Schistosomiasis Treatment for Preschool Children

Research Areas

Product Development

Drugs

At a Glance

- Status: Active Consortium
- Year Launched: 2013
- Initiating Organization: Top Industry Pharma
- Initiator Type: Nonprofit foundation
- Rare disease
- Location: International

Abstract

Currently, infants and very young children who are infected with schistosomiasis cannot receive adequate treatment. The standard praziquantel therapy is available only as oral tablets for adults and children from the age of six. Moreover, younger children cannot always swallow these tablets because of their size and bitter taste. A pediatric formulation is desperately needed to develop an adequate treatment for the most vulnerable age group. This has led to the establishment of the first international public-private partnership in schistosomiasis. The objective of this partnership is to develop a formulation of praziquantel more suited to young children.

Sponsors & Partners

All the partners are highly motivated to address the need to treat schistosomiasis in very young children, some of whom are only three months old when they become infected. The new pediatric dosage of praziquantel will make an important contribution to the better control and potential elimination of this neglected tropical disease.
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Astellas Pharma Inc.
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