Vaccines and Global Health: The Week in Review
9 May 2020 :: Number 551
Center for Vaccine Ethics & Policy (CVEP)

This weekly digest targets news, events, announcements, articles and research in the vaccine and global health ethics and policy space and is aggregated from key governmental, NGO, international organization and industry sources, key peer-reviewed journals, and other media channels. This summary proceeds from the broad base of themes and issues monitored by the Center for Vaccine Ethics & Policy in its work: it is not intended to be exhaustive in its coverage.

Vaccines and Global Health: The Week in Review is also posted in pdf form and as a set of blog posts at https://centerforvaccineethicsandpolicy.net. This blog allows full-text searching of over 8,000 entries.

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Request an email version: Vaccines and Global Health: The Week in Review is published as a single email summary, scheduled for release each Saturday evening at midnight (EST/U.S.). If you would like to receive the email version, please send your request to david.r.curry@centerforvaccineethicsandpolicy.org.

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Commemorating Smallpox Eradication – a legacy of hope, for COVID-19 and other diseases

8 May 2020  News release
On 8 May 1980, the 33rd World Health Assembly officially declared: ‘The world and all its peoples have won freedom from smallpox.’

The declaration marked the end of a disease that had plagued humanity for at least 3 000 years, killing 300 million people in the 20th century alone.

It was ended, thanks to a 10-year global effort, spearheaded by the World Health Organization, that involved thousands of health workers around the world to administer half a billion vaccinations to stamp out smallpox.

The US$ 300m price-tag to eradicate smallpox saves the world well over US$ 1 billion every year since 1980.

Speaking at a virtual event hosted at WHO-HQ, involving key players in the eradication effort, WHO Director-General, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said, “As the world confronts the COVID-19 pandemic, humanity’s victory over smallpox is a reminder of what is possible when nations come together to fight a common health threat.”

...At the event, Dr Tedros unveiled a commemorative postal stamp to recognize the global solidarity that drove the initiative and honour the efforts of health workers who ensured its success.

The stamp, developed by the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA), in collaboration with WHO, signifies what national unity and global solidarity can achieve. Numerous countries, such as Guinea, India, Nigeria, Philippines, Togo and others issued smallpox stamps to show support for, and raise awareness about WHO’s Intensified Smallpox Eradication Programme launched in 1967.

...Following smallpox eradication, WHO and UNICEF launched the Expanded Programme on Immunization, under which 85% of the world’s children are vaccinated and protected from debilitating diseases.

With the potential of a COVID-19 vaccine ahead, ensuring sufficient supplies and reaching people in hard to reach places is a high priority. Addressing vaccine hesitancy poses a significant challenge to stop the virus. Access to accurate public health information and education is critical to ensure that the public has the facts to keep themselves and others safe.

To permanently commemorate the eradication of smallpox and the lessons learned on a global scale, rather than every 10-years, WHO is calling museums, exhibition companies, designers,
curators and associations to develop an immersive, interactive and educational exhibition on smallpox and its relevance for COVID-19 and global health security. The exhibition, which will be unveiled later this year, will promote a better understanding of public health and empower people to keep informed and safe during a pandemic.

COVID-19 – Vaccines Access Funding

Coronavirus Global Response: €7.4 billion raised for universal access to vaccines
Press release 4 May 2020 Brussels

Today, the Commission registered €7.4 billion, equivalent to $8 billion, in pledges from donors worldwide during the Coronavirus Global Response pledging event. This includes a pledge of €1.4 billion by the Commission. **This almost reaches the initial target of €7.5 billion and is a solid starting point for the worldwide pledging marathon, which begins today.** The aim is to gather significant funding to ensure the collaborative development and universal deployment of diagnostics, treatments and vaccines against coronavirus.

President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, said: “Today the world showed extraordinary unity for the common good. Governments and global health organisations joined forces against coronavirus. With such commitment, we are on track for developing, producing and deploying a vaccine for all. However, this is only the beginning. We need to sustain the effort and to stand ready to contribute more. The pledging marathon will continue. After governments, civil society and people worldwide need to join in, in a global mobilisation of hope and resolve.”

The pledging event was co-convened by the European Union, Canada, France, Germany, Italy (also incoming G20 presidency), Japan, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (also holding the G20 presidency), Norway, Spain and the United Kingdom. The initiative is a response to the call from the World Health Organization (WHO) and a group of health actors for a global collaboration for the accelerated development, production and equitable global access to new coronavirus essential health technologies. The Coronavirus Global Response Initiative is comprised of three partnerships for testing, treating and preventing underpinned by health systems strengthening.

**An ongoing pledging marathon**

Today is an extraordinary achievement but also the start of a process to mobilise more resources. The initial target of €7.5 billion will not be enough to ensure the distribution of coronavirus health technologies worldwide, as this involves significant costs in terms of production, procurement and distribution.

To help reach the objectives of the Coronavirus Global Response, the European Commission is committing €1 billion in grants and €400 million in guarantees on loans through reprioritisation of Horizon 2020 (€1 billion), RescEU (€80 million), the Emergency Support Instrument (€150 million) and external instruments (€170 million).
€100 million will be donated to CEPI and €158 million to the World Health Organization. EU-funded calls for proposals and subsequent projects under Horizon 2020 will be aligned with the objectives of the three partnerships and subject to open access to data. Funding under RescEU will go towards the procurement, stockpiling and distribution of vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics.

Donors are invited to continue pledging to the Coronavirus Global Response. They can choose which priority to donate to – Test, Treat or Prevent. They can also donate to the horizontal work stream of the Coronavirus Global Response, aiming to help health systems in the world cope with the pandemic.

The Commission will soon announce the breakdown of the amount raised today and how much will go to vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and health systems strengthening related to COVID-19.

A cooperation framework to align global efforts

A universal and affordable Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT-Accelerator) was the main objective of the 24 April call to action from global health partners. For this, significant funding is needed, as well as a solid collaborative structure, with a clarity of purpose to ensure that the donated money is put to good use and to avoid fragmentation of efforts.

Based on discussions with public and private sector partners as well as non-profit organisations, the European Commission proposes a collaborative framework for the ACT-accelerator global response. This framework is designed as a coordination structure to steer and oversee progress made globally in accelerating work on developing vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics with universal access as well as strengthening health systems as required for meeting these three priorities.

This collaboration framework is intended to be time-bound (2 years, renewable) and build on existing organisations without creating any new structures. In the European Commission’s view, it would bring together partners like the WHO, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Wellcome Trust and some of the initial convenor countries as well as many recognised global health actors such as CEPI, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, the Global Fund or UNITAID.

The core of the framework would be three partnerships based on the three priorities of the Coronavirus Global Response. They gather industry, research, foundations, regulators and international organisations, with a “whole-value-chain” approach: from research to manufacturing and deployment. The three partnerships would work as autonomously as possible, with a transversal work stream on enhancing the capacity of health systems and knowledge and data sharing.

The Commission registers and keeps track of pledges up until end of May but will not receive any payments into its accounts. Funds go directly to the recipients. Recipients will, however, not decide alone on the use of the donation, but deploy it in concertation with the partnership. The commitment is for all new vaccines, diagnostics and treatments against
coronavirus to be made available globally for an affordable price, regardless of where they were developed.

Next steps
The global response must also include civil society, and the global community of citizens. For that reason, the European Commission is joining forces with NGOs such as Global Citizen and other partners.

The Global Vaccines Summit that Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, will organise on 4 June will mobilise additional funding to protect the next generation with vaccines. As the world relies on Gavi’s work for making vaccination available everywhere, the success of Gavi’s replenishment will be crucial to the success of the Coronavirus Global Response...

COVID-19 – Africa

**New WHO estimates: Up to 190 000 people could die of COVID-19 in Africa if not controlled**

07 May 2020
Brazzaville – Eighty-three thousand to 190 000 people in Africa could die of COVID-19 and 29 million to 44 million could get infected in the first year of the pandemic if containment measures fail, a new study by the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for Africa finds. The research, which is based on prediction modelling, looks at 47 countries in the WHO African Region with a total population of one billion.

