



New Hep B Vaccine Performs Well in Clinical Trial

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Heplisav, a new hepatitis B virus (HBV) vaccine being development by Dynavax Technologies Corporation, is both well-tolerated and effective, according to clinical trial results published in the journal *Vaccine* and highlighted in an [announcement](#) by the company.

For the study, which enrolled 2,415 participants between 18 and 70 years of age, three-quarters of the volunteers received Heplisav, while the remaining one-quarter of the participants received Engerix-B, an approved vaccine produced by GlaxoSmithKline.

The researchers found that in addition to being well-tolerated by those taking it, HEPLISAV provided a 95 percent seroprotection rate—protections against HBV—as opposed to an 81 percent seroprotection rate for those taking Engerix-B.

As an additional benefit, Heplisav requires only two doses administered one month apart, while vaccines such as Engerix-B and Merck's Recombivax HB require three doses administered over a six-month period.

Dynavax plans to submit a Biologic License Application—an approval request from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration—for Heplisav by May 2012.

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<http://beta.docker.hepmag.com/article/Heplisav-Trial-Results-21916-756592733>