



Pneumococcal Polysaccharide 15-Valent Conjugate Vaccine (V114, VAXNEUVANCE):

Pediatric Clinical Development Program

Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices

February 24, 2022

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V114 Global Clinical Development

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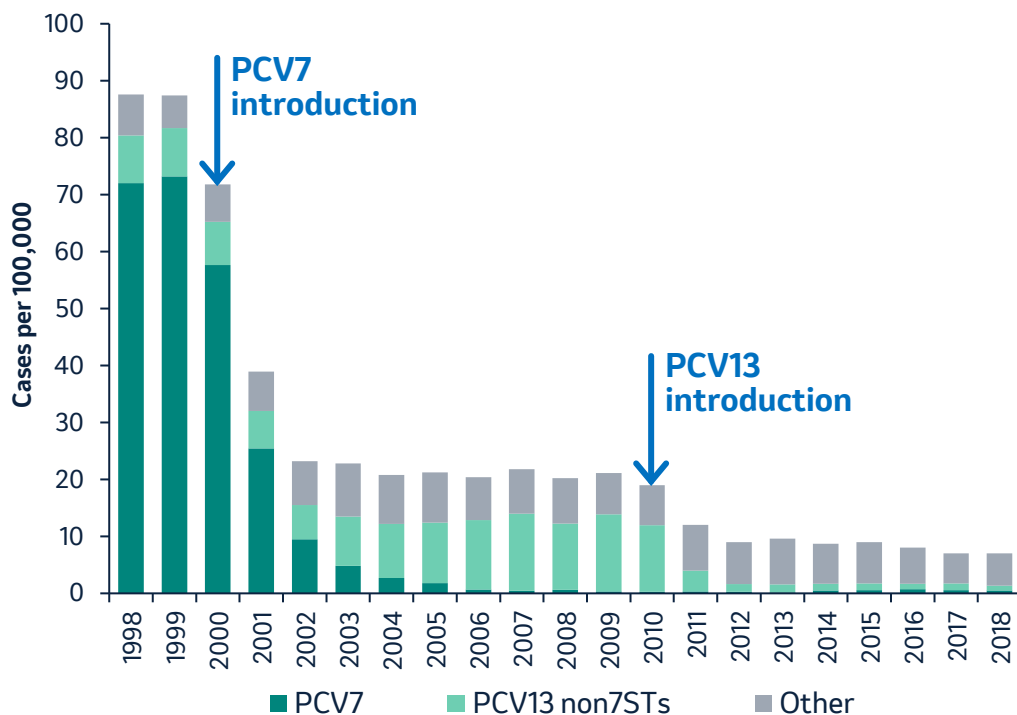
Presentation Topics

- ✦ Rationale for the development of V114
- ✦ Overview of the Pediatric Clinical Development Program
- ✦ Immunogenicity Results
- ✦ Safety Results
- ✦ Supportive studies
- ✦ Conclusions
- ✦ Q&A

In the post-PCV era, serotypes 3, 22F, and 33F are leading causes of IPD in children <5 years of age in the US



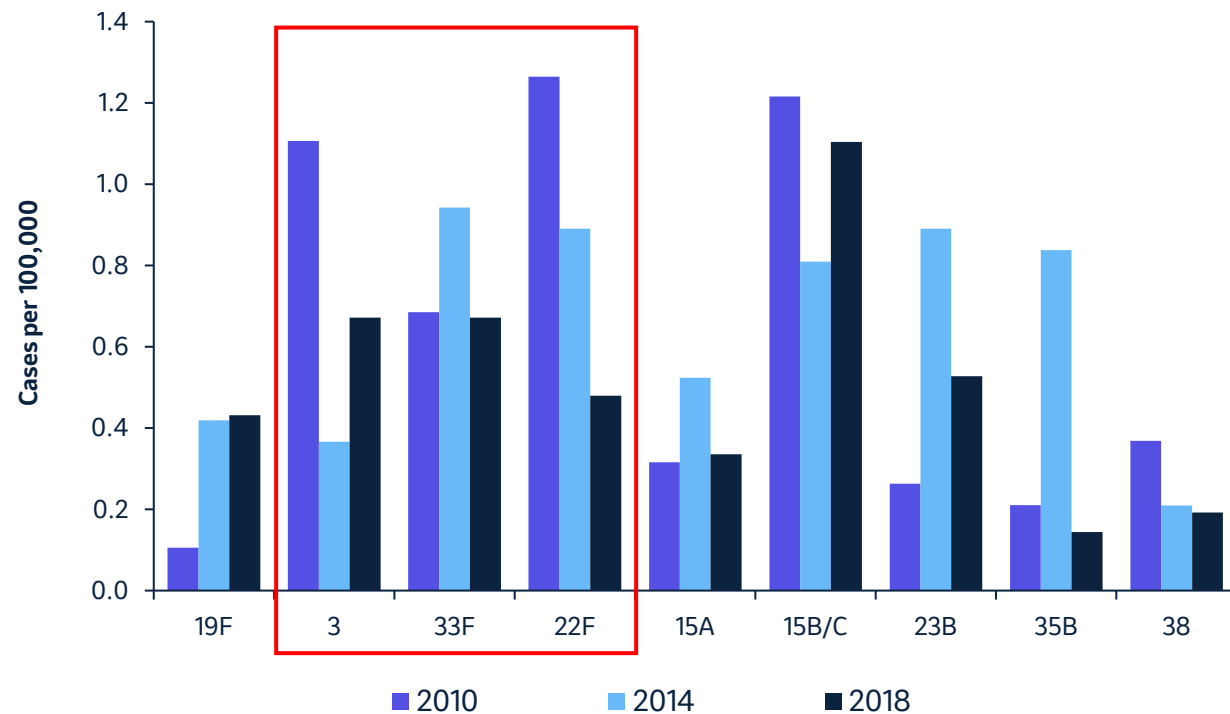
IPD incidence by vaccine-types, children <5 Years



US CDC ABC Surveillance Network, 1998-2017

Key serotypes causing IPD in US children <5 years of age

Top serotypes 2010-2018 (excluding ST19A)

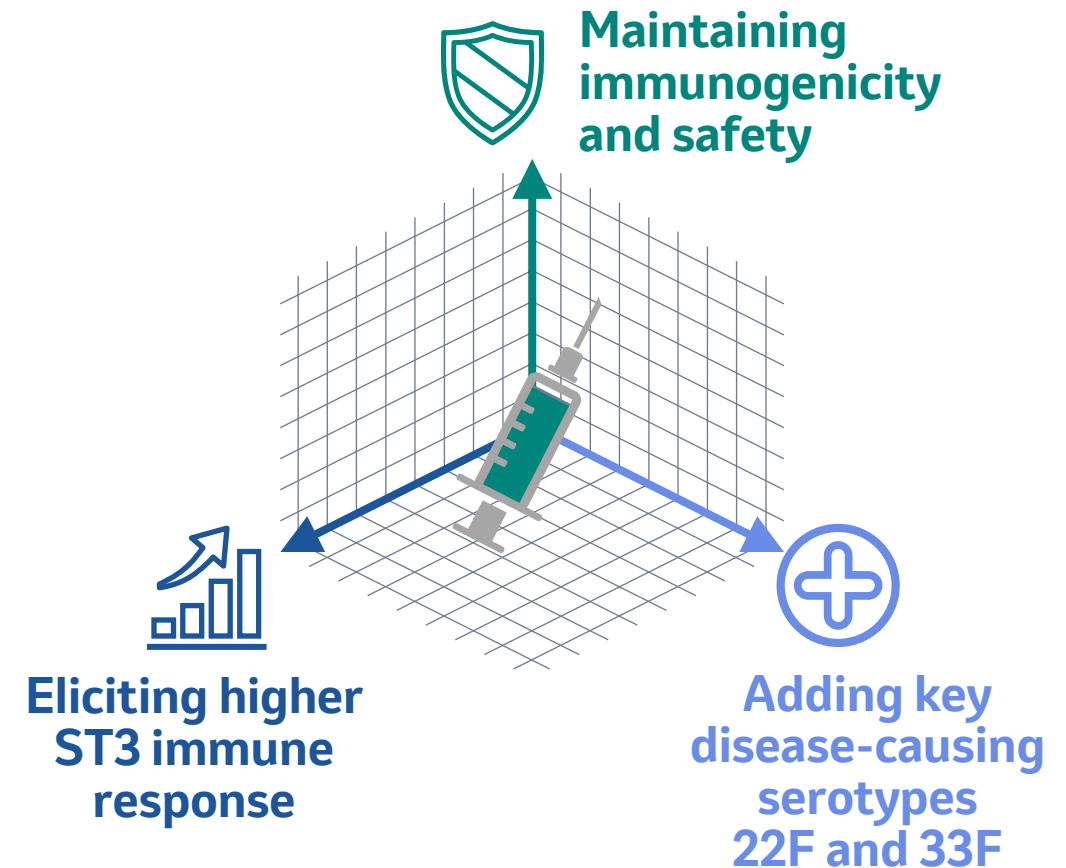


Epidemiology of IPD following 18 years of PCV use in the US; Pilishvili et al, CDC

Rationale for development of Merck 15-valent PCV (V114)

