

Vaccine Media Trends Barometer

November 2013

Geographic Activity Nov 1-30, 2013

VaccineNews Map



Activity Summary

November Alerts			% of Total
Report Vaccine Sentiment	Negative	290	10.3
	Neutral	259	9.2
	Positive	2260	80.5
Total		2809	



Media with Negative Vaccine Sentiment or High Risk Events Reported

- Reports of the kidnapping of eleven **polio vaccination workers** from Khyber Agency in **Pakistan**. Some reports stated that these were not actually polio workers, but rather teachers at a school that was allowing polio vaccination of its students. Example: <http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-7-216160-Tribal-elders-in-talks-to-free-polio-workers>
- Gunmen in northwest **Pakistan** attacked police officers guarding a team of **polio vaccination workers**, killing one officer. Example: <http://tribune.com.pk/story/639217/police-official-killed-while-providing-security-to-polio-workers-in-peshawar/>
- An infant dies in Bac Lieu Province, **Vietnam** after vaccination with Quinvaxem **pentavalent vaccine** at a medical clinic on November 24. Another infant reportedly died in June at the same clinic, following pentavalent vaccination. Local health authorities have launched an investigation into the recent case. Example: <http://www.thanhniennews.com/index/pages/20131129-dutch-vaccine-kills-2-more-babies-upon-return-to-vietnam.aspx>
- **Polio vaccine** refusals in Sokoto State, **Nigeria**. Example: <http://premiumtimesng.com/regional/149839-families-reject-polio-immunisation-453-children-sokoto-official.html>
- High frequency reporting of AEFIs following **HPV** vaccination, including neurological damage, death and immune system effects. These reports were most prominent in **France**, the **United States** and **Spain**. Example: <http://www.leparisien.fr/laparisienne/sante/sante-le-gardasil-au-coeur-d-une-plainte-24-11-2013-3344849.php>
- Sporadic **Influenza vaccine** refusals reported in the **US**, **France**, **Switzerland** and the **UK**. Example: <http://news.google.com/news/url?sa=t&fd=R&usg=AFQjCNEsq3NI8J4Wb33DIMfox9z8YcnCg&url=http://www.stokesentinel.co.uk/NHS-STAFF-REFUSING-FLU-JAB/story-20028742-detail/story.html>
- Low **influenza vaccine** rates in France, and reported general lack of interest in the vaccine and questions around its necessity. Example: <http://news.google.com/news/url?sa=t&fd=R&usg=AFQjCNGr7w9Hpy7GQUzVQw6X-BMzE1oSGw&url=http://www.20minutes.fr/societe/1253465-20131122-grippe-faut-il-encore-faire-vacciner>
- Coverage of a lawsuit filed in **France** against Sanofi Pasteur MSD by an 18 year old who claims she developed multiple sclerosis following vaccination with the **HPV vaccine**, Gardasil. Several additional lawsuits are reportedly pending. Example: <http://www.leparisien.fr/laparisienne/sante/sante-le-gardasil-au-coeur-d-une-plainte-24-11-2013-3344849.php>

VPD Outbreaks

- **Measles**; Canada, Australia, Nigeria, Ukraine, United Kingdom
- **Meningitis (*Neisseria meningitidis*)**; outbreaks at Princeton University in New Jersey and the University of California at Santa Barbara in California.
- **Polio**; Nigeria, Pakistan, Somalia, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Syria
- Extensive coverage this month of an article published in the Lancet in which the authors suggest that the **polio** outbreak in **Syria** poses a substantial risk for re-emergence of polio in **Europe**

Policy

- Bexsero, a vaccine providing protection against serogroup B **meningococcal disease**, but not yet approved for use in the **United States** by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), is being imported and offered at Princeton University in New Jersey under an Investigational New Drug approval from FDA. This is in response to a meningococcal disease outbreak that has been occurring on the campus since March, 2013.
- **The United States** FDA approves first adjuvanted vaccine for prevention of **H5N1 avian influenza**. This vaccine will supplement the National Stockpile and is not intended for commercial availability.