The new estimates are based on modifying the risk of transmission and disease severity by variables specific to each country in order to adjust for the unique nature of the region. The model predicts the observed slower rate of transmission, lower age of people with severe disease and lower mortality rates compared to what is seen in the most affected countries in the rest of the world. This is largely driven by social and environmental factors slowing the transmission, and a younger population that has benefitted from the control of communicable diseases such as HIV and tuberculosis to reduce possible vulnerabilities.

The lower rate of transmission, however, suggests a more prolonged outbreak over a few years, according to the study which also revealed that smaller African countries alongside Algeria, South Africa and Cameroon were at a high risk if containment measures are not prioritized.

Containment measures, which include contact tracing, isolation, improved personal hygiene practices and physical distancing aim to slow down the transmission of the virus so its effects happen at a rate manageable by the health system. Physical distancing is not about the confinement of people but rather avoiding unnecessary contacts as people live, work and socialize as a means to interrupt transmission.

“While COVID-19 likely won’t spread as exponentially in Africa as it has elsewhere in the world, it likely will smoulder in transmission hotspots,” said Dr Matshidiso Moeti, the WHO Regional
Director for Africa. “COVID-19 could become a fixture in our lives for the next several years unless a proactive approach is taken by many governments in the region. We need to test, trace, isolate and treat.”

The predicted number of cases that would require hospitalization would overwhelm the available medical capacity in much of Africa. There would be an estimated 3.6 million–5.5 million COVID-19 hospitalizations, of which 82,000–167,000 would be severe cases requiring oxygen, and 52,000–107,000 would be critical cases requiring breathing support. Such a huge number of patients in hospitals would severely strain the health capacities of countries...

COVID-19 R&D – Vaccine Manufacturing/Scaling

**Pfizer and BioNTech Dose First Participants in the U.S. as Part of Global COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine Development Program**
:: First participants dosed at NYU Grossman School of Medicine and University of Maryland School of Medicine
:: Pfizer and BioNTech ramping up manufacturing capabilities to further increase production capacity in 2020/2021
May 05, 2020

**Milken Institute COVID-19 Tracker Update Identifies More Than 100 Vaccines and Nearly 200 Treatments in Development**
*Nine vaccines and more than 50 treatment candidates reach clinical trials.*
May 04, 2020

The Milken Institute COVID-19 Treatment and Vaccine Tracker has identified more than 111 vaccines and 197 treatments in the pipeline to treat and prevent COVID-19. This is an increase from the 55 treatments and 38 vaccine candidates identified when the Institute first started tracking treatments and vaccines in early March...

COVID-19 R&D – Ethics

**Position of the European Network of Research Ethics Committees (EUREC) on the Responsibility of Research Ethics Committees during the COVID-19 Pandemic**
Adopted by the EUREC Board on 27 April 2020 : 2 pages
PDF: https://lnkd.in/diaxxMJ

*The European Network of Research Ethics Committees (EUREC) launched a position paper on the Responsibility of Research Ethics Committees during the COVID-19 Pandemic.*

“The COVID-19 pandemic is an enormous and extraordinary challenge for societies, economics, politics, healthcare systems, and in particular, for medical research. The diverse actions to contain the pandemic in Europe and worldwide must include the development and testing of effective drugs and vaccines. This is a particularly urgent matter. However, pharmaceuticals
that are to be approved in the future to be used to cure COVID-19 must be as effective and safe as possible. Therefore, the European Commission, the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and national Head of Medicines Agencies (HMA) have published “Guidance on the Management of Clinical Trials during the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic” (https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/files/eudralex/vol-10/guidanceclinicaltrials_covid19_en.pdf) for sponsors on how to manage the conduct of clinical trials in this particular context and how to address questions of safety, risk assessment and informed consent.

This recent mode in medical research also leads to a tremendous challenge for European Research Ethics Committees (RECs). RECs are aware that they must contribute accordingly. This contribution is based, in particular, on the fact that the administrative processes for reviewing research protocols must be accelerated and simplified if these protocols are related to the treatment, prevention or diagnosis of infections caused by SARS-CoV-2. However, all this must be guided by the principle that RECs, even under these specific circumstances, will not compromise the quality of the review; an accelerated procedure cannot be at the expense of safety, notably that of the research participants. The recognised ethical principles of autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence and justice must always be respected.

In particular, the following rules should be applied.

1. **RECs should give clear priority to the assessment of submitted studies that are linked to the prevention or treatment of COVID-19 and COVID-19-related illnesses.** The assessment of trials on other serious diseases with no satisfactory treatment option should also be prioritised.

2. **The free and informed consent procedure must remain in accordance with European and national regulations.** It is recognised that national regulations and their application may differ across Europe. The proposals in section 8 of the above mentioned European “Guidance” on how to deal adequately and in a simplified manner with informed consent under the conditions of COVID-19 should be taken into account by the European RECs.

3. **In the current pandemic situation, the traditional meetings of ethics committees cannot necessarily be organised in the usual, often face-to-face, manner.** The RECs should therefore adopt new working methods, such as secure video conferencing, that are appropriate to the current situation and respect the new rules of conduct concerning the pandemic. Where necessary, provision should be made accordingly for changes to the rules of procedure.

4. It should be possible for RECs to hold extraordinary meetings outside the regular cycle to discuss research protocols relating to the treatment, prevention or diagnosis of infections caused by SARS-CoV-2.

5. Responsible RECs must be composed of experts with the appropriate expertise. With regard to the assessment of trials concerning COVID-19, relevant experience and expertise must also be ensured within the REC.

6. Digital communication technologies can speed up administrative procedures. However, the information and communication technology used must be designed in such a way that GDPR-compliant transmission of data is guaranteed.
7. In the course of the study, the recording of undesired events and effects and their forwarding and evaluation must also be guaranteed by the investigator. The responsible REC must also be involved accordingly in pending decisions and modifications, e.g. of the protocol in the event of subsequent changes. It is advisable to document all deviations from the inspection plan that are attributable to the pandemic situation. All participants, including the RECs, should be informed, without delay, of any changes that are relevant to them during the course of the clinical trial. Where appropriate, a new informed consent may be required.

The overarching mission of all ethics committees is the protection of the dignity, rights, safety and well-being of research participants, namely patients and healthy volunteers, in medical trials. This also applies against the background of the current pandemic situation. Therefore, the pressure currently being exerted on medical research must not lead to research or testing of pharmaceuticals on humans without complying with the ethical standards applicable to medical research.

EUROPEAN NETWORK OF RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEES (EUREC)
http://www.eurecnet.org
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Vice Chair: Prof. Dr. Eugenijus Gefenas
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EMERGENCIES

Coronavirus [COVID-19]
Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

Editor’s Note:
We certainly recognize the velocity of global developments in the COVID-19 pandemic. While we have concentrated the most current key reports just below, COVID-19 announcements, analysis and commentary will be found throughout this issue, in all sections.

Beyond the considerable continuing coverage in the global general media, the WHO’s authoritative guidance is available here:
:: Daily WHO situation reports here: https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports

Situation report - 109 [WHO]
Situation in numbers (by WHO Region)
Total (new cases in last 24 hours)

**Globally**
3 759 967 cases (87 729) 259 474 deaths (5429)

Africa
37 717 cases (2247) 1275 deaths (47)

Americas
1 586 129 cases (43 300) 87 930 deaths (3126)

Eastern Mediterranean
237 323 cases (8125) 8608 deaths (143)

Europe
1 654 345 cases (28 308) 152 179 deaths (1941)

South-East Asia
86 294 cases (4486) 3075 deaths (139)

Western Pacific
157 447 cases (1263) 6394 deaths (33)

**HIGHLIGHTS**
:: WHO launched a checklist to support prison administrators and policy-makers for rapid and effective response to COVID-19.
:: WHO is supporting several African countries to coordinate and reinforce the work of emergency medical teams (EMTs) deployed to support the efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19 pandemic.
:: The WHO Regional Director for Europe, Dr. Hans Henri P. Kluge stated his concern about the increase in interpersonal violence during COVID-19, and emphasized that “violence is preventable, not inevitable”

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**Emergencies**

**Ebola – DRC+**
Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

**Ebola Outbreak in DRC 91: 05 May 2020**
[Excerpts]

**Situation Update**
[Website link broken at inquiry – 404 message]

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**Emergencies**
POLIO
Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

Polio this week as of 06 May 2020
:: The GPEI released a special edition of PolioNews which contains the latest on nOPV2 development, the upcoming World Health Assembly in the context of COVID-19, and other updates on the programme. Take a look at the publication.
:: A new training to help build knowledge on the standard operating procedures for effective polio outbreak response has been launched. With topics like risk assessment and surveillance, the Polio Outbreak Response training is available for free and the content is aligned with the most recent version of the Polio Outbreak SOPs (v3.1).

