

## A Method with Increased Yield for Production of Polysaccharide-Protein Conjugate Vaccines Using Hydrazone Chemistry

### Technology Summary

Current methods for synthetically manufacturing polysaccharide-protein conjugate vaccines use conjugation reactions with low efficiency (~20%) that waste up to 80% of the activated polysaccharide (PS) reactant.

**FDA inventors have developed a method to improve yields by ~60% for conjugating hydrazone groups to aldehyde or cyanate ester groups, the reaction underlying polysaccharide-protein conjugation.** Higher conjugation efficiency minimizes the need to remove residual unconjugated protein and polysaccharide reactants, thereby simplifying the purification of the conjugate product to remove small molecule by-products. The new conjugation reaction can be carried out within one or two days with reactant concentrations between 1 and 25 mg/mL at PS/protein ratios from 1:2 to 3:1, at temperatures between 4 and 40 degrees Centigrade, and in a pH range of 5.5 to 7.4, optimal conditions varying from PS to PS.

### Potential Commercial Applications

- Vaccine manufacturing

### Competitive Advantages

- Reduced manufacturing times
- Increased yield and efficacy manufacturing conjugate vaccines

**Inventors:** Che-Hung Robert Lee, Carl Frasch

### Publications:

Preparation of bacterial polysaccharide-protein conjugates: analytical and manufacturing challenges. Vaccine. 2009 Oct 30;27(46):6468-70. doi: 10.1016/j.vaccine.2009.06.013. PMID: [19555714](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/19555714/)

### Intellectual Property:

United States Patent: [No. 8,048,432](#) issued 11.01.2011  
United States Patent: [No. 8,465,749](#) issued 06.18.2013  
United States Patent: [No. 8,753,649](#) issued 06.17.2014  
United States Patent No. [10,566,899](#) issued 01.11.2011  
United States Patent No. [10,566,898](#) issued 11.03.2015  
United States Patent No. [9,173,931](#) issued 11.03.2015  
United States Patent No. [9,198,976](#) issued 12.01.2015

**Product Area:** vaccine, polysaccharide, protein, manufacturing, conjugate, manufacturing, method, procedure, bacterial

**FDA Reference No:** E-2003-025; E-2003-026

### Licensing Contact:

Ken Millburne, J.D.  
FDA Technology Transfer Program  
Email: [FDAInventionlicensing@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:FDAInventionlicensing@fda.hhs.gov)  
Phone:301-346-3964