Scientists successfully test three different Zika vaccines on monkeys

The race to develop a safe and effective vaccine against the Zika virus got one step closer [on August 4], when a team of researchers reported positive results in the latest round of testing in monkeys.

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The urgency for a vaccine to protect against Zika infection has intensified as the virus spreads rapidly across Latin America and the Caribbean. [Recently,] an unprecedented travel advisory was given for southern Florida after more than a dozen people were diagnosed with Zika after being bitten by "homegrown" mosquitoes.

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The results were "striking," said study coauthor Dr. Dan Barouch, a professor of medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School. "The findings published today substantially increase our optimism for the potential for the development of a Zika vaccine for humans."

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Still, with many years of experience in vaccine development behind him, [Dr. Anthony Fauci] said, "you're never overconfident of the clinical results."

"But we are optimistic that this new DNA Zika is a viable platform," Fauci said. "So we're cautiously optimistic."

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: 'Striking' Results from Early Zika Vaccine Trial