- Increase availability of pneumococcal conjugate vaccines (PCVs) worldwide given the value of multiple suppliers in strengthening **global supply**
- Develop single vaccine formulation for adult and pediatric indication to:
 - Maintain robust immune responses to serotypes included in currently available PCVs
 - Extend serotype coverage to key non-vaccine serotypes
 - Improve immunogenicity for serotype 3
 - Demonstrate that safety profile is comparable to licensed PCVs

Clinical Program designed to evaluate V114 in populations with an *unmet medical need* for pneumococcal disease prevention

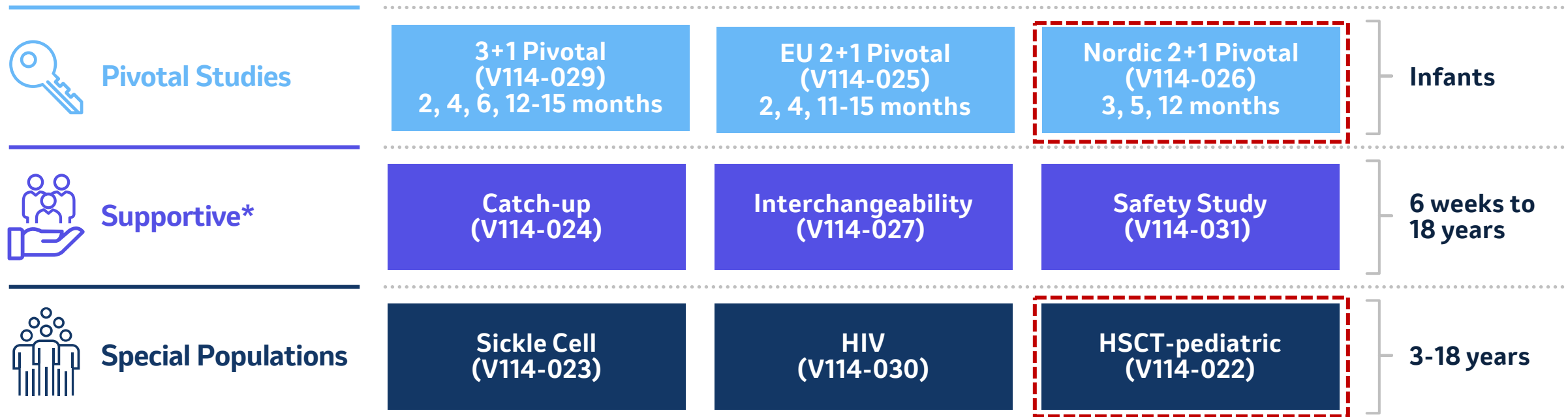


V114 adult US licensure, 16-July-2021
Pediatric US submission PDUFA, 1-April-2022

Clinical studies of the V114 Phase-3 Pediatric Program

Common Elements

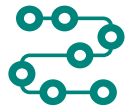
- Multi-center, randomized, double blind studies
- Total Phase 3 pediatric study population: ~8,500 participants, with ~5,300 receiving V114
- Infant preterm population (V114-027, V114-029, V114-031): ~290 participants, with ~140 receiving V114.



 Studies ongoing

HIV = Human Immunodeficiency Virus; HSCT = hematopoietic stem cell transplant

Immunogenicity & safety endpoints in the V114 Pediatric Program



Safety endpoints

- Solicited **injection-site** AEs: erythema, swelling, induration, pain (**Days 1-14**)
- Solicited **systemic** AEs (**Days 1-14**):
 - Infants: irritability, drowsiness, appetite lost, and hives or welts
 - Children: myalgia, arthralgia, headache, fatigue, and hives or welts/urticaria
- Maximum body **temperature** measurements (**Days 1-7**)
- Any other injection-site or systemic AEs (**Days 1-14**)
- **Serious** adverse events (up to **6 months** following V114)

Adverse events (AEs) and postvaccination temperature measurements collected directly from participants via a Vaccination Report Card



Immunogenicity endpoints

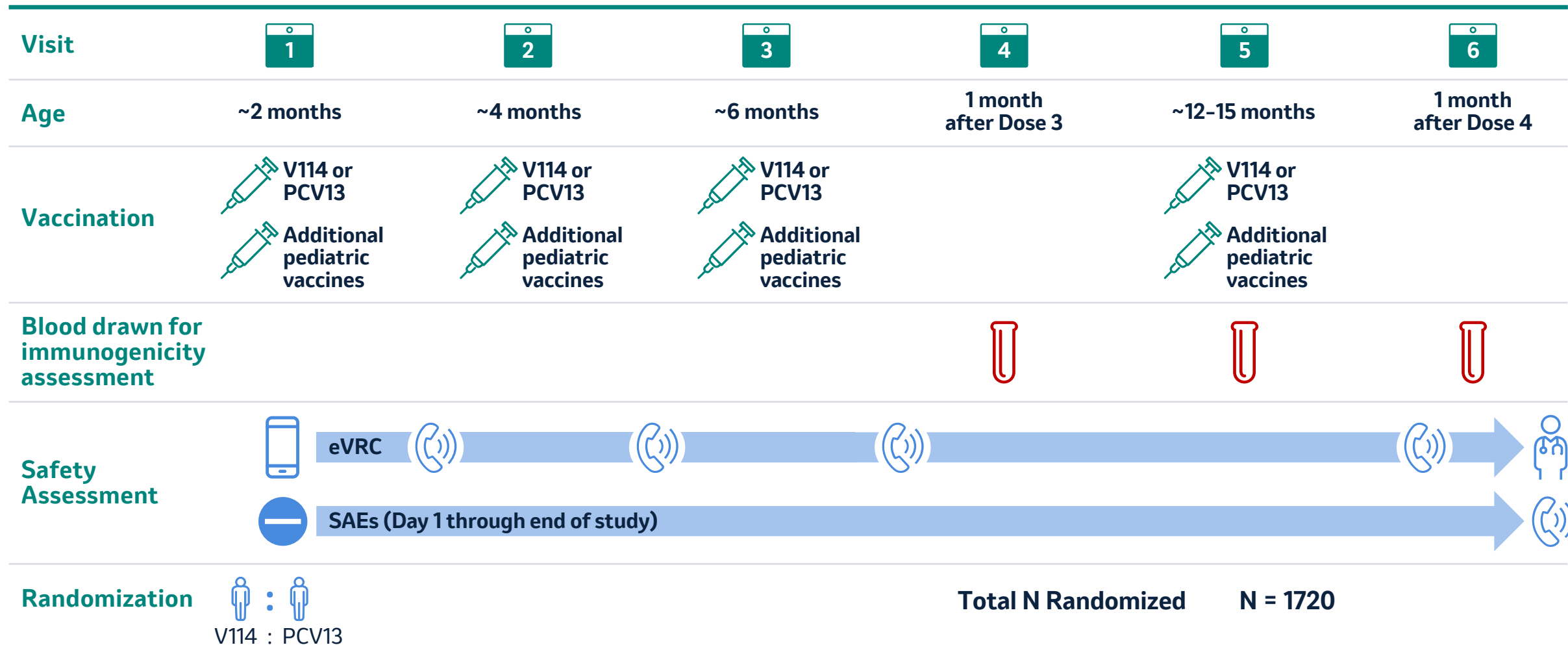
- Serotype-specific **IgG response rates** ($\geq 0.35 \mu\text{g/mL}$)
- Serotype-specific **IgG** Geometric Mean Concentrations (**GMC**)
- Serotype-specific opsonophagocytic activity (**OPA**) Geometric Mean Titers (**GMT**)
- Reverse Cumulative Distribution Curves (**RCDC**)
- For **infants**, measured 30 days post-primary series, immediately prior to the toddler dose, and 30 days following the toddler dose
- For **children**, measured at baseline and 30 days following last dose

Immunogenicity was evaluated via a validated pneumococcal electrochemiluminescence (bridged to WHO ELISA) and multiplex OPA assays

