Seen some interesting research? Maybe something really awesome happening in your field? We're keen to profile these superstars, so send a brief profile of them with an accompanying photo if you have one. Is there something you think we should hear about? Or maybe they're just an all-around great person to work with? In each issue of the GVDN, we feature a profile of a leading researcher.

**Putting Patients First in Vaccine Development**

This year's conference is focused on vaccine development with a human-centric approach. The theme of this year's conference is "Putting Patients First in Vaccine Development.

The German biotech firm BioNTech is facing compensation claims for alleged side effects following the COVID-19 vaccine's approval. 'Post-vac' or 'long vax' syndrome reports continue to emerge, and patients are seeking compensation for alleged injuries.

So far, even after over 13 billion vaccine doses, there is no evidence to indicate that COVID-infection carries a risk of developing long-COVID. Vaccines have been shown to significantly reduce the incidence of severe and non-severe SARS-CoV-2 infection-related outcomes. These included the incidence of severe and non-severe outcomes for various months following the first and second dose of the vaccine.

One objective of the retrospective cohort study was to investigate how different vaccination schemes and vaccine types affect adverse events. The study included patients who received homologous versus heterologous vaccination schemes and various doses. Results showed that 10 potential safety signals were identified, most of which were related to myocarditis.

The results are consistent with current recommendations to mix brands (heterologous vaccination schemes) when available. This approach has been shown to be safe and effective, and results are available on the VAC4EU Zenodo community.

Other results from the ECVM project can be viewed on the VAC4EU Zenodo community, which enables instant comparison of vaccine confidence by country from 2015–2022.

The project enables instant comparison of vaccine confidence by country from 2015–2022. Data includes confidence in importance, safety, effectiveness, and compatibility with personal beliefs. Users can select a country and get a detailed summary and age group preferences.

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Supporting references:

2. effect on myocarditis. Aotearoa New Zealand. GVDN has been a technical partner for this Gavi-funded work.
5. UNICEF 2023 State of the World's Children Report
7. UNICEF 2023 State of the World's Children Report
8. UNICEF 2023 State of the World's Children Report

**SPEAC and CEPI meet to build safety into vaccine development**

SPEAC and CEPI meet to build safety into vaccine development. The Network warmly welcomes Hazel Clothier, a research scientist from the University of Washington, to join their team. The Network warmly welcomes Hazel Clothier, a research scientist from the University of Washington, to join their team. The Network warmly welcomes Hazel Clothier, a research scientist from the University of Washington, to join their team.

The GVDN's collaboration with the ALIVE Network and our South Africa site and the Africa CDC has been a positive partnership and enabled collective contribution to vaccine development in Africa. The reach of the GVDN has now expanded to encompass an astounding population of 7.8 billion people in 190 countries. The inclusive nature of the Network continues to grow, allowing for a more comprehensive and global representation.

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