Delivery/Access

- Mass **polio** immunization campaigns across Middle East and Africa including **Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Ghana, Jordan, Kenya, Pakistan, South Sudan, and Syria**
- Mass vaccination of children in Typhoon-affected areas of the **Philippines** for **measles** and **polio**.

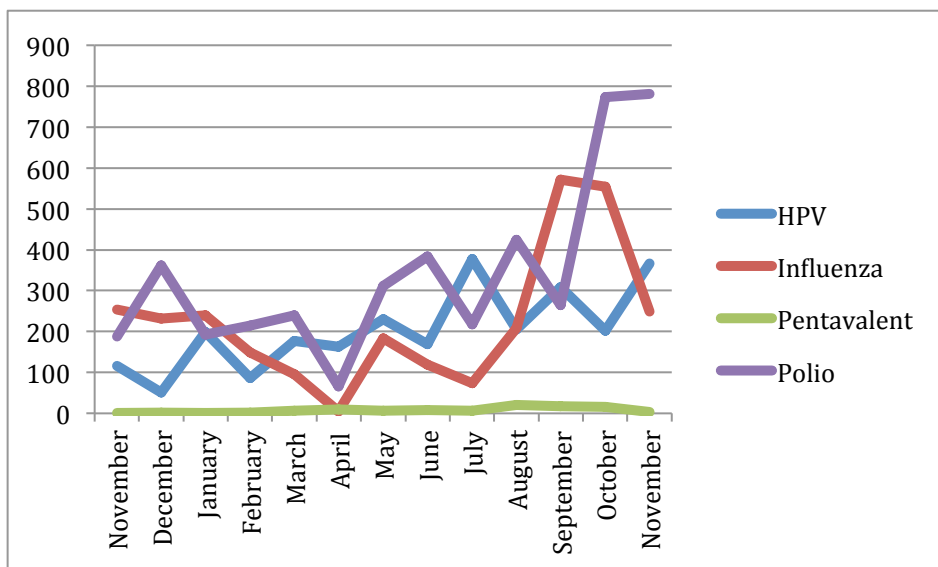
Research

- Agenus and a Sanofi-National Institutes of Health (**US**) collaboration both gave updates on their **genital herpes** vaccine candidate this month indicating the vaccine candidate succeeded in mid-stage trials.

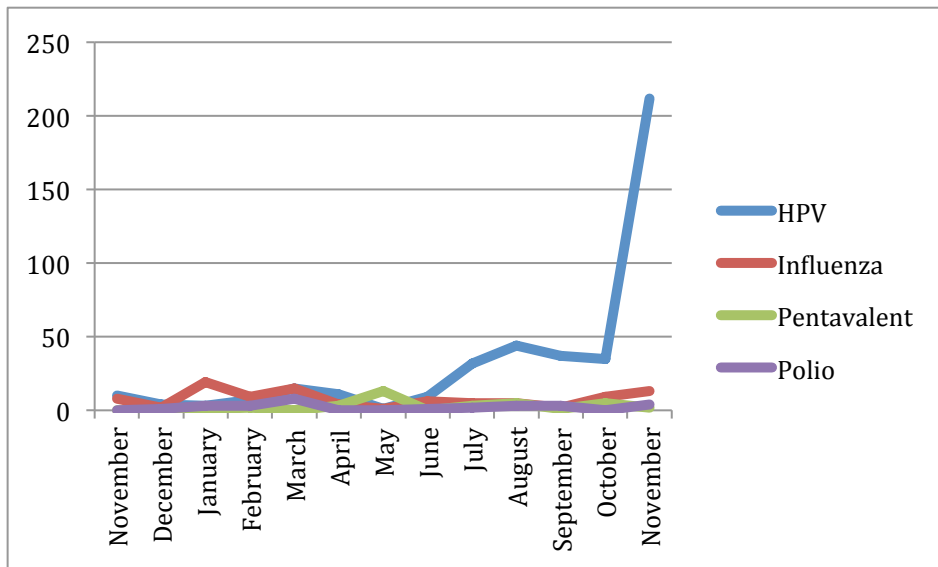
Number of Reports that Mention Vaccines by Month and Sentiment

