

Vaccine Media Trends Barometer

February 2014

Geographic Activity February 1-28, 2014

VaccineNews Map



Activity Summary

February Alerts			% of Total
Report Vaccine Sentiment	Negative	91	4
	Neutral	57	3
	Positive	2076	93
Total		2224	

Media with Negative Vaccine Sentiment or High Risk Events Reported

- Safety concerns cause Dynavax to withdraw European Union application for its new Hepatitis B vaccine. <http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/thomson-reuters/140218/dynavax-withdraws-eu-marketing-application-hep-b-vaccine>
- Claims that recently released documents from the CDC through a Freedom of Information Act revealed the CDC had access to data linking Thimerosal in vaccines to autism, non-organic sleep disorders, and speech disorders. <http://republicbroadcasting.org/cdc-caught-hiding-data-showing-mercury-in-vaccines-linked-to-autism/>
- Negative reaction to Chilean President Pinero's veto of a bill banning Thimerosal from all Chilean vaccines. <http://www.omsj.org/blogs/update-president-pinera-vetoes-chilean-thimerosal-bill>
- Peshawar Pakistan is declared the "poliovirus reservoir of the world" in large part due to Taliban threats to mass vaccination campaigns. <http://www.indiatvnews.com/news/world/know-how-pakistan-is-going-ahead-with-polio-drive-despite--16317.html>
- A report from the President's Cancer Council in the US cites poor HPV vaccination rates across the country and cites cost along with physician's failure to adequately recommend it to parents. <http://www.theleafchronicle.com/article/20140209/NEWS01/302090024>

VPD Outbreaks

- **Polio** cases being recorded in **Pakistan** and **Syria**
- **Measles: United States** (Massachusetts, Hawaii), **Philippines**, **Canada**, **Syria**, **Australia**
- **Pertussis: United States** (California, Delaware)

Policy

- **Rotavirus vaccine** now recommended as a routine childhood immunization in **France**
- US health authorities recommend **hepatitis A vaccine** for travelers to the Sochi, **Russia** Olympics
- Universal in-school **HPV vaccination** for all girls 9-11 in **Paraguay**, **Ecuador**, **Central African Republic** and **South Africa**
- Health Service of **England** and the **US** CDC continue to recommend **influenza vaccine** in light of ongoing and widespread flu activity

Delivery/Access

- **New Zealand** in short supply of **shingles vaccine**
- **South Sudan** is receiving **cholera vaccine** from the WHO stockpile
- **HPV vaccine** now available in **Australian** schools
- Continued coverage of ongoing **influenza** clinics in the **US** and **Canada**

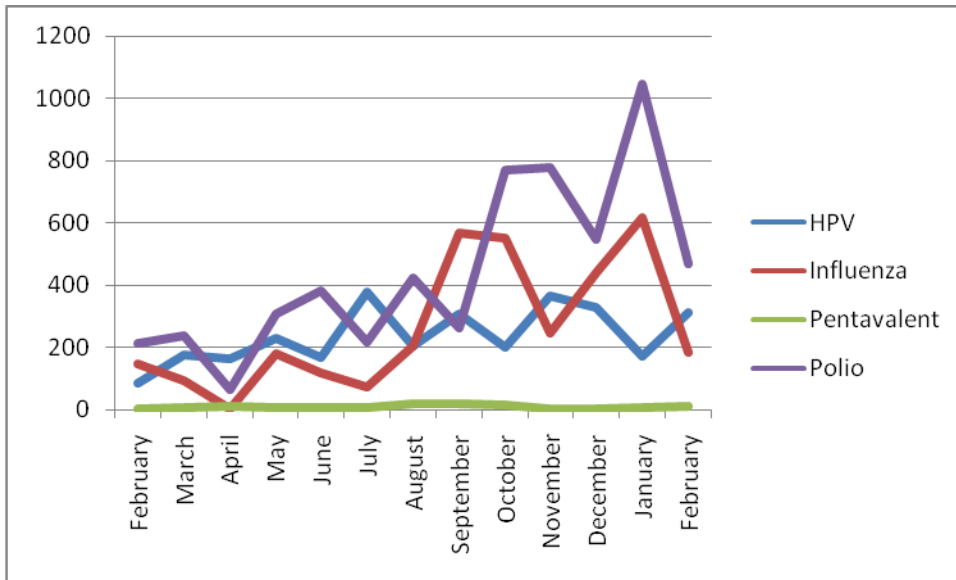
Research

- Sanofi Pasteur researching *C. Difficile* vaccine
- HIV vaccine research in France
- Chikungunya vaccine research ongoing in France and Gabon
- University of Michigan researchers developing a West Nile virus vaccine
- Advanced research and development on a H7N9 vaccine in China