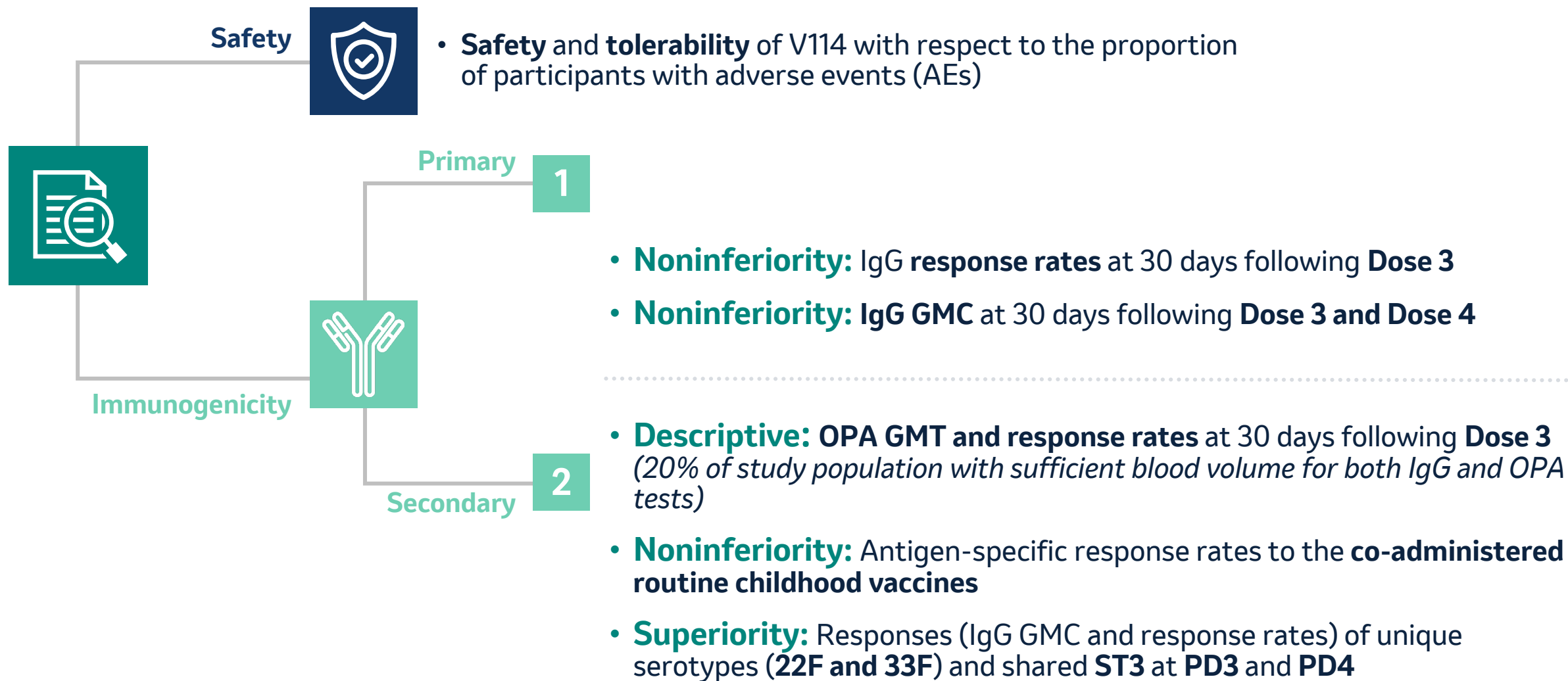
V114-029

*Pivotal Ph-3 study evaluating
3+1 dosing regimen*

Study design

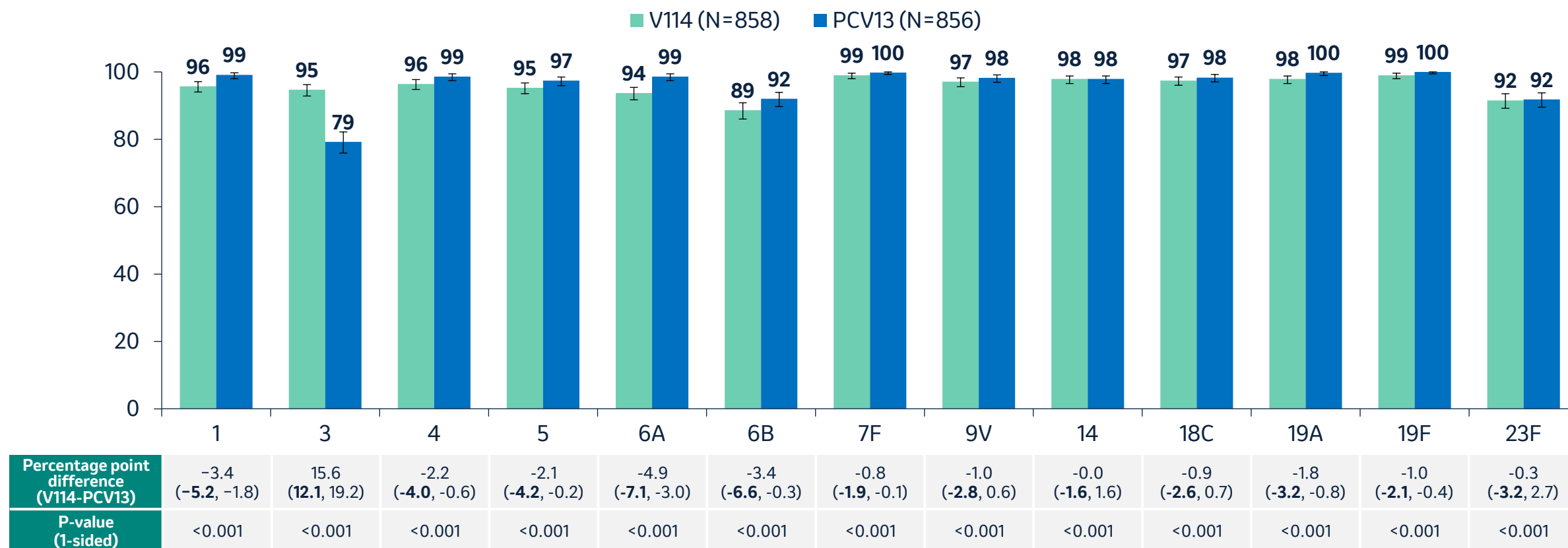


Study objectives



PD3: V114 is noninferior to PCV13 for all 13 shared serotypes based on the proportion of responders (IgG ≥ 0.35 $\mu\text{g/mL}$)

Observed response (%)

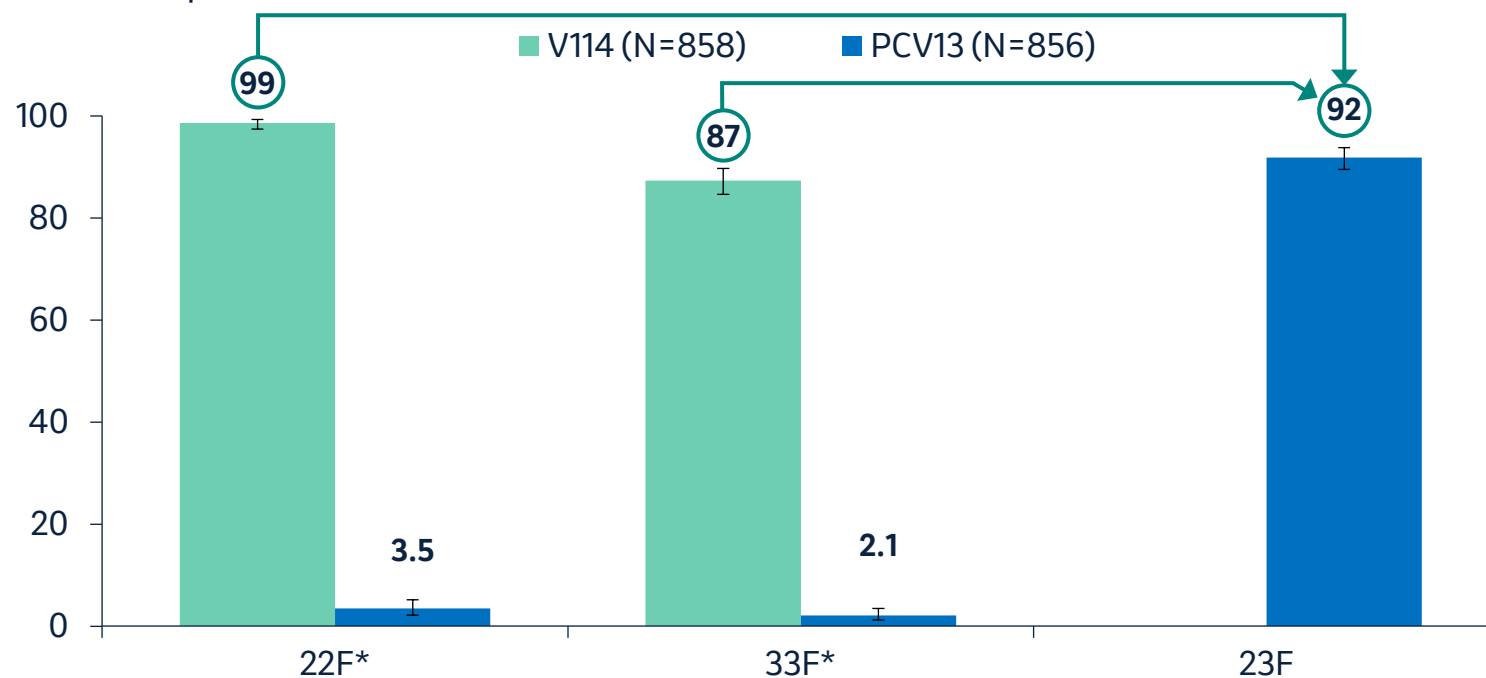


Noninferiority requires the lower bound of the 2-sided 95% CI for the difference in response rates (V114 - PCV13) to be >-10 percentage points (1-sided p-value <0.025).

