

Wyeth's 7-valent Vaccine For Pneumococcal Disease Registered In Russia

By **Calisha Myers**
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Biotech

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Wyeth announced today that its 7-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, Prevenar(TM) (Pneumococcal saccharide conjugated vaccine, Adsorbed), has been registered by the Russian Ministry of Health and Social Development (Roszdravnadzor) and is expected to be commercially available later this year. Prevenar (also referred to as PCV7), the global standard in pneumococcal disease prevention for infants and young children, helps protect against the seven pneumococcal serotypes contained in the vaccine that cause the majority of pneumococcal disease worldwide.

"This important decision by Roszdravnadzor to register Prevenar is an important step forward in helping to protect the more than 1.5 million Russian children born every year from the potentially serious consequences of pneumococcal disease," says Dr. E. David McIntosh, paediatrician and Wyeth's Medical Director for Infectious Disease and Vaccines in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. "Given the public health benefits that have been documented where Prevenar is routinely used, Wyeth looks forward to engaging in discussions with the Ministry of Health with a view toward including Prevenar in the national childhood immunisation schedule in Russia."

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), pneumococcal disease causes up to 1 million deaths in children each year and is the leading vaccine-preventable cause of death in children younger than five years of age worldwide.

The WHO recommends priority inclusion of PCV7 in national childhood immunisation programs worldwide due to the significant burden of pneumococcal disease and demonstrated vaccine efficacy.

Following inclusion of Prevenar into the routine U.S. paediatric immunization schedule, there has been a 98 percent (95% CI: 97-99) reduction in vaccine-type pneumococcal disease among infants and toddlers younger than 5 years of age compared with a prelicensure baseline. In addition, incidence of disease caused by the seven conjugate vaccine serotypes declined 55 percent (95% CI: 51-58) among adults 50 years of age and older, an unvaccinated group.

Prevenar is now available in more than 90 countries around the world, and 34 of those countries include Prevenar in their national childhood immunisation programme.

Pneumococcal Disease

Pneumococcal disease affects both children and adults and is a leading cause of illness and death worldwide. Pneumococcal disease is caused by the bacterium *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and describes a group of illnesses, including invasive infections, such as bacteremia/sepsis and meningitis, as well as pneumonia and otitis media.

Wyeth

Wyeth is one of the world's largest research-driven pharmaceutical and health care products companies. It is a leader in the discovery, development, manufacturing and marketing of pharmaceuticals, vaccines, biotechnology products, nutritionals and non-prescription medicines that improve the quality of life for people worldwide. The Company's major divisions include Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, Wyeth Consumer Healthcare and Fort Dodge Animal Health.



BIOTECH

Voyager, Transition Bio set sail on neuro research trek in search for small molecule candidates

By Darren Incorvaia

Nov 10, 2025 05:23pm

amyotrophic lateral sclerosis

Voyager Therapeutics

dementia

drug discovery



The Transition pact represents Voyager's first foray into the small molecule space. (valio84sl/iStock/Getty Images Plus)

Voyager Therapeutics is shoving off on a [new journey](https://ir.voyagertherapeutics.com/news-releases/news-release-details/transition-bio-and-voyager-announce-collaboration-advance-small) (<https://ir.voyagertherapeutics.com/news-releases/news-release-details/transition-bio-and-voyager-announce-collaboration-advance-small>) to discover and develop small molecules targeting protein bundles that contribute to neurodegenerative diseases. Voyager is paying travel partner Transition Bio a single-digit million-dollar upfront payment, with additional payments up to \$500 million possible if certain research, development, commercial and sales milestones are met.

In return for the cash, Transition will work to identify small molecules that can bind to TDP-43, a protein that [bunches together](https://www.nature.com/articles/s12276-020-00513-7) (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s12276-020-00513-7>) in certain patients with neurodegenerative conditions like amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and frontotemporal dementia.

Voyager will then have the option to license and develop candidates from Transition's work, the company announced in a Nov. 10 release.

Despite its promise, there are currently no approved drugs targeting TDP-43 on the market, though a [range of candidates](https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9587158/) (<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9587158/>) exist.

"Historically, TDP-43 has been difficult to address therapeutically because of the complexity of targeting toxic forms of the protein without impacting the nontoxic forms that are necessary to the cell," Voyager's president and CEO Alfred Sandrock, Jr., M.D., said in the release. "Transition Bio's molecular condensate technology uniquely identifies small molecules that aim to precisely correct the mislocalization of TDP-43 without abolishing its important functional activity."

With a presence in both Cambridge, Massachusetts and Cambridge, England, Transition Bio uses a drug discovery platform powered by microfluidics to find potential new therapeutics. The company secured a [\\$50 million series A](https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20220602005153/en/Transition-Bio-Closes-%2450-Million-Series-A-Financing-to-Accelerate-Biomolecular-Condensate-Drug-Discovery) (<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20220602005153/en/Transition-Bio-Closes-%2450-Million-Series-A-Financing-to-Accelerate-Biomolecular-Condensate-Drug-Discovery>) in 2022 and has its own preclinical pipeline (<https://transitionbio.com/our-science/>) led by a YTHDC1 inhibitor (https://transitionbio.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/YTHDC1-POSTER_2025-EORTC-NCI-AACR.pdf) (PDF) in development for multiple cancers.

The Transition pact represents Voyager’s first foray into the small molecule space. The neuro-focused biotech is keen on biologics, with its sole clinical asset a tau-targeting antibody in a [phase 1 study](https://www.clinicaltrials.gov/study/NCT06874621) (<https://www.clinicaltrials.gov/study/NCT06874621>) for Alzheimer’s disease. Voyager is also tackling ALS through gene therapy, but earlier this year had to [delay its efforts](https://www.fiercebiotech.com/biotech/journey-voyagers-als-gene-therapy-clinic-hindered-need-find-alternative-payload) (<https://www.fiercebiotech.com/biotech/journey-voyagers-als-gene-therapy-clinic-hindered-need-find-alternative-payload>) in order to find a new payload.

Voyager is also collaborating with [Neurocrine Biosciences](https://www.fiercebiotech.com/biotech/neurocrine-pays-voyager-165m-for-neurological-gene-therapies) (<https://www.fiercebiotech.com/biotech/neurocrine-pays-voyager-165m-for-neurological-gene-therapies>) on gene therapies for central nervous system diseases. In May, Neurocrine [returned](https://www.fiercebiotech.com/biotech/neurocrine-hands-back-2-cns-gene-therapy-programs-voyager) (<https://www.fiercebiotech.com/biotech/neurocrine-hands-back-2-cns-gene-therapy-programs-voyager>) two discovery stage programs from this pact back to Voyager, though the overall collaboration remains afloat.

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