Summary of new viruses this week (AFP cases and ES positives):
:: Afghanistan: six WPV1 cases, two cVDPV2 cases and four cVDPV2 positive environmental samples
:: Pakistan: two WPV1 cases, 18 WPV1 positive environmental samples and two cVDPV2 cases
:: Malaysia: One cVDPV2 positive environmental sample
:: Chad: One cVDPV2 case and two cVDPV2 positive environmental samples
:: Cote d'Ivoire: Four cVDPV2 positive environmental samples
:: Niger: One cVDPV2 case
:: Nigeria: Three cVDPV2 positive environmental samples

WHO Grade 3 Emergencies  [to 9 May 2020]
Democratic Republic of the Congo
:: Ebola Outbreak in DRC 91: 05 May 2020
[Website link broken at inquiry – 404 message]

Yemen
:: Statement by WHO’s Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean on COVID-19 in Yemen 2 May 2020

Nigeria - No new digest announcements identified
Somalia - No new digest announcements identified
South Sudan - No new digest announcements identified
Syrian Arab Republic - No new digest announcements identified

WHO Grade 2 Emergencies  [to 9 May 2020]
Angola - No new digest announcements identified
Afghanistan - No new digest announcements identified
Burkina Faso [in French] - No new digest announcements identified
Burundi - No new digest announcements identified
Cameroon - No new digest announcements identified
Central African Republic - No new digest announcements identified
Ethiopia - No new digest announcements identified
Iran - No new digest announcements identified
Iraq - No new digest announcements identified
Libya - No new digest announcements identified
Malawi - No new digest announcements identified
Measles in Europe - No new digest announcements identified
MERS-CoV - No new digest announcements identified
Myanmar - No new digest announcements identified
Niger - No new digest announcements identified
occupied Palestinian territory - No new digest announcements identified
Sudan - No new digest announcements identified
Ukraine - No new digest announcements identified
Zimbabwe - No new digest announcements identified

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**WHO Grade 1 Emergencies** [to 9 May 2020]
Chad - No new digest announcements identified
Djibouti - No new digest announcements identified
Kenya - No new digest announcements identified
Mali - No new digest announcements identified
Namibia - viral hepatitis - No new digest announcements identified
Tanzania - No new digest announcements identified

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**UN OCHA – L3 Emergencies**
The UN and its humanitarian partners are currently responding to three ‘L3’ emergencies. This is the global humanitarian system’s classification for the response to the most severe, large-scale humanitarian crises.

**Syrian Arab Republic**
:: Syrian Arab Republic: COVID-19 Response Update No.02 (As of 6 May 2020)
:: Syrian Arab Republic: Recent Developments in Northwest Syria - Flash Update - As of 08 May 2020

**Yemen**
:: 06 May 2020  Yemen Humanitarian Update Issue 4 (April 2020)
**HIGHLIGHTS**
  . Aid agencies ramp up efforts to contain COVID-19, as UN warns of possible surge in cases
  . Humanitarians respond to widespread devastation caused by torrential rains and flooding
  . Over 5 million children face the threat of cholera
  . Civilian casualties increase from 467 to 506 in the first quarter of 2020
  . Attacks on medical facilities increase while medical needs will soar if COVID-19 spreads
  . Partners scale up aid and COVID-19 preparedness to over a million people in displacement sites

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UN OCHA – Corporate Emergencies
When the USG/ERC declares a Corporate Emergency Response, all OCHA offices, branches and sections provide their full support to response activities both at HQ and in the field.

CYCLONE IDAI and Kenneth
:: 07 May 2020  Zimbabwe Situation Report, 7 May 2020

:: EBOLA OUTBREAK IN THE DRC - No new digest announcements identified

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WHO & Regional Offices [to 9 May 2020]

Commemorating Smallpox Eradication – a legacy of hope, for COVID-19 and other diseases
8 May 2020  News release
[See Perspectives above for detail]

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Weekly Epidemiological Record, 8 May 2020, vol. 95, 19 (pp. 185–208)
COVID-19 strategy update (as of 14 April 2020)

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WHO Regional Offices
Selected Press Releases, Announcements

WHO African Region AFRO
:: New WHO estimates: Up to 190 000 people could die of COVID-19 in Africa if not controlled
07 May 2020

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO
:: PAHO Director calls for protection of health workers in face of the advancing COVID19 pandemic in the region of the Americas (04/07/2020)
:: Amid COVID-19 pandemic, new WHO report urges greater investments in the nursing workforce (04/07/2020)

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO
:: Promote hand hygiene to save lives and combat COVID-19  4 May 2020  Statement

WHO European Region EURO
:: During COVID-19 pandemic, violence remains preventable, not inevitable 07-05-2020
:: WHO launches checklist to support prison administrators and policy-makers for rapid and effective response to COVID-19 07-05-2020
:: Turkish celebrities join UN and WHO to help convey key COVID-19 messages 07-05-2020
:: Two decades tackling global health emergencies together: WHO partner GOARN turns 20 05-05-2020
:: Iliana Colonna: enabling positive birth experiences in the time of COVID-19 05-05-2020

**WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO**
:: World Hand Hygiene Day: Nurses and midwives, clean care is in your hands!

5 May 2020 – World Hand Hygiene Day will be celebrated on 5 May 2020. This year’s campaign theme, “SAVE LIVES: Clean your hands”, aligns with the International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife. The campaign aims to recognize nurses and midwives as front-line heroes who deserve acknowledgement, appreciation and protection, and to highlight their critical role in infection...

**WHO Western Pacific Region**
_No new digest content identified._

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**CDC/ACIP** [to 9 May 2020]
http://www.cdc.gov/media/index.html
https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/index.html

*Latest News Releases*

**CDC scientists honored as 2020 Service to America Medal Finalists**
Friday, May 8, 2020

**MMWR News Synopsis** Friday, May 8, 2020
:: Public Health Response to the Initiation and Spread of Pandemic COVID-19 in the United States, February 24–April 21, 2020 (Early release May 1, 2020)

:: COVID-19 Among Workers in Meat and Poultry Processing Facilities — 19 States, April 2020 (Early release May 1, 2020)

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**Africa CDC** [to 9 May 2020]
http://www.africacdc.org/

*News*

**Africa50 supports COVID-19 response with US$300,000 grant to Africa CDC**
6 May 2020

**New report provides African governments real-time information and guidance to find the balance in COVID-19 response**
5 May 2020

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**China CDC**
http://www.chinacdc.cn/en/
_No new digest content identified._
Chinese scientists publish COVID-19 vaccine animal experiment result
2020-05-09

5% to 15% cured COVID-19 cases will test positive again
2020-05-08

Initial data show that between 5 and 15 percent of cured COVID-19 patients in China will test positive again, highlighting the necessity for cured patients to continue isolation after leaving hospitals to minimize the risk of viral transmission, a senior expert guiding treatment of the disease said on May 7.

Under a program funded by the Ministry of Science and Technology, scientists are researching the phenomenon unique to patients of the novel coronavirus in an attempt to answer questions such as why cured patients test positive again and whether measures are needed for such patients, Wang Guiqiang said at a news conference.

