



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community Research

EU-FUNDED RESEARCH PROJECT

Development of a combined influenza/SARS vaccine (SARS/FLU VACCINE)

Time of action: SARS/FLU VACCINE started in December 2004 and is scheduled to end in Nov 2007

EU budget (funding): €1.6 million

The aim of this project is to look into the possibility of producing a single vaccine that could protect against both SARS and H5N1 avian influenza in humans.

The project is using an engineered influenza virus as its starting point. This modified virus is unable to replicate, but still expresses immunogenic influenza proteins on its surface. The genes for relevant antigens from the SARS-associated coronavirus will be added to the influenza vector so that it expresses SARS proteins on its surface too. Several constructs will be tested for immunogenicity: the one that provokes the best immune response without compromising safety in animal testing will be selected for a full preclinical testing programme.

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