# Human Bocavirus Reported in U.S. Children

## BY JANE SALODOF MACNEIL Southwest Bureau

SAN FRANCISCO — A new parvovirus linked to respiratory tract infections in young children is circulating in the New Haven area of Connecticut, an infectious disease laboratory at Yale University has reported.

Dr. Deniz Kesebir said the laboratory found the pathogen, human bocavirus (HBoV), in respiratory specimens from 22 (5.2%) of 426 children under the age of 2 years who presented with respiratory symptoms at hospitals and clinics associated with the university.

"To our knowledge, this is the first description of human bocavirus in the United States," Dr. Kesebir, of Yale University, New Haven, said at the annual meeting of the Pediatric Academic Societies.

Canine and bovine forms of the virus are known to infect animals of all ages, but cause illness primarily in infants of those

species, according to Dr. Kesebir.

Investigators at Karolinska University Hospital, Huddinge, Sweden, published the first report of a bocavirus infecting a human in September of last year (Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U S A 2005;102:12891-6). They identified the virus in 17 (3.1%) of 540 children less than 3 years old who were hospitalized for respiratory disease.

A month later, an Australian group reported finding the new pathogen in 18 (5.6%) of 324 children in the same age

## **CORPRODEX** (ciprofloxacin 0.3% and dexamethasone 0.1%) STERILE OTIC SUSPENSION

DESCRIPTION CIPRODEX® (ciprofloxacin 0.3% and dexamethasone 0.1%) Sterile Otic Suspension contains the synthetic broad-spectrum antibacterial agent, ciprofloxacin hydrochloride, combined with the anti-inflammatory corticosteroid, dexamethasone, in a sterile, preserved suspension for otic use. Each mL of CIPRODEX® Otic contains ciprofloxacin hydrochloride (equivalent to 3 mg ciprofloxacin base), 1 mg dexamethasone, and 0.1 mg benzalkonium chloride as a preservative. The inactive ingredients are boric acid, sodium chloride, hydroxyethly cellulose, tyloxapol, acetic acid, sodium acetate, edetate disodium, and purified water. Sodium hydroxide or hydrochloric acid may be added for adjustment of pH. Ciprofloxacin, a fluoroquinolone is available as the monohydrochloride monohydrate salt of 1-cyclo propyl-6-fluoro-1,4-dihydro-4-oxo-7-(1-piperziaryh)-3-quinolinecatroxylic acid. The empirical formula is C17H18FN303:HCI+B20. Dexamethasone, 9-fluoro-11(beta),17,21-trihydroxy-16(alpha)-methylpregna-1, 4-diene-3,20-dione, is an anti-inflammatory corticosteroid. The empirical formula is C22H2gF05.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

4-dene-3.20-dione, is an anti-inflammatory corticosteroid. The empirical formula is C22H29F05. **CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY Pharmacokinetics:** Following a single bilateral 4-drop (total dose = 0.28 mL, 0.84 mg ciprofloxacin, 0.28 mg dexamethasone) topical otic dose of CIPRIODEX<sup>®</sup> Otic to pediatric patients after tympanostomy tube inser-tion, measurable plasma concentrations of ciprofloxacin and dexamethasone were observed at 6 hours following administration in 2 of 9 patients and 5 of 9 patients, respectively. Mean ± SD peak plasma concentrations of ciprofloxacin were 1.39 ± 0.880 ng/mL (n=9). Peak plasma concentrations ranged from 0.543 ng/mL to 3.45 ng/mL and were on average approximately 0.1% of peak plasma concentrations achieved with an oral dose of 250-mg <sup>III</sup>, Peak plasma concentrations ranged from 0.135 ng/mL to 5.10 ng/mL and were on average approximately 14% of peak concentrations ranged from 0.135 ng/mL to 5.10 ng/mL and were on average approximately 14% of peak concentrations ranged from 0.135 ng/mL to 5.10 ng/mL and were on average approximately 14% of peak concentrations ranged from 0.135 ng/mL to 5.10 ng/mL and were on average approximately 14% of peak concentrations ranged from 0.135 ng/mL to 5.10 ng/mL and were on average approximately 14% of peak concentrations ranged from 0.135 ng/mL to 5.10 ng/mL and were on average approximately 14% of peak concentrations ranged from 0.135 ng/mL to 5.10 ng/mL and were on average approximately 14% of peak concentrations ranged from 0.135 ng/mL to 5.10 ng/mL and were on average approximately 14% of peak concentrations ranged from 0.135 ng/mL to 5.10 ng/mL and were on average approximately 14% of peak concentrations ranged from 0.135 ng/mL to 5.10 ng/mL and were on average approximately 14% of peak concentrations and the inflammatory response accompanying bacterial infection (such as otorrhee in pediatic patients with AOM with tympanostomy tubes). **Microbiology:** Ciprofloxacin has *in vitro* activity against a wide range of gram-positive and