Positive Sentiment

November 2012-November 2013



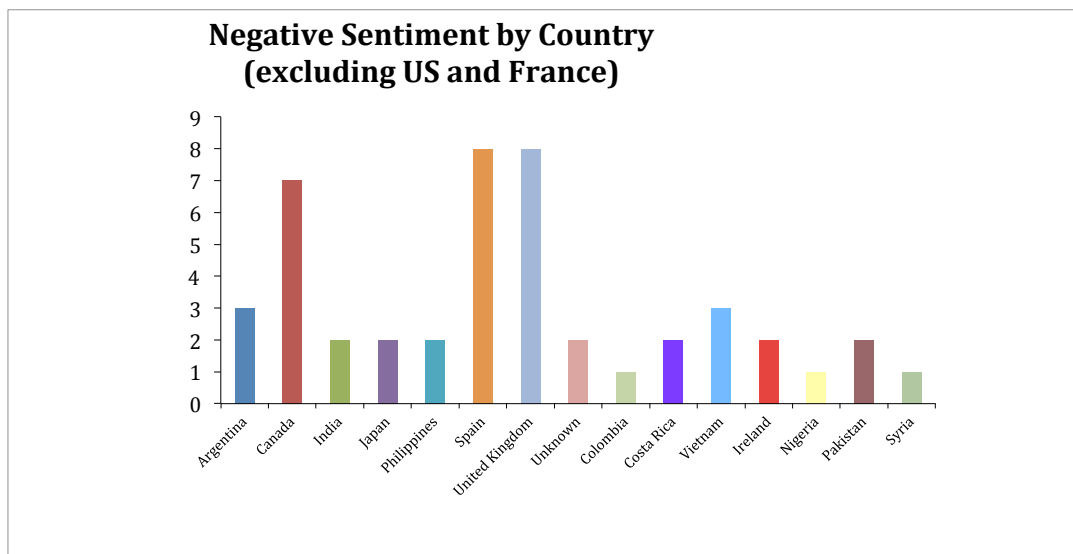
Negative Sentiment November 2012-November 2013

