

September 2004



Global Campaign *Product Watch*: Microbicides in late clinical development

The Global Campaign Product Watch provides microbicides advocates with basic information about the products that are entering late clinical development – either Phase 2/2B or Phase 3. The purpose of the trials described below is to evaluate effectiveness in preventing HIV and to assess local safety, acceptability, and compliance. For more information on clinical trials in general, visit http://www.global-campaign.org/clinical_testing.htm. Please note below that two products, BufferGel and PRO 2000 (.5%) are being tested in a joint-trial. In addition, a different formulation of PRO 2000 will also be tested in a separate Phase 3 trial.

As the field is continually changing, this Product Watch will be updated as products move through the pipeline and additional information is made available. The latest version will always be at www.global-campaign.org/download.htm. Please send your input and updates to info@global-campaign.org. Finally, for more information on candidate microbicides and trials, consult the Alliance for Microbicide Development's Database at www.microbicide.org

Candidate Product Developer Trial investigator	When and where trials are happening	How it works	Contraception ¹ and protection from STIs ²	What form is it in?	What is it made from?
BufferGel (Carbomer 974P) ReProtect LLC HIV Prevention Trials Network / Family Health International (FHI)	Phase 2/2B – shared with PRO2000 (.5% formulation) Enrollment to begin Nov 2004 4 arm Phase IIb trial, in which BufferGel will be compared to PRO2000/5, a placebo gel, and a condom only arm. 3,000 participants will be enrolled in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pune, India • Durban & Hlabisa, South Africa • Lilongwe & Blantyre, Malawi • Moshi, Tanzania; • Philadelphia, USA • Lusaka, Zambia • Harare & Chitungwiza, Zimbabwe 	Vaginal Defense Buffer BufferGel keeps the vagina acidic even during intercourse and creates a physical barrier that stops or slows down the passage of pathogens into the vaginal and cervical walls.	Yes, contraceptive. HPV HSV chlamydia gonorrhea	Clear gel	Carbopol 974, the major nonaqueous component of BufferGel, is commonly used as a gelling or tableting agent

¹ Note that these are only preliminary expectations.

² Laboratory testing has shown action against these viruses and bacteria, but they will not necessarily be included as secondary endpoints in these trials.

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Carraguard (PC-515) Population Council Population Council	Phase 3 Enrollment began in March 2004 2 arm study , compared to placebo gel. 4 sites in 3 centers: Pretoria, Cape Town, and Durban in South Africa 6,270 women will be recruited and followed at quarterly clinic visits for two years.	Adsorption Inhibitor Carraguard provides a physical barrier between pathogens and vulnerable cells in the cell wall (epithelium) of the vagina or rectum.	No, not contraceptive HSV HPV gonorrhea	Clear gel	The active pharmaceutical ingredient in Carraguard is carrageenan, a substance derived from seaweed. Carrageenan has been used as a thickener in foods and as an emulsifier in topical creams and lotions.
Cellulose sulfate (Ushercell) Global Microbicide Project Two trial investigators: Family Health International, CONRAD	Phase 3 Two separate trials, each is a 2 arm study , compared to placebo gel. FHI is running a trial with 2,160 participants in Nigeria. Enrollment to begin in November 2004. CONRAD is running a trial with 2,574 participants in Benin, Burkina Faso, India, Kenya, South Africa, Uganda. Enrollment to begin in April 2005.	Adsorption inhibitor Cellulose sulfate provides a physical barrier between pathogens and vulnerable cells in the cell wall (epithelium) of the vagina or rectum.	Yes, contraceptive chlamydia, gonorrhea	Clear gel (6% cellulose sulfate gel, 3.5 ml delivery volume)	Cellulose sulfate is a sulfated polymer with large negatively charged molecules that form a protected coating . In other words, it is a high molecular weight sulfated cotton.

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<p>PRO 2000 – .5% formulation (polynaphthalene sulphonate)</p> <p>Indevus Pharmaceutical, Inc. HIV Prevention Trials Network / Family Health International (FHI)</p>	<p>Phase 2/2B – shared with BufferGel</p> <p>4 arm Phase IIb trial, in which BufferGel will be compared to BufferGel, a placebo gel, and a condom only arm. 3,000 participants will be enrolled in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pune, India • Durban & Hlabisa, South Africa • Lilongwe & Blantyre, Malawi • Moshi, Tanzania; • Philadelphia, USA • Lusaka, Zambia • Harare & Chitungwiza, Zimbabwe 	<p>Entry and fusion inhibitor</p> <p>PRO 2000 binds to viruses and bacteria to prevent them from binding to and infecting healthy cells.</p>	<p>Yes, contraceptive but dose-dependent</p> <p>gonorrhea HSV</p>	<p>Clear gel</p> <p>.5% formulation</p>	<p>Water based vaginal gel</p>
<p>PRO 2000 – 0.5% and 2% formulation (polynaphthalene sulphonate)</p> <p>Indevus Pharmaceutical, Inc. Microbicide Development Programme</p>	<p>Phase 3</p> <p>3 arm study for two formulations (.5% and 2%) of PRO 2000</p> <p>Enrollment anticipated to begin in January 2005 in: Cameroon, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia</p> <p>Note this study originally included a testing of 2% PRO 2000 and Dextrin 2 Sulphate (Emmelle). Due to a review of the safety and efficacy data, in September 2004 it was decided to not move Emmelle forward into Phase 3 trials.</p>	<p>Entry and fusion inhibitor</p> <p>PRO 2000 binds to viruses and bacteria to prevent them from binding to and infecting healthy cells.</p>	<p>Yes, contraceptive but dose-dependent.</p> <p>gonorrhea HSV</p>	<p>Clear gel</p> <p>2% formulation</p>	<p>Water based vaginal gel</p>

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Savvy (C-31G) Biosyn, Inc. Family Health International	Phase 3 Enrollment beginning September 2004 2 arm study , compared to placebo gel. A trial to assess its efficacy against HIV, supported by USAID and Family Health International, is set to recruit 2,142 volunteers in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accra & Kumasi, Ghana • Lagos & Ibadan, Nigeria. 	Surfactant Savvy breaks down the surface or envelop of the virus or pathogen.	Yes, contraceptive chlamydia HSV	Clear gel	Savvy consists of a range of synthetic organic molecules (betaines and amine oxides). The molecules are amphoteric, possessing both positive and negative charge.