrews 2017 was an observational follow-up study of the participants enrolled in Tameris 2013; authors analysed the data collected at day 336 after the intervention and at the end of the study, which ranged from six to 24 months after day 336. Bunyasi 2017 followed the participants recruited in Tameris 2013 for a median of five years. Investigators of five studies used diary cards to record adverse events during the seven days following vaccination (Andrews 2017; Bunyasi 2017; Ndiaye 2015; Scriba 2011; Tameris 2013); Nemes 2018 did not mention this. Researchers performed blood investigations at several intervals in all trials, to detect adverse events and to assess immunogenicity. Ndiaye 2015 and Tameris 2013 performed active follow-up every three months to identify signs, symptoms, or exposure to tuberculosis that merited further investigation, while this was done at irregular but planned intervals in Scriba 2011 and Nemes 2018. The long-term follow-up study was based on passive surveillance based on the electronic tuberculosis register database (Bunyasi 2017).

Excluded studies

We excluded 28 studies from the review, with the reasons for exclusion listed in the Characteristics of excluded studies table.

Studies awaiting classification

We did not identify any studies that are awaiting classification.

Ongoing studies

We did not identify any ongoing studies.

Risk of bias in included studies

See Characteristics of included studies table for the assessment of the risk of bias for each included study. See Figure 2 and Figure 3 for the risk of bias summaries.
Figure 2. Risk of bias graph: review authors' judgements about each risk of bias item presented as percentages across all included studies.
Figure 3. Risk of bias summary: review authors’ judgements about each risk of bias item for each included study.
Five trials were at low risk of selection bias (Andrews 2017; Bunyasi 2017; Ndiaye 2015; Nemes 2018; Tameris 2013). They reported adequate sequence generation and methods of allocation concealment. Scriba 2011 used systematic allocation at a 3:1 ratio allowing predictability of the sequence (high risk of bias).

Three studies had adequate blinding of participants, study personnel, laboratory assessors, and clinical assessors and were at low risk for performance and detection bias in all domains (Ndiaye 2015; Nemes 2018; Tameris 2013). Five studies reported blinding of participants and study personnel (Andrews 2017; Bunyasi 2017; Ndiaye 2015; Nemes 2018; Tameris 2013). Scriba 2011, an open-label trial with different routes of administration for placebo and vaccine, had low risk of detection bias for laboratory assessors as outcomes were objective and high risk of detection bias for subjective assessments by clinicians. Two studies were at unclear risk of detection bias for laboratory assessors and clinicians (Andrews 2017; Bunyasi 2017). Andrews 2017 did not provide any details on blinding, while Bunyasi 2017 reported on post-trial data and had no information on how data was collected from registers.

Four trials reported details of all randomized participants (Ndiaye 2015; Nemes 2018; Scriba 2011; Tameris 2013). Only a few participants randomized were not included in the analysis, without resulting in a disbalance between the intervention and control groups. Indeed, three participants were randomized in the control group in Tameris 2013, but not included in the efficacy analysis (two of them were not included either in the safety analysis), while five participants were randomized (four in the intervention group and one in the control group), but not included in the efficacy analysis in Ndiaye 2015. As a result we considered these studies at low risk of attrition bias. There were no details of how many of each group came from the 119 participants excluded from Tameris 2013 for analysis in Bunyasi 2017. Andrews 2017 and Bunyasi 2017 had an unclear risk of attrition bias as these were follow-up studies from Tameris 2013, and there were unclear discrepancies with those reported previously.

Nemes 2018 was prospectively registered and appeared free of selective outcome reporting as ascertained from data in trial registers and reports of trials. We also judged Scriba 2011 at low risk of reporting bias, with all the outcomes reported in their methods section presented in the results. Four studies were at unclear risk of bias due to selective reporting (Andrews 2017; Bunyasi 2017; Ndiaye 2015; Tameris 2013). There were multiple instances where predefined endpoints were poorly defined or were deviated from in the final reported results as laid out in Table 4.

Description of Tameris 2013 published prior to commencement of the trial (NCT00953927) stated that the authors intended to report endpoints of clinical disease based on “observational cohort studies.” This was subsequently changed following the publication of the trial in October 2013 to include “clinically-derived tuberculosis diagnostic criteria.” The main trial reports adapting the primary elements proposed in a consensus statement (Graham 2012). There was no record of the change in approach from empirically derived endpoints to endpoints developed by the investigators in the study protocol.

Tameris and colleagues reported on three outcomes with complex definitions (Table 3).

- Endpoint one, described as “primary efficacy endpoint,” comprising nine criteria, which included a binary measure of quantiFERON conversion.
- Endpoint two, described as “exploratory efficacy endpoint,” comprising nine criteria.
- Endpoint three, described as “exploratory efficacy endpoint,” which was defined as “all participants placed on treatment for tuberculosis.”

The difference between endpoints one and two, which varied in the direction of the point estimate of the effect, was 5 mm on a tuberculin skin test or household contact with acid-fast bacilli (AFB) smear-positive person (Table 3). The process of defining these three endpoints was unexplained, and it is unclear why these specific definitions were used. These endpoint definitions were only used in this trial and not in subsequent studies.

In a subsequent critique, Behr and colleagues noted that the outcomes reported in the trial did not include the simple measure of a positive microbiological endpoint (Behr 2013). The endpoint used in the abstract was endpoint one, which authors have settled as primary efficacy outcome, while endpoints two and three were reported as exploratory outcomes. The complexity of the definitions and the analysis in Behr’s paper pointed to the risk of selective reporting. This may not have been intentional, but arose with post-hoc approaches with different approaches to expressing the results, but could be excluded if outcomes were precisely and clearly defined a priori. The only information publicly available prior to the trial commencing were broad descriptions of the outcome. Hence for selective reporting the classification was unclear. Andrews 2017 was at unclear risk of reporting bias as this was a nested observational study and there was no prespecified study protocol. Ndiaye 2015 was at unclear risk of reporting bias as the authors commented that there were no differences between
biological and haematological tests; however, no data or how these data were analysed to come to this conclusion were reported.

**Other potential sources of bias**

We considered that the risk of other potential biases was unclear in all included studies. We were concerned as a number of the authors were involved in the private company manufacturing the vaccine or were patent holders for MVA85A. In these circumstances, it would be good practice for this to be declared in the publication. Only one study declared no conflicts in relation to patent holding (Scriba 2011).

Two trials reported a role of funders in design, data analysis, and manuscript writing (Ndiaye 2015; Tameris 2013), and one study had employees of the funder involved in manuscript writing (Andrews 2017). Ndiaye 2015 calculated incident tuberculosis cases from day 28 after vaccination versus from day 0 in Tameris 2013. This was likely to be due to the risk of pre-existing undiagnosed tuberculosis being inappropriately counted as developing following the intervention. If participants are not followed from the start of the intervention then a period of follow-up has been excluded, and participants who experienced the outcome soon after intervention will be missing from analyses. We considered this to be of unclear risk of bias as it is unclear if this impacted on outcomes.

**Adverse events**

For adverse events, we conducted additional assessments on adequacy of safety monitoring and completeness of reporting for participant-reported outcomes and laboratory tests taken (Table 5). Four trials reported on safety outcomes (Ndiaye 2015; Nemes 2018; Scriba 2011; Tameris 2013). Monitoring of participant-reported outcomes was active in all trials and blinding was adequate in two trials (Nemes 2018; Tameris 2013). All trials reported specified timing of data collection but only one study reported under some of the days (Scriba 2011). None of the trials completely reported outcomes on prespecified time points including for laboratory results. All trials reported all participants who received intervention per-protocol. Timing of taking laboratory tests was inadequate in Scriba 2011 and Tameris 2013 as there was no clear indication of tests being taken at the end of the study.

**Effects of interventions**

See: Summary of findings for the main comparison MVA85A compared to placebo for preventing tuberculosis

See Summary of findings for the main comparison.

**Active tuberculosis**

Studies vary in the way they defined active tuberculosis (see section “description of studies” (Table 3)). Tameris 2013 and Ndiaye 2015 reported hierarchical endpoints including microbiologically confirmed tuberculosis, composite clinical definitions, and participants starting on tuberculosis treatment, with no significant effect consistently seen across endpoints (Analysis 2.1; Analysis 2.2; Table 3; Table 6).

Tameris 2013 reported three endpoints in their main manuscript, with endpoint one described as their primary efficacy endpoint (RR 0.82, 95% CI 0.52 to 1.30, point estimate favouring MVA85A). A fourth endpoint was described in the supplementary material, taking into account the microbiologically confirmed cases of tuberculosis. Other outcomes (endpoint two, endpoint three, and endpoint four of microbiologically confirmed cases) were not statistically different, although their point estimate favoured placebo (endpoint two: RR 1.05, 95% CI 0.73 to 1.53; endpoint 3: RR 1.10, 95% CI 0.91 to 1.33; endpoint four (microbiologically confirmed): RR 1.10, 95% CI 0.60 to 2.00; Analysis 2.1; Figure 4).

Figure 4. Forest plot of comparison: 2 Comparison of endpoints, outcome: 2.1 Tameris 2013: incidence of tuberculosis according to post-hoc endpoints.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study or Subgroup</th>
<th>MVA85A Events</th>
<th>Placebo Events</th>
<th>Risk Ratio M-H, Fixed, 95% CI</th>
<th>Risk Ratio M-H, Fixed, 95% CI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2013 (1)</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>1398</td>
<td>0.82 (0.52, 1.30)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2013 (2)</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>1398</td>
<td>1.05 (0.73, 1.53)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2013 (3)</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>1398</td>
<td>1.10 (0.91, 1.33)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2013 (4)</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1398</td>
<td>1.10 (0.80, 2.00)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Footnotes
(1) Endpoint 1 composite clinical endpoint
(2) Endpoint 2 composite clinical endpoint
(3) Endpoint 3 composite clinical endpoint
(4) Microbiologically confirmed
Two studies reported no effect of MVA85A on cases of active tuberculosis confirmed by culture or Xpert® MTB/RIF (RR 0.97, 95% CI 0.58 to 1.62; 3439 participants, two trials) (Analysis 1.1; Figure 5; Ndiaye 2015; Tameris 2013).

Figure 5. Forest plot of comparison: 1 MVA85A Vs Placebo, outcome: 1.1 Tuberculosis confirmed by culture or Xpert® MTB/RIF longest reported follow-up.

Three studies (Ndiaye 2015; Nemes 2018; Tameris 2013) reported no effect of MVA85A on cases of active tuberculosis when considering patients started on tuberculosis treatment (RR 1.10, 95% CI 0.92 to 1.33; 3687 participants, 3 trials; Analysis 1.2; Figure 6).

Figure 6. Forest plot of comparison: 1 MVA85A versus placebo, outcome: 1.2 Active tuberculosis: started on tuberculosis treatment.

Nemes 2018 reported active tuberculosis as defined by participants starting tuberculosis treatment. One participant in this trial was diagnosed by culture; however, the authors did not report what intervention this participant received.

Latent tuberculosis

Four studies reported no effect of MVA85A on cases of latent tuberculosis (RR 1.01, 95% CI 0.85 to 1.21; 3831 participants, four trials; Analysis 1.3).
Scriba 2011 was underpowered and not designed to detect measures of efficacy. However, they reported latent tuberculosis, presumably as a measure of safety, as this outcome was poorly defined a priori.

**Adverse effects**

Four studies reported effects of any severity (Table 7). We presented the effect of the estimates for adverse effects of any severity with disaggregated (Analysis 1.4; Figure 7) and aggregated data (Analysis 1.5) to provide detailed information as provided by the study authors. However, we did not perform meta-analysis of the estimates due to high heterogeneity. Local reactions of the skin at the injection site was the most common adverse effect associated with the vaccine MVA85A, this was reported in three studies, with the three studies showing direction towards more adverse effects in the intervention group (3187 participants; Nemes 2018; Scriba 2011; Tameris 2013). However, only one study reported systemic symptoms defined as fever, lethargy, malaise, and vomiting (144 participants; Scriba 2011). Therefore, we chose to report adverse effects of any severity disaggregated by local reactions of the skin and systemic symptoms in our Summary of findings for the main comparison as different amount of information is provided for each group (Scriba 2011).

**Figure 7. Forest plot of comparison: 1 MVA85A versus placebo, outcome: 1.4 Adverse effects of any severity.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study or Subgroup</th>
<th>MVA85A Events Total</th>
<th>Placebo Events Total</th>
<th>Risk Ratio</th>
<th>Risk Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M-H, Fixed, 95% CI</td>
<td>M-H, Fixed, 95% CI</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.4.1 Local skin</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nemes 2018</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>1.04 [0.99, 1.09]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>1.09 [1.04, 1.14]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2013</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>1.09 [1.04, 1.14]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.4.2 Malaise</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2.00 [0.25, 16.06]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.4.3 Lethargy</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1.00 [0.21, 4.74]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.4.4 Any fever</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2.00 [0.23, 12.30]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.4.5 Vomiting</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1.00 [0.21, 4.74]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Three studies reported no increase in the risk of experiencing a serious adverse effect attributable to MVA85A (3692 participants; Analysis 1.6). Nemes 2018 reported serious adverse events and specified that none of them were related to the investigational product. Therefore, we classified this as no serious adverse effects following the definition of our review.

**Adverse events of any severity**

Four studies reported a small increase in the risk of experiencing an adverse event of any severity following vaccination with MVA85A (RR 1.05, 95% CI 1.02 to 1.08; 3836 participants; Analysis 1.7; Table 8). Adverse effects related to the vaccine and adverse events not attributed to the vaccine were conflated in the largest trial. No disaggregated data were available.

**Abnormal haematological and biochemical tests**

Three studies reported abnormal haematological or biochemical laboratory tests. The percentage of those with elevated liver enzymes ranged from 2.8% to 25% in the three different groups reported in Scriba 2011 and there was a dose-response effect of MVA85A. However, none of the doses showed a significant increase at a 95% CI. Ndiaye 2015 reported that routine haematological and biochemical test results did not differ between study groups but disaggregated data were not reported. Nemes 2018 reported no difference between groups in the percentage of people...
with abnormal biochemical tests (11.4% versus 10.4%), but disaggregated data were not reported. The largest study performed haematological and biochemical tests but did not report data (Tameris 2013). We summarized the report and findings of abnormal haematological and biochemical tests in Table 9, and presented the effect of estimate for abnormal biochemical tests only (Analysis 1.8), as only one study reported disaggregated data for abnormal haematological tests.

**DISCUSSION**

**Summary of main results**

Vaccinating people with MVA85A in addition to BCG:
- probably makes little or no difference to the risk of developing active tuberculosis (moderate-certainty evidence);
- probably makes little or no difference to the risk of needing to start tuberculosis treatment (moderate-certainty evidence);
- probably does not have an important effect on the risk of developing latent tuberculosis (moderate-certainty evidence);
- does not cause life-threatening serious adverse effects (high-certainty evidence);
- probably increases the risk of having an adverse reaction related to vaccination at the site of the injection (moderate-certainty evidence);
- may not be associated with an increase in systemic adverse effects related to vaccination (low-certainty evidence).

Vaccination with MVA85A alone slightly increases the risk of having an adverse event (high-certainty evidence).

**Overall completeness and applicability of evidence**

This review included trials from two countries in Africa. No studies that measured efficacy of the MVA85A vaccine have been carried out elsewhere. The review included studies on HIV-positive adults, HIV-negative infants, and infants exposed to HIV. It would be reasonable to generalize the results of these findings to other populations of HIV-negative infants. The early cessation of the only trial in HIV-positive adults, resulting in reduced follow-up from two years to minimum six months and a reduction of study sample size from 1200 to 625, led this study to be underpowered for evaluation of efficacy (Ndiaye 2015). This may have limited the certainty of any inferences made to adults with HIV at high risk of contracting tuberculosis in terms of efficacy of MVA85A in this population. The effect of tuberculosis vaccination would be very similar regardless of geographical variation. Data from this review consistently showed no effect of the vaccine. As such, it is reasonable to generalize these findings to broader populations. For safety outcomes, the Phase 1 studies that we summarized in the Background section and Table 1, included adults, children, and infants from the UK and three African countries. Most of the adverse effects related to vaccination were mild and were contained locally to the injection site. This supports the trial findings summarized in this review.

**Certainty of the evidence**

Overall the included studies were well-conducted. For most of our outcomes, there were few events and broad CIs for the pooled estimates of effect which contained clinically appreciable benefit and harm or no effect (see Summary of findings for the main comparison).

In the largest trial, the main reported endpoint (endpoint one) point estimate was in the direction of benefit of the vaccine on tuberculosis disease (Analysis 2.1; Tameris 2013). Whether this was due to the definition of endpoints or due to statistical heterogeneity was unclear. To minimize the impact of this inconsistency we presented results for cases diagnosed microbiologically and cases defined by being started on treatment. This was felt to reflect the most specific measure of efficacy and a measure of the real-world situation. As a result of this, the methodological uncertainties surrounding case definition did not reduce our confidence in the effect estimates.

Failure to follow-up participants from the start of intervention for efficacy measures in Ndiaye 2015 risked biasing outcomes. While it is plausible that participants with undiagnosed active tuberculosis would be inappropriately picked up, it is also plausible that participants who hypothetically could have developed tuberculosis immediately after vaccination would be excluded from analysis. However, the potential impact of this was unclear and as such we did not downgrade due to risk of bias for efficacy outcomes including this study.

In terms of latent tuberculosis, using the online calculator at [www.sealedenvelope.com/power/binary-noninferior/](http://www.sealedenvelope.com/power/binary-noninferior/) at a significance level of 5% and with 80% power at a failure rate of 11% and a non-inferiority limit of 5% a sample size per group of 484 would be sufficient to demonstrate non-inferiority. Therefore, in terms of risk of developing latent tuberculosis where we had high certainty evidence that MVA85A had no important effect in reducing risk, we are confident that future trials are unlikely to change this result as we had 3831 participants in the analysis versus a minimum number of 484 participants required in each group.

Regarding the safety outcomes, the summary of findings from the Phase I trials for MVA85A performed in adults, adolescents, and infants with 712 participants showed that most of the adverse effects related to vaccination were mild and were contained locally to the injection site, and none of the trials reported a serious adverse event attributable to the vaccine. This supports the certainty of the evidence found in this review.
Potential biases in the review process

We followed standard methods in the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions (Higgins 2011). The Cochrane Infectious Disease Group Information Specialist performed a comprehensive literature search with no restriction in language to identify all eligible studies, thus it is unlikely that we missed any large studies. We were unable to formally assess publication bias as fewer than 10 studies met our inclusion criteria.

Agreements and disagreements with other studies or reviews

No previous systematic reviews have been undertaken looking at the effects of MVA85A.

There has been much debate over the contribution of animal studies to the progression of MVA85A vaccine to trial (Cohen 2018; McShane 2018). We systematically assessed Phase 1 and 2 data and we found no difference in tuberculosis incidence in any population, and no increase in the risk of serious adverse effects attributable to the vaccine. There was a small increase in the risk of experiencing any adverse event.

The findings of this review are consistent in that MVA85A is not efficacious for preventing tuberculosis and that there is no evidence that the MVA85A vaccine caused any serious harm to participants in the trials during its investigation.

Authors’ conclusions

Implications for practice

MVA85A in conjunction with Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG) has no effect on the risk of developing active or latent tuberculosis.

Implications for research

Researchers should define outcomes precisely before starting the trial. If composite outcomes are developed during the trial, this process needs to be transparent, clearly reported, and published prior to breaking the randomized code. Standardization of outcome measures for tuberculosis vaccine efficacy may make it easier for future researchers in the field and allow easy comparison and meta-analysis of different study outcomes.

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Matsumiya 2014a  [published data only]

Matsumiya 2014b  [published data only]

Matsumiya 2014c  [published data only]

McShane 2004  [published data only]

Minassian 2011  [published data only]

Mulenga 2015  [published data only]

Odotula 2012  [published data only]

Ota 2011  [published data only]

Pathan 2007  [published data only]

Pathan 2012  [published data only]
Pathan AA, Minassian AM, Sander CR, Rowland R, Porter DW, Poulton ID, et al. Effect of vaccine dose on the safety...

Rowland 2012 *(published data only)*


Rowland 2013 *(published data only)*


Sander 2009 *(published data only)*


Satti 2014 *(published data only)*


Scriba 2010 *(published data only)*


Scriba 2012 *(published data only)*


Sheehan 2015 *(published data only)*


Tameris 2014 *(published data only)*


Tanner 2014 *(published data only)*


Whelan 2009 *(published data only)*


Additional references

Abubakar 2013


Altenburg 2014


Baker 2011


Barker 2012


Behr 2013


Beveridge 2007


Bukirwa 2014


CDC 2000

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Diagnostic standards and classification of tuberculosis in adults and children. This official statement of the American Thoracic...
Society and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention was adopted by the ATS Board of Directors, July 1999. This statement was endorsed by the Council of the Infectious Disease Society of America. *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine* 2000;161(4 Pt 1):1576–95.

**Cohen 2018**

Cohen D. Oxford TB vaccine study calls into question selective use of animal data. *BMJ* 2018;360:k5845.

**Colditz 1995**


**Daftary 2012**


**de Cassan 2010**


**Eisenhut 2009**


**Favrot 2013**


**Graham 2012**


**Griffiths 2011**


**Harries 2006**


**Harris 2014b**


**Higgins 2011**


**Ibanga 2006**


**ICH 1994**


**Kashangura 2015**


**Loke 2011**


**Manjaly 2016**


**Marais 2004**


**Matsumiya 2013**


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**MVA85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis (Review)**

Copyright © 2019 The Authors. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews published by John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. on behalf of The Cochrane Collaboration.
McShane 2014

McShane 2018

NCT00395720
NCT00395720. The safety and immunogenicity of a TB vaccine; MVA85A, in healthy volunteers who are infected with HIV. clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00395720 (first received 25 August 2017).

NCT00423566
NCT00423566. A phase I study of the safety and immunogenicity of a recombinant MVA vaccine encoding a secreted antigen from *M. tuberculosis*, antigen 85A, delivered intradermally by a needle injection in healthy volunteers. clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00423566 (first received 25 August 2017).

NCT00423839

NCT00427453
NCT00427453. A phase I study of the safety and immunogenicity of a recombinant MVA vaccine encoding a secreted antigen from *M. tuberculosis*, antigen 85A, delivered intradermally by a needle injection in healthy volunteers who have received BCG immunisation 1 month previously. clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00427453 (first received 25 August 2017).

NCT00427830
NCT00427830. A phase I study of the safety and immunogenicity of a recombinant MVA vaccine encoding a secreted antigen from *M. tuberculosis*, antigen 85A, delivered intradermally by a needle injection in healthy volunteers who have previously received BCG. clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00427830 (first received 25 August 2017).

NCT00456183

NCT00460590

NCT00465465

NCT00480454
NCT00480454. Safety, immunogenicity, and impact of MVA85A, on the immunogenicity of the EPI vaccines. clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00480454 (first received 25 August 2017).

NCT00480558
NCT00480558. A study of MVA85A, in asymptomatic volunteers infected with TB, HIV or both. clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00480558 (first received 25 August 2017).

NCT00548444

NCT00653770

NCT00731471

NCT00953927

NCT01181856
NCT01181856. Safety of tuberculosis vaccine, MVA85A, administered by the intramuscular route and the intradermal route. clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT01181856 (first received 25 August 2017).

NCT01194180

NCT01497769

NCT01683773

NCT01829490
NCT01829490. Safety study of ChAdOx185A vaccination with and without MVA85A boost in healthy adults. clinicaltrials.gov/show/NCT01829490 (first received 11 April 2013).

NCT01879163
NCT01879163. Phase I trial evaluating safety and immunogenicity of MVA85A-IMX313 compared to
MVA85A in BCG vaccinated adults. clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT01879163 (first received 25 August 2017).

NCT01954563
NCT01954563. Study evaluating aerosol and intradermal administration of a candidate tuberculosis (TB) vaccine, MVA85A, as a way to increase immune response and avoid anti-vector immunity. clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT01954563 (first received 25 August 2017).

NCT02532036
NCT02532036. MVA85A aerosol versus intramuscular vaccination in adults with latent Mycobacterium tuberculosis (M. tb) Infection. clinicaltrials.gov/show/NCT02532036 (first received 25 August 2015).

Owiafe 2012

Perez-Velez 2012

Review Manager 2014 [Computer program]

Romano 2006

Roy 2014

Schünemann 2013

Sharma 2012

Tiemersma 2011

Wajja 2017

WHO 2018

WHO-ART 2008

References to other published versions of this review

Kashangura 2018

* Indicates the major publication for the study
### Characteristics of included studies  [ordered by study ID]

#### Andrews 2017

| Methods | Study objective: to investigate the relation between QFT conversion interferon-γ values and risk of subsequent active TB disease and of QFT reversion  
This is a follow-up study of the Tameris 2013 trial.  
Study design: observational follow-up study based on a parallel-group, randomized, placebo-controlled double-blind Phase 2b trial  
Study duration: 41 months  
Length of follow-up: ≥ 15 months after enrolment, and up to 41 months (based on the Tameris 2013 trial)  
Follow-up method: no additional data for this study than described in the Tameris 2013 trial.  
Losses to follow-up: 285/2797 children from Tameris 2013 to enrolment for this study analysis at day 336; 467/2512 children from day 336 until the end of the study  
Power calculation: not relevant for this observational follow-up study |
|---|---|
| Participants | Number: 2512/2797 participants enrolled in Tameris 2013 were quantiFERON-negative at enrolment and had another quantiFERON done at day 336 and were therefore enrolled for this study analysis. No disaggregated data on age and sex between intervention and control groups among these 2512 participants  
Target group: infants aged 4-6 months  
Inclusion criteria  
• Healthy infants aged 4-6 months  
• Received BCG vaccination within 7 days of birth  
• Received all age-appropriate routine immunizations, and 2 doses of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine at least 28 days before study vaccination (amended to 14 days during enrolment)  
• HIV ELISA-negative  
• QuantiFERON-negative  
• No substantial exposure to a person with known TB  
• Written informed consent obtained from parents/guardian  
• Weight: by chart > 3rd percentile on study day 0 or, if < 3rd percentile, infant had stable growth pattern  
• Ability to complete follow-up period as required by the protocol  
• Completed simultaneous enrolment in the Aeras Vaccine Development Registry protocol  
Exclusion criteria  
• Acute illness on study day 0  
• Fever ≥ 37.5 °C on study day 0  
• Evidence of significant active infection on study day 0  
• Received a EPI immunization within 14 days prior to study day 0  
• Historical or virological evidence of individual or paternal HIV-1 infection  
• History of allergic disease or reactions likely to be exacerbated by any component of the study vaccine  
• Previous medical history, or evidence, of an intercurrent illness that may... |
compromise the safety of the infant in the study
- Evidence of chronic hepatitis from any cause
- History or evidence of any systemic disease on physical examination or any acute, chronic or intercurrent illness that, in the opinion of the investigator, may have interfered with the
evaluation of the safety or immunogenicity of the vaccine
- History of or known TB or treatment for TB
- Shared residence since birth with a person with active TB or on ATT for < 2 months

HIV status: negative
Other comorbidities: none reported

Preterms:
- Intervention group: 412 (29.4%)
- Control group: 368 (26.4%)

**Interventions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interventions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vaccine: MVA85A/AERAS-485</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dosage: $1 \times 10^8$ pfu in 0.06 mL</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Timing after BCG: inclusion criteria request BCG given during the first 7 days of life.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Control group
- Vaccine: Candida skin test antigen (Candin, AllerMed, USA)
- Dosage: 0.06 mL
- Route: intradermal
- Schedule: at day 1, 1 dose
- Timing after BCG: inclusion criteria request BCG given during the first 7 days of life.

**Outcomes**

Outcomes included in this review
- Active TB

Outcomes not included in this review:
- QFT converters

**Notes**

Country: South Africa
Setting: rural, near Cape Town
Background prevalence of TB: extremely high. The overall incidence of TB in South Africa in 2011 was estimated to be almost 1%, and the incidence of TB in children aged < 2 years was about 3% at the trial site
Study dates: enrolment 15 July 2009 to 4 May 2011 and follow-up until 60 days after the 25 October 2012
Study sponsor: Aeras

Other funders: Wellcome Trust and Oxford Emergent TB Consortium (OETC). No additional funding than from the Tameris 2013 trial was obtained for the analysis of these data.
### Risk of bias

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bias</th>
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<th>Support for judgement</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Random sequence generation (selection bias)</td>
<td>Low risk</td>
<td>Quote from report: “Young children were randomly assigned (1:1) using independently generated sequences with block sizes of four to receive one dose of the vaccine MVA85A or Candida spp skin test antigen (placebo control).”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Comment: an independent statistician prepared the randomization schedule as reported in the trial where the data came from that is referenced above (Tameris 2013).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allocation concealment (selection bias)</td>
<td>Low risk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias)</td>
<td>Low risk</td>
<td>Comment: same as in Tameris 2013. It did not affect long-term follow-up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All outcomes</td>
<td></td>
<td>Quote from Tameris 2013: “Parents or legal guardians of study participants, study staff administering vaccine or undertaking follow up clinical assessments and laboratory staff were masked to intervention group assignment.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>“Doses were prepared and labelled in masked syringes by an unmasked study pharmacist.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias): laboratory assessors</td>
<td>Unclear risk</td>
<td>Comment: no information on whether laboratory assessors were blinded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias): clinical assessors</td>
<td>Unclear risk</td>
<td>Quote from report: “Study clinicians were not masked to QFT values, but strict case definitions were used that excluded QFT results.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All outcomes</td>
<td></td>
<td>Comment: although clinicians were not masked to QFT values, relevant outcome of conversion is objective and authors used strict case definitions. May not necessarily affect incidence in the two groups as there were no QFT differences between placebo and MVA85A at 336 days (baseline). No details on whether they were masked to group (MVA85A or placebo).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)**

**All outcomes**

Unclear risk

Quote from report: "Among the 2797 young children enrolled in the MVA85A trial (Tameris 2013) 2772 (99%) young children had a negative QFT at enrolment, five (<1%) had no quantitative results available, and 20 (1%) had an indeterminate result. 1399 young children were allocated to MVA85A and 1398 were allocated to placebo. Among those 2772 young children with a negative QFT at baseline, 2512 (91%) had a QFT done at the day 336 visit."

Comment: no imputation

Of above 2512, 172 positive and 13 indeterminate. Numbers of negative and converted did not add up to the initial study group

**Selective reporting (reporting bias)**

Unclear risk

Comment: outcome/objective of this study not seen in protocol for trial (MVA85A020 TRIAL). Could not find separate protocol for Andrews trial

**Other bias**

Unclear risk

Comment: employees and beneficiaries of funders were involved in design, analysis, and manuscript writing. This study was a follow-up of children enrolled in Tameris 2013 trial.

---

**Bunya 2017**

**Methods**

Study objective: to evaluate the long-term effectiveness of infant MVA85A vaccination against TB

This is a long-term follow-up study of the Tameris 2013 trial.

Study design: retrospective passive follow-up of the randomized controlled trial

Study duration: 22 months for enrolment in the original trial

Length of follow-up: median of 5 years’ follow-up

Follow-up method: passive surveillance based on the electronic TB register database

Losses to follow-up: there was some inconsistency between the number of participants included for this long-term follow-up study and the number of participants who were lost to follow-up at an early point in the original trial (Tameris 2013).

Power calculation: not relevant for this observational follow-up study

**Participants**

Number: 2794 in the Tameris 2013 trial, 2678 included in this long-term follow-up analysis

Median age: 4.8 years (IQR 4.4 to 5.2) at the end of the extended follow-up period, comparable across intervention and control groups with no detailed data given in the manuscript
### Target group: infants aged 4-6 months

**Inclusion criteria for the base trial**
- Healthy infants aged 4-6 months
- Received BCG vaccination within 7 days of birth
- Received all age-appropriate routine immunizations, and 2 doses of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine at least 28 days before study vaccination (amended to 14 days during enrolment)
- HIV ELISA-negative
- QuantiFERON-negative
- No substantial exposure to a person with known TB
- Written informed consent obtained from parents/guardian
- Weight: by chart > 3rd percentile on study day 0 or, if < 3rd percentile, infant has shown a stable growth pattern
- Ability to complete follow-up period as required by the protocol
- Completed simultaneous enrolment in the Aeras Vaccine Development Registry protocol

**Exclusion criteria for the base trial**
- Acute illness on study day 0
- Fever \(\geq 37.5^\circ\text{C}\) on study day 0
- Evidence of significant active infection on study day 0
- Received a EPI immunization within 14 days prior to study day 0
- Historical or virological evidence of individual or maternal HIV-1 infection
- History of allergic disease or reactions likely to be exacerbated by any component of the study vaccine
- Previous medical history, or evidence, of an intercurrent illness that may compromise the safety of the infant in the study
- Evidence of chronic hepatitis from any cause
- History or evidence of any systemic disease on physical examination or any acute, chronic or intercurrent illness that, in the opinion of the investigator, may interfere with the evaluation of the safety or immunogenicity of the vaccine
- History of or known TB or treatment for TB
- Shared residence since birth with a person with active TB or on ATT for < 2 months

**HIV status:** negative

**Other comorbidities:** none reported

Preterms in the initial sample size of the base trial:
- Intervention group: 412 (29.4%)
- Control group: 368 (26.4%)

### Interventions

**Intervention group**
- Vaccine: MVA85A/AERAS-485
- Dosage: \(1 \times 10^8\) pfu in 0.06 mL
- Route: intradermal
- Schedule: at day 1, 1 dose
- Timing after BCG: inclusion criteria request BCG given during the first 7 days of
Control group
- Vaccine: Candida skin test antigen (Candin, AllerMed, USA)
- Dosage: 0.06 mL
- Route: intradermal
- Schedule: at day 1, 1 dose
- Timing after BCG: inclusion criteria request BCG given during the first 7 days of life.

Outcomes
Outcomes included in this review
- Active TB. Definition used was the endpoint 3 described in Tameris 2013: participants placed on treatment for TB by a health professional.
- Latent TB, defined by a positive quantiFERON or a positive TST
Outcomes not included in this review
- Subgroup analysis of active TB and latent TB in children who received and did not receive isoniazid prophylaxis.

Notes
Country: South Africa
Setting: rural, near Cape Town
Background prevalence of TB: extremely high. The overall incidence of TB in South Africa in 2011 was estimated to be almost 1%, and the incidence of TB in children aged < 2 years was about 3% at the trial site
Study dates: enrolment from 15 July 2009 to 4 May 2011 and follow-up to 2014
Study sponsor: Aeras
Other funders: Wellcome trust and Oxford Emergent TB Consortium (OETC). No additional funding than from the Tameris 2013 trial was obtained for the analysis of these data.

Risk of bias

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| Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias) All outcomes | Low risk | Comment: same as in Tameris 2013. It did not affect long term follow-up. Quote from Tameris 2013: "Parents or legal guardians of study participants, study staff administering vaccine or undertaking follow-up clinical assessments and laboratory
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<td>Unclear risk</td>
<td>Not applicable.</td>
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</table>
| Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias): clinical assessors | Unclear risk | Quote from report: "We also obtained post-trial data from a regional electronic TB register (ETR) (2012-2014) Comment: no information on how data were collected from this register. Clinical diagnosis of TB was also a subjective outcome.
| All outcomes                               |       |                                                                         |
| Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)   | Unclear risk | Quote from report: "199 participants discontinued FU [follow-up] early." Comment: 119 participants were excluded from *Tameris 2013* for analysis in the current study. No details on how many participants there were from each group of the study. |
| All outcomes                               |       |                                                                         |
| Selective reporting (reporting bias)       | Unclear risk | Comment: raw data not reported. Only reported incidence rate ratios. There were no disaggregated data on missing data for each group. Number of participants with TB were not reported per group. Only incidence per year. |
| Other bias                                 | Unclear risk | Quote from report: "The authors received no specific funding for this work," "Conflicts of interest: none declared." "Study is a follow up to *Tameris 2013* where the trial sponsor contributed to study design, data interpretation, and writing of the manuscript." |
### Methods

Study objective: to assess the safety, immunogenicity, and efficacy of MVA85A vaccine in adults HIV-positive

Study design: multicentre randomized double-blind placebo-controlled trial, Phase 2

Study duration: 46 months (from August 2011 to May 2014)

Length of follow-up: ≥ 6 months after enrolment

Follow-up method

- Diary card to report adverse events during the 7 days following vaccination.
- Direct questionnaire to enquire about adverse events on days 7 and 28 after vaccination.
- Blood tests for routine haematological and biochemical analysis, and for peripheral CD4 cell count and HIV-1 viral load at screening, before booster vaccination, and on days 7 and 28 after vaccination.
- Blood test for peripheral CD4 cell count and HIV-1 viral load every 3 months until 6 months after booster vaccination.
- Active follow-up every 3 months until the last participant enrolled had completed 6 months of follow-up after the booster vaccination.

Losses to follow-up: 14 participants. 5/324 (1.5%) in the intervention group and 9/326 (2.7%) in the control group. Additionally, 3 participants in the intervention group and 2 in the control group withdrew consent; and 2 participants in the intervention group and 4 in the control group died before the end of the study. In total, 325/649 participants completed the study.

Power calculation: the sample size calculation was planned to detect active TB. However, after the Tameris 2013 efficacy data were revised, the authors changed the trial design with safety as the primary objective. A smaller sample size was considered and follow-up was shortened. Therefore, the present trial was underpowered to detect an effect on active TB.

### Participants

Number: 649 (292 from Cape Town, 358 from Dakar).

- Intervention group (324 participants): median age: 38.0 years (range: 21 to 49 years); 18.2% men
- Control group (325 participants): median age: 39.0 years (range: 22 to 41 years); 22% men

Target group: adults

Inclusion criteria

- Completed written informed consent process prior to undergoing any screening evaluations.
- Men or women aged ≥ 18 and ≤ 50 years on study day 0
- In general good health, confirmed by medical history and physical examination
- Had ability to complete follow-up period as required by the protocol
- Had laboratory evidence of HIV infection, defined as a positive HIV-1 ELISA test plus a positive confirmatory test (e.g. a second HIV-1ELISA, PCR, or rapid ELISA) diagnosed prior to randomization.
- Was willing to allow the investigators to discuss the participant's medical history with the participant's HIV physician.
- If not receiving ART at the time of randomization, must have 2 CD4+ lymphocyte count test results > 350 cells/mm³, performed ≥ 4 weeks apart, 1 performed within 6 months prior to randomization and 1 within 45 days prior to randomization.
- If receiving ART at the time of randomization, must have 2 CD4+ lymphocyte...
count test results > 300 cells/mm³, performed ≥ 4 weeks apart, 1 performed within 6 months prior to randomization and 1 within 45 days prior to randomization. Participants on ART must have been receiving ART for ≥ 6 months prior to randomization and must have an undetectable HIV viral load within 45 days prior to randomization. Women who received ART as part of the PMTCT program must have completed therapy ≥ 2 months prior to randomization.

• Had:
  ◦ a negative QFT test result and tuberculin PPD skin test ≤ 5 mm induration within 45 days prior to randomization or
  ◦ a positive QFT test result or tuberculin PPD skin test > 5 mm (or both) and had completed ≥ 5 months of isoniazid preventive therapy within 3 years prior to randomization or
  ◦ a positive QFT test result or tuberculin PPD skin test > 5 mm (or both) and had completed treatment for TB disease within 3 years prior to randomization.

• Women: ability to avoid pregnancy during the trial. Women physically capable of pregnancy (not sterilized and still menstruating or within 1 year of the last menses if menopausal) in sexual relationships with men must have avoided pregnancy by using an acceptable method of avoiding pregnancy from 28 days prior to administration of the study vaccine to 6 months after the last study vaccination. Acceptable methods of avoiding pregnancy included a sterile sexual partner, sexual abstinence (not engaging in sexual intercourse), and any contraceptive method deemed clinically suitable by the trial clinician taking into account ART status.

• Had completed the written informed consent process for simultaneous enrolment in Aeras Vaccine Development Registry protocol.

Exclusion criteria

• Acute illness
• Fever (temperature > 37.5 °C)
• Significant symptomatic infection (including laboratory evidence of HIV-2)
• Any evidence of active TB disease, as determined by any clinical, radiological, or microbiology measurements.
• Any AIDS defining illness by WHO criteria
• Use of any investigational or non-registered drug, vaccine, or medical device other than the study vaccine within 182 days preceding dosing of study vaccine, or planned use during the study period
• Previous receipt of a recombinant MVA or FP vector at any time.
• Enrolled in any other clinical product trial
• Administration of methotrexate, azathioprine, cyclophosphamide, oral corticosteroids (for corticosteroids, this will mean prednisolone, or equivalent, ≥ 0.5 mg/kg/day; inhaled and topical steroids are allowed), and other immunosuppressive therapies, or blood products or blood derivatives within the 6 months prior to randomization
• History of allergic disease or reactions likely to be exacerbated by any component of the vaccine, e.g. egg products
• History of cancer (except basal cell carcinoma of the skin and cervical carcinoma in situ), or renal failure
• Severe depression, schizophrenia, or mania
• Pregnant, breast-feeding, or both
• History of anaphylaxis in reaction to vaccination
### Interventions

| **Intervention group** | Vaccine: MVA85A/AERAS-85  
|------------------------|---|
| **Dosage**             | $1 \times 10^8$ pfu  
| **Route**              | Intradermal  
| **Schedule**           | at day 1, and 2nd (booster) dose given 6 months after the 1st injection  
| **Timing after BCG**   | Not mentioned  

**Control group**  
- Vaccine: Candida skin test antigen  
- Dosage: Not mentioned  
- Route: Intradermal  
- Schedule: at day 1, and 2nd (booster) dose given 6 months after the 1st injection  
- Timing after BCG: Not mentioned

### Outcomes

**Outcomes included in this review**  
- **Active TB**  
  - Endpoint 1: culture or Xpert® MTB/RIF positivity  
  - Endpoint 2: endpoint 1 and a composite clinical endpoint; see detailed criteria in [Table 4](#)  
  - Endpoint 3: participants placed on treatment for TB by a health professional  
- **Latent TB**  
- **Adverse effects of any severity**  
- **Serious adverse effects**  
- **Adverse events of any severity**

**Outcomes not included in this review**  
- Immunogenicity tests

### Notes

**Countries:** South Africa and Senegal  
**Setting:** Cape Town (South Africa) and Dakar (Senegal), urban  
**Background prevalence of TB**  
- In Cape Town: TB case notification rate was at least 1500 per 100,000 population per year  
- In Dakar: TB incidence rate of 0.14% in 2013  
**Study dates:** 4 August 2011 to 24 April 2013 for enrolment, with follow-up until 19 May 2014  
**Study sponsor:** Aeras. Collaborators: University of Oxford and European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) (IP.2007.32080.002)  
**Funders:** Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Wellcome Trust, and Oxford-Emergent Tuberculosis Consortium

### Risk of bias

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<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
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<td>Quote from the report: “Participants were randomly assigned (1:1) in blocks of four by a randomly generated sequence of participant identification numbers via an interactive voice response system to receive two intradermal injections of either $1 \times 10^8$ pfu MVA85A or placebo.”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Allocation concealment (selection bias)                      | Low   | Quote from the report: “A statistician uninvolved with study analyses prepared the interactive voice response system randomisation schedule.”  
Comment: the interactive automated voice response system would make it impossible to predict the allocation sequence |
| Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias)    | Low   | Quote from the report: “Participants, nurses (who were involved in assessment and follow-up) investigators, and laboratory staff were masked to group allocation.”  
  “Doses of vaccines were prepared and labelled in masked syringes.”  
Quote from the protocol: “The MVA85A/AERAS-485 and the placebo will be packaged and labelled to appear indistinguishable from each other at the time of injection. Identical syringes and needles will be used for preparation and administration of injections of vaccine/placebo, and labels accompanying the syringes of prepared vaccine/placebo doses will not indicate which is in the syringe.” |
| Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias): laboratory assessors | Low   | Comment: as quoted above and outcome objective |
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)  
All outcomes  
| Low risk | Quote from the report: “650 were randomly assigned; 649 were included in the safety analysis and 645 in the per-protocol analysis.” Median follow-up for the 320 recipients of MVA85A was 655 days and for the 325 recipients of placebo was 654 days. “Other than 4 participants, all participants were included in the analysis.” Comment: when authors refer to "per-protocol analysis,” this is actually regarding the analysis for the efficacy outcome. Results for per-protocol analyses were noted to be not different from the intention-to-treat results that were not reported |

Selective reporting (reporting bias)  
| Unclear risk | Quote from the report: "Routine haematological and biochemical test results did not differ between study groups (data not shown).” Adverse effects solicited by the vaccine were not disaggregated by type of event |

Other bias  
| Unclear risk | Quote from the report: “The secondary outcome was the efficacy of MVA85A for the prevention of active tuberculosis in the per-protocol population which was determined by the incidence of active tuberculosis meeting the definition of endpoint 1, calculated as the number of new cases of active tuberculosis with a date of diagnosis from 28 days after the first vaccination until the end of the study follow-up (May 19, 2014).” Comment: the start of the intervention did not coincide with the start of follow-up; therefore a period of follow-up was excluded, and participants who experienced the outcome soon after intervention were missing from analyses. As such, the way in which outcomes were measured may bias effect estimates This study was stopped early owing to data from the Tameris 2013 trial. As such, it was underpowered to measure efficacy outcomes |
### Ndiaye 2015

| Quote: “Aeras was the trial sponsor and contributed to study design and data analysis.” |
| Comment: impact of sponsor involvement in analysis of results unclear |

### Nemes 2018

#### Methods
- **Study objective:** to assess safety and immunogenicity of MVA85A vaccination in newborns of HIV-positive mothers, followed by selective deferred BCG vaccination at 8 weeks for HIV-negative infants
- **Study design:** double-blind, randomized controlled trial
- **Study duration:** not mentioned
- **Length of follow-up:** 52 weeks
- **Follow-up method**:
  - For safety endpoints: infants were monitored at weeks 1, 4, 6, and 8 after MVA85A/control vaccination and thereafter, at weeks 9, 12, and 16 (corresponding to weeks 1, 4, and 8 following delayed BCG vaccination at 8 weeks of age), and at week 52. Method of follow-up not detailed.
  - For immunogenicity analyses: blood was collected at weeks 4, 8, 16, and 52
- **Losses to follow-up:** 9 participants (3 in the intervention group, 6 in the control group)
- **Power calculation:** the sample size had 90% probability of detecting a serious adverse event with a true occurrence rate of 1.5% in infants receiving MVA85A vaccine and 80% power to detect a 15% difference in the rate of non-serious adverse events (20% compared to 35%) between the 2 study groups (P < 0.05)

#### Participants
- **Number:** 248
  - Intervention group (123 participants): mean age: day of birth; 49% boys
  - Control group (125 participants): mean age: day of birth; 49% boys
- **Target group:** infants of HIV-positive mothers
- **Inclusion criteria**:
  - HIV-positive mother receiving either cART, or started on PMTCT prophylaxis
  - Maternal antenatal and postnatal written informed consent
  - Maternal age ≥ 18 years at the time of informed consent
  - Infant age < 96 hours; any sex
  - Infant birth and residence in the study area
  - Mother contactable and able to attend follow-up visits
- **Exclusion criteria**:
  - Neonatal Apgar score < 7 at 5 minutes
  - Infant birth weight < 2000 g or > 4500 g
  - Estimated infant gestational age < 32 weeks
  - Neonatal respiratory distress
  - History or evidence of infant congenital abnormality, or immunosuppressive condition, other than HIV infection
  - Any maternal or infant condition or systemic illness that in the opinion of the investigator was likely to affect safety or immunogenicity of study vaccine
  - Infant BCG vaccination prior to enrolment
  - Residence in a household, or frequent close contact, with an adult diagnosed with
### Interventions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intervention</td>
<td>Vaccine: MVA85A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dosage: $1 \times 10^8$ pfu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Route: intradermal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Schedule: 1 dose within 96 hours of birth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Timing after BCG: BCG $1-4 \times 10^5$ cfu was selectively given at 8 weeks of age only to HIV-negative infants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control</td>
<td>Vaccine: Candida skin test antigen (Candin®)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dosage: $1 \times 10^8$ pfu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Route: intradermal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Schedule: 1 dose within 96 hours of birth</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Timing after BCG: BCG $1-4 \times 10^5$ cfu was selectively given at 8 weeks of age only to HIV-negative infants</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcomes included in this review:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active TB: culture-positive or on clinical/radiological grounds and TB contact history</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latent TB: quantiFERON conversion at 1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverse effects of any severity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serious adverse effects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverse events of any severity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abnormal laboratory tests</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes

Country: South Africa  
Setting: urban (Cape Winelands east district and Khayelitsha)  
Background prevalence of TB: not mentioned  
Study dates: not reported. According to Clinicaltrial.gov, the study started in October 2012, and was completed in October 2015  
Study sponsor: Aeras. Other funders: UK Medical Research Council, Department for International Development, and Wellcome Trust Joint Global Health Trials programme
### Risk of bias

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bias</th>
<th>Authors' judgement</th>
<th>Support for judgement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Random sequence generation (selection bias)</td>
<td>Low risk</td>
<td>Quote from supplementary: “Assignment to study arm was double-blinded and based on a random number sequence prepared by an independent statistician.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allocation concealment (selection bias)</td>
<td>Low risk</td>
<td>Quote from supplementary: “The study pharmacist, the only unblinded member of the study team, controlled the numbered sealed envelopes containing randomization arm and sequential 3-digit enrolment number.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias)</td>
<td>Low risk</td>
<td>Comment: from the statement that the pharmacist was the only unblinded member in the team we assumed everyone else was blinded and it was effective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias): laboratory assessors</td>
<td>Low risk</td>
<td>Comment: from the statement that the pharmacist was the only unblinded member in the team we assumed everyone else was blinded and it was effective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias): clinical assessors</td>
<td>Low risk</td>
<td>Comment: from the statement that the pharmacist was the only unblinded member in the team we assumed everyone else was blinded and it was effective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)</td>
<td>Low risk</td>
<td>Comment: minimal attrition and balance between groups; 16 in MVA85A group and 19 in control group as set out in figure 1b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selective reporting (reporting bias)</td>
<td>Low risk</td>
<td>Comment: reported everything they set out in protocol. Additionally reported QFT conversion and incident TB disease; outcomes were not specified in protocol but of importance to mention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other bias</td>
<td>Unclear risk</td>
<td>Comment: authors declared no conflict of interest. 1 author declared that they were patent holders for MVA85A and were responsible for its development in Scriba 2011.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Scriba 2011

### Methods

- **Study objective:** to assess the safety of and to characterize the T-cell response induced by 3 doses of the candidate vaccine, MVA85A, in BCG-vaccinated infants from a setting where TB was endemic.
- **Study design:** open-label, Phase 2a safety, immunogenicity, and dose-finding study.
- **Study duration:** 23 months.
- **Length of follow-up:** 168 days (24 weeks).
- **Follow-up method:**
  - Diary cards the first 7 days for registration of local and systemic adverse effects.
  - Onsite safety data at 60 minutes and on days 2, 7, 28, 84, and 168.
  - Blood sample for haematology and biochemistry on days 7 and 84.
  - Blood sample for immunogenicity on days 0, 7, 28, 84, and 168.
- **Losses to follow-up:** none.
- **Power calculation:** not mentioned.

### Participants

- **Number:** 144.
  - **Intervention group**
    - Vaccine group 1 (36 participants): median age: 270.5 days; 42% male.
    - Vaccine group 2 (36 participants): median age: 278.5 days; 47% male.
    - Vaccine group 3 (36 participants): median age: 188 days; 39% male.
  - **Control group** (36 participants): median age: 252 days; 62% male.
- **Target group:** infants aged 5-12 months.
- **Inclusion criteria:**
  - Children or infants aged 6 months to 11 years.
  - Participant's parent/guardian willing and able to give written informed consent for participation in the study.
  - Participant is BCG vaccinated within the first 4 weeks of life.
  - Informed assent from all children aged ≥ 7 years unless judged incapable of understanding the basic concepts covered in the informed assent form, and from children aged < 7 years if judged capable of understanding the basic concepts covered in the informed assent form.
  - Healthy.
  - Clinically acceptable laboratory results from screening visit.
  - Chest x-ray normal with no evidence of active or past TB.
  - Participant's parent/legal guardian willing to allow child to undergo an HIV test.
  - Parent/guardian and participant able (in the Investigators opinion) and willing to comply with all study requirements.
- **Exclusion criteria:**
  - Participant Mantoux (> 10 mm) or ELISPOT (> 50 spots/million PBMC) positive for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (PPD, ESAT-6 or CFP-10, or both).
  - HIV-positive.
  - Any other significant disease or disorder which, in the opinion of the investigator, may either put the person at risk because of participation in the study, or may influence the result of the study, or the person's ability to participate in the study.
  - Have participated in another research study involving an investigational product in the past 12 weeks.
  - Previously enrolled into this study.
  - Received a live vaccine (e.g. measles) in the previous 4 weeks or due to receive a live vaccine in the 4 weeks following enrolment.
- **HIV status:** negative.
Other comorbidities: none reported  
Preterms: not mentioned

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interventions</th>
<th>Intervention group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vaccine: MVA85A (manufactured at Impfstoffwerk Dessau-Tornau; Biologika)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dosage:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Vaccine group 1: $2.5 \times 10^7$ pfu in 35 $\mu$L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Vaccine group 2: $5 \times 10^7$ pfu in 70 $\mu$L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Vaccine group 3: $1 \times 10^8$ pfu in 135 $\mu$L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Route: intradermal on deltoid arm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Schedule: at day 1, 1 dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Timing after BCG: inclusion criteria request BCG given during the first 4 weeks of life.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Control group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vaccine: pneumococcal 7 valent conjugate (Prevenar, Wyeth)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dosage: not specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Route: intramuscular, site of injection not mentioned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Schedule: at day 1, 1 dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Timing after BCG: inclusion criteria request BCG given during the first 4 weeks of life.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>Outcomes included in this review</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Latent TB (reported under the safety profile)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adverse effects of any severity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Serious adverse effects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adverse events of any severity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Abnormal biochemical tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Outcomes not included in this review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Immunogenicity tests</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Country: South Africa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Setting: Cape Town, urban</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Background prevalence of TB: extremely high (incidence of 1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Study dates: February 2008 to December 2009 (according to data published in clinical-trial.gov, not mentioned in the paper)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bias</th>
<th>Authors’ judgement</th>
<th>Support for judgement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Random sequence generation (selection bias)</td>
<td>High risk</td>
<td>Quote from the report: “The aim was to enroll 144 infants into 3 consecutive vaccine dose groups of 48, who would be systematically allocated at a 3:1 ratio to receive either MVA85A (groups 1-3) or placebo.” Comment: randomization method predictable.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Allocation concealment (selection bias)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Level</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High risk</td>
<td>Quote from the report: “…systematically allocated at a 3:1 ratio…”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Risk Level</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All outcomes</td>
<td>High risk</td>
<td>Quote from report: “MVA85A, contract manufactured at Impfstoffwerk Dessau-Tornau (Biologika), was administered intradermally over the deltoid region of the arm contralateral to where BCG was administered.” Prevenar was administered intramuscularly. Comment: open label with 2 different routes of administration. Subjective outcomes, so could influence participants when reporting the symptoms.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias): laboratory assessors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Level</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low risk</td>
<td>Comment: open label, but with no repercussion on objective laboratory outcomes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias): clinical assessors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Risk Level</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All outcomes</td>
<td>High risk</td>
<td>Comment: open label, with high repercussion on subjective clinical outcomes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Risk Level</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All outcomes</td>
<td>Low risk</td>
<td>No attrition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Selective reporting (reporting bias)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Level</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low risk</td>
<td>Comment: all the outcomes mentioned in the methods section were reported in the results</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Other bias

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Level</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unclear risk</td>
<td>Quote from report: “…are named inventors on a composition of matter patent for MVA85A filed by the University of Oxford and are shareholders in a joint venture formed for the further development of this vaccine.” Comment: unknown role of funders in the elaboration of the study and 2 authors with potential conflict of interest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Scriba 2011 (Continued)**
Methods

Study objective: to assess safety, immunogenicity, and efficacy of MVA85A against TB and *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection in infants.

Study design: parallel-group, randomized, placebo-controlled double-blind Phase 2b trial

Study duration: 39 months

Length of follow-up: ≥ 15 months after enrolment, and up to 39 months

Follow-up method
- Follow-up at study day 7, study day 28, study day 84, and every 84 days (i.e. every 3 months) thereafter until the end of the study.
- Safety diary cards for first 7 days, direct questioning at study days 7 and 28 and serious adverse events throughout the study.
- Peripheral blood for routine haematological and biochemical tests at screening and on days 7 and 28 after vaccination in an initial safety cohort.
- QFT testing at screening, day 336, at end of study visit, and for infants admitted to a dedicated study ward for investigation for TB.
- Active follow-up every 3 months to identify signs, symptoms, or exposure that merited further investigation.

Losses to follow-up
- Intervention group: 61/1399 (4.4%) participants; 37 (2.6%) withdrew consent
- Control group: 65/1398 (4.6%) participants; 25 (1.8%) withdrew consent

Power calculation: given a TB cumulative incidence of 3% over 18 months in the control group, 1392 participants per treatment group (2784 participants total) would be required to demonstrate positive efficacy when the true efficacy of MVA85A/AERAS-485 was approximately 60%. An estimate of 7.5% of participants lost to follow-up in each treatment group was assumed over 18 months

Participants

Number: 2797
- Intervention group (1399 participants): mean age: 146.6 days; 50.6% boys
- Control group (1395 participants; 1398 randomized): mean age: 145.7; 51.2% boys

Target group: infants aged 4-6 months

Inclusion criteria
- Healthy infants aged 4-6 months
- Received BCG vaccination within 7 days of birth
- Received all age-appropriate routine immunizations, and 2 doses of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine ≥ 28 days before study vaccination (amended to 14 days during enrolment)
- HIV ELISA-negative
- QuantiFERON-negative
- No substantial exposure to a person with known TB
- Written informed consent obtained from parents/guardian
- Weight: by chart > 3rd percentile on study day 0 or, if < 3rd percentile, infant showed a stable growth pattern
- Ability to complete follow-up period as required by the protocol
- Completed simultaneous enrolment in the Aeras Vaccine Development Registry protocol

Exclusion criteria
- Acute illness on study day 0
### Fever ≥ 37.5 °C on study day 0

### Evidence of significant active infection on study day 0

### Received a EPI immunization within 14 days prior to study day 0

### Historical or virological evidence of individual or maternal HIV-1 infection

### History of allergic disease or reactions likely to be exacerbated by any component of the study vaccine

### Previous medical history, or evidence, of an intercurrent illness that may compromise the safety of the infant in the study

### Evidence of chronic hepatitis from any cause

### History or evidence of any systemic disease on physical examination or any acute, chronic, or intercurrent illness that, in the opinion of the investigator, may have interfered with the evaluation of the safety or immunogenicity of the vaccine

### History of or known TB or treatment for TB

### Shared residence since birth with a person with active TB or on ATT for < 2 months

### HIV status: negative

### Other comorbidities: none reported

### Preterms

- Intervention group: 412 (29.4%) participants
- Control group: 368 (26.4%) participants

### Interventions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intervention group</th>
<th>Control group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vaccine: MVA85A/AERAS-485</td>
<td>Vaccine: Candida skin test antigen (Candin, AllerMed, USA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dosage: $1 \times 10^8$ pfu in 0.06 mL</td>
<td>Dosage: 0.06 mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Route: intradermal</td>
<td>Route: intradermal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schedule: at day 1, 1 dose</td>
<td>Schedule: at day 1, 1 dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timing after BCG: inclusion criteria request BCG given during the first 7 days of life.</td>
<td>Timing after BCG: inclusion criteria request BCG given during the first 7 days of life.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Outcomes

#### Outcomes included in this review

- **Active TB**
  - Endpoint 1: see detailed criteria in Table 2
  - Endpoint 2: participants diagnosed with TB based on the presence of specific clinical, radiological, and microbiological findings.
  - Endpoint 3: participants placed on treatment for TB by a health professional
- **Latent TB**
- **Adverse effects of any severity**
- **Serious adverse effects**
### Risk of bias

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bias</th>
<th>Authors' judgement</th>
<th>Support for judgement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Random sequence generation (selection bias)</td>
<td>Low risk</td>
<td>Quote from the report: “We randomly allocated infants in a 1.1 ratio with a block size of 4 using interactive voice/online response system.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allocation concealment (selection bias)</td>
<td>Low risk</td>
<td>Comment: voice response system adequately concealed allocation of intervention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias)</td>
<td>Low risk</td>
<td>Quote from the report: “Parents or legal guardians of study participants, study staff administering vaccine or undertaking follow-up clinical assessments and laboratory staff were masked to intervention group assignment.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All outcomes</td>
<td></td>
<td>“Doses were prepared and labelled in masked syringes by an unmasked study pharmacist.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Comment: syringes had equal amount of placebo and control.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Quote from the protocol: “packaged and labelled to appear indistinguishable to each other.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias): laboratory assessors</td>
<td>Low risk</td>
<td>Comment: laboratory staff were masked to intervention group assignment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias): clinical assessors</td>
<td>Low risk</td>
<td>Comment: staff undertaking clinical assessments were masked to intervention group assignment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes

Country: South Africa
Setting: rural, near Cape Town
Background prevalence of TB: extremely high. The overall incidence of TB in South Africa in 2011 was estimated to be almost 1%, and the incidence of TB in children aged < 2 years was about 3% at the trial site.
Funders: Aeras, Wellcome trust and Oxford Emergent Tb consortium (OETC).
### Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All outcomes</th>
<th>Low risk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quote from the report: “The number of participants discontinuing the study did not differ between the two treatment groups.” 1126 infants (5%) were lost to follow-up, 11 died (&lt; 1%), and 62 (2%) had consent withdrawn. Comment: reasons for missing outcome data balanced between the 2 groups and proportion of missing data not enough to have a clinically relevant impact on the intervention effect estimate. Per-protocol analysis was done and only 1 person was excluded from analysis from the placebo group due to dose deviation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Selective reporting (reporting bias)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unclear risk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quote from study description from clinical trials.gov: “Adverse events and clinically relevant laboratory results for the safety cohort will be summarized to examine the relationship between treatment group and key safety endpoints including number (percentage) of solicited and spontaneous adverse events, rates of reactogenicity, and number (percentage) of subjects with newly abnormal post-vaccination laboratory values based on predefined neonatal toxicity criteria.” Comment: data were collected; however, no summary provided on biochemical or haematological adverse effects. Unclear if endpoints were specified a priori as endpoint definition was only published alongside the trial and approach outlined a priori on clinical trial registry was amended. The differences between endpoint point 1 and 2 were 5 mm on TST; 2 positive smears compared to 1 positive smear and residence in household with positive AFB member. These endpoints were significantly different from the endpoints used in 2 other trials that included efficacy measures (Ndiaye 2015; Nemes 2018).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Other bias

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unclear risk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quote from the report: &quot;Aeras was the trial sponsor. Aeras and the Oxford-Emergent Tuberculosis Consortium (OETC) contributed to study design, data interpretation, and writing of the manuscript.” Comment: impact of sponsor involvement.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Characteristics of excluded studies**  
*[ordered by study ID]*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Reason for exclusion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brookes 2008</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bunyasi 2015</td>
<td>Different outcomes measured</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dieye 2013</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harris 2011</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harris 2014a</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawkridge 2008</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matsumiya 2014a</td>
<td>Different outcomes measured</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matsumiya 2014b</td>
<td>Different outcomes measured</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matsumiya 2014c</td>
<td>Different outcomes measured</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McShane 2004</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meyer 2013</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minassian 2011</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minhinnick 2016</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mulenga 2015</td>
<td>Different intervention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Odutola 2012</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Design</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ota 2011</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathan 2007</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathan 2012</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rowland 2012</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rowland 2013</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sander 2009</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satti 2014</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2010</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2012</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheehan 2015</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2014</td>
<td>Measured different outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanner 2014</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whelan 2009</td>
<td>Different study design</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Data and Analyses

### Comparison 1. MVA85A versus placebo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome or subgroup title</th>
<th>No. of studies</th>
<th>No. of participants</th>
<th>Statistical method</th>
<th>Effect size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Active tuberculosis (TB): confirmed by culture or Xpert® MTB/RIF longest reported follow-up</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3439</td>
<td>Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)</td>
<td>0.97 [0.58, 1.62]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Active TB: started on TB treatment</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3687</td>
<td>Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)</td>
<td>1.10 [0.92, 1.33]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Latent TB</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3831</td>
<td>Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)</td>
<td>1.01 [0.85, 1.21]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Adverse effects of any severity</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3831</td>
<td>Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)</td>
<td>Totals not selected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1 Local: skin</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3831</td>
<td>Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)</td>
<td>0.0 [0.0, 0.0]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 Malaise</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3831</td>
<td>Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)</td>
<td>0.0 [0.0, 0.0]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3 Lethargy</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3831</td>
<td>Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)</td>
<td>0.0 [0.0, 0.0]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4 Any fever</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3831</td>
<td>Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)</td>
<td>0.0 [0.0, 0.0]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5 Vomiting</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3831</td>
<td>Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)</td>
<td>0.0 [0.0, 0.0]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Adverse effects of any severity: aggregated</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3692</td>
<td>Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)</td>
<td>Totals not selected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Serious adverse effects</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3692</td>
<td>Risk Difference (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)</td>
<td>0.00 [-0.00, 0.00]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Adverse events of any severity</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3836</td>
<td>Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)</td>
<td>1.05 [1.02, 1.08]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Abnormal biochemical tests</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)</td>
<td>1.09 [0.60, 1.97]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Comparison 2. Comparison of endpoints

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome or subgroup title</th>
<th>No. of studies</th>
<th>No. of participants</th>
<th>Statistical method</th>
<th>Effect size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Tameris 2013: incidence of tuberculosis (TB) according to post-hoc endpoints</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)</td>
<td>Totals not selected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Ndiaye 2015: incidence of TB according to post hoc defined endpoints</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Risk Ratio (M-H, Fixed, 95% CI)</td>
<td>Totals not selected</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MVA85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis (Review)  
Copyright © 2019 The Authors. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews published by John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. on behalf of The Cochrane Collaboration.
Analysis 1.1. Comparison 1 MVA85A versus placebo, Outcome 1 Active tuberculosis (TB): confirmed by culture or Xpert® MTB/RIF longest reported follow-up.

Review: MVA85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis

Comparison: 1 MVA85A versus placebo

Outcome: 1 Active tuberculosis (TB): confirmed by culture or Xpert® MTB/RIF longest reported follow-up

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study or subgroup</th>
<th>MVA85A</th>
<th>Placebo</th>
<th>Risk Ratio M-H,Fixed, 95% CI</th>
<th>Weight M-H,Fixed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ndiaye 2015 (1)</td>
<td>6/320</td>
<td>9/325</td>
<td>0.68 [0.24, 1.88]</td>
<td>30.8 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2013 (2)</td>
<td>22/1399</td>
<td>20/1395</td>
<td>1.10 [0.60, 2.00]</td>
<td>69.2 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (95% CI)</strong></td>
<td>1719</td>
<td>1720</td>
<td><strong>0.97 [0.58, 1.62]</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0 %</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total events: 28 (MVA85A), 29 (Placebo)
Heterogeneity: $\chi^2 = 0.64$, df = 1 ($P = 0.42$); $I^2 =0.0$
Test for overall effect: $Z = 0.13$ ($P = 0.90$)
Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable

(1) At least 6 months' follow-up
(2) At least 15 months' follow-up
### Analysis 1.2. Comparison 1 MVA85A versus placebo, Outcome 2 Active TB: started on TB treatment.

**Review:** MVA85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis

**Comparison:** 1 MVA85A versus placebo

**Outcome:** 2 Active TB: started on TB treatment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study or subgroup</th>
<th>MVA85A n/N</th>
<th>Placebo n/N</th>
<th>Risk Ratio M-H,Fixed, 95% CI</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Risk Ratio M-H,Fixed, 95% CI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ndiaye 2015</td>
<td>8/320</td>
<td>9/325</td>
<td>4.7 % 0.90 [0.35, 2.31]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nemes 2018</td>
<td>5/123</td>
<td>3/125</td>
<td>1.6 % 1.69 [0.41, 6.93]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2013</td>
<td>196/1399</td>
<td>177/1395</td>
<td>93.7 % 1.10 [0.91, 1.33]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (95% CI)</strong></td>
<td><strong>1842</strong></td>
<td><strong>1845</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>100.0 %</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.10 [0.92, 1.33]</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total events: 209 (MVA85A), 189 (Placebo)

Heterogeneity: Chi² = 0.53, df = 2 (P = 0.77); I² = 0.0%

Test for overall effect: Z = 1.05 (P = 0.29)

Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable
### Analysis 1.3. Comparison 1 MVA85A versus placebo, Outcome 3 Latent TB.

**Review:** MVA85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis

**Comparison:** 1 MVA85A versus placebo

**Outcome:** 3 Latent TB

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study or subgroup</th>
<th>MVA85A n/N</th>
<th>Placebo n/N</th>
<th>Risk Ratio M-H,Fixed,95% CI</th>
<th>Weight M-H,Fixed,95% CI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ndiaye 2015</td>
<td>38/320</td>
<td>40/325</td>
<td>0.96 [0.64, 1.46]</td>
<td>18.4 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nemes 2018</td>
<td>1/123</td>
<td>4/125</td>
<td>0.25 [0.03, 2.24]</td>
<td>1.8 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011</td>
<td>3/108</td>
<td>0/36</td>
<td>2.38 [0.13, 44.93]</td>
<td>0.3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamiris 2013</td>
<td>178/1399</td>
<td>171/1395</td>
<td>1.04 [0.85, 1.26]</td>
<td>79.4 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (95% CI)</strong></td>
<td>1950</td>
<td>1881</td>
<td>1.01 [0.85, 1.21]</td>
<td>100.0 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total events: 220 (MVA85A), 215 (Placebo)

Heterogeneity: Chi² = 1.98, df = 3 (P = 0.58); I² = 0.0%

Test for overall effect: Z = 0.16 (P = 0.87)

Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable
### Analysis 1.4. Comparison 1 MVA85A versus placebo, Outcome 4 Adverse effects of any severity.

Review: MVA85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis

Comparison: 1 MVA85A versus placebo

Outcome: 4 Adverse effects of any severity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study or subgroup</th>
<th>MVA85A n/N</th>
<th>Placebo n/N</th>
<th>Risk Ratio M-H,Fixed, 95% CI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 Local: skin</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nemes 2018</td>
<td>121/123</td>
<td>118/125</td>
<td>1.04 [0.99, 1.09]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011</td>
<td>106/108</td>
<td>6/36</td>
<td>5.89 [2.84, 12.23]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamiris 2013</td>
<td>1251/1399</td>
<td>628/1396</td>
<td>1.99 [1.87, 2.11]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2 Malaise</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011</td>
<td>6/108</td>
<td>1/36</td>
<td>2.00 [0.25, 16.06]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3 Lethargy</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011</td>
<td>6/108</td>
<td>2/36</td>
<td>1.00 [0.21, 4.74]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4 Any fever</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011</td>
<td>18/108</td>
<td>2/36</td>
<td>3.00 [0.73, 12.30]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5 Vomiting</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011</td>
<td>6/108</td>
<td>2/36</td>
<td>1.00 [0.21, 4.74]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Analysis 1.5. Comparison 1 MVA85A versus placebo, Outcome 5 Adverse effects of any severity: aggregated.

Review: MVA85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis

Comparison: 1 MVA85A versus placebo

Outcome: 5 Adverse effects of any severity: aggregated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study or subgroup</th>
<th>MVA85A</th>
<th>Placebo</th>
<th>Risk Ratio</th>
<th>Risk Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>n/N</td>
<td>n/N</td>
<td>M-H,Fixed,95% CI</td>
<td>M-H,Fixed,95% CI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ndiaye 2015</td>
<td>318/324</td>
<td>307/325</td>
<td>1.04 [1.01, 1.07]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nemes 2018 (1)</td>
<td>105/123</td>
<td>30/125</td>
<td>3.56 [2.58, 4.90]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011</td>
<td>106/108</td>
<td>6/36</td>
<td>5.89 [2.84, 12.23]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2013 (2)</td>
<td>1251/1399</td>
<td>628/1396</td>
<td>1.99 [1.87, 2.11]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Definitely related to vaccine
(2) Local adverse effects only

Analysis 1.6. Comparison 1 MVA85A versus placebo, Outcome 6 Serious adverse effects.

Review: MVA85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis

Comparison: 1 MVA85A versus placebo

Outcome: 6 Serious adverse effects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study or subgroup</th>
<th>MVA85A</th>
<th>Placebo</th>
<th>Risk Difference</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Risk Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>n/N</td>
<td>n/N</td>
<td>M-H,Fixed,95% CI</td>
<td></td>
<td>M-H,Fixed,95% CI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ndiaye 2015</td>
<td>1/324</td>
<td>0/325</td>
<td>17.6 %</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>[ -0.01, 0.01 ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nemes 2018</td>
<td>0/123</td>
<td>0/125</td>
<td>6.7 %</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>[ -0.02, 0.02 ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2013</td>
<td>0/1399</td>
<td>1/1396</td>
<td>75.7 %</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>[ 0.00, 0.00 ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (95% CI)</strong></td>
<td>1846</td>
<td>1846</td>
<td><strong>100.0 %</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.00</strong></td>
<td>[ <strong>0.00, 0.00</strong> ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total events: 1 (MVA85A), 1 (Placebo)
Heterogeneity: Ch^2 = 1.01, df = 2 (P = 0.60); I^2 = 0.0%
Test for overall effect: Z = 0.00 (P = 1.0)
Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable
### Analysis 1.7. Comparison 1 MVA85A versus placebo, Outcome 7 Adverse events of any severity.

**Review:** MVA85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis

**Comparison:** 1 MVA85A versus placebo

**Outcome:** 7 Adverse events of any severity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study or subgroup</th>
<th>MVA85A</th>
<th>Placebo</th>
<th>Risk Ratio</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Risk Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>n/N</td>
<td>n/N</td>
<td>M-H,Fixed,95% CI</td>
<td></td>
<td>M-H,Fixed,95% CI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ndiaye 2015</td>
<td>321/324</td>
<td>312/325</td>
<td>20.8 %</td>
<td>1.03 [ 1.01, 1.06 ]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nemes 2018</td>
<td>122/123</td>
<td>121/125</td>
<td>8.0 %</td>
<td>1.02 [ 0.99, 1.06 ]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011 (1)</td>
<td>1/36</td>
<td>1/12</td>
<td>0.1 %</td>
<td>0.33 [ 0.02, 4.93 ]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011 (2)</td>
<td>6/36</td>
<td>0/12</td>
<td>0.0 %</td>
<td>4.57 [ 0.28, 75.58 ]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011 (3)</td>
<td>3/36</td>
<td>0/12</td>
<td>0.0 %</td>
<td>2.46 [ 0.14, 44.48 ]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2013</td>
<td>1120/1399</td>
<td>1059/1396</td>
<td>70.9 %</td>
<td>1.06 [ 1.01, 1.10 ]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (95% CI)</strong></td>
<td>1954</td>
<td>1882</td>
<td><strong>100.0 %</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.05 [ 1.02, 1.08 ]</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total events: 1573 (MVA85A), 1493 (Placebo)

Heterogeneity: Ch² = 5.76, df = 5 ($P = 0.33$); $I^2 = 13%$

Test for overall effect: $Z = 3.29$ ($P = 0.0010$)

Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable

---

(1) $2.5 \times 10^7$ PFU = 35 L

(2) $1 \times 10^8$ = 135 L

(3) $5 \times 10^7$ = 70 L
Analysis 1.8. Comparison 1 MVA85A versus placebo, Outcome 8 Abnormal biochemical tests.

Review: MVA85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis

Comparison: 1 MVA85A versus placebo

Outcome: 8 Abnormal biochemical tests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study or subgroup</th>
<th>MVA85A</th>
<th>Placebo</th>
<th>Risk Ratio</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Risk Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>n/N</td>
<td>n/N</td>
<td>M-H,Fixed,95% CI</td>
<td>M-H,Fixed,95% CI</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nemes 2018</td>
<td>14/123</td>
<td>13/125</td>
<td>1.09 [ 0.54, 2.23 ]</td>
<td>68.2 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011 (1)</td>
<td>13/108</td>
<td>4/36</td>
<td>1.08 [ 0.38, 3.11 ]</td>
<td>31.8 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (95% CI)</strong></td>
<td><strong>231</strong></td>
<td><strong>161</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.09 [ 0.60, 1.97 ]</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0 %</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total events: 27 (MVA85A), 17 (Placebo)

Heterogeneity: \( \chi^2 = 0.00, df = 1 (P = 0.99); I^2 = 0.0\%

Test for overall effect: \( Z = 0.29 (P = 0.77) \)

Test for subgroup differences: Not applicable

(1) Three different doses of MVA85A included

Analysis 2.1. Comparison 2 Comparison of endpoints, Outcome 1 Tameris 2013: incidence of tuberculosis (TB) according to post-hoc endpoints.

Review: MVA85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis

Comparison: 2 Comparison of endpoints

Outcome: 1 Tameris 2013: incidence of tuberculosis (TB) according to post-hoc endpoints

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study or subgroup</th>
<th>MVA85A</th>
<th>Placebo</th>
<th>Risk Ratio</th>
<th>Risk Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>n/N</td>
<td>n/N</td>
<td>M-H,Fixed,95% CI</td>
<td>M-H,Fixed,95% CI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2013 (1)</td>
<td>32/1399</td>
<td>39/1395</td>
<td>0.82 [ 0.52, 1.30 ]</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2013 (2)</td>
<td>55/1399</td>
<td>52/1395</td>
<td>1.05 [ 0.73, 1.53 ]</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2013 (3)</td>
<td>196/1399</td>
<td>177/1395</td>
<td>1.10 [ 0.91, 1.33 ]</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2013 (4)</td>
<td>22/1399</td>
<td>20/1395</td>
<td>1.10 [ 0.60, 2.00 ]</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

0.5 0.7 1 1.5 2

Favours MVA85A  Favours placebo

MVA85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis (Review)

Copyright © 2019 The Authors. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews published by John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. on behalf of The Cochrane Collaboration.
(1) Endpoint 1 composite clinical endpoint
(2) Endpoint 2 composite clinical endpoint
(3) Endpoint 3 composite clinical endpoint
(4) Microbiologically confirmed

Analysis 2.2. Comparison 2 Comparison of endpoints, Outcome 2 Ndiaye 2015: incidence of TB according to post hoc defined endpoints.

Review: MVA85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis

Comparison: 2 Comparison of endpoints

Outcome: 2 Ndiaye 2015: incidence of TB according to post hoc defined endpoints

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study or subgroup</th>
<th>MVA85A n/N</th>
<th>Placebo n/N</th>
<th>Risk Ratio M-H,Fixed 95% CI</th>
<th>Risk Ratio M-H,Fixed 95% CI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ndiaye 2015 (1)</td>
<td>6/320</td>
<td>9/325</td>
<td>0.68 [0.24, 1.88]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ndiaye 2015 (2)</td>
<td>6/320</td>
<td>9/325</td>
<td>0.68 [0.24, 1.88]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ndiaye 2015 (3)</td>
<td>8/320</td>
<td>9/325</td>
<td>0.90 [0.35, 2.31]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Endpoint 1: culture/GeneXpert
(2) Endpoint 2: composite clinical outcome
(3) Commencement on anti-TB medication

ADDITIONAL TABLES

Table 1. Summary of Phase 1 studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NCT trial number</th>
<th>Route</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Intervention and schedule details</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Participants (age)</th>
<th>HIV</th>
<th>Adverse events</th>
<th>Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

MVA85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis (Review)
Copyright © 2019 The Authors. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews published by John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. on behalf of The Cochrane Collaboration.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NCT ID</th>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>MVA85A; Dose</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Ve status</th>
<th>No serious AE attributed to the vaccine</th>
<th>References</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NCT0042356</td>
<td>2002-03</td>
<td>1 dose</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>14 adults (18-45 years)</td>
<td>-ve</td>
<td>7 trials (112 participants); combined in 1 report: no serious AE attributable to the vaccine</td>
<td>McShane 2004; Rowland 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCT0042381</td>
<td>2003-05</td>
<td>1 dose</td>
<td>Gambia</td>
<td>21 adults</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>No serious AE attributable to the vaccine</td>
<td>Brookes 2008; Ibanga 2006; Owiae 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCT0042745</td>
<td>2003-05</td>
<td>1 dose (5 × 10⁷ pfu)</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>10 adults</td>
<td>-ve</td>
<td>No serious AE attributable to the vaccine</td>
<td>Pathan 2012; Rowland 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCT0045618</td>
<td>2005-07</td>
<td>MVA85A, (5 × 10⁷ pfu)</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>12 adults with latent tuberculosis</td>
<td>-ve</td>
<td>No vaccine-related serious AEs 7 trials (112 participants; data combined in 1 report)</td>
<td>Rowland 2012; Sander 2009; Tanner 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCT0046546</td>
<td>2005-07</td>
<td>1 dose (1 × 10⁸ pfu for 12 participants, and 1 × 10⁷ pfu for 12 participants)</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>24 adults</td>
<td>-ve</td>
<td>No serious AE attributable to the vaccine</td>
<td>Griffiths 2011; Matsumiya 2013; Pathan 2007; Rowland 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCT0046055</td>
<td>2005-08</td>
<td>MVA85A (5 × 10⁷ pfu)</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>36 adults and adolescents</td>
<td>-ve</td>
<td>No vaccine-related serious AEs</td>
<td>Hawkridge 2008; Scriba 2010; Tanner 2014; Tanner 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCT0048045</td>
<td>2006-09</td>
<td>1 dose MVA85A (2.5 × 10⁷ pfu, 5 × 10⁷ pfu)</td>
<td>The Gambia</td>
<td>214 infants (4 months)</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>No serious AE judged to be related to the vaccine</td>
<td>Odutola 2012; Ota 2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 1. Summary of Phase 1 studies (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Study Period</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NCT0039572</td>
<td>2006-2010</td>
<td>MVA85A; 1 dose (5 x 10⁷ pfu) for 10 participants, and 1 x 10⁸ pfu for 10 participants</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>20 adults</td>
<td>+ve</td>
<td>No serious AE attributable to the vaccine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCT0048055</td>
<td>2007-2011</td>
<td>MVA85A; 1 dose (5 x 10⁷ pfu) 4 groups with background of MTB, HIV, MTB + HIV, HIV on ART</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>48 adults (18-50 years)</td>
<td>+ve</td>
<td>No vaccine-related serious AEs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCT0065377</td>
<td>2007-2010</td>
<td>FP85A, MVA85A (5 x 10⁷ pfu)</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>31 adults</td>
<td>-ve</td>
<td>No serious AE attributable to the vaccine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCT0054844</td>
<td>2007-2010</td>
<td>MVA85A; 1 dose (1 x 10⁶ pfu) administered as 2 injections (5 x 10⁷ pfu each injection</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>12 adults</td>
<td>-ve</td>
<td>7 trials (112 participants); data combined in 1 report; no serious AE attributable to the vaccine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCT0073147</td>
<td>2008-2011</td>
<td>MVA85A; 2 doses spaced by 6-12 months (1 x 10⁶ pfu)</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>24 adults</td>
<td>+ve</td>
<td>No serious AE attributable to the vaccine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 1. Summary of Phase 1 studies (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
<th>IM</th>
<th>2010-2011</th>
<th>MVA85A; 1 dose (1 × 10^8 pfu)</th>
<th>UK</th>
<th>24 adults</th>
<th>-ve</th>
<th>No serious AE attributable to the vaccine</th>
<th>Matsumiya 2013; Meyer 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NCT011818</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>MVA85A, BCG; 1 dose (1 × 10^8 pfu) Group A: BCG naive, no MVA85A Group B: BCG naive, MVA85A Group C: BCG vaccinated, no MVA85A Group D: BCG vaccinated, MVA85A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>49 adults</td>
<td>-ve</td>
<td>No serious AE attributable to the vaccine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCT0119418</td>
<td></td>
<td>2010-2012</td>
<td>MVA85A; 1 dose (1 × 10^8 pfu)</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>49 adults</td>
<td>-ve</td>
<td>No serious AE attributable to the vaccine</td>
<td>Harris 2014b; Matsumiya 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>40 adults</td>
<td>-ve</td>
<td>No vaccine-related serious adverse effects.</td>
<td>Satti 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCT0149776</td>
<td>Aerosol</td>
<td>2011-2013</td>
<td>MVA85A; 1 dose: 1 × 10^8, 1 × 10^7 pfu</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>24 adults</td>
<td>-ve</td>
<td>No vaccine-related serious AEs</td>
<td>Sheehan 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ID</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCT0168377</td>
<td></td>
<td>2012-2014</td>
<td>AERAS-402 MVA85A; Group A: 2 doses AERAS-402 then MVA85A Group B: 1 dose AERAS-402 then MVA85A</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>40 adults</td>
<td>-ve</td>
<td>No vaccine-related serious AEs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>30 BCG vaccinated adults</td>
<td>-ve</td>
<td>No vaccine-related serious AE</td>
<td>Minhinnick 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCT018791C</td>
<td></td>
<td>2013-2014</td>
<td>MVA85A IMX313; Group A: low-dose MVA85A-IMX313 (1 × 10^7 pfu) Group B:</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>30 BCG vaccinated adults</td>
<td>-ve</td>
<td>No vaccine-related serious AE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study ID</td>
<td>Route</td>
<td>Time Period</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>Data Status</td>
<td>Publication Status</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCT0182940</td>
<td>IM</td>
<td>2013-2016</td>
<td>MVA85A, ChAdOx1-85A</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>42 adults</td>
<td>-ve</td>
<td>No data reported yet</td>
<td>No publication NCT01829490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCT0195450</td>
<td>Aerosol ID</td>
<td>2013-2016</td>
<td>MVA85A; Group 1: aerosol then ID; Group 2: ID then aerosol; Group 3: ID then ID (5 × 10^7 pfu)</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>37 adults</td>
<td>-ve</td>
<td>No data reported yet</td>
<td>Manjaly 2016 (conference abstract)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCT0253206</td>
<td>Aerosol ID</td>
<td>2015-2018</td>
<td>MVA85A; 1 × 10^7 pfu aerosol inhaled, 5 × 10^7 aerosol and ID</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>15 adults</td>
<td>-ve</td>
<td>No data reported yet</td>
<td>NCT02532036</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

-ve: negative; +ve: positive; AE: adverse event; ART: antiretroviral therapy; BCG: bacillus Calmette-Guérin; EPI: Expanded Programme on Immunization; ID: intradermal; IM: intramuscular; MTB: Mycobacterium tuberculosis; NR: not reported; pfu: plaque-forming unit.
Table 2. Adverse events risk of bias assessment methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participant-reported symptoms</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was monitoring active or passive?</td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>We classified monitoring as 'active' when authors reviewed participants at set time points and enquired about symptoms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Passive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unclear</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was blinding for participants and outcome assessors adequate?</td>
<td>Adequate</td>
<td>We classified blinding as 'adequate' when both participants and outcome assessors were blinded to the intervention group, and the methods of blinding (including use of a placebo) were described</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inadequate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unclear</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was outcome data reporting complete or incomplete?</td>
<td>Complete</td>
<td>We classified outcome data reporting as 'complete' when data were presented for all the time points where it was collected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Incomplete</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Were all participants included in reporting?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>We reported the percentage of randomized participants included in adverse event reporting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was the analysis independent of study sponsor?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>We classified the analysis of trials sponsored by pharmaceutical companies as independent of the sponsor when it was clearly stated that the sponsor had no input to the trial analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unclear</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory tests</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of tests undertaken</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>We extracted the type and number of laboratory tests were taken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timing of tests: was number and timing of tests adequate?</td>
<td>Adequate</td>
<td>We classified the number and timing of tests as 'adequate,' when tests were taken at baseline, plus 2 other time points within the first week after treatment, plus the last day of the study. We classified the number of test taken as 'inadequate,' if either the laboratory controls in the first week or controls at 4 weeks were not performed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inadequate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reporting of test results: was reporting of test results complete?</td>
<td>Complete</td>
<td>We classified reporting as 'complete' when test results of all time points were reported. For the trials with inadequate number of tests taken, we considered completeness of reporting as inconsequential, and therefore did not record a judgement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Incomplete</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independence of data analysis: was data analysis independent?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>We classified the analysis of trials sponsored by pharmaceutical companies as independent of the sponsor when it is clearly stated that the sponsor had no input to the trial analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unclear</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Adapted from Bukirwa 2014.

**Table 3. Differences in tuberculosis endpoint assessment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Endpoint 1</th>
<th>Endpoint 2</th>
<th>Endpoint 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Tameris 2013| Any of the following criteria.  
• Isolation of *M tuberculosis* from any site.  
• Identification of *M tuberculosis* by an approved molecular diagnostic technique from any site.  
• Histopathology diagnostic for TB disease (e.g. caseating granulomas).  
• Choroidal tubercle diagnosed by an ophthalmologist.  
• Miliary pattern on chest x-ray in an HIV-negative infant.  
• Clinical diagnosis of TB meningitis (CSF protein concentrations > 0.6 g/L and pleocytosis of > 50 cells/µL with > 50% mononuclear cells) with features of basal meningeal enhancement and hydrocephalus on head CT.  
• Vertebral spondylosis.  
• 1 smear or histology specimen positive for auramine-positive bacilli from a normally sterile body site.  
• 1 of each of the following:  
  ◦ evidence of mycobacterial infection defined as 2 acid-fast positive smears (each from a separate collection) that were morphologically consistent with mycobacteria from either sputum or gastric aspirate that were not found to be non-tuberculous mycobacteria bacteria on culture; Quantiferon-TB Gold In-tube test conversion from negative to positive; or tuberculin skin test ≥ 15 mm and  
  ◦ radiographic findings compatible with TB defined as ≥ 1 of the following factors identified independently by ≥ 2 of 3 paediatric radiologists serving on a | “Included all infants who met endpoint 1 criteria; had marginally less stringent criteria to define TB infection and household exposure.”  
Any of the following numerical categories.  
• Isolation of *M tuberculosis* from any site.  
• Identification of *M tuberculosis* by an approved molecular diagnostic technique from any site.  
• Histopathology diagnostic for TB disease (such as caseating granulomas).  
• Choroidal tubercle diagnosed by an ophthalmologist.  
• Miliary pattern on chest x-ray in a HIV-negative infant.  
• Clinical diagnosis of TB meningitis (CSF protein > 0.6 g/L and pleocytosis > 50/mm³ with mononuclear cell > 50%) or features of basal meningeal enhancement and hydrocephalus on head CT.  
• Vertebral spondylosis  
• A single smear/histology specimen positive for auramine-positive bacilli from a normally sterile body site.  
• 1 of each of the following:  
  ◦ evidence of mycobacterial infection defined as:  
    ◦ 2 acid fast-positive smears each from a separate collection morphologically consistent with mycobacteria from either sputum or gastric aspirate that are not found to be non-tuberculous mycobacteria bacteria on culture, or  
    ◦ QFT conversion from negative to positive, or  
    ◦ Tuberculin skin test. | All participants placed on treatment for TB by a health professional with the intent of treating TB regardless of whether they have met the other efficacy endpoints |
Table 3. Differences in tuberculosis endpoint assessment (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Revised endpoint 1 from Tameris 2013 that removed QFT conversion from the diagnostic criteria to avoid bias towards association with QFT status</th>
<th>Not used</th>
<th>Not used</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrews 2017</td>
<td>≥ 10 mm,(^a) or household contact with AFB smear positive person(^a) and radiographic findings compatible with TB defined as ≥ 1 of the following identified independently by at least 2 out of 3 paediatric radiologists serving on a blinded review panel: calcified Ghon focus, pulmonary cavity, hilar or mediastinal adenopathy, pleural effusion, or airspace opacification and clinical manifestations compatible with TB defined as ≥ 1 complete major centile band (&lt; 97th-90th, &lt; 90th-75th, &lt; 75th-50th, &lt; 50th-25th, &lt; 25th-10th, &lt; 10th-3rd weight-for-age centiles) downward for ≥ 2 months.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bunyasi 2017</td>
<td>Any of the following numerical categories.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ndiaye 2015</td>
<td>Same definition as for Tameris 2013.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 3. Differences in tuberculosis endpoint assessment (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Protocol</th>
<th>Published findings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>by ophthalmologist.</td>
<td>by ophthalmologist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• A single smear/histology specimen positive for AFB from a normally sterile body site.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 2 acid-fast smears positive each from a separate collection morphologically consistent with mycobacteria from either pulmonary or gastric sampling that are not found to be non-tuberculous mycobacteria bacteria on culture, and ≥ 1 of the following:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>◦ a compatible radiographic feature: airspace opacification, cavity, hilar or mediastinal adenopathy, or pleural effusion;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>◦ a compatible clinical feature, i.e. &gt; 2 weeks of fever, night sweats, anorexia, cough, or weight loss (≥ 5 kg by history or noticeable change in clothing fit); or ≥ 1 episodes of haemoptysis.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nemes 2018</td>
<td>Outcomes not specified in the methods section.</td>
<td>Not used</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In results, authors specified that 8 participants were diagnosed as TB:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;of whom one was M.tb [Mycobacterium tuberculosis] culture positive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and 7 were diagnosed on clinical/radiographic grounds and TB contact</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>history. Two of the TB cases were QFT positive.&quot;</td>
<td>Not used</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AFB: acid-fast bacilli; CSF: cerebrospinal fluid; CT: computerized tomography; QFT: quantiFERON; TB: tuberculosis.

"In Tameris 2013, endpoint 2: criteria in bold indicate where different from endpoint 1.

Table 4. Differences between details of studies published prior to commencement and reported outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Protocol published prior to commencement</th>
<th>Published findings measured as stated a priori</th>
<th>Reported findings</th>
<th>Differences between protocol and published findings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>67MV A85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis (Review)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 4. Differences between details of studies published prior to commencement and reported outcomes (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Type of Study</th>
<th>Adverse events: blood tests(^a)</th>
<th>Published findings</th>
<th>Data including for laboratory AEs were not disaggregated as prespecified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrews 2017</td>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>No protocol published.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bunyasi 2017</td>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>No protocol published (extended post-trial follow-up of Tameris 2013).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ndiaye 2015</td>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>Adverse events: blood tests(^a)</td>
<td>“Percentage of participants with adverse events” AEs measured up to day 28 SAEs measured up to 6 months.</td>
<td>Haematological and biochemical blood tests not outlined as a measure of safety in the study protocol. Blood test findings reported unclearly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nemes 2018</td>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>Clinicaltrials.gov - local, regional, and systemic AEs and SAEs which would be reported as cumulative 12-month incidences</td>
<td>“Infants followed for safety end points at weeks 1, 4, 6, and 8 after MVA85A/control vaccination and thereafter, at weeks 9, 12, and 16 (corresponding to weeks 1, 4, and 8 following delayed BCG vaccination at 8 weeks of age), and at week 52.”</td>
<td>Data including for laboratory AEs were not disaggregated as prespecified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011</td>
<td>Safety(^a)</td>
<td>Local and systemic AEs for the first week.</td>
<td>Diary cards Local and systemic AEs reported on (\geq 1) day of the first 7 days after MVA85A vaccination</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MVA85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis (Review)  
Copyright © 2019 The Authors. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews published by John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. on behalf of The Cochrane Collaboration.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Immunology</th>
<th>ESAT-6/CFP-10</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tameris 2013</strong></td>
<td>Safety profile - AEs&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>AEs measured up to day 28</td>
<td>Collected data on solicited and unsolicited local and systemic AEs</td>
<td>AEs broken down by type of event and reported in supplementary material. Only local events at the injection site were considered to be related to the vaccine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety profile - blood tests&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Testing up to 28 days postvaccination.</td>
<td>&quot;Peripheral blood for routine haematological and biochemical tests was taken at screening and on day 7 and day 28 after vaccination in an initial safety cohort of at least 330 infants.&quot;</td>
<td>Not reported</td>
<td>Primary outcome not reported</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Efficacy of MVA85A&lt;sup&gt;b&lt;/sup&gt;</strong></td>
<td>Using an endpoint derived from epidemiological cohort surveys in BCG vaccinated infants</td>
<td>Not reported - simply stated clinical endpoints 'developed.'</td>
<td>Composite clinical endpoints 1, 2, 3 (see Table 3)</td>
<td>Microbiologically confirmed cases reported in appendix.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Primary outcomes as outlined in study protocols.
* Secondary outcomes as outlined in study protocols.

Table 5. Summary of monitoring and reporting of adverse events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Participant reported adverse events</th>
<th>Outcome data reporting</th>
<th>Laboratory tests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monitors active or passive</td>
<td>Blinding of participants or outcome assessors</td>
<td>Times data collected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011</td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>Inadequate</td>
<td>60 min, D 2, 7, 28, 84, and 168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ndiaye 2015</td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>Inadequate</td>
<td>D 7, 28, and 84 after boost 3 monthly until end of study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2013</td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>Adequate</td>
<td>Baseline, D 7 and 28, throughout up to D 84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nemes 2018</td>
<td>Active</td>
<td>Adequate</td>
<td>Week 1, 4, 6, 8, 16, and 52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D: day; min: minute; NR: not reported.
Table 6. Results of the different endpoints of active tuberculosis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MVA85A Placebo</td>
<td>MVA85A Placebo</td>
<td>MVA85A Placebo</td>
<td>MVA85A Placebo</td>
<td>MVA85A Placebo</td>
<td>MVA85A Placebo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End-point 1</td>
<td>32/1399 (2.3%)</td>
<td>39/1395 (2.8%)</td>
<td>58/2797 (2.1%)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>6/320 (1.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End-point 2</td>
<td>55/1399 (3.9%)</td>
<td>52/1395 (3.7%)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>6/320 (1.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End-point 3</td>
<td>196/1399 (14.0%)</td>
<td>177/1395 (12.6%)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3.3/100 pyo (95% CI 2.9 to 3.9)</td>
<td>3.0/100 pyo (95% CI 2.6 to 3.5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CI: confidence interval; N/A: not applicable; NDD: no disaggregated data; pyo: person-years of observation; TB: tuberculosis.

*aSee Table 3 for description of endpoints.

Table 7. Adverse effects of the MVA85A vaccine

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>MVA85A</th>
<th>Placebo</th>
<th>Breakdown</th>
<th>Author conclusions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of participants with ≥ 1 event caused by the intervention</td>
<td>Total participants</td>
<td>Number of participants with ≥ 1 event caused by the control</td>
<td>Total participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ndiaye 2015</td>
<td>318</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Solicited AEsa</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>235</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nemes 2018</td>
<td>105b</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>30b</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not detailed</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*aSolicited adverse events were more common in MVA85A group and most were local injection site reactions.

bInfants in MVA85A arm were more likely...
Table 7. Adverse effects of the MVA85A vaccine  (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>AE: 106&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>AE: 108&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>AE: 6</th>
<th>AE: 36&lt;sup&gt;b&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>Injection site&lt;sup&gt;d&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>AE: 106</th>
<th>AE: 6</th>
<th>AE: 6&lt;sup&gt;b&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>AE: 36&lt;sup&gt;&quot;Desquamation significantly increased with greater vaccine dose.&quot;&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Malaise</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lethargy</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tactile fever</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Documented fever</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Vomiting</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Elevated liver enzyme levels</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Increased white cell count</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2013</td>
<td>Local: 1251&lt;sup&gt;e&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>1399</td>
<td>Local: 628&lt;sup&gt;e&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>1396</td>
<td>Not detailed</td>
<td>1251</td>
<td>628</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AE: adverse event; N/A: not applicable.
<sup>a</sup>Included injection reactions, mild influenza-like symptoms, and regional lymphadenopathy.
<sup>b</sup>Authors of the study reported 105 participants with at least one adverse effect in the vaccine group and 30 participants in the placebo group, where causal relationship was defined as definite.
<sup>c</sup>Aggregated between three groups receiving different doses.
<sup>d</sup>Included desquamation (scaling), pain, redness, and swelling.
<sup>e</sup>Authors of the study reported local and systemic adverse events. Authors specified in their protocol that, "Solicited adverse events of local injection site reactions will be considered causally related to study vaccine (adverse reaction)." Therefore, we reported such adverse events as adverse effects. Causal relationship with other adverse events was not reported.
Table 8. Adverse events summary table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Adverse events of any severity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MVA85A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2013</td>
<td>1120/1399 (80.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrews 2017</td>
<td>NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bunyasi 2017</td>
<td>NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ndiaye 2015</td>
<td>NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011</td>
<td>2.5 × 10⁷ pfu = 35 µL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 × 10⁸ pfu = 135 µL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1/36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6/36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nemes 2018</td>
<td>Mild 122/123 (99.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Moderate 62/123 (50.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Severe 11/123 (8.9%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NR: not reported; pfu: plaque-forming unit.

Table 9. Abnormal haematological and biochemical tests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Haematological blood tests</th>
<th>Biochemical blood tests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MVA85A</td>
<td>Placebo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MVA85A</td>
<td>Placebo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameris 2013</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrews 2017</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bunyasi 2017</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ndiaye 2015</td>
<td>NR⁵</td>
<td>NR⁵</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scriba 2011</td>
<td>0/108⁶</td>
<td>1/36⁶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.5 × 10⁷ pfu = 35 µL</td>
<td>5 × 10⁷ pfu = 70 µL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 × 10⁸ pfu = 135 µL</td>
<td>4/36 (11%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 9. Abnormal haematological and biochemical tests (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1/36 (2.8%)</th>
<th>3/36 (8.3%)</th>
<th>9/36 (25%)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nemes 2018</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>14/123 (11.4%)</td>
<td>13/125 (10.4%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NR: not reported; pfu: plaque-forming unit.

*a Authors stated that routine haematological and biochemical test results did not differ between study groups but did not present data.
*b One participant had increased white cell count concurrently with an increase in alanine aminotransferase during an episode of gastroenteritis. Authors did not describe any other case of abnormal haematological test in the rest of the participant, although it was not stated explicitly.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1. Search strategies

Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials

- #1 tuberculosis or TB:ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)
- #2 MeSH descriptor: [Tuberculosis] explode all trees
- #3 MeSH descriptor: [BCG Vaccine] explode all trees
- #4 "BCG vaccin*":ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)
- #5 bacill* Calmette-Guerin
- #6 #1 or #2 or #3 or #4 or #5
- #7 "antigen 85A" or Ag85A or "modified vaccinia ankara" or MVA85A
- #8 MVA85*
- #9 #7 or #8
- #10 #9 and #6

MEDLINE (PubMed)

- #12 Search #7 and #11
- #11 Search ((#8) OR #9) OR #10
- #10 Search "drug therapy" [Subheading]
- #9 Search randomized or placebo or randomly or trial or groups Field: Title/Abstract

MVA85A vaccine to enhance BCG for preventing tuberculosis (Review)

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#8  Search "Randomized Controlled Trial" [Publication Type] OR "Controlled Clinical Trial" [Publication Type]

#7  Search #3 and #6

#6  Search 4 or 5

#5  "antigen 85A" OR Ag85A OR "modified vaccinia ankara" OR MVA85A Field: Title/Abstract

#4  "antigen 85A, Mycobacterium tuberculosis" [Supplementary Concept] or "MVA 85A" [Supplementary Concept]

#3  Search 1 or 2

#2  (("BCG Vaccine"[Mesh]) OR ("bcg vaccin*" or "bacille Calmette-Guérin") Field: Title/Abstract

#1  "Tuberculosis"[Mesh] or (tuberculosis or TB) Field: Title/Abstract

**Embase**

1 (tuberculosis or tuberculous or TB).mp.
2 tuberculosis/
3 1 or 2
4 BCG vaccine/ or BCG vaccin*.mp. or BCG vaccination/
5 3 or 4
6 MVA85A.mp.
7 antigen 85A.mp.
8 Ag85A.mp.
9 modified vaccinia virus ankara.mp.
10 modified vaccine ankara.mp.
11 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10
12 5 and 11
13 (randomized or randomised or placebo or double-blind* or single-blind*).mp.
14 randomized controlled trial/ or controlled clinical trial/
15 crossover procedure/
16 13 or 14 or 15
17 12 and 16

**CINAHL (EBSCOHost)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Search terms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S1</td>
<td>TX ( tuberculosis or TB or BCG )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S2</td>
<td>TX ( (MVA85A or “antigen 85A” or “modified vaccinia ankara” )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Web of Science

# 2  TOPIC: (tuberculosis or TB or BCG) AND TOPIC: (MVA85A or “antigen 85A” or “modified vaccinia ankara”) AND TOPIC: (randomized trial or controlled trial or placebo or double-blind* or single-blind*)
Timespan=All years
Search language=Auto

# 1  TOPIC: (tuberculosis or TB or BCG) AND TOPIC: (MVA85A or “antigen 85A” or "modified vaccinia ankara")
Timespan=All years

CONTRIBUTIONS OF AUTHORS

RK drafted the review, screened abstracts, extracted data, analysed results, and wrote the final review.

SoJ (Sophie Jullien) drafted the review, screened abstracts, extracted data, analysed results, and wrote the final review.

PG contributed to the methods, coherence, and writing of the final review.

SaJ (Samuel Johnson) co-ordinated the review, screened abstracts, extracted data, performed analysis of data, and helped draft the final review.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RK has no known conflicts of interest.

SoJ worked for the CIDG from September 2015 to April 2016.

PG is the Director of the Research, Evidence and Development Initiative (READ-It) project (project number 300342-104) and CIDG Co-ordinating Editor.

SaJ worked for the CIDG from January 2017 to July 2018.

None of the review authors receive salary, payment, academic fees, or academic status related to vaccine development.
SOURCES OF SUPPORT

Internal sources

• Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK.

External sources

• Department for International Development, UK.
  Project number 300342-104

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PROTOCOL AND REVIEW

Changes to the author team: Taryn Young stepped down from the review author team.

We intended to pilot data extraction forms; however, given the small number of included studies we assessed the appropriateness of the form during the actual data extraction.

In our protocol, we mentioned that the control for the type of intervention would be "BCG alone." However, we did include in our review studies that they used Candin® as control intervention, as this is currently used in control groups for randomized controlled trials assessing MVA85A.

We encountered multiple different definitions of active tuberculosis in different trials. We took the approach of defining active tuberculosis as confirmed by culture and participants starting on tuberculosis treatment to allow a consistent approach across the included studies.

We reported adverse effects of any severity disaggregated by local reactions of the skin and systemic symptoms and we gave justification for this decision in the result section.

The initial risk of bias for adverse event assessment tool had three options to assess completeness of reporting of participant-reported outcomes. The options complete/incomplete/unclear were reduced to complete/incomplete as there was no difference between the options incomplete and unclear reporting.

The detailed subgroup analysis prespecified in the protocol was not done due to too few studies.