Error bars indicate 95% CIs; CI=confidence interval, IgG=immunoglobulin G

PD3: V114 is noninferior to PCV13 for the 2 serotypes unique to V114 based on the proportion of responders (IgG ≥ 0.35 $\mu\text{g/mL}$)

Observed response (%)



†Difference for unique serotypes compared with lowest observed response rate in PCV13 excluding serotype 3 (serotype 23F)

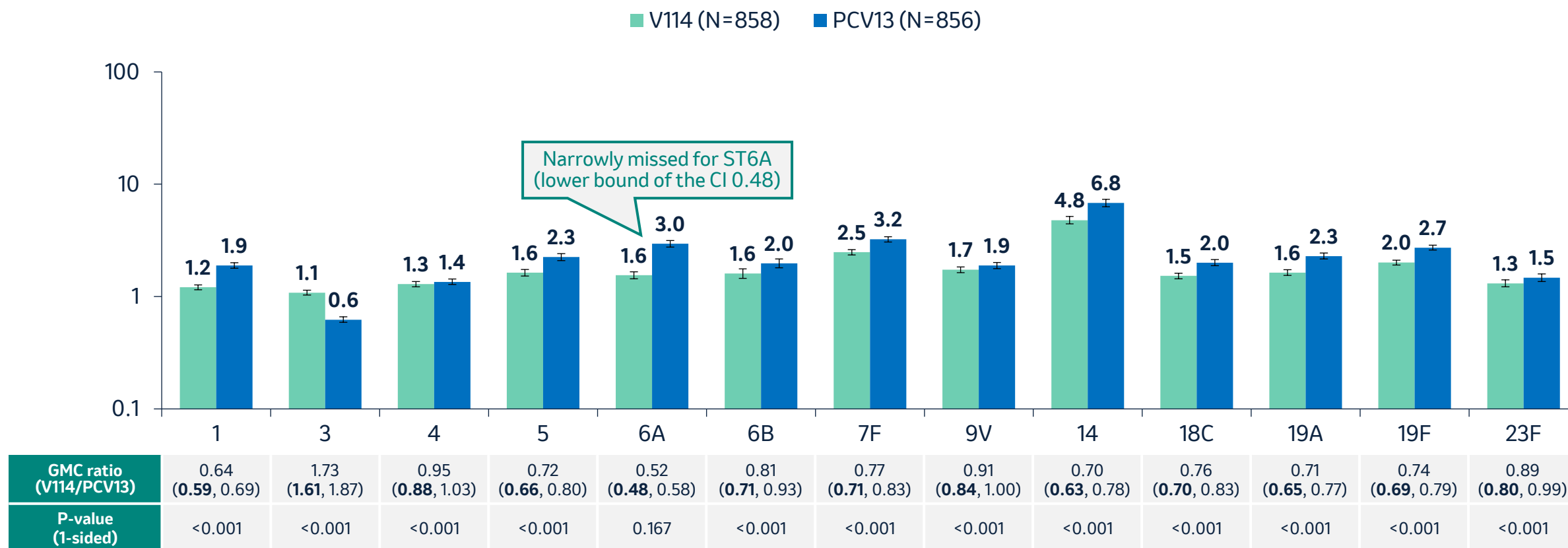
Percentage point difference (V114-PCV13) [†]	6.7 (4.6, 9.2)	-4.5 (-7.8, -1.3)
P-value (1-sided)	<0.001	<0.001

Noninferiority requires the lower bound of the 2-sided 95% CI for the difference in response rates (V114 - PCV13) to be >-10 percentage points (1-sided p-value <0.025).

Error bars indicate 95% CIs; CI=confidence interval; IgG=immunoglobulin G; *Serotypes not included in PCV13

PD3: V114 is noninferior to PCV13 for 12/13 shared serotypes based on IgG GMC ratio

IgG GMC (95% CI)



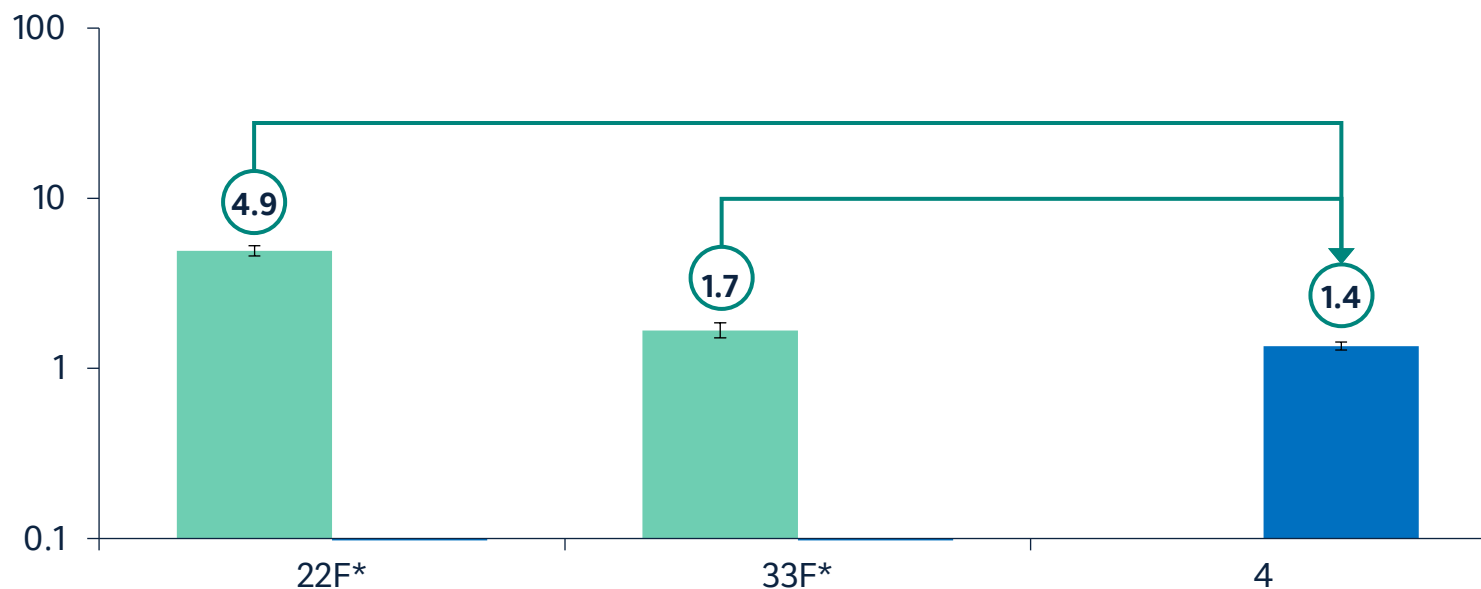
Noninferiority requires the lower bound of the 2-sided 95% CI for IgG GMC ratio (V114/PCV13) to be >0.5 (1-sided p-value <0.025).

Error bars indicate 95% CIs; CI=confidence interval; GMC = geometric mean concentration ($\mu\text{g/mL}$); IgG=immunoglobulin G

PD3: V114 is noninferior to PCV13 for the 2 serotypes unique to V114 based on IgG GMC ratio

IgG GMC (95% CI)

■ V114 (N=858) ■ PCV13 (N=856)



†Ratio compared with lowest observed IgG GMC in PCV13 excluding serotype 3 (serotype 4)

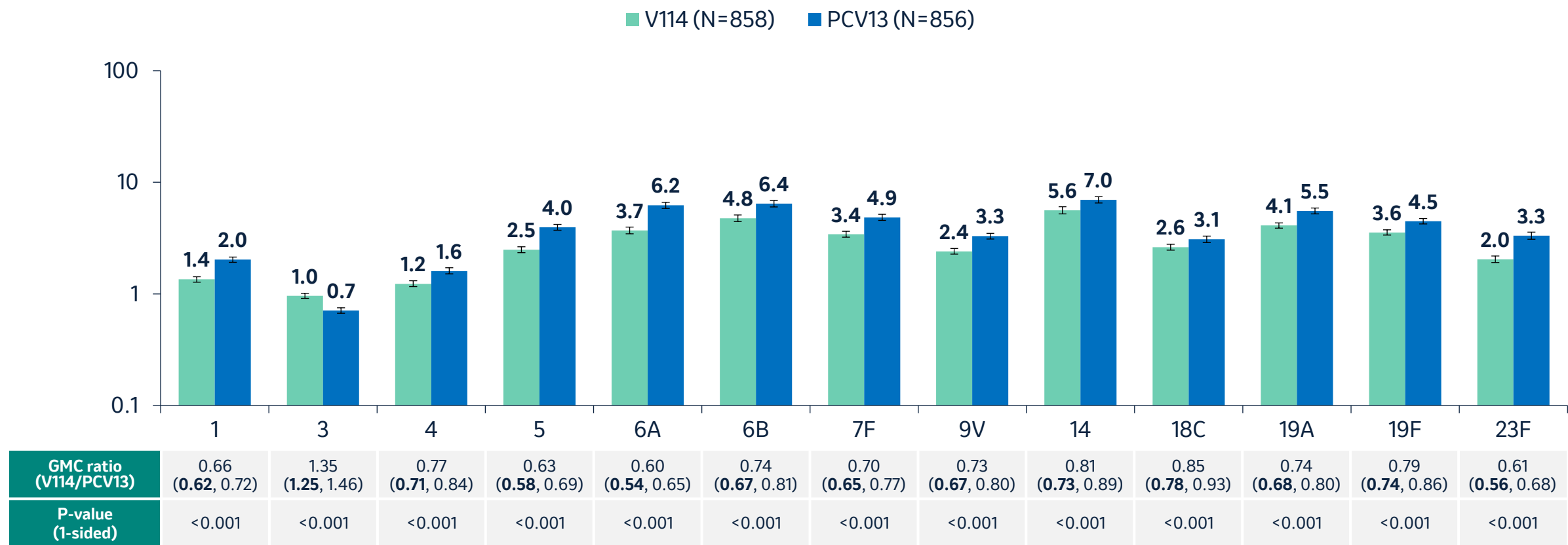
GMC ratio (V114/PCV13) [†]	3.64 (3.33, 3.98)	1.24 (1.10, 1.39)
P-value (1-sided)	<0.001	<0.001

Noninferiority requires the lower bound of the 2-sided 95% CI for IgG GMC ratio (V114/PCV13) to be >0.5 (1-sided p-value <0.025).