moniae. Aerobic and facultative gram-negative microorganisms: Haemophilus influenzae, Moraxella catarrhalis, Pseudomonas aeruginosa. INDICATIONS AND USAGE: CIPRODEX® Otic is indicated for the treatment of infections caused by sus-ceptible isolates of the designated microorganisms in the specific conditions listed below: Acute Otitis Media in pediatric patients (age 6 months and older) with tympanostomy tubes due to Staphylococcus aureus, Streptococcus pneumoniae, Haemophilus influenzae, Moraxella catarrhalis, and Pseudomonas aeruginosa. Acute Otitis Externa in pediatric (age 6 months and older), adult and elderly patients due to Staphylococcus aureus and Pseudomonas aeruginosa.

CONTRAINDICATIONS CUPRODEX® Otic is contraindicated in patients with a history of hypersensitivity to ciprofloxacin, to other quinolones, or to any of the components in this medication. Use of this product is contraindicated in viral infections of the external canal including herpes simplex infections.

### WARNINGS

FOR OTIC USE ONLY (This product is not approved for ophthalmic use.) NOT FOR INJECTION

CIPRODEX® Otic should be discontinued at the first appearance of a skin rash or any other sign of hyper-sensitivity. Serious and occasionally fatal hypersensitivity (anaphylactic) reactions, some following the first dose, have been reported in patients receiving systemic quinolones. Serious acute hypersensitivity reactions may require immediate emergency treatment.

### PRECAUTIONS

reactions may require immediate emergency treatment. PRECAUTIONS General: As with other antibacterial preparations, use of this product may result in overgrowth of nonsus-ceptible organisms, including yeast and fungi. If the infection is not improved after one week of treatment, cultures should be obtained to guide further treatment. If otorrhea persists after a full course of therapy, or if two or more episodes of otorrhea occur within its months, further evaluation is recommended to exclude an underlying condition such as cholesteatoma, foreign body, or a tumor. The systemic administration of quinolones, including ciprofloxacin at doses much higher than given or absorbed by the otic route, has led to lesions or erosions of the cartilage in weight-bearing joints and other signs of arthropathy in immature animals of various species. Guinea pigs dosed in the middle ear with CIPRODEX® Otic for one month exhibited no drug-related structural or functional changes of the cochlear hair cells and no lesions in the ossicles. CIPRODEX® Otic was also shown to lack dermal sensitizing potential in the guinea pig when tested according to the method of Buehler. No signs of local irritation were found when CIPRODEX® Otic was applied topically in the rabbit eye. Information for Patients: For otic use only. (This product is not approved for use in the eye.) Warm the bottle in your hand for one to two minutes prior to use and shake well immediately before using. Avoid contaminating the tip with material from the ear, fingers, or other sources. Protect from light. If rash or allergic reaction occurs, discontinue use immediately and contact your physician. It is very important to use the ear drops for as long as the doctor has instructed, even if the symptoms improve. Discard unused portion after therapy is completed. Acute Ottis Media in pediatric patients with tympanostomy tubes: Prior to administration of CIPRODEX® Otic in patients (6 months and older) with acute otitis media through tympanostomy tubes, the

should be maintained for 60 seconds to facilitate penetration of the drops include to minded. Inthe position of the corps into the ear canal. Repeat, if necessary, for the opposite ear (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION). Drug Interactions: Specific drug interaction studies have not been conducted with CIPRODEX® Otic. Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Long-term carcinogenicity studies in mice and rats have been completed for ciprofloxacin. After daily oral doses of 750 mg/kg (mice) and 250 mg/kg (mics) were administered for up to 2 years, there was no evidence that ciprofloxacin had any carcinogenic or tumorigenic effects in these species. No long term studies of CIPRODEX® Otic have been performed to evaluate carcinogenic to putile. Light *in vitro* mutagenicity tests have been conducted with ciprofloxacin, and the test results are listed below: *Salmonella*/Microsome Test (Negative), *E. coli* DNA Repair Assay (Negative), Mouse Lymphoma Cell Forward Mutation Assay (Positive), Chinese Hamster V79 Cell HGPRT Test (Negative), Syrian Hamster Embryo Cell Transformation Assay (Negative), *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* Point Mutation Assay (Negative), *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* Mitotic Crossover and Gene Conversion Assay (Negative), Dominant Lethal Test (Mice), Fertility studies performed in rats at oral doses of ciprofloxacin up to 100 mg/kg/day revealed no evidence of impairment. This would be over 100 times the maximum recommended clinical dose of ototopical ciprofloxacin based upon body surface area, assuming total absorption of ciprofloxacin from the ear of a patient treated with CIPRODEX® Otic Appair Assay, Negative), Mouse Lymphone. Desametules have not been performed to evaluate the carcinogenic potential of topical otic dexamethasone. Dexamethasone has been tested for *in vitro* and *in vivo* genotoxic potential of topical otic dexamethasone. Dexamethasone has been tested for *in vitro* and *in vivo* genotoxic potential of topical otic dexamethasone of estility has not been investigated follow-in