Such patients account for a small percentage of all COVID-19 patients released from hospitals—in some areas of China, less than 1 percent—but they may still be infectious and need to be isolated for close medical observation, said Wang, head of Peking University First Hospital's infectious disease department and a member of an expert team organized by the National Health Commission for COVID-19 treatment...

China to join WHO collaboration initiative against COVID-19 pandemic
2020-05-07

Announcements

Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group  [to 9 May 2020]

BMGF - Gates Foundation  [to 9 May 2020]
http://www.gatesfoundation.org/Media-Center/Press-Releases

Statement from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation about today’s Coronavirus Global Response Summit

SEATTLE, May 4, 2020 – Earlier today at the Coronavirus Global Response Summit, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced a commitment of $125 million towards the international collective effort to develop and equitably distribute COVID-19 diagnostics, therapies, and vaccines. This includes $50 million of new funding to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and $75 million of previously announced funding for therapeutics and diagnostics. More information about the summit is available at global-response.europa.eu.
The Bill & Melinda Gates Medical Research Institute is a non-profit biotech organization. Our mission is to develop products to fight malaria, tuberculosis, and diarrheal diseases—three major causes of mortality, poverty, and inequality in developing countries. The world has unprecedented scientific tools at its disposal; now is the time to use them to save the lives of the world's poorest people.

No new digest content identified.

CARB-X is a non-profit public-private partnership dedicated to accelerating antibacterial research to tackle the global rising threat of drug-resistant bacteria.

No new digest content identified.

CEPI launches a new Call for Proposals to accelerate COVID-19 vaccine development and production.

Focus for funding will be on vaccine candidates that have the potential to be developed rapidly and manufactured globally at scale.

New call will allow CEPI to expand its existing portfolio to increase chances of success.

The European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) aims to accelerate the development of new or improved drugs, vaccines, microbicides and diagnostics against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria as well as other poverty-related and neglected infectious diseases in sub-Saharan Africa, with a focus on phase II and III clinical trials.

Fondation Botnar and Novartis support EDCTP Fellowships on child and adolescent health.
Fondation Botnar and Novartis will support research capacity development in sub-Saharan Africa within the framework of EDCTP’s 2020 Career Development Fellowships. Collectively, the two organisations will contribute up to a maximum of €2.25 million to the initial EDCTP call budget...

**Emory Vaccine Center** [to 9 May 2020]
http://www.vaccines.emory.edu/
[Undated]
No new digest content identified.

**European Medicines Agency** [to 9 May 2020]
*Press release: EU actions to support availability of medicines during COVID-19 pandemic – update #5*
Last updated: 08/05/2020

*News: Global regulators work towards alignment on policy approaches and regulatory flexibility during COVID-19*
Last updated: 05/05/2020

*Press release: COVID-19: how EMA fast-tracks development support and approval of medicines and vaccines*
Last updated: 04/05/2020

**European Vaccine Initiative** [to 9 May 2020]
http://www.euvaccine.eu/news-events
*Latest News*
No new digest content identified.

**FDA** [to 9 May 2020]
https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/default.htm
*Press Announcements*
**May 8, 2020 - Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: FDA Authorizes First Diagnostic Test Using At-Home Collection of Saliva Specimens**

Today, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration authorized the first diagnostic test with the option of using home-collected saliva samples for COVID-19 testing. Specifically, the FDA issued an emergency use authorization (EUA) to Rutgers Clinical Genomics Laboratory for their COVID-19 laboratory developed test (LDT), which had been previously added to the high complexity molecular-based LDT “umbrella” EUA, to permit testing of samples self-collected by patients at
home using the Spectrum Solutions LLC SDNA-1000 Saliva Collection Device. This announcement builds on last month’s EUA for the first diagnostic test with a home-collection option, which uses a sample collected from the patient’s nose with a nasal swab and saline...


May 7, 2020 - Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: Daily Roundup May 7, 2020


Fondation Merieux  [to 9 May 2020]
http://www.fondation-merieux.org/
News, Events
No new digest content identified.

Gavi  [to 9 May 2020]
https://www.gavi.org/
Top Stories
6 May 2020
Italy pledges new support to Gavi

6 May 2020
Ireland pledges new support to Gavi

5 May 2020
Countries pledge new support to Gavi

4 May 2020
Norway increases commitment to immunisation for the most vulnerable, pledges USD 1 billion to Gavi

GHIT Fund  [to 9 May 2020]
https://www.ghitfund.org/newsroom/press
GHIT was set up in 2012 with the aim of developing new tools to tackle infectious diseases that
No new digest content identified.

Global Fund  [to 9 May 2020]
Funding Model
COVID-19 Response Mechanism Questions and Answers
05 May 2020

Updates
Coronavirus Global Response International Pledging Event
04 May 2020

Hilleman Laboratories  [to 9 May 2020]
http://www.hillemanlabs.org/
No new digest content identified.

Human Vaccines Project  [to 9 May 2020]
http://www.humanvaccinesproject.org/media/press-releases/
Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

IAVI  [to 9 May 2020]
https://www.iavi.org/newsroom
Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities [ICMRA]
Selected Statements, Press Releases, Research
No new digest content identified.

International Generic and Biosimilar Medicines Association [IGBA]
https://www.igbamedicines.org/
News
IGBA Pays Tribute to Bill Haddad  (4 May 2020)
IGBA, the International Generic and Biosimilar medicines Association (IGBA), representing
global manufacturers of generic and biosimilar medicines, today pays tribute to Bill Haddadi,
who passed away last week. He was a pioneer in the development of generic medicine policy in
the U.S.A. and a remarkable advocate for access to medicines worldwide.

IFFIm
http://www.iffim.org/
Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

IFRC  [to 9 May 2020]
World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day: IFRC President visits Italy’s first “red zone” to thank COVID-19 response volunteers

Geneva/Rome, 7 May 2020 – This Friday, 8 May, on World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, Francesco Rocca, President of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), will visit Italy’s first COVID-19 “red zone” in Codogno (L ...

Global

IFRC and Billion Dollar Boy set up global influencer network to tackle COVID-19 infodemic

Geneva, London and New York, 5 May 2020: Billion Dollar Boy, the creative agency for the influencer age, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) are creating the world’s first global influencer network to tackle ...

IVAC  [to 9 May 2020]
https://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/ivac/index.html
Updates
No new digest content identified.

IVI  [to 9 May 2020]
http://www.ivi.int/
Selected IVI News & Announcements
No new digest content identified.

JEE Alliance  [to 9 May 2020]
https://www.jeealliance.org/
Selected News and Events
No new digest content identified.

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières  [to 9 May 2020]
http://www.msf.org/
Latest [Selected Announcements]
Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic
Responding to COVID-19 in conflict-affected eastern Ukraine
Project Update 8 May 2020

Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic
Eswatini: Responding to COVID-19 in a country already fighting a dual HIV/TB epidemic
Interview 8 May 2020
Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic

MSF provides critically-needed COVID-19 medical care in Tijuana
Project Update 7 May 2020

Malaysia

MSF ready to support the government of Malaysia with safe disembarkation of people in distress at sea
Open Letter 7 May 2020

Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic

Five challenges for the Rohingya in Bangladesh amid COVID-19
Project Update 6 May 2020

Medical resource

MSF Medical Product Procurement
MSF medical resource 6 May 2020

Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic

Managing people’s fear and misinformation amid COVID-19 in DRC
Voices from the Field 6 May 2020

Measles

Measles is a steady, silent killer among COVID-19
Project Update 5 May 2020

Niger

Working with communities during a pandemic
Interview 5 May 2020

Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic

“Diseases will not wait” for COVID-19 in Kenya
Voices from the Field 5 May 2020

Greece

Using torture survival skills to cope during a pandemic
Voices from the Field 5 May 2020

Liberia

MSF supports efforts to treat COVID-19 in Liberia
Interview 4 May 2020

United States of America

MSF demands US ends deportations to stop COVID-19 spread to fragile health systems
Press Release 4 May 2020
**National Vaccine Program Office** - U.S. HHS  [to 9 May 2020]
https://www.hhs.gov/vaccines/about/index.html

**NVAC 2020 Meetings**

**June 9-10, 2020 NVAC Meeting**

**September 23-24, 2020 Meeting (Virtual)**

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**NIH** [to 9 May 2020]

*Selected News Releases*

**NIH clinical trial testing antiviral remdesivir plus anti-inflammatory drug baricitinib for COVID-19 begins**

May 8, 2020 — The trial is now enrolling hospitalized adults with COVID-19 in the United States.

