Clinical trials of the first candidate HIV vaccine designed for use in Africa have begun in Nairobi, Kenya. The preventive DNA candidate vaccine is specifically designed to prevent infection with HIV subtype A, the most common strain in East Africa, and is the product of an International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI)-funded partnership between teams from the Medical Research Council's Human Immunology Unit at Oxford University and the University of Nairobi. The IAVI currently has 5 different candidate AIDS vaccines under development, all of which are designed for use in Africa; vaccine development programmes are expected to be launched in India and China this month.

International AIDS Vaccine Initiative. Trials of first AIDS vaccine candidate designed for Africa officially begin in Nairobi. Media Release : [2 pages], 6 Mar 2001. Available from: URL: http://www.iavi.org 800852833