Error bars indicate 95% CIs; CI=confidence interval; GMC = geometric mean concentration (µg/mL); IgG=immunoglobulin G; *Serotypes not included in PCV13

PD4: V114 is noninferior to PCV13 for all 13 shared serotypes based on IgG GMC ratio

IgG GMC (95% CI)



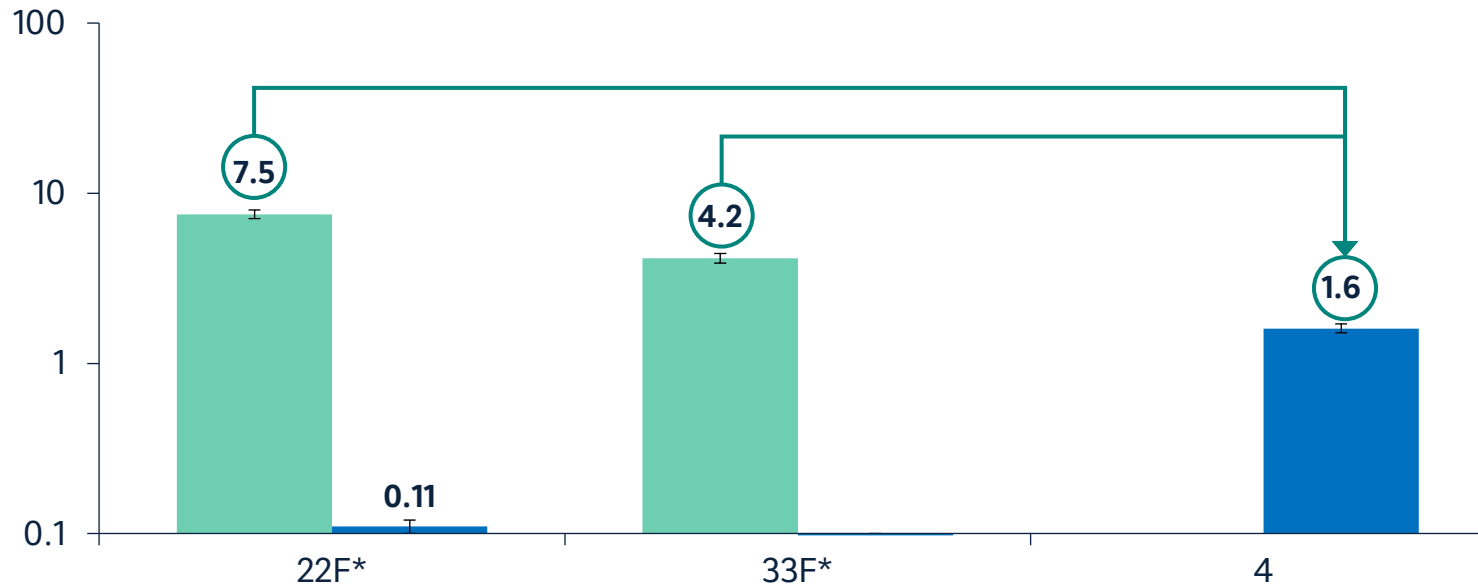
Noninferiority requires the lower bound of the 2-sided 95% CI for IgG GMC ratio (V114/PCV13) to be >0.5 (1-sided p-value <0.025).

Error bars indicate 95% CIs; CI=confidence interval; GMC = geometric mean concentration (µg/mL); IgG=immunoglobulin G

PD4: V114 is noninferior to PCV13 for the 2 serotypes unique to V114 based on IgG GMC ratio

IgG GMC (95% CI)

■ V114 (N=858) ■ PCV13 (N=856)



†Ratio compared with lowest observed IgG GMC in PCV13 excluding serotype 3 (serotype 4)

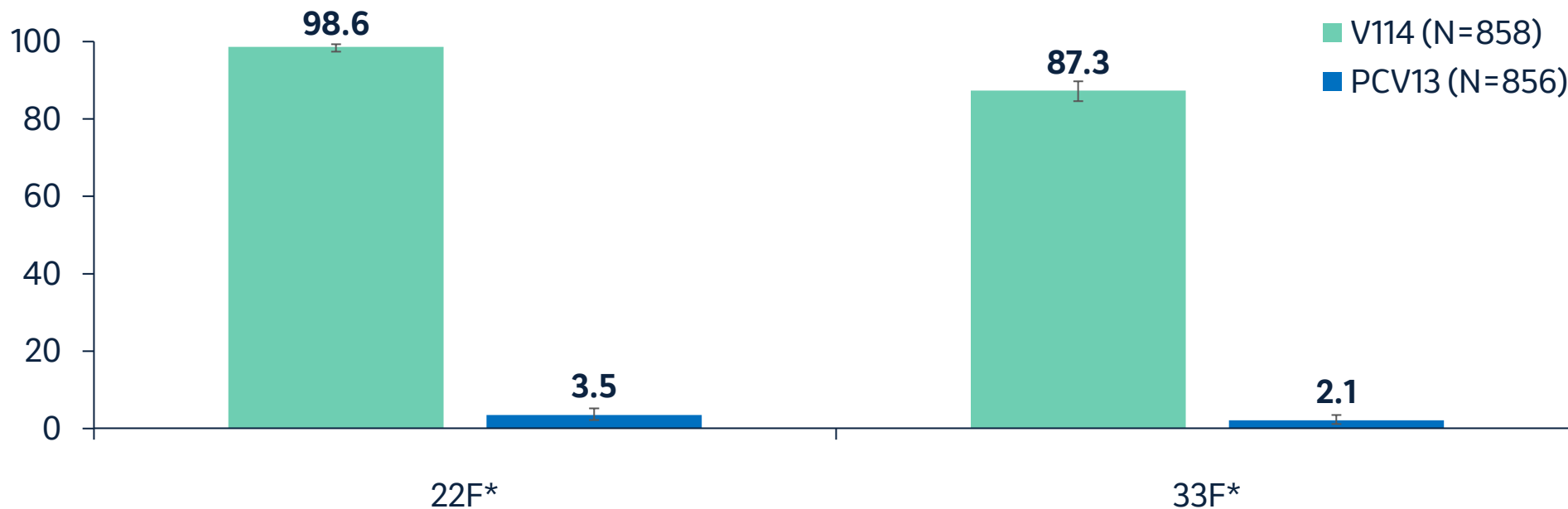
GMC ratio (V114/PCV13) [†]	4.69 (4.30 , 5.11)	2.59 (2.36 , 2.83)
P-value (1-sided)	<0.001	<0.001

Noninferiority requires the lower bound of the 2-sided 95% CI for IgG GMC ratio (V114/PCV13) to be >0.5 (1-sided p-value <0.025).

Error bars indicate 95% CIs; CI=confidence interval; GMC = geometric mean concentration (µg/mL); IgG=immunoglobulin G; *Serotypes not included in PCV13

PD3: V114 is superior to PCV13 for the 2 serotypes unique to V114 based on the proportion of responders (IgG ≥ 0.35 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$)

Observed response (%)



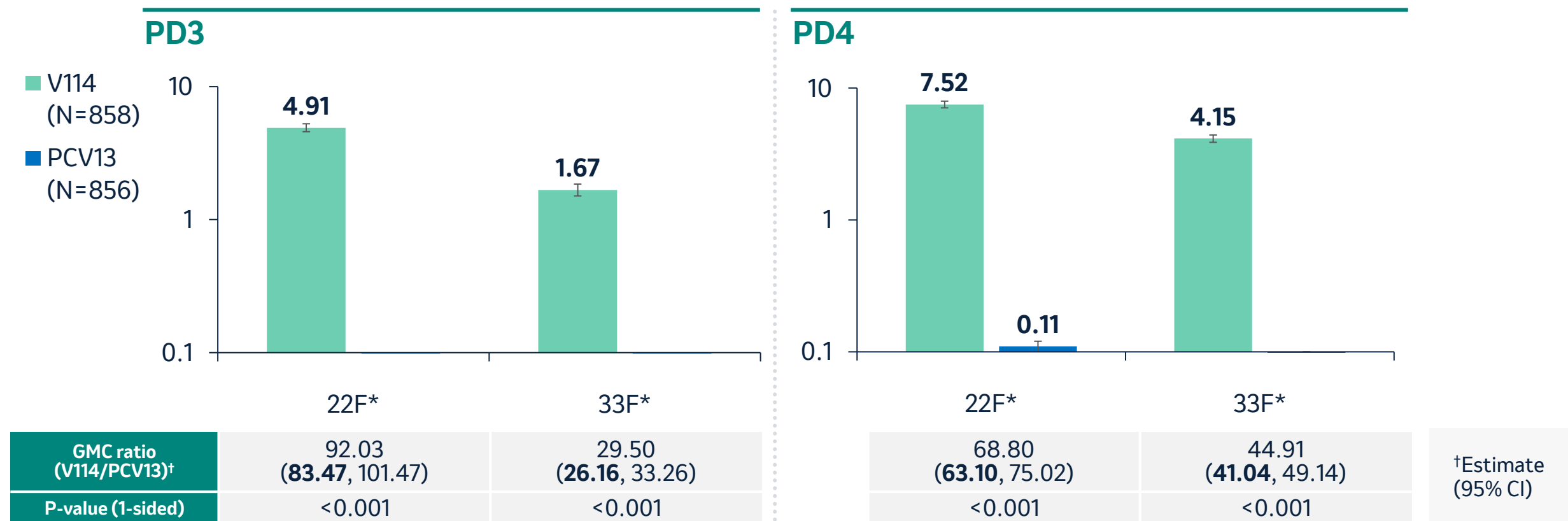
Percentage point difference (V114-PCV13) [†]	95.1 (93.1, 96.5)	85.2 (82.3, 87.7)	†Estimate (95% CI)
P-value (1-sided)	<0.001	<0.001	

A conclusion of superiority of V114 to PCV13 is based on the lower bound of the 2-sided 95% CI for the difference in response rates (V114 - PCV13) being >10 percentage points for each serotype (1-sided p-value <0.025).

Error bars indicate 95% CIs; CI=confidence interval; IgG=immunoglobulin G; *Serotypes not included in PCV13

PD3&4: V114 is superior to PCV13 for the 2 serotypes unique to V114 as assessed by IgG GMC ratio

IgG GMC (95% CI)

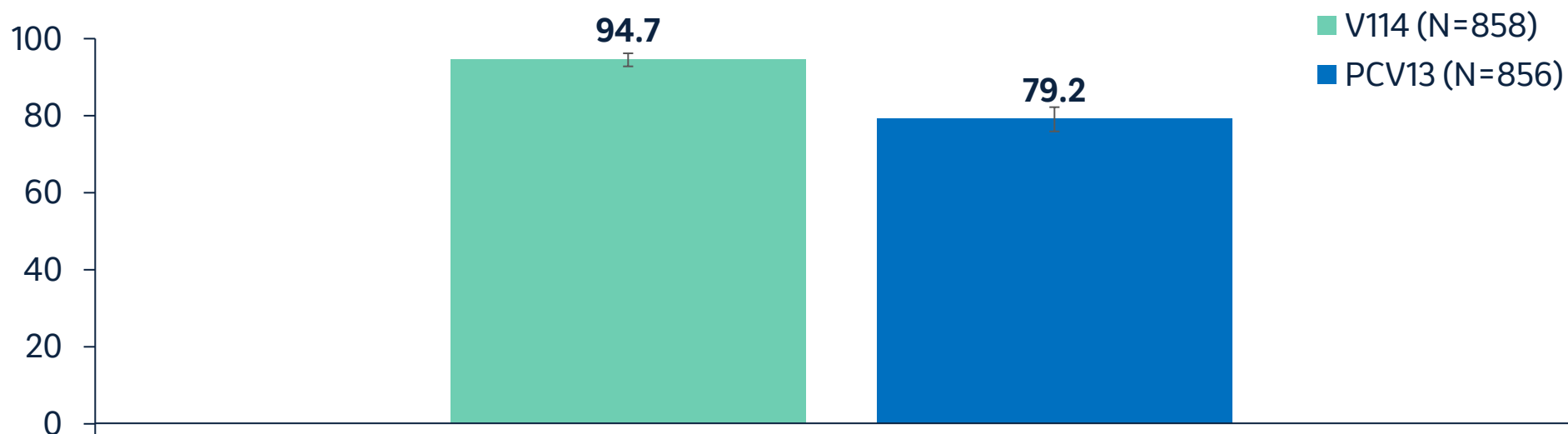


A conclusion of superiority of V114 to PCV13 is based on the lower bound of the 2-sided 95% CI for the GMC ratio (V114/PCV13) being >2.0 (1-sided p-value <0.025).

Error bars indicate 95% CIs; CI=confidence interval; GMC=geometric mean concentration ($\mu\text{g/mL}$); IgG=immunoglobulin G; *Serotypes not included in PCV13

PD3: V114 is superior to PCV13 for the shared ST3 as assessed by the proportion of responders (IgG ≥ 0.35 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$)

Observed response (%)



3

Percentage point difference (V114-PCV13)[†]

15.6
(12.1, 19.2)

[†]Estimate
(95% CI)

P-value (1-sided)

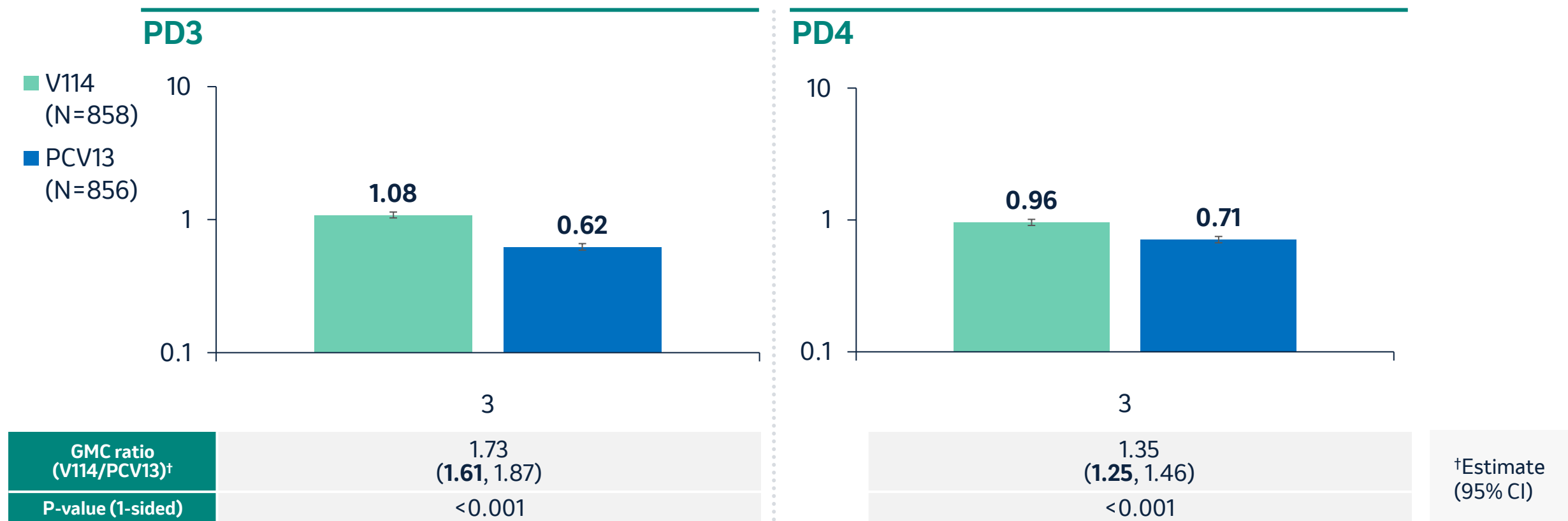
<0.001

A conclusion of superiority of V114 to PCV13 is based on the lower bound of the 2-sided 95% CI for the difference in response rates (V114 - PCV13) being >0 percentage points (1-sided p-value <0.025).

Error bars indicate 95% CIs; CI=confidence interval; IgG=immunoglobulin G.

PD3&4: V114 is superior to PCV13 for the shared ST3 as assessed by IgG GMC ratio

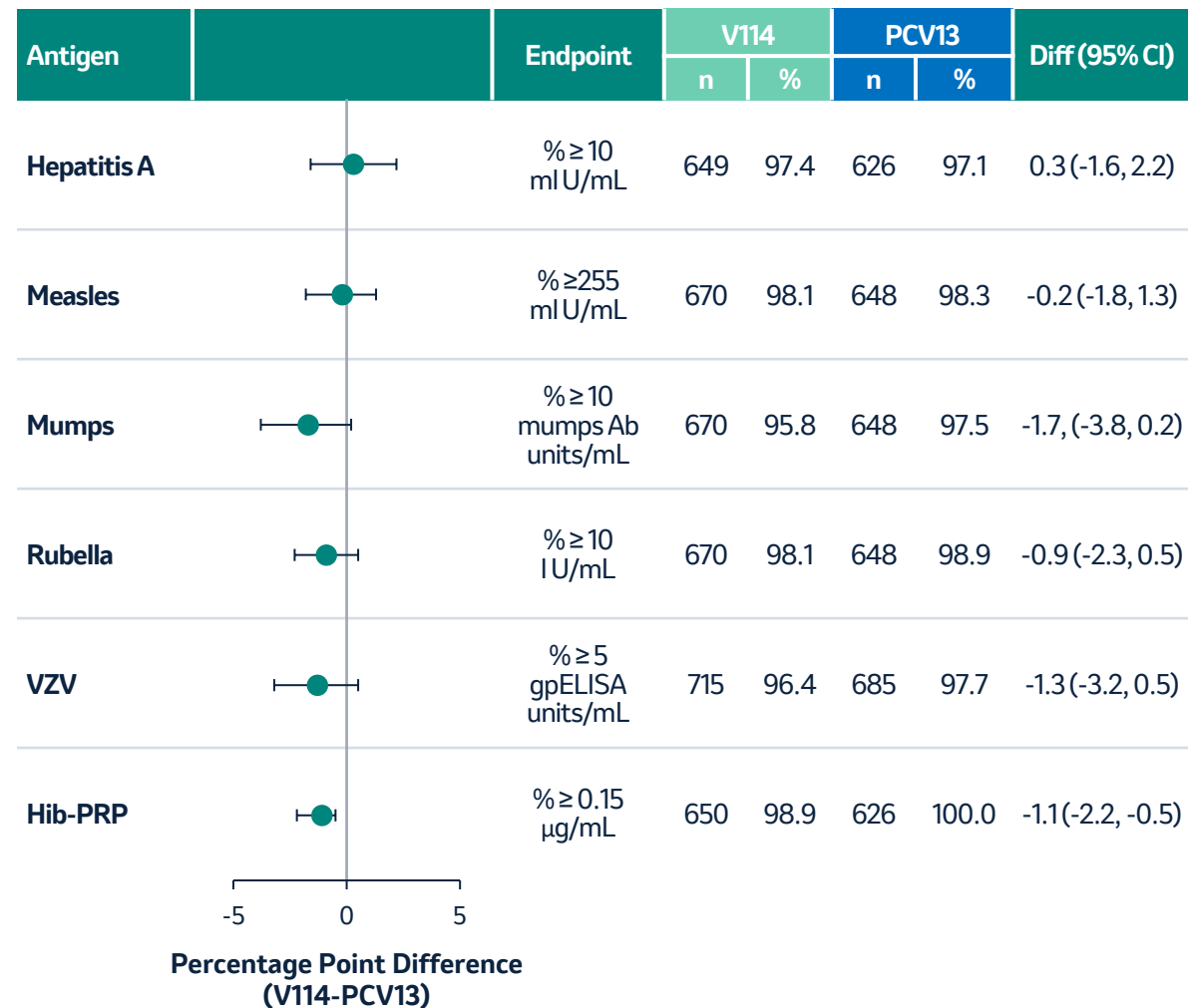
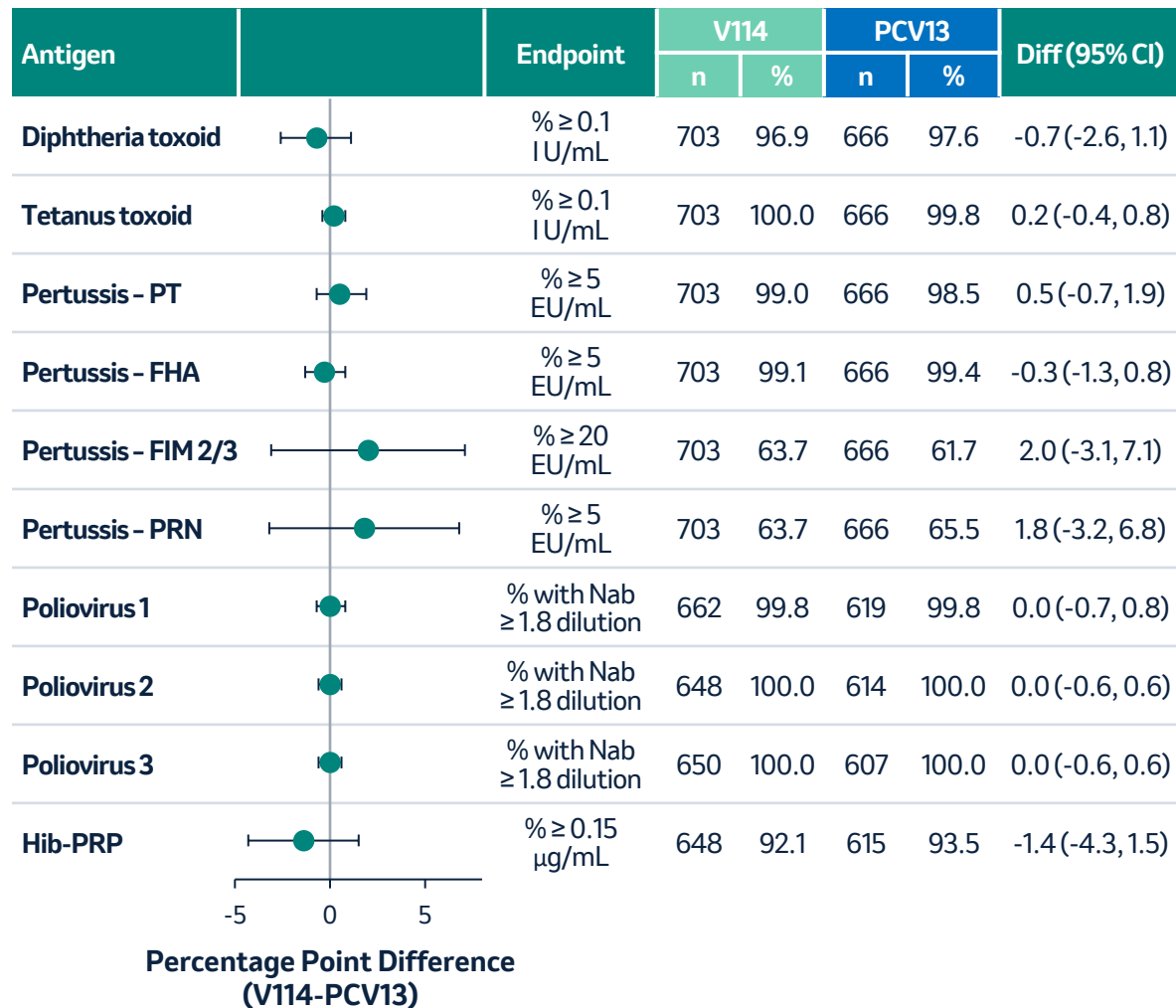
IgG GMC (95% CI)



A conclusion of superiority of V114 to PCV13 is based on the lower bound of the 2-sided 95% CI for the IgG GMC ratio (V114/PCV13) being >1.2 (1-sided p-value <0.025).

Error bars indicate 95% CIs; CI=confidence interval; GMC=geometric mean concentration (µg/mL); IgG=immunoglobulin G.

Noninferiority met for V114 concomitant use with Pentacel, VAQTA, MMRII, HIBERIX, VARIVAX

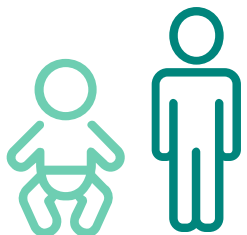


Outcomes of primary & secondary hypotheses

	Hypothesis #	Endpoint	Outcome
Primary Objectives	1	Response rates PD3 (13 shared serotypes)	✓
	2	Response rates PD3 (2 unique serotypes)	✓
	3	IgG GMC PD3 (13 shared serotypes)	12/13 serotypes
	4	IgG GMC PD3 (2 unique serotypes)	✓
	5	IgG GMC PD4 (13 shared serotypes)	✓
	6	IgG GMC PD4 (2 unique serotypes)	✓
Secondary Objectives: Concomitant use with pediatric vaccines	7	Pentacel PD3 (DTaP, Hib, IPV)	✓
	8	VAQTA PD4 (hepatitis A)	✓
	9	MMRII PD4 (measles, mumps, rubella)	✓
	10	VARIVAX PD4 (varicella)	✓
	11	HIBERIX PD4 (Hib)	✓
Secondary Objectives: Superiority hypotheses	12	Response rates ST22F and ST33F PD3	✓
	13	IgG GMC ST22F and ST33F PD3	✓
	14	IgG GMC ST22F and ST33F PD4	✓
	15	Response rate ST3 PD3	✓
	16	IgG GMC ST3 PD3	✓
	17	IgG GMC ST3 PD4	✓

Safety Database

V114 Pediatric safety database



~7,200 participants (6 weeks to 17 years of age), of whom ~4,800 received V114

Populations analyzed (7 clinical trials)

- ❖ **Healthy Infants** (~6,100 participants 6 to 12 weeks of age, of whom ~4,300 received V114)
 - ISS* population (pooled data from V114-027, V114-029, and V114-031)
 - Included a subgroup analysis in ~290 **preterm infants** (born <37 weeks gestation), of whom ~140 received V114
 - Proof of concept Phase 2 study (V114-008)
- ❖ Children (7 months–17 years of age) who are **delayed in receiving PCV** (V114-024)
- ❖ Children (5–17 years of age) with **sickle cell disease** (V114-023)
- ❖ Children (6–17 years of age) living with **HIV** (V114-030)

*Safety data following administration of PCV were pooled across 3 Phase-3 studies based on similarities in study population and study design. For V114-027, only participants who were randomized to the complete dosing schedule of Prevnar 13™ (Group 1) or V114 (Group 5) are included in the ISS.

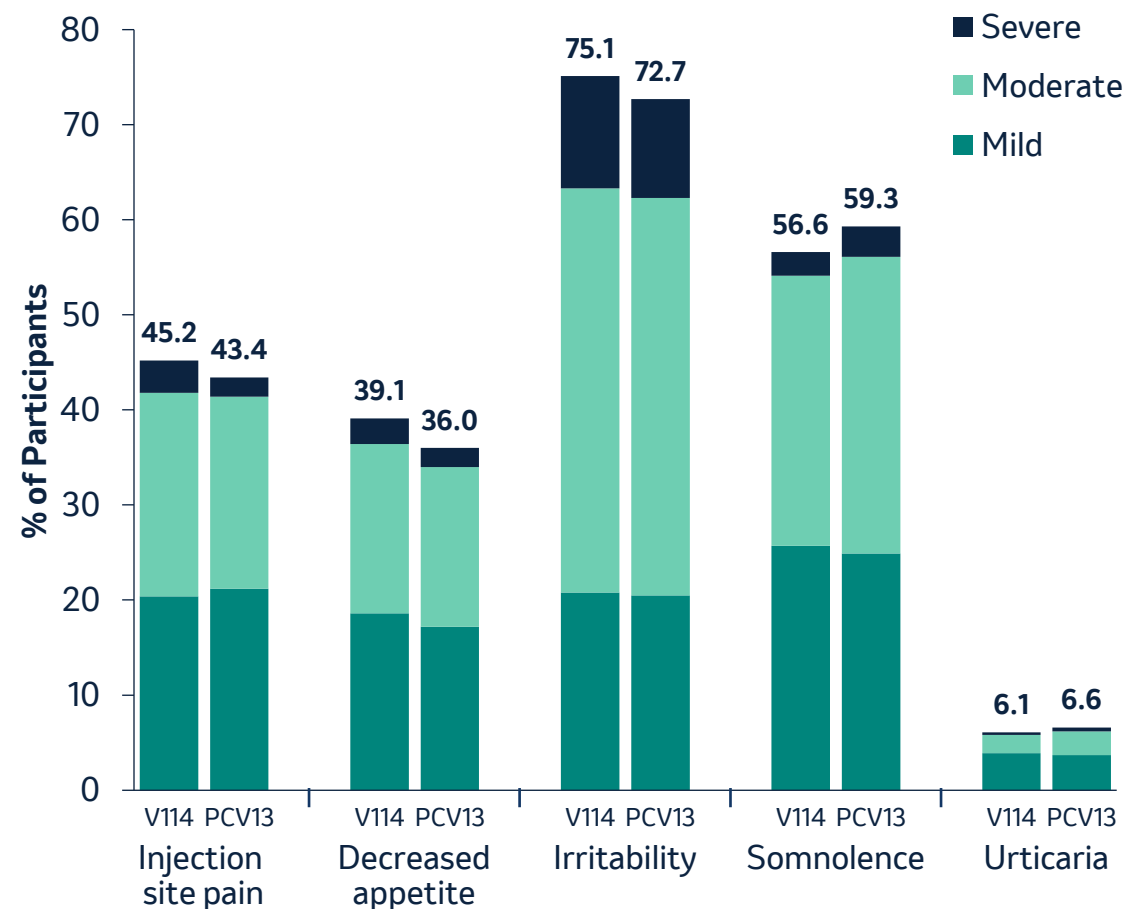
Baseline characteristics are generally comparable between groups

	V114		PCV13		Total			V114		PCV13		Total	
	N=3,004	n (%)	N=1,471	n (%)	N=4,475	n (%)		N=3,004	n (%)	N=1,471	n (%)	N=4,475	n (%)
Gender													
Male	1,575	(52.4)	742	(50.4)	2,317	(51.8)							
Female	1,429	(47.6)	729	(49.6)	2,158	(48.2)							
Age (weeks)													
Mean	8.6		8.5		8.6								
SD	1.4		1.3		1.4								
Median	9.0		9.0		9.0								
Range	6 to 12		6 to 12		6 to 12								
							Race						
							American Indian or Alaska Native	70	(2.3)	34	(2.3)	104	(2.3)
							Asian	989	(32.9)	414	(28.1)	1,403	(31.4)
							Black or African American	115	(3.8)	80	(5.4)	195	(4.4)
							Multiple	280	(9.3)	130	(8.8)	410	(9.2)
							Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	9	(0.3)	5	(0.3)	14	(0.3)
							White	1,538	(51.2)	808	(54.9)	2,346	(52.4)
							Ethnicity						
							Hispanic Or Latino	542	(18.0)	310	(21.1)	852	(19.0)
							Gestational Age (Weeks)						
							<37	142	(4.7)	144	(9.8)	286	(6.4)
							≥37	2,862	(95.3)	1,327	(90.2)	4,189	(93.6)

SD=standard deviation

The safety profile of V114 is generally comparable to PCV13

Summary of AEs	V114 N=3,002	PCV13 N=1,467
	n (%)	n (%)
≥1 AE	2,808 (93.5)	1,362 (92.8)
Injection-site AEs	2,074 (69.1)	989 (67.4)
Systemic AEs	2,730 (90.9)	1,320 (90.0)
Vaccine-related AEs	2,674 (89.1)	1,268 (86.4)
Injection-site AEs	2,071 (69.0)	987 (67.3)
Systemic AEs	2,411 (80.3)	1,106 (75.4)
Serious AEs	301 (10.0)	147 (10.0)
Serious vaccine-related AEs	2 (0.1)	0 (0.0)
Who died	2 (0.1)	2 (0.1)
Who discontinued vaccine due to an AE	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)



AE = adverse event. Vaccine-related AEs were those determined by the investigator to be related to the vaccine. Reported adverse events include nonserious adverse events that occurred within 14 days of any vaccination and serious adverse events that occurred after dose 1 through completion of study participation.

Injection site pain, decreased appetite, irritability, somnolence, and urticaria were solicited from Day 1 through Day 14 following each dose.

Maximum temperatures, by the Brighton Collaboration cut points, are comparable between the groups

	Infant Series								Toddler Dose							
	Dose 1				Dose 2				Dose 3				Dose 4			
	V114 (N = 3002)		PCV13 (N = 1467)		V114 (N = 2939)		PCV13 (N = 1414)		V114 (N = 2894)		PCV13 (N = 1374)		V114 (N = 2803)		PCV13 (N = 1312)	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
Patients in population	3002		1467		2939		1414		2894		1374		2803		1312	
Without temperature data (Day 1 through Day 7)	7	(0.2)	9	(0.6)	37	(1.3)	20	(1.4)	29	(1.0)	30	(2.2)	31	(1.1)	25	(1.9)
With temperature data (Day 1 through Day 7)	2995	(99.8)	1458	(99.4)	2902	(98.7)	1394	(98.6)	2865	(99.0)	1344	(97.8)	2772	(98.9)	1287	(98.1)
Maximum temperature (rectal or rectal equivalent)																
<100.4°F	1639	(54.7)	808	(55.4)	1656	(57.1)	761	(54.6)	1724	(60.2)	798	(59.4)	1742	(62.8)	822	(63.9)
≥100.4°F and <101.3°F	998	(33.3)	475	(32.6)	844	(29.1)	434	(31.1)	753	(26.3)	379	(28.2)	694	(25.0)	331	(25.7)
≥101.3°F and <102.2°F	300	(10.0)	138	(9.5)	305	(10.5)	131	(9.4)	273	(9.5)	123	(9.2)	230	(8.3)	93	(7.2)
≥102.2°F and <103.1°F	41	(1.4)	28	(1.9)	65	(2.2)	53	(3.8)	72	(2.5)	28	(2.1)	61	(2.2)	23	(1.8)
≥103.1°F and <104.0°F	13	(0.4)	9	(0.6)	26	(0.9)	11	(0.8)	28	(1.0)	13	(1.0)	26	(0.9)	15	(1.2)
≥104.0°F and <104.9°F	3	(0.1)	0	(0.0)	3	(0.1)	3	(0.2)	11	(0.4)	1	(0.1)	10	(0.4)	3	(0.2)
≥104.9°F and <105.8°F	1	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	4	(0.1)	0	(0.0)	4	(0.1)	0	(0.0)
≥105.8°F	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	3	(0.1)	1	(0.1)	0	(0.0)	2	(0.1)	5	(0.2)	0	(0.0)

Supportive clinical studies and populations

V114-27 (Interchangeability)

V114-24 (Catch-up)

V114-23 (Sickle Cell Disease)

V114-30 (HIV)

V114-027/029/031 (Preterm infants)

Conclusions



Safety

Vaccination with V114 is well tolerated with a safety profile that is generally comparable to PCV13, in:

- **healthy children**, 7 months through 17 years of age, receiving **catch-up** vaccination (P024)
- children with **SCD**, 5-17 years of age, receiving 1 dose of PCV (P023)
- **heathy infants** receiving **mixed dosing**, PCV13-V114 (P027)
- children living with **HIV**, 6-17 years of age, receiving 1 dose of PCV followed by PPSV23 (P030)
- **Preterm infants** (P027/029/031)



Immunogenicity

V114 is immunogenic in all studied populations:

- V114 induces **IgG** responses for all 15 serotypes that are **comparable** for the shared serotypes and **higher** for 2 serotypes unique to V114 as compared with PCV13
 - Responses to **ST3** were consistently higher in the V114 group
- V114 is associated with an increase in **functional antibodies** for all 15 serotypes
- **Mixed dosing** elicit comparable responses for the shared serotypes, and higher responses for the unique serotypes in recipients of **at least 1 dose** of V114 as compared with PCV13 regimen
- Immune response is maintained when V114 is followed by **PPSV23** 8 weeks later
- The pattern of immune responses in **preterm infants** is consistent with that observed in the overall healthy infant population

Conclusions

Conclusions of the V114 pediatric clinical development program



In children with an unmet medical need for pneumococcal disease prevention:

- V114 is **well tolerated** with a safety profile that is consistent with licensed PCVs
- V114 induces **robust immune responses** to **13 serotypes shared** with PCV13 without significant loss of immunogenicity
- V114 is **superior** to PCV13 for **shared serotype 3**, the single most frequent serotype causing residual disease
- V114 is **superior** to PCV13 for **serotypes 22F and 33F**, which are of high Public Health importance

Therefore, V114 has the potential to significantly address the burden of remaining pneumococcal disease due to vaccine-types (**including serotype 3**) and leading non-vaccine types (**serotypes 22F, 33F**) in children.



Thank You.

Questions & discussion