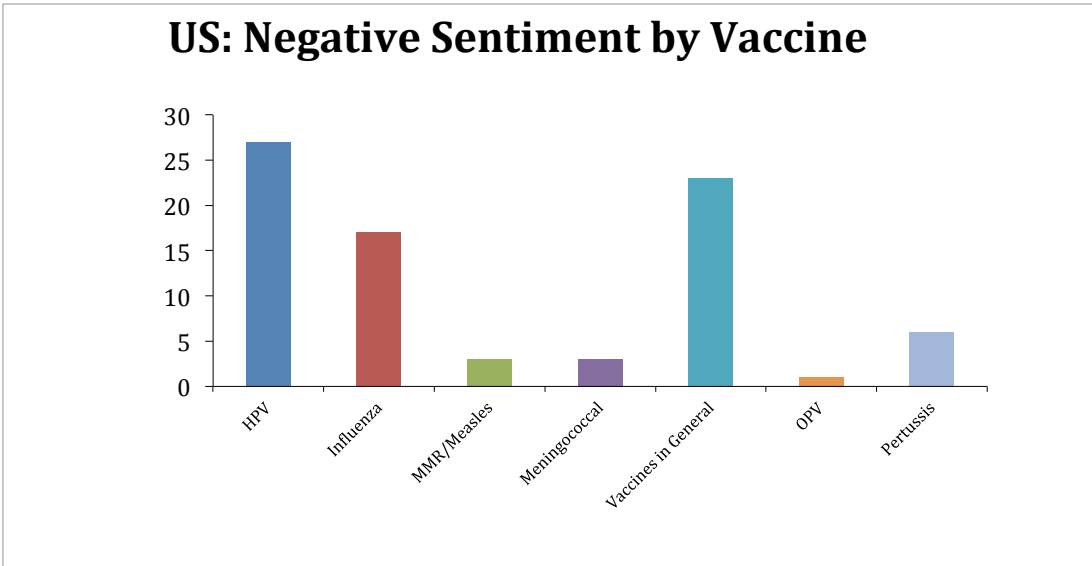
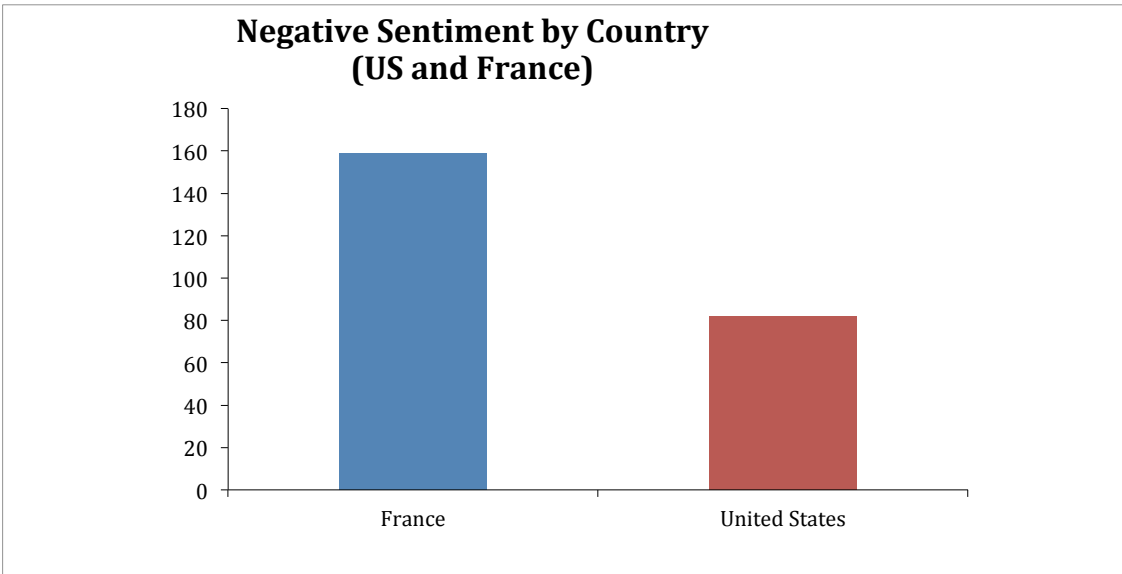
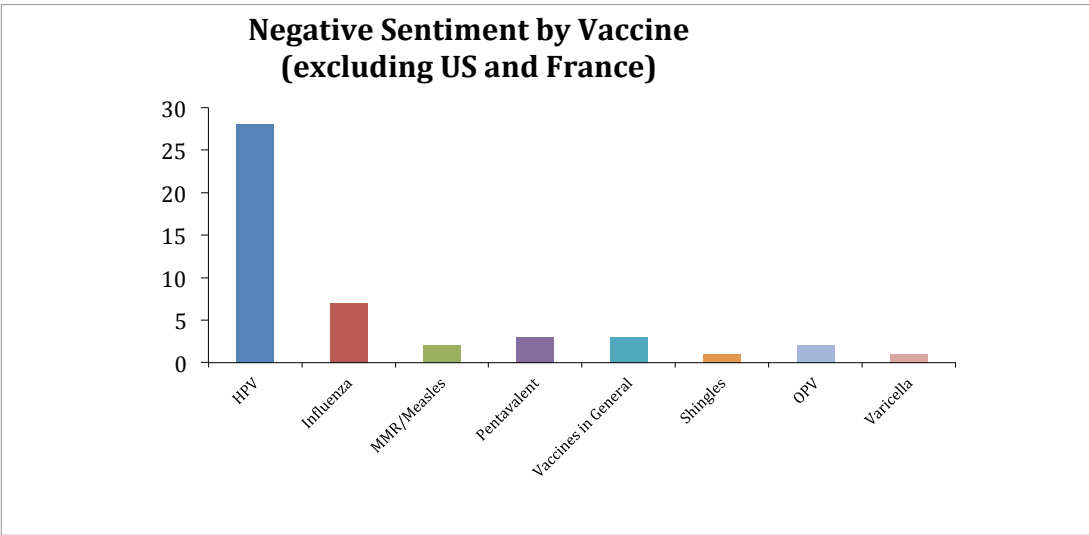


November Negative Vaccine Sentiment* (n= 290 alerts including duplicate reports; 10% of all reports)

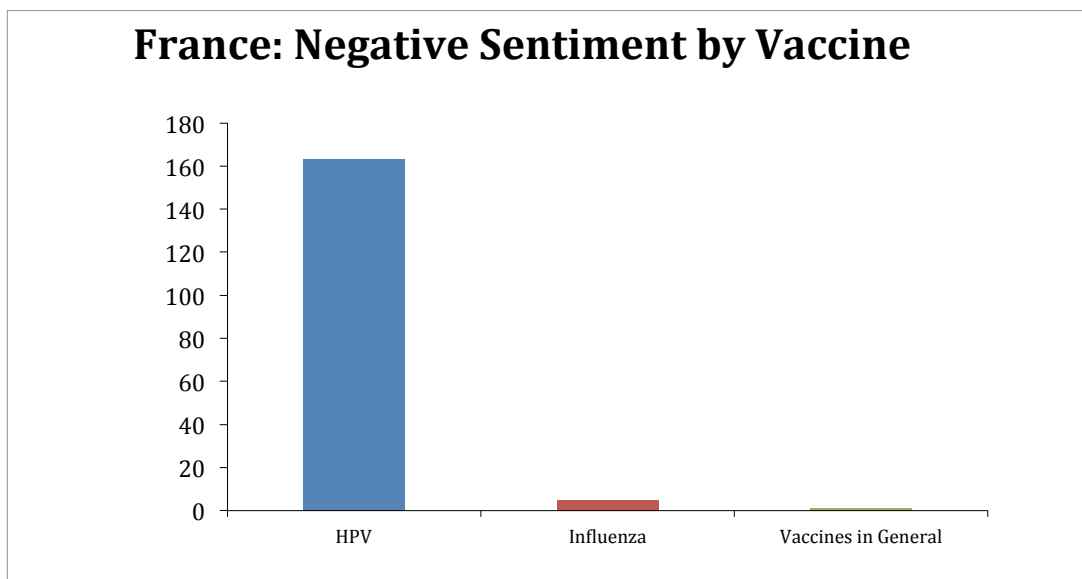
Reports may include more than one country or vaccine/disease.

*Due to the large number of negative sentiment reports from France and the United States in November, reports by vaccine for these two countries are detailed separately below.





France: Negative Sentiment by Vaccine



Special Focus on HPV vaccine and France

A substantial increase in negative sentiment reports was seen in November, almost exclusively due to coverage in France, and to some extent in Spain, of a lawsuit that was filed in France against Sanofi Pasteur MSD by an 18 year old woman claiming that HPV (Gardasil) vaccination led to neurologic and immunologic adverse effects, specifically multiple sclerosis. The claimant justified her lawsuit on the Regional Commission for conciliation and compensation (RCCI) for medical accidents (RCCI) Bordeaux acknowledgement of a link between pathology and vaccination. Multiple media reports indicate that three additional claims will be filed in the next two weeks, claiming a skin disorder and polymyositis following HPV vaccination. At least one legal firm suggested that legal claims were multiplying rapidly and cited the situation as “the latest health scandal”. Sanofi publicly criticized the determination of the RCCI as not being based on scientific evidence. A remarkable number of negative sentiment reports were detected this month regarding this situation across both French and English media. The level of media coverage suggests the potential for vaccine concerns and a need to monitor the situation.