**NIH-supported research survey to examine impact of COVID-19 on rare diseases community**

May 7, 2020 — For the millions of people living with a rare disease, the novel coronavirus disease COVID-19 presents unique challenges.

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**PATH** [to 9 May 2020]
https://www.path.org/media-center/

*Selected Announcements*

May 5, 2020 by PATH

**New partnership to accelerate research and advance a global health COVID-19 vaccine**

Houston, Texas, USA and Seattle, Washington, USA, May 5, 2020 — The National School of Tropical Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children’s Hospital Center for Vaccine Development have formed a new partnership with PATH, a global nonprofit organization dedicated to improving public health. Together, these institutions will advance the development of a low-cost, safe, and effective vaccine to prevent COVID-19...

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**Sabin Vaccine Institute** [to 9 May 2020]
http://www.sabin.org/updates/pressreleases

*Statements and Press Releases*

*No new digest content identified.*

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**UNAIDS** [to 9 May 2020]
http://www.unaids.org/en

*Selected Press Releases/Reports/Statements*

8 May 2020

**Combatting COVID-19 discrimination in Jamaica**

7 May 2020

**United Nations in South Africa launches US$ 136 million COVID-19 flash appeal**
6 May 2020

Mitigating the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic among people living with HIV in India

4 May 2020

HIV-related discrimination still widespread

UNICEF  [to 9 May 2020]
https://www.unicef.org/media/press-releases
Selected Press releases/Announcements
Press release

Pregnant mothers and babies born during COVID-19 pandemic threatened by strained health systems and disruptions in services

With 116 million expected births in the approximately 9 months since the COVID pandemic was recognized, UNICEF calls on governments and donors to maintain lifesaving services for pregnant women and newborns.

...UNICEF warns that although evidence suggests that pregnant mothers are not more affected by COVID-19 than others, countries need to ensure they still have access to antenatal, delivery and postnatal services. Likewise, sick newborns need emergency services as they are at high risk of death. New families require support to start breastfeeding, and to get medicines, vaccines and nutrition to keep their babies healthy...

07/05/2020

Press release

19 million children internally displaced by conflict and violence in 2019, highest number ever

Internally displaced children among the world’s most vulnerable to COVID-19

04/05/2020

Unitaid  [to 9 May 2020]
https://unitaid.org/
Featured News

Unitaid joins global cooperation COVID-19 efforts as international pledging marathon is launched

The European Union and its partner governments launched the international pledging marathon to raise US$ 8 billion to kick-start global cooperation to develop quality, effective and affordable diagnostics, treatments and vaccines against COVID-19. A key part of this is ensure equitable access by all who need them.

The European Union was joined by political leaders from France, Germany, Japan, Norway, Canada, Italy, Spain, UK and Saudi Arabia; as well as the Republic of Korea, South Africa and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation who are members of the Unitaid Executive Board...

Vaccination Acceptance Research Network (VARN)  [to 9 May 2020]
**Announcements**

No new digest content identified.

**Vaccine Confidence Project** [to 9 May 2020]
http://www.vaccineconfidence.org/

Latest News & Archive
No new digest content identified.

**Vaccine Education Center – Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia** [to 9 May 2020]
http://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center

No new digest content identified.

**Wellcome Trust** [to 9 May 2020]
https://wellcome.ac.uk/news

*Opinion* | 7 May 2020

Coronavirus Global Response helped to raise billions for research. But we need more

Alex Harris
Head of Global Policy, Policy and Advocacy team, Wellcome

On 4 May, world leaders, global banks and health organisations came together to invest in the COVID-19 response. With billions pledged, Alex Harris explains what this could mean for the urgent research into tests, treatments and vaccines.

**The Wistar Institute** [to 9 May 2020]

Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

**WFPHA: World Federation of Public Health Associations** [to 9 May 2020]
https://www.wfpha.org/

Latest News
No new digest content identified.

**World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)** [to 9 May 2020]

Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

**ARM [Alliance for Regenerative Medicine]** [to 9 May 2020]
BIO  [to 9 May 2020]

Press Releases

**Administration’s Benefit Rule Threatens Access and Affordability of Prescription Medicines**
May 7, 2020

BIO’s Tom DiLenge, President of Advocacy, Law & Public Policy Division issued the following statement today after the Trump administration adopted a “Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters for 2021“ that allows health plans to block drug...

New Online IP Marketplace Will Foster Collaboration in Race to Eradicate COVID-19
May 4, 2020

To help in the response to the coronavirus pandemic, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office today launched a new online platform, called “Patents 4 Partnerships,” to share patent information for various technologies to facilitate greater collaboration...

DCVMN – Developing Country Vaccine Manufacturers Network  [to 9 May 2020]
http://www.dcvmn.org/

No new digest content identified.

IFPMA  [to 9 May 2020]
http://www.ifpma.org/resources/news-releases/

Selected Press Releases, Statements, Publications

**Pharma Joins Global Pledge Committing to Work Together to Beat COVID-19**
04 May 2020

Geneva, 4 May, 2020: The world’s leading biopharmaceutical companies today reaffirmed the industry’s commitment to join forces to ensure that its breadth of expertise in therapeutics (research, clinical development, manufacturing) is shared across the scientific community as part of the global fight against COVID-19. Today, the industry recommitted at the Coronavirus Global Response Pledging Marathon, to channel its innovation, mobilize its knowhow, pool its expertise and share its manufacturing capacity to help deliver what could amount to billions of new vaccines to stop the spread of pandemic and the many different types of therapeutics needed to alleviate the symptoms of people who have contracted the virus.

As a Founding Partner of the recently launched landmark global partnership Access to COVID-19 Tools (act) Accelerator, the biopharmaceutical industry body, IFPMA, will bring to the table the innovative industry’s unique expertise to find and scale up solutions for preventing and treating the COVID-19 virus. Industry is committed to working with governments and partners to make treatments and vaccines available and affordable for the patients that need them – wherever and whoever they may be...
What they are saying: Intellectual property protections are critical as we work to defeat COVID-19

Tom Wilbur | May 4, 2020

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Journal Watch
Vaccines and Global Health: The Week in Review continues its weekly scanning of key peer-reviewed journals to identify and cite articles, commentary and editorials, books reviews and other content supporting our focus on vaccine ethics and policy. Journal Watch is not intended to be exhaustive, but indicative of themes and issues the Center is actively tracking. We selectively provide full text of some editorial and comment articles that are specifically relevant to our work. Successful access to some of the links provided may require subscription or other access arrangement unique to the publisher.

