

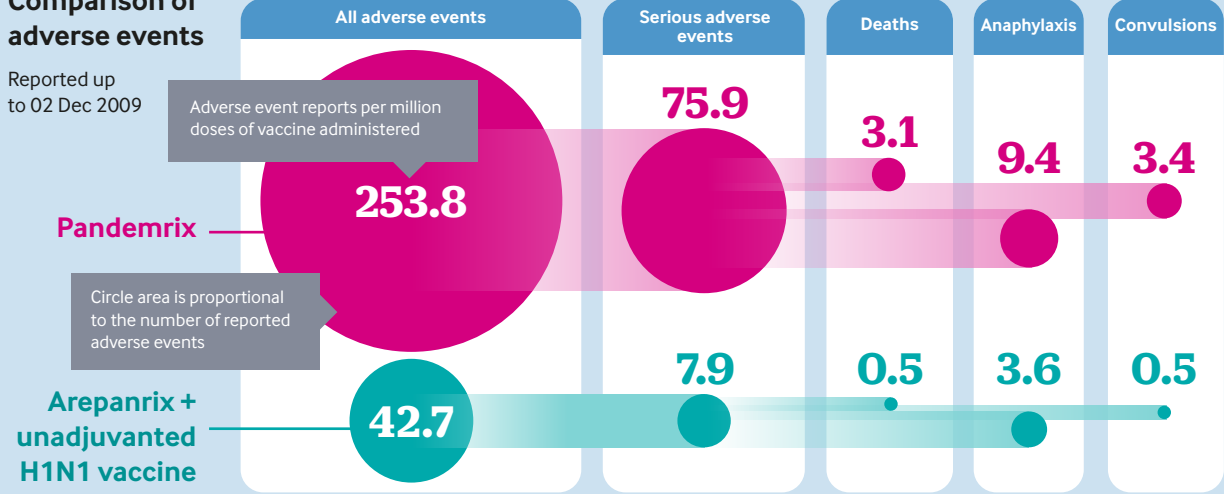
The BMJ gained access to vaccine pharmacovigilance reports compiled by GSK (GlaxoSmithKline) during the 2009 H1N1 "swine flu" outbreak. The reports detail adverse events for three of the company's pandemic influenza vaccines: Pandemrix, Arepanrix, and an H1N1 vaccine without adjuvant (no brand name provided).

Despite similarities in the composition of Pandemrix and Arepanrix vaccines, the rates of adverse events reported differed substantially. Neither GSK nor health authorities seem to have made the information public during the H1N1 outbreak or in the eight years since.



Comparison of adverse events

Reported up to 02 Dec 2009



A continuous pattern

Shown here, data from GSK's "enhanced safety review team reports" for nine time points between 2 December 2009 and 31 March 2010. Over these four months, the doses of Pandemrix administered went from 15 million to 70 million, and the pattern of adverse events continued. The graphs present adverse event reports per million doses of vaccine administered, cumulatively over time.

