

A new vaccine tries to reduce mortality in hospital Intensive Care Units

LOCATION: Seville

DURATION: 1'29"

SUMMARY: Researchers of the Virgen del Rocío Hospital in Seville has found a vaccine able to fight a bacterium, the Acinetobacter Baumannii, that is a great threaten to intensive care patients. It causes pneumonia, what can be deadly for these patients. According to the researchers that have developed this vaccine, the mortality of this bacterium is among the 40 and the 70% in infected patients. At the Virgen del Rocío Hospital, approximately 50% of patients is infected by this bacterium, although these numbers depend on the centre. There is no cure possible for this bacterium, as it is immune to traditional antibiotics; also it is very difficult to erase. According to these researchers, the effectiveness of this vaccine in animals has been of the 100%. The next step of this investigation will be human testing, that in case they are satisfactory, they will permit this vaccine to be available in eight years.

VTR:

This vaccine is going to fight one of the main problems existing in intensive care units in the world: the ferocity of a bacterium called Acinetobacter Baumannii.

PILAR PÉREZ
Researcher Virgen del Rocío
Hospital

"It ends up killing the patient because it produces pneumonia, as pneumonia can be deadly for a person with low immune system."

MICHAEL McCONNEL
Researcher Virgen del Rocío
Hospital

"It uses to have a mortality rate among 40 and 70%."

PILAR PÉREZ
Researcher Virgen del Rocío
Hospital

"There is no treatment possible for it, they don't cure with conventional antibiotics."

And it is not a question of hygiene or bad praxis, this bacterium is very resistant, practically immortal until now.

PILAR PÉREZ
Researcher Virgen del Rocío
Hospital

"It is a bacterium that grows in any surface so it is very difficult to eliminate it."

But these researchers of the Virgen del Rocio Hospital in Seville have found the formula to end up with this risk. The have managed to make these mice immune.

PILAR PÉREZ
Researcher Virgen del Rocío
Hospital

"With an effectiveness of a 100%"

The next step will be human testing, to reduce to zero the number of infected people and end up with these numbers...

MICHAEL McCONNEL
Researcher Virgen del Rocío
Hospital

"For example, in our hospital a 50% of patients are infected by this bacterium."



If the results are positive, this vaccine will be ready in eight years maximum.

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