

Bavarian falls short of Valneva in Chikungunya



[Madeleine Armstrong](#)

The Chikungunya vaccine candidate CHIKV VLP appeared to be the main driver of Bavarian Nordic's [\\$270m purchase of Emergent Biosolutions](#) earlier this year. Now the vaccine has produced initial phase 3 efficacy data in elderly subjects that look good - but not quite as good as those [seen with Valneva's rival jab, VLA1553](#). With the usual caveats about cross-trial comparisons, Stifel said the results "suggest that VLA1553 has leading efficacy although CHIKV VLP has an improved safety profile". Bavarian's shares were flat today, while Valneva climbed 12%. VLA1553 is due an FDA approval decision by the end of August; [phase 3](#) data in adolescents are also imminent. Meanwhile, results from a second [phase 3 trial](#) of CHIKV VLP, in subjects aged 12-65, are set for the third quarter. The overall Chikungunya market could be worth over \$500m; sellside consensus compiled by *Evaluate Pharma* puts 2028 VLA1553 sales at \$333m, versus \$94m for CHIKV VLP. Whichever shot prevails, there could soon be two prophylactic options for the mosquito-borne virus, for which there are currently no treatments or vaccines.

Battle of the Chikungunya vaccines - a cross-trial comparison

	CHIKV VLP (Bavarian Nordic)	VLA1553 (Valneva)
	Ph3 in ≥ 65 year olds	Ph3 in ≥ 18 year olds
Subjects with seroprotective virus antibody level	87%*	100%**

*At day 22; **Subgroup of subjects aged ≥ 65 at day 28; figure was 99% across all ages. Source: Company release & Lancet article.

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