Pregnancy Teratogenic Effects. Pregnancy Category C: Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and mice using oral doses of up to 100 mg/kg and IV doses up to 30 mg/kg and have revealed no evidence of harm to the fetus as a result of ciprofloxacin. In rabbits, ciprofloxacin (30 and 100 mg/kg orally) produced gas-trointestinal disturbances resulting in maternal weight loss and an increased incidence of abortion, but no tratogenicity was observed at either dose. After intravenous administration of doses up to 20 mg/kg, no maternal toxicity was produced in the rabbit, and no embrydoxicity or tratogenicity was observed. Corticosteroids are generally tratogenic in laboratory animals when administered systemically at rela-tively low dosage levels. The more potent corticosteroids have been shown to be teratogenic after dermal application in laboratory animals. Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted with CIPRODEX® Otic. No adequate and well controlled studies have been performed in pregnant women. Caution should be exercised when CIPRODEX® Otic is used by a pregnant woman. **Nursing Mothers:** Ciprofloxacin and corticosteroids, as a class, appear in milk following oral administration. Dexamethasone in breast milk could suppress growth, interfere with endogenous corticosteroid produc-tion, or cause other untoward effects. It is not known whether topical otic administration of ciprofloxacin or dexamethasone could result in sufficient systemic absorption to produce detectable quantities in human milk. Because of the potential for unwanted effects in nursing infants, a decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother.

to the mother. Pediatric Use: The safety and efficacy of CIPRODEX® Otic have been established in pediatric patients 6 months and older (937 patients) in adequate and well-controlled clinical trials. Although no data are avail-able on patients less than age 6 months, there are no known safety concerns or differences in the disease process in this population that would preclude use of this product. (See DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION.) No clinically relevant changes in hearing function were observed in 69 pediatric patients (age 4 to 12 years) treated with CIPRODEX® Otic and tested for audiometric parameters. DUPDOR CARCENTRY

treated with CIPRODEX® Utic and tested for additionate and the construction of the con

Acute Otitis Media in pediatric patients with tympanostomy tubes: The following treatment-related adverse events occurred in 0.5% or more of the patients with non-intact tympanic membranes.



The following treatment-related adverse events were each reported in a single patient: tympanostor blockage; ear pruritus; tinnitus; oral moniliasis; crying; dizziness; and erythema. Acute Otitis Exter following treatment-related adverse events occurred in 0.4% or more of the patients with intact ty monthrows.

Adverse Event	Incidence (N=537)	
ar pruritus	1.5%	
ar debris	0.6%	
uperimposed ear infection	0.6%	
ar congestion	0.4%	
ar pain	0.4%	
rythema	0.4%	

The following treatment-related adverse events were each reported in a single patient: ear discomfort; decreased hearing; and ear disorder (tingling).

## DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION CIPRODEX® OTIC SHOULD BE SHAKEN WELL IMMEDIATELY BEFORE USE

CIPRODEX® OTIC SHOULD BE SHAREN WELL IMMEDIATELY BEFORE USE CIPRODEX® OTIC SHOULD BE SHAREN WELL IMMEDIATELY BEFORE USE CIPRODEX® OTIC SHOULD BE SHAREN WELL IMMEDIATELY BEFORE USE CIPRODEX® OTIC SHOULD BE SHAREN WELL IMMEDIATELY BEFORE USE CIPRODEX® OTIC SHOULD BE SHAREN WELL IMMEDIATELY BEFORE USE CIPRODEX® OTIC SHOULD BE SHAREN WELL IMMEDIATELY BEFORE USE CIPRODEX® OTIC SHOULD BE SHAREN WELL IMMEDIATELY BEFORE USE CIPRODEX® OTIC SHOULD BE SHAREN WELL IMMEDIATELY BEFORE USE Twice daily for seven days. The solution should be warmed by holding the bottle in the hand for one or two minutes to avoid dizziness, which may result from the instillation of a cold solution. The patient should lie with the affected ear upward, and then the drops should be instilled. The tragus should then be pumped 5 times by pushing inward to facilitate penetration of the drops into the middle ear. This position should be maintained for 60 seconds. Repeat, if necessary, for the opposite ear. Discard unused portion after therapy is completed. Acute Ottils Externa: The recommended dosage regimen for the treatment of acute ottils externa is: For patients (age 6 months and older): Four drops (0.14 mL, 04.2 mg ciprofloxacin, 0.14 mg dexamethasone) instilled into the affected ear twice daily for seven days. The solution should be warmed by holding the bottle in the hand for one or two minutes to avoid diziness, which may result from the instil-lation of a cold solution. The patient should lie with the affected ear upward, and then the drops should be instilled. This position should be maintained for 60 seconds to facilitate penetration of the drops into the ear canal. Repeat, if necessary, for the opposite ear. Discard unused portion after therapy is completed. HOW SUPFLIED

HOW SUPPLIED HUW SUPPLIED CIPRODEX® (ciprofloxacin 0.3% and dexamethasone 0.1%) Sterile Otic Suspension is supplied as follows: 5 mL fill and 7.5 mL fill in a DROP-TAINER® system. The DROP-TAINER® system consists of a natural polyethylene bottle and natural plug, with a white polypropylene closure. Tamper evidence is provided with a shrink band around the closure and neck area of the package. NDC 0065-8533-01, 5 mL fill; NDC 0065-8533-02, 7.5 mL fill. Storage: Store at controlled room temperature, 15°C to 30°C (59°F to 86°F). Avoid freezine. Protect from liot

0065-8533-02, 7.5 mL fill. Storage: Store at controlled room temperature, 15°C to 30°C (59°F to 86°F). Avoid freezing, Protect from light. Clinical Studies: In a randomized, multicenter, controlled clinical trial, CIPRODEX® Otic dosed 2 times per day for 7 days demonstrated clinical cures in the per protocol analysis in 86% of AOMT patients compared to 79% for ofloxacin solution, 0.3%, dosed 2 times per day for 10 days. Among culture positive patients, clinical cures were 90% for CIPRODEX® Otic compared to 79% for ofloxacin solution, 0.3%. Microbiological eradication rates for these patients in the same clinical trial were 91% for CIPRODEX® Otic compared to 79% for ofloxacin solution, 0.3%, not patients in the same clinical cures in 87% and 94% of per protocol evaluable AOE patients, respectively, compared to 84% and 89%, respectively, for otic suspension containing neomycin 0.35%, polymyxin B 10,000 IU/mL, and hydrocortisone 1.0% (neo/poly/HC). Among culture positive patients clinical cures were 86% and 92% for CIPRODEX® Otic compared to 84% and 85%, respectively, for neo/poly/HC. Microbiological eradication rates for these patients in the same clinical trials were 86% and 92% for CIPRODEX® Otic compared to 85% and 85%, respectively, for neo/poly/HC. Respectively, for neo/poly/HC. Respectively, for neo/poly/HC.

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group who had respiratory tract infections (J. Clin. Virol. 2006;35:99-102).

Japanese investigators published a third report this March (J. Clin. Microbiol. 2006;44:1132-4). They found HBoV in 18 (5.7%) of 318 nasal swabs from children under the age of 3 years who were treated for respiratory tract infections.

Dr. Kesebir said the Yale infectious diseases laboratory headed by Dr. Jeffrey S. Kahn did a retrospective search for HBoV in children less than 2 years of age who presented with respiratory symptoms but screened negative on a direct immunofluorescence assay (DFA) for adenovirus, respiratory syncytial virus, and various influenza viruses.

All the positive samples were taken from children who presented with symptoms from October through April. Specimens collected from May through September were negative for HBoV.

The group also screened specimens from a matched control group of 96 children in an ongoing epidemiologic study of respiratory viruses in children. None of the asymptomatic children were positive for HBoV.

Rare polymorphisms in the positive samples established that the New Haven



The researchers do not know whether the virus jumped species or just had not been detected in humans before.

DR. KESEBIR

virus is identical to two HBoV genotypes identified in Sweden. Asked in an interview how the same virus got from Sweden to Yale, or vice versa, Dr. Kesebir said the question was on a long list of questions the investigators are trying to answer about the new pathogen.

That's interesting. I don't know. It's exactly the same," she said.

Dr. Kesebir reported on 20 of the 22 positive cases at the meeting, which is sponsored by the American Pediatric Society, Society for Pediatric Research, Ambulatory Pediatric Association, and American Academy of Pediatrics. Her presentation excluded data on one child whose chart was unavailable for review and another who was coinfected with an adenovirus.