If you would like to suggest other journal titles to include in this service, please contact David Curry at: david.r.curry@centerforvaccineethicsandpolicy.org

American Journal of Infection Control
May 2020 Volume 48, Issue 5, p471-590
http://www.ajicjournal.org/current

The Importance of Hand Hygiene in the Current Healthcare Environment
[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine
May 2020 Volume 58, Issue 5, p613-756
http://www.ajpmonline.org/current
[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health
May 2020  110(5)
http://ajph.aphapublications.org/toc/ajph/current
[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene
Volume 102, Issue 4, April 2020
http://www.ajtmh.org/content/journals/14761645/102/4
[Reviewed earlier]

Annals of Internal Medicine
Artificial Intelligence – An International Journal
Volume 282   May 2020
[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation
http://resource-allocation.biomedcentral.com/
(Accessed 9 May 2020)
[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Global Health
April 2020 - Volume 5 - Suppl 1
https://gh.bmj.com/content/5/Suppl_1
Reaching conflict-affected women and children with health and nutrition interventions
Original research
Delivering infectious disease interventions to women and children in conflict settings: a systematic review (26 April, 2020)

BMC Health Services Research
http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmchealthservres/content
(Accessed 9 May 2020)
[No new digest content identified]

BMC Infectious Diseases
http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcinfectdis/content
(Accessed 9 May 2020)
[No new digest content identified]

BMC Medical Ethics
http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcmedethics/content
(Accessed 9 May 2020)
[No new digest content identified]
**BMC Medicine**
http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcmed/content
(Accessed 9 May 2020)
**Quantifying the impact of physical distance measures on the transmission of COVID-19 in the UK**
To mitigate and slow the spread of COVID-19, many countries have adopted unprecedented physical distancing policies, including the UK. We evaluate whether these measures might be sufficient to control the epid...
Authors: Christopher I. Jarvis, Kevin Van Zandvoort, Amy Gimma, Kiesha Prem, Petra Klepac, G. James Rubin and W. John Edmunds
Citation: BMC Medicine 2020 18:124
Content type: Research article
Published on: 7 May 2020

**BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth**
http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcpregnancychildbirth/content
(Accessed 9 May 2020)
[No new digest content identified]

**BMC Public Health**
http://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles
(Accessed 9 May 2020)
**Misinformation and the US Ebola communication crisis: analyzing the veracity and content of social media messages related to a fear-inducing infectious disease outbreak**
The Ebola communication crisis of 2014 generated widespread fear and attention among Western news media, social media users, and members of the United States (US) public. Health communicators need more informa...
Authors: Tara Kirk Sell, Divya Hosangadi and Marc Trotochaud
Citation: BMC Public Health 2020 20:550
Content type: Research article
Published on: 7 May 2020

**BMC Research Notes**
http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcresearchnotes/content
(Accessed 9 May 2020)
[No new digest content identified]

**BMJ Open**
May 2020 - Volume 10 - 5
https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/10/5
[New issue; No digest content identified]
Clinical Trials
Volume 17 Issue 2, April 2020
https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/ctja/17/1
Articles
Non-inferiority designs comparing placebo to a proven therapy for childhood pneumonia in low-resource settings
After a new treatment is recommended to be first-line treatment for a specific indication, outcome and population, it may be unethical to use placebo as a comparator in trials for that setting. Nevertheless, in specific circumstances, use of a placebo group might be warranted, for example, when it is believed that an active treatment may not be efficacious or cost-effective for a specific subpopulation. An example is antibiotic treatment for pneumonia, which may not be effective for many patients taking it due to the emergence of antibiotic-resistant strains or the high prevalence of viral and low prevalence of bacterial pneumonia.
Susanne May, Siobhan P Brown, Robert H Schmicker, Scott S. Emerson, Evangelyn Nkwopara, Amy Sarah Ginsburg
First Published December 8, 2019; pp. 129–137

Conflict and Health
http://www.conflicthealth.com/
[Accessed 9 May 2020]
Simple ideas to mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 epidemic on refugees with chronic diseases
Authors: Muhammad Fawad, Fatima Rawashdeh, Parveen K. Parmar and Ruwan Ratnayake
Content type: Letter to the Editor
6 May 2020
Contemporary Clinical Trials
Volume 90  March 2020
https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/contemporary-clinical-trials/vol/90/suppl/C
[Reviewed earlier]

The CRISPR Journal
Volume 3, Issue 2 / April 2020
https://www.liebertpub.com/toc/crispr/3/2
[Reviewed earlier]

Current Genetic Medicine Reports
Volume 8, Issue 1, March 2020
https://link.springer.com/journal/40142/8/1
[Reviewed earlier]

Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases
June 2020 - Volume 33 - Issue 3
https://journals.lww.com/co-infectiousdiseases/pages/currenttoc.aspx
[Reviewed earlier]

Developing World Bioethics
Volume 20, Issue 1  Pages: 1-60  March 2020
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14718847/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Development in Practice
Volume 30, Issue 2, 2020
http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cdip20/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness
Volume 14 - Issue 1 - February 2020
https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/disaster-medicine-and-public-health-preparedness/latest-issue
[Reviewed earlier]

Disasters
Volume 44, Issue 2  Pages: 233-432  April 2020
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14677717/current
[Reviewed earlier]
The long journey towards standards for engineering biosystems: Are the Molecular Biology and the Biotech communities ready to standardise?

Jacob Beal et al.

Standards are the basis of technology: they allow rigorous description and exact measurement of properties, reliable reproducibility and a common “language” that enables different communities to work together. Molecular biology was in part created by physicists; yet, the field did not inherit the focus on the quantitation, the definition of system boundaries and the robust, unequivocal language that is characteristic of the other natural sciences. However, synthetic biology (SynBio) increasingly requires scientific, technical, operational and semantic standards for the field to become a full-fledged engineering discipline with a high level of accuracy in the design, manufacturing and performance of biological artefacts. Although the benefits of adopting standards are clear, the community is still largely reluctant to accept them, owing to concerns about adoption costs and losses in flexibility.

Emerging Infectious Diseases
Volume 26, Number 5—May 2020
http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/

Decreased Influenza Incidence under COVID-19 Control Measures, Singapore
R. Soo et al.
August 2020

Analysis of MarketScan Data for Immunosuppressive Conditions and Hospitalizations for Acute Respiratory Illness, United States
M. Patel et al.
August 2020

Evaluating the Effectiveness of Social Distancing Interventions to Delay or Flatten the Epidemic Curve of Coronavirus Disease
L. Matrajt and T. Leung
August 2020

Asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 Infection in Household Contacts of a Healthcare Provider, Wuhan, China
Y. Luo et al.
August 2020

Collateral Benefit of COVID-19 Control Measures on Influenza Activity, Taiwan
S. Kuo et al.
August 2020

Prolonged Persistence of SARS-CoV-2 RNA in Body Fluids
J. Sun et al.
August 2020

Fatal Invasive Aspergillosis and Coronavirus Disease in an Immunocompetent Patient
M. Blaize et al.
July 2020

Pulmonary Embolism and Increased Levels of d-Dimer in Patients with Coronavirus Disease
D. O. Griffin et al.
August 2020

Evidence Supporting Transmission of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 While Presymptomatic or Asymptomatic
N. W. Furukawa et al.
July 2020

Policy Review
Nonpharmaceutical Measures for Pandemic Influenza in Nonhealthcare Settings—International Travel-Related Measures [PDF - 418 KB - 6 pages]
S. Ryu et al.

Nonpharmaceutical Measures for Pandemic Influenza in Nonhealthcare Settings—Personal Protective and Environmental Measures [PDF - 914 KB - 9 pages]
J. Xiao et al.

Nonpharmaceutical Measures for Pandemic Influenza in Nonhealthcare Settings—Social Distancing Measures [PDF - 1.08 MB - 9 pages]
M. W. Fong et al.

Epidemics
Volume 30  March 2020
https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/epidemics/vol/30/suppl/C
[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemiology and Infection
Volume 148 - 2020
https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/epidemiology-and-infection/latest-issue
[Reviewed earlier]

Ethics & Human Research
Volume 42, Issue 2  Pages: 1-33  March–April 2020
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/25782363/current
Incidental Findings :: Data Sharing N-of-1 Trials :: Deception
Bibliometric analysis of peer-reviewed literature on climate change and human health with an emphasis on infectious diseases

Assessing research activity is important for planning future protective and adaptive policies. The objective of the current study was to assess research activity on climate change and health with an emphasis on infectious diseases.

Authors: Waleed M. Sweileh
As governments around the world respond to the COVID-19 pandemic with a range of policies aimed at mitigating the economic fallout, we argue that low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) should prioritize public money creation over foreign borrowing. Experience shows that the cost of servicing foreign debt diverts resources from public services and can undermine fundamental economic, social and cultural rights, such as the rights to clean water, sanitation, basic education and health care. Moreover, the conditions attached to any subsequent debt restructuring can make matters worse.[1]...

