

Rational Vaccines (RVx) began with a singular dedicated scientist who made it his life mission to find a cure for herpes—a disease affecting an estimated 4 billion people globally according to the World Health Organization. In 2016, Dr. Halford ran a human clinical trial on the island of St. Kitts in the Caribbean involving 20 participants who had previously contracted herpes and were suffering from the disease, 17 of whom completed the clinical trial with RVx’s therapeutic HSV-2 vaccine, Theravax HSV-2, in accordance with the clinical trial protocol. Participants were provided with the trial protocol prior to enrollment, including a validated consent form and clear procedures for the reporting and documentation of adverse events. The results of this clinical trial were collected, though unfortunately Dr. Halford lost his life to cancer before he could make the necessary revisions to his manuscript in order to publish the data.

Before RVx, there was the science and Dr. Halford, an advocate for herpes sufferers. RVx’s company mission is committed to continuing Dr. Halford’s legacy with the goal of bringing Theravax HSV-2 to those suffering from the disease. RVx is dedicated to publishing the results of Dr. Halford’s research and will move forward with classical clinical development plans, including engaging established contract research organizations and contract manufacturing organizations, filing worldwide INDs – focused initially in the U.S. - and performing clinical trials to international good clinical practice standards. Announcement around RVx’s future development plans will be made in the coming months.

Over the course of his passionate twenty-five year investigation into improving the standard of care for individuals suffering from herpes, Dr. Halford developed what we believe to be a reasonable and overlooked solution to a problem that has eluded one for nearly half a century, namely an attenuated live viral vaccine approach. During the course of his investigation, Dr. Halford discussed a myriad of concerns and hypothesis, including the potential need for booster shots. Unfortunately, Dr. Halford is no longer with us to address all the ways in which he may have investigated his concerns and hypothesis, but we nevertheless wholeheartedly intend to continue his line of investigation in a clinical setting to international good clinical practice standards. In addition, due to the immense number of requests we have received from chronic herpes sufferers, RVx is exploring expedited clinical access programs in the form of compassionate use or “named patient” programs, which would provide patients access to Theravax HSV-2 through their primary care practitioners. That being said, neither Theravax HSV-2, nor any of RVx’s other pipeline vaccine candidates are available for purchase anywhere in the world at present and RVx is still evaluating the appropriate regulatory and clinical paths for providing expedited access programs in localities where such access is facilitated through GxP best practices and regulations.