Glossary

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) — One of the 27 institutes and centers within the National Institutes of Health. NIAID's mission is to conduct and support research and disseminate health information with respect to fundamental immunology, allergic immune-mediated diseases and disorders, and infectious diseases.

Vaccine Research Center (VRC) — An intramural research division within the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases focused on vaccine research.

NIH Clinical Center — The NIH's research hospital. It is the world's (and nation's) largest hospital devoted entirely to clinical research, which is research which studies health and disease using human volunteers. For patients to be seen at the NIH Clinical Center, they must be enrolled as participants in a research study. Unlike community hospitals, the NIH Clinical Center does not have an emergency room and does not offer routine healthcare services.

Vaccine Evaluation Clinic (VEC) — A research clinic physically housed within the NIH Clinical Center and run by the Vaccine Research Center. Research participants in Vaccine Research Center studies are seen in this clinic.

Vaccinology and Immunology Center (VIC) — A research center within the Vaccine Research Center studying people who developed health problems after a vaccine or an infection. While it conducts clinical research, it is not an ordinary clinic providing routine patient care.

MOSAIC Study — The first research study taking place in the VIC.

Institutional Review Board (IRB) — An independent group that reviews a research study before it starts, and while it runs, to protect the rights and safety of participants.

Data Safety and Monitoring Board (DSMB) – An independent group that watches the study data as the study runs to make sure participants are protected and the study remains safe and scientifically sound.

Scientific review – During scientific review, scientists with relevant expertise review the research plan to verify that a study is well designed and can answer the questions it asks.

Regulatory review – A review that ensures that a study follows federal rules and regulations.