She said 15 (75%) of the remaining 20 infected children were hospitalized for up to 18 days. Nine children were hospitalized for 1-3 days and three for 4-18 days. Another three developed nosocomial infections. The other five children were seen in an emergency department or clinic. Seventeen children (85%) had a comorbidity, which she defined as asthma, eczema, bronchopulmonary dysplasia, or seizures.

For signs and symptoms, she reported that 19 children presented with rhinorrhea, 15 with fever, and 14 with cough. Ten children presented with wheezing, and six had oxygen saturation levels below 87%.

Abnormal chest x-rays were seen in 13 (72.2%) of 18 children for whom chest Continued on following page

# Dexamethasone Is Protective in Bacterial Meningitis

### BY KATE JOHNSON Montreal Bureau

CHICAGO — Dexamethasone treatment can reduce the sequelae of pediatric bacterial meningitis when given prior to or concurrent with antibiotic therapy, according to Dr. Marianne Gausche-Hill.

"Although this issue has been controversial in the past, I think we are on the pro side now," she said at a meeting sponsored by the American College of Emergency Physicians.

The goal of corticosteroid therapy is to reduce the inflammatory response that



In a recent study, steroids before or with antibiotics was associated with protection from death or severe morbidity.

DR. GAUSCHE-HILL

can lead to thrombotic changes, vasculitis, increases in cerebral pressure, and neuronal injury, she said.

"Reducing inflammation is the key to preventing sequelae," she said. "Obviously, antibiotics are important, but early reduction of inflammation is essential—especially in reducing the risk of hearing loss."

Until recently, there was some controversy about whether corticosteroid therapy was appropriate for pneumococcal meningitis because some studies suggested it might impair the cerebrospinal uptake of vancomycin, said Dr. Gausche-Hill, who is director of emergency medical services and pediatric emergency medicine fellowships at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center and professor of medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Both the Infectious Diseases Society of America and the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Infectious Diseases

Continued from previous page

x-rays were available. Dr. Kesebir cited peribronchial cuffing, infiltrates, and hyperinflation.

Of particular interest were eight children who presented with gastrointestinal symptoms. Dr. Kesebir and her colleagues concluded that HBoV is associated with upper and lower respiratory tract disease in children, and speculated that it also may be the cause of gastrointestinal symptoms.

Among the future studies planned are screening of children up to age 5 for HBoV, DFA screening of positive specimens for coinfection with other viruses, and a search for the cause of gastrointestinal symptoms.

In the interview, Dr. Kesebir said the researchers do not know whether the virus jumped species or just had not been detected in humans before. "It is in adults as well, but most of the findings of symptoms are in children. ... Probably the adults are carriers and less symptomatic or immune," she said. previously released cautionary statements about the use of steroid therapy in pediatric pneumococcal meningitis, she said.

But a more recent study showing significantly improved outcomes with adjuvant corticosteroid therapy in pneumococcal meningitis (Arch. Dis. Child. 2005;90:391-3) has shifted medical opinion in favor of this therapy for both *Haemophilus influenzae* and pneumococcal meningitis, she said. The study of 120 cases of pediatric

pneumococcal meningitis included 15 chil-

dren who died and 39 who sustained permanent neurologic impairment from the infection. Corticosteroid therapy either before or with parenteral antibiotics was associated with protection from death or severe morbidity (odds ratio of 0.21), Dr. Gausche-Hill said.

She suggested the algorithm for children with suspected bacterial meningitis should be an immediate lumbar puncture (if not contraindicated) and blood cultures, followed by dexamethasone and empiric antibiotic therapy.

In treating adolescents, she said, consideration of the adult literature is helpful. Although many authors recommend dexamethasone and antibiotics for all forms of adult bacterial meningitis, the Infectious Diseases Society of America recommends dexamethasone for pneumococcal disease only—noting inadequate data to recommend this therapy for other forms of bacterial meningitis, such as meningococcal disease, Dr. Gausche-Hill said.



In clinical studies, adverse events in infants receiving PEDIARIX included injection-site reactions (pain, redness, or swelling), fever, and fussiness. Administration of PEDIARIX was associated with higher rates of fever relative to separately administered vaccines (see Adverse Reactions section of the brief summary). PEDIARIX is contraindicated in infants with known hypersensitivity to any component of the vaccine including yeast, neomycin, and polymyxin B. As with any vaccine, vaccination with PEDIARIX may not protect 100% of susceptible individuals.



Please see brief summary for PEDIARIX on the following page.

References: 1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National, state, and urban area vaccination coverage among children aged 19–35 menths—United States, 2003. *MMWR*. 2004;53(29):658–661.

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