Number of Reports that Mention Vaccines by Month and Sentiment

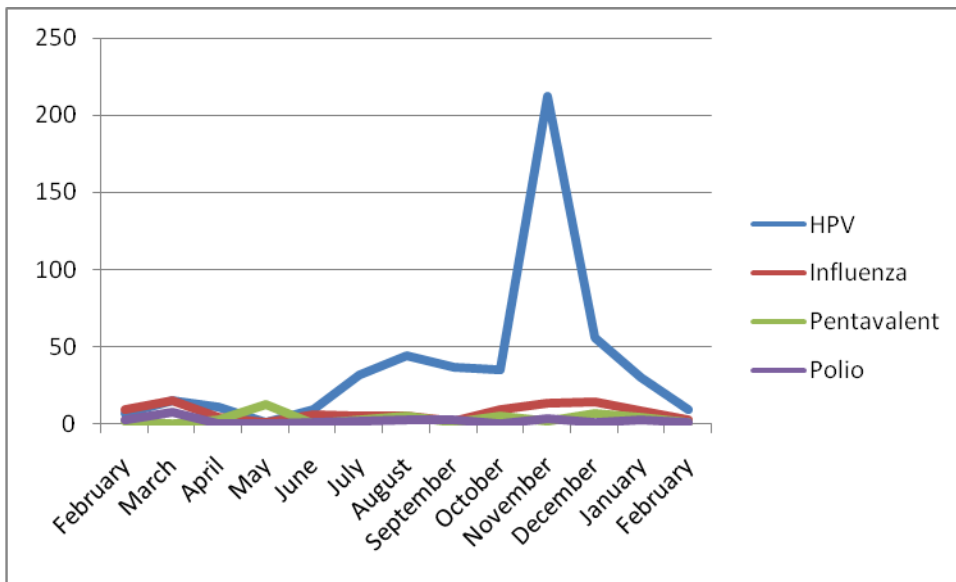
Positive Sentiment

February 2013 – February 2014



Negative Sentiment

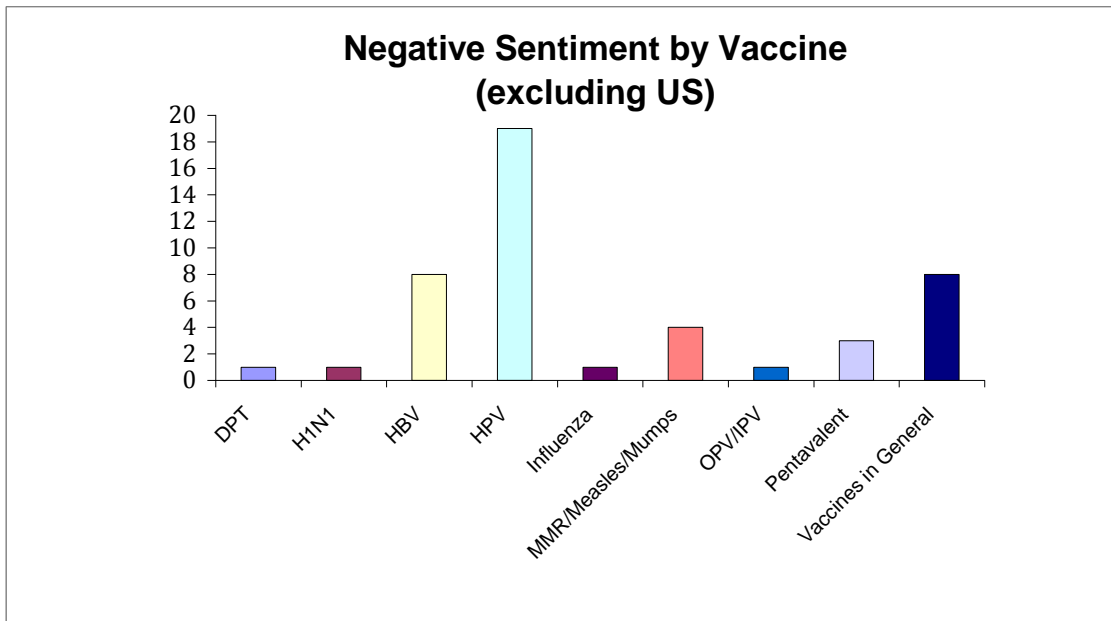
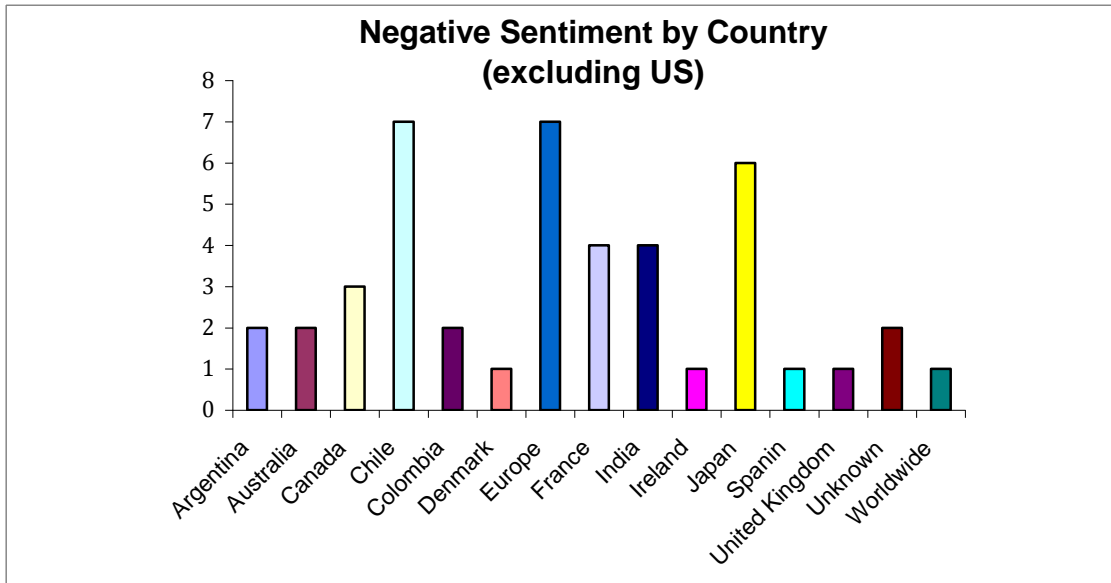
February 2013 – February 2014

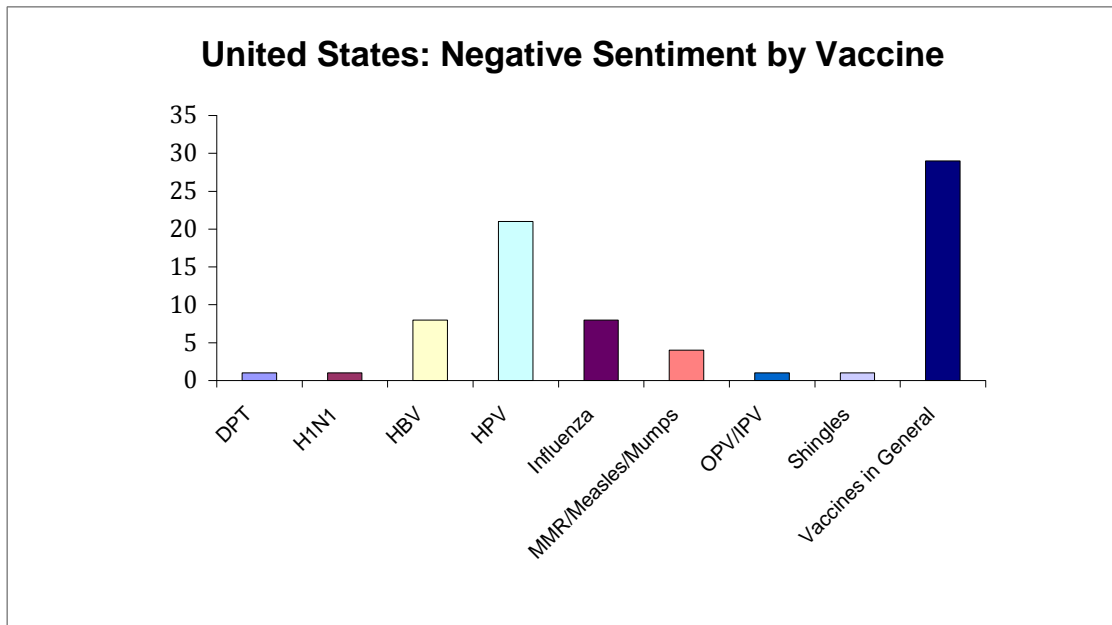


February Reports Containing Negative Vaccine Sentiment* (n= 91 alerts including duplicate reports; 4 % of all reports)

A single report may include more than one country or vaccine/disease.

*Due to the large number of negative sentiment reports relative to other countries in February, US reports by vaccine are detailed separately.





Special Focus: Some Indian Doctors Remain Concerned over Pentavalent Vaccine

Despite the Indian Minister for Health declaring the pentavalent vaccine was safe and not responsible for the deaths of any children, several media reports this month suggested that doubt remained among some pediatricians in India. In particular, some pediatricians called for stronger regulatory mechanisms to evaluate new vaccines for safety and efficacy before their acceptance into the government's universal immunization program (UIP).

In October 2013, the Indian National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (NTAGI), conducted a study on vaccine-related infant deaths, and recommended to the Union Health Ministry that the vaccine was safe and effective. In October, the NTAGI recommended that the pentavalent vaccine, which was rolled out in Kerala for the first time in the country in 2011 and subsequently in seven other States, be introduced across the nation. The recommendation came after the national Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) committee, which studied all infant deaths in various States cleared the vaccine of any cause in the deaths. Despite providing this reassurance that the vaccine is safe, debate continues between some vocal experts in the country. There is now a Supreme Court public interest litigation pending.

As pneumonia remains a major killer of children in India and the government supplied pentavalent vaccine offers dramatic cost savings and universal access to the vaccine, this public debate warrants close monitoring.