Kathryn M Barker, Emilia J Ling, Mosoka Fallah, Brian VanDeBogert, Yvonne Kodl ...

In the lead article, Natalie Roberts reflects on the extent to which humanitarian actors have applied learning from the outbreak in West Africa in 2014–2016. Richard Kojan and colleagues report on the NGO ALIMA’s flexible, patient-centred approach to reducing mortality, Marcela Ascuntar reflects on lessons learned from community feedback and Bernard Balibuno, Emanuel Mbuna Badjonga and Howard Mollett highlight the crucial role faith-based organisations have played in the response. In their article, Theresa Jones, Noé Kasali and Olivia Tulloch outline the work of the Bethesda counselling centre in Beni, which provides support to grieving families. Reflecting on findings from a recent assessment by Translators without Borders, Ellie Kemp describes the challenges involved in providing clear and accessible information on Ebola and the response, and Sung Joon Park and colleagues explain how humane care and treatment can help increase trust and confidence in the response. Stephen Mugamba and his co-authors highlight the importance of community involvement in Ebola research, and Gillian McKay and her co-authors examine the impact of the Ebola outbreak and response on sexual and reproductive health services.

Stacey Mearns, Kiryn Lanning and Michelle Gayer present an Ebola Readiness Roadmap to support NGOs in preparing for an outbreak, while Edward Kumakech, Maurice Sadlier, Aidan Sinnott and Dan Irvine report on a Gap Analysis tool looking at the communication, community engagement and compliance tracking activities that need to be in place before an Ebola vaccine is deployed. Emanuele Bruni and colleagues describe the development of a new monitoring and evaluation framework for strategic response planning. The edition ends with an article by Adelicia Fairbanks, who argues for an acceptance strategy in the DRC to improve security and access for responding agencies.
**Infectious Agents and Cancer**

[Reviewed earlier]

http://www.infectagentscancer.com/content

[Accessed 9 May 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

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**Infectious Diseases of Poverty**

[Reviewed earlier]

http://www.idpjournal.com/content

[Accessed 9 May 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

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**International Health**

Volume 12, Issue 3, May 2020,

https://academic.oup.com/inthealth/issue/12/3

*Article*

**Vaccine stockouts and vaccination rate: examination of unique administrative data from Nigeria**

Ryoko Sato

International Health, Volume 12, Issue 3, May 2020, Pages 170–176,

https://doi.org/10.1093/inthealth/ihz091

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**International Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health**

Vol 7, No 5 (2020) May 2020

https://www.ijcmph.com/index.php/ijcmph/issue/view/62

[Reviewed earlier]

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**International Journal of Epidemiology**

Volume 49, Issue Supplement_1, April 2020

https://academic.oup.com/ije/issue/49/Supplement_1

*Big Data, Small Area*

[Reviewed earlier]

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**International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare**

Volume 12 Issue 5

https://www.emerald.com/insight/publication/issn/2056-4902/vol/12/iss/5

[Reviewed earlier]

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**International Journal of Infectious Diseases**

March 2020 Volume 92, Supplement, p1-12, S1-S102
Commemorating World Tuberculosis Day March 24th, 2020: "IT'S TIME TO FIND, TREAT ALL and END TUBERCULOSIS!"

[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA

Online First

COVID-19: Beyond Tomorrow

The Equitable Distribution of COVID-19 Therapeutics and Vaccines
Thomas J. Bollyky, JD; Lawrence O. Gostin, JD; Margaret A. Hamburg, MD
free access has active quiz
JAMA. Published online May 7, 2020. doi:10.1001/jama.2020.6641
This Viewpoint proposes a framework for international cooperation among governments and organizations to replace competition and hoarding with equitable global distribution of COVID-19 therapeutics and vaccines as they are developed.

Editorial

COVID-19—Looking Beyond Tomorrow for Health Care and Society
Phil B. Fontanarosa, MD, MBA; Howard Bauchner, MD

JAMA Pediatrics

May 2020, Vol 174, No. 5, Pages 401-512
http://archpedi.jamanetwork.com/issue.aspx

Viewpoint

The Ethics of Disclosing Diagnostic Errors What Is the Researcher’s Duty?
Grant J. Shafer, MD; Frank X. Placencia, MD, MS
This Viewpoint reviews the current literature on the ethics of disclosing diagnostic errors and proposes a framework to guide researchers.

Literacy as a Distinct Developmental Domain in Children
Perri Klass, MD; John S. Hutton, MD; Thomas G. DeWitt, MD
This Viewpoint characterizes literacy as a unique domain of child development separate from spoken language acquisition that can be promoted and monitored through early pediatric primary care intervention.

JBI Database of Systematic Review and Implementation Reports
April 2020 - Volume 18 - Issue 4
https://journals.lww.com/jbisrir/Pages/currenttoc.aspx
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Adolescent Health
May 2020 Volume 66, Issue 5, p515-634
Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health
Volume 22, Issue 3, June 2020
https://link.springer.com/journal/10903/22/3
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies
Volume 18, 2020, Issue 2
https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/wimm20/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Infectious Diseases
Volume 221, Issue 7, 1 April 2020
https://academic.oup.com/jid/issue/221/7
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Ethics
April 2020 - Volume 46 - 4
http://jme.bmj.com/content/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews
Volume 7, Issue 2 (2020)
https://digitalrepository.aurorahealthcare.org/jpcrr/
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pediatrics
May 2020 Volume 220, p1-274
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice
https://joppp.biomedcentral.com/
[Accessed 9 May 2020]
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Public Health Management & Practice
May/June 2020 - Volume 26 - Issue 3
The Lancet
May 09, 2020  Volume 395  Number 10235  p1461-1520
https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/issue/current

Editorial
COVID-19 in Brazil: “So what?”
The Lancet

Comment
The key role of palliative care in response to the COVID-19 tsunami of suffering
Lukas Radbruch, Felicia Marie Knaul, Liliana de Lima, Cornelis de Joncheere, Afsan Bhadelia

Hypothesis
SARS-CoV-2 and viral sepsis: observations and hypotheses
Hui Li, Liang Liu, Dingyu Zhang, Jiuyang Xu, Huaping Dai, Nan Tang, Xiao Su, Bin Cao
The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health
May 2020  Volume 4  Number 5  p341-406, e10-e11
https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanchi/issue/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Digital Health
May 2020  Volume 2  Number 5  e209-e267
https://www.thelancet.com/journals/landig/issue/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Global Health
May 2020  Volume 8  Number 5  e612-e736
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/issue/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Infectious Diseases
May 2020  Volume 20  Number 5  p511-628, e79-e115
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/issue/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Editorial
COVID-19 puts societies to the test
The Lancet Public Health

Articles
The effect of control strategies to reduce social mixing on outcomes of the COVID-19 epidemic in Wuhan, China: a modelling study
Kiesha Prem, et al/

Impact of school closures for COVID-19 on the US health-care workforce and net mortality: a modelling study
Jude Bayham, Eli P Fenichel

Impact assessment of non-pharmaceutical interventions against coronavirus disease 2019 and influenza in Hong Kong: an observational study
Benjamin J Cowling, et al.

Effect of changing case definitions for COVID-19 on the epidemic curve and transmission parameters in mainland China: a modelling study
Lancet Respiratory Medicine
May 2020 Volume 8 Number 5 p423-526, e27-e42
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanres/issue/current

**Articles**

*Clinical course and outcomes of critically ill patients with SARS-CoV-2 pneumonia in Wuhan, China: a single-centered, retrospective, observational study*
Xiaobo Yang, et al.

*Review*

Jason Phua, et al. for the Asian Critical Care Clinical Trials Group

Health-care Development

*Planning and provision of ECMO services for severe ARDS during the COVID-19 pandemic and other outbreaks of emerging infectious diseases*
Kollengode Ramanathan, et al.

Maternal and Child Health Journal
Volume 24, Issue 5, May 2020
https://link.springer.com/journal/10995/24/5
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Medical Decision Making (MDM)
Volume 40 Issue 2, February 2020
http://mdm.sagepub.com/content/current
[Reviewed earlier]

The Milbank Quarterly
A Multidisciplinary Journal of Population Health and Health Policy
Volume 98, Issue 1 Pages: 1-222 March 2020
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14680009/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Nature
Volume 581 Issue 7806, 7 May 2020
http://www.nature.com/nature/current_issue.html

**Article** | 29 April 2020 | Open Access

*Childhood vaccines and antibiotic use in low- and middle-income countries*
Joseph A. Lewnard, Nathan C. Lo[...], Ramanan Laxminarayan

**Abstract**
Vaccines may reduce the burden of antimicrobial resistance, in part by preventing infections for which treatment often includes the use of antibiotics\textsuperscript{1,2,3,4}. However, the effects of vaccination on antibiotic consumption remain poorly understood—especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), where the burden of antimicrobial resistance is greatest\textsuperscript{5}. Here we show that vaccines that have recently been implemented in the World Health Organization’s Expanded Programme on Immunization reduce antibiotic consumption substantially among children under five years of age in LMICs. By analysing data from large-scale studies of households, we estimate that pneumococcal conjugate vaccines and live attenuated rotavirus vaccines confer 19.7\% (95\% confidence interval, 3.4–43.4\%) and 11.4\% (4.0–18.6\%) protection against antibiotic-treated episodes of acute respiratory infection and diarrhoea, respectively, in age groups that experience the greatest disease burden attributable to the vaccine-targeted pathogens\textsuperscript{6,7}. Under current coverage levels, pneumococcal and rotavirus vaccines prevent 23.8 million and 13.6 million episodes of antibiotic-treated illness, respectively, among children under five years of age in LMICs each year. Direct protection resulting from the achievement of universal coverage targets for these vaccines could prevent an additional 40.0 million episodes of antibiotic-treated illness. This evidence supports the prioritization of vaccines within the global strategy to combat antimicrobial resistance\textsuperscript{8}.

**Nature Biotechnology**
Volume 38 Issue 4, April 2020
https://www.nature.com/nbt/volumes/38/issues/4
[Reviewed earlier]

**Nature Genetics**
Volume 52 Issue 5, May 2020
https://www.nature.com/ng/volumes/52/issues/5
*Editorial* / 06 May 2020
**Tracking genetic discrimination**

The promise of personalized medicine lies in the tailored treatment of individual patients, a process requiring detailed phenotypic and genetic information. Although the widespread collection of such data can help to advance the implementation of precision healthcare, the genomic sequencing data being amassed also include private information that could potentially be used as a basis for genetic discrimination. It is important for the genetics community to be aware of these risks and to contribute to policies designed to monitor and mitigate threats to the equitable treatment of individuals or populations on the basis of genetics.

**Comment** | 23 March 2020

**Establishing the International Genetic Discrimination Observatory**

Genetic discrimination is one of the most pervasive challenges resulting from research and development in human genetics. To collaboratively study and prevent this ethical issue, we established an international Genetic Discrimination Observatory comprising a network of researchers and stakeholders from more than 19 jurisdictions.

Yann Joly, Gratien Dalpé\textsuperscript{[...]} & Yvonne Bombard

**Nature Medicine**
A future for regulatory science in the European Union: the European Medicines Agency’s strategy

Philip A. Hines, Rosanne Janssens [...] & Anthony J. Humphreys

Rethinking drug design in the artificial intelligence era

Petra Schneider, W. Patrick Walters [...] & Gisbert Schneider

Data Citizenship under the 21st Century Cures Act

Kenneth D. Mandl, M.D., M.P.H., and Isaac S. Kohane, M.D., Ph.D.

A new federal rule facilitates health data exchange and enforces right of access to a computable version of one’s medical record. The essential next steps include addressing cybersecurity, privacy, and insurability risks.
Editorials

Covid-19 — The Search for Effective Therapy
Lindsey R. Baden, M.D., and Eric J. Rubin, M.D., Ph.D.

Pediatrics
Vol. 145, Issue 5 1 May 2020
https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/
[Reviewed earlier]

Pharmaceutics
Volume 12, Issue 4 (April 2020)
https://www.mdpi.com/1999-4923/12/4
Open Access Review

Availability of Authorizations from EMA and FDA for Age-Appropriate Medicines Contained in the WHO Essential Medicines List for Children 2019
by Jose-Manuel del Moral-Sanchez, Isabel Gonzalez-Alvarez, Marta Gonzalez-Alvarez, Andres Navarro-Ruiz and Marival Bermejo
Pharmaceutics 2020, 12(4), 316; https://doi.org/10.3390/pharmaceutics12040316 - 01 Apr 2020

Abstract

Lack of age-appropriate commercially drug products availability is a common problem in pediatric therapeutics; this population needs improved and safer drug delivery. In addition, biopharmaceutic aspects, dosage requirements, and swallowing abilities demand pediatric forms different to adult formulations. The objective of this study was to evaluate the authorization availability from United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and European Medicines Agency (EMA) of oral essential medicines for children and analyze its age-appropriateness for oral administration in children. All oral drugs from 7th List of Essential Medicines for Children by World Health Organization (WHO) were selected. Availability of commercial drug products was collected from OrangeBook, Spanish drug product catalogue, British electronic Medicines Compendium, and the International Vademecum. Tablets, effervescent tablets, and capsules were considered as not age-appropriate forms. Liquid forms, powder for oral suspension, mini tablets, granules, and soluble films were considered as age-appropriate forms due to their flexibility. More than 80% of the studied drugs possess a commercial authorization in oral forms in both EMA and FDA. Nevertheless, around 50% of these formulations are not age-appropriate for most pediatric groups. This study shows the lack of age-appropriate medicines for children. More efforts are needed to improve development and approval of pediatric medicines.

PharmacoEconomics
Volume 38, Issue 5, May 2020
https://link.springer.com/journal/40273/38/5
[Reviewed earlier]

PLoS Genetics
Eliminating yellow fever epidemics in Africa: Vaccine demand forecast and impact modelling
Kévin Jean, Arran Hamlet, Justus Benzler, Laurence Cibrelus, Katy A. M. Gaythorpe, Amadou Sall, Neil M. Ferguson, Tini Garske
Research Article | published 07 May 2020 PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases
https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0008304

COVID-19 in Latin America: Novel transmission dynamics for a global pandemic?
Matthew J. Miller, Jose R. Loaiza, Anshule Takyar, Robert H. Gilman
Viewpoints | published 07 May 2020 PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases
https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0008265

A typology of beliefs and misperceptions about the influenza disease and vaccine among older adults in Singapore
Christopher L. Cummings, Wei Yi Kong, Jeanette Orminski
Research Article | published 06 May 2020 PLOS ONE
https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0232472

PNAS - Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America
http://www.pnas.org/content/early/
[Accessed 9 May 2020]
Decisional autonomy undermines advisees’ judgments of experts in medicine and in life
Samantha Kassirer, Emma E. Levine, and Celia Gaertig

Significance
The debate over whether people ought to be guided paternalistically or given full decisional autonomy has been raging for centuries. However, in many Western societies, autonomy has become the gold standard. The US medical system, in particular, has increasingly prioritized patient autonomy. The present research examines the important question of how patients and advisees broadly react to full decisional autonomy. We find that advisees making difficult decisions prefer paternalism to autonomy, but doctors do not anticipate this preference. We document this preference within medicine and within a range of other contexts characterized by adviser–advisee asymmetries in expertise. Our results suggest that advisees facing difficult decisions do not perceive autonomy as the gold standard.

Abstract
Over the past several decades, the United States medical system has increasingly prioritized patient autonomy. Physicians routinely encourage patients to come to their own decisions about their medical care rather than providing patients with clearer yet more paternalistic advice. Although political theorists, bioethicists, and philosophers generally see this as a positive trend, the present research examines the important question of how patients and advisees in general react to full decisional autonomy when making difficult decisions under uncertainty. Across six experