"Chikungunya Vaccines: Options for Control of a Re-emerging Pathogen"

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Abstract  
Vaccines have the potential to modulate the severity of illness as well as eliminate or reduce the likelihood of transmission of the pathogen to others making vaccination one of the most effective disease intervention tools available. Several vaccines against arthropod-borne viruses (arboviruses), including yellow fever virus and Japanese encephalitis virus, have been developed and are in widespread use. However, many other vector-borne viruses are significant human pathogens that warrant vaccine development as well. One virus, Chikungunya virus, causes explosive outbreaks and induces a prolonged, debilitating arthralgic illness that can have a dramatic impact on the affected communities. However, there are no therapeutics nor vaccines commercially available for chikungunya virus. As epidemics of chikungunya continue to expand, the importance of vaccine development increases. This presentation will look at the history of chikungunya virus vaccines as well as address new developments in this area.

Selected Publications  


