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"Researchers Examine Effect of Experimental Ebola Vaccine After High-Risk Exposure"

TEASE RUNS: 04 (vial and syringes, Dr. looking into microscope) Are we closer to an Ebola vaccine? Find out next.

JAMA 3974 TRT: 1:45 EMBARGO: 11a.m. (ET) Tuesday, March 24, 2015

INTRO. Ebola has claimed thousands of lives in West Africa. Investigational drugs and vaccines are being evaluated in hopes of treating and preventing Ebola infection. Effective vaccines are also needed to protect health care workers who may be exposed to Ebola virus during patient care. One of these investigational vaccines had real-life implications last September. Catherine Dolf explains in this week's JAMA Report.

VIDEO	AUDIO
B-ROLL Zoom into vial and syringe, various shots of technicians in lab, health care worker entering room gowned and protected	IN THE FUTURE, THE KEY TO PREVENTING EBOLA INFECTION COULD BE FOUND IN A VIAL LIKE THIS. AN INVESTIGATIONAL VACCINE WAS GIVEN TO A U-S DOCTOR AFTER HE EXPERIENCED AN ACCIDENTAL NEEDLESTICK, WHILE CARING FOR CRITICALLY ILL PATIENTS AT AN EBOLA TREATMENT UNIT IN SIERRA LEONE.
SOT/FULL Mark Mulligan, M.D., - Emory University Super@:14 Runs:08	"At the time we used it in late September, it had been given to only one human previously."

B-ROLL Dr. Mulligan walking into lab, graphic: plane on map	DR. MARK MULLIGAN FROM EMORY UNIVERSITY AND CO-AUTHORS ASSESSED THE DOCTOR'S RESPONSE TO THE V-S-V EBOLA VACCINE. BECAUSE OF THE CONCERN FOR POTENTIALLY LETHAL EBOLA INFECTION, THE DOCTOR WAS OFFERED THE INVESTIGATIONAL VACCINE, WHICH WAS PUT ON A JET IN ATLANTA AND FLOWN TO SIERRA LEONE. 43 HOURS AFTER THE ACCIDENTAL EXPOSURE, THE DOCTOR RECEIVED THE VACCINE AS HE BOARDED THE JET FOR EVACUATION TO THE U.S. HE WAS FLOWN BACK AND MONITORED AT THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH.
SOT/FULL Mark Mulligan, M.D., - Emory University Super@:48 Runs:15	"We saw strong responses from the innate immune system, the immediate responses, the first defenders in our body and also from the subsequent antibodies and T cells that we want a vaccine to produce."
GXF FULL JAMA COVER	THIS FULL REPORT APPEARS IN JAMA, JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.
SOT/FULL Mark Mulligan, M.D., - Emory University Super@1:07 Runs:10	"The vaccine produced a strong immune response of the type that we think could be useful in either a prevention or a post-exposure setting."
B-ROLL Graphic: List of side effects	THE DOCTOR EXPERIENCED SIGNIFICANT SIDE EFFECTS FROM THE VACCINE INCLUDING FEVER, CHILLS, HEADACHE, NAUSEA AND MUSCLE ACHES.
SOT/FULL Mark Mulligan, M.D., - Emory University Super@1:24 Runs:05	"As the vaccine virus cleared from his bloodstream the vaccine related symptoms went away."
B-ROLL Various shots of Dr. Mulligan looking into microscope, various shots of technicians working in lab	FORTUNATELY, THE DOCTOR DID NOT DEVELOP EBOLA VIRUS INFECTION AND THE RESPONSE OF HIS IMMUNE SYSTEM TO THE V-S-V VACCINE WAS VERY INFORMATIVE FOR RESEARCHERS. LARGER STUDIES ARE UNDERWAY TO UNDERSTAND THE SAFETY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS AND OTHER POTENTIAL EBOLA VACCINES. CATHERINE DOLF, THE JAMA REPORT.

TAG: THE PATIENT WAS HOSPITALIZED FOR ABOUT A WEEK AND CONTINUED HIS 21-DAY OBSERVATION PERIOD AT HOME.

Please see the complete study for additional information, including other authors, author contributions and affiliations, financial disclosures, funding and support, etc.

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ADDITIONAL SOUNDBITES:

Mark Mulligan, M.D., - Emory University

QUOTE 1 Runs:14

"The vaccine virus can be detected in the blood, for two to three days after vaccination and this was the same time frame that the patient was experiencing the vaccine related side effects."

QUOTE 2: Runs:11

"In looking for any evidence of the virus in his body, in his blood, we didn't find any Ebola virus so he most likely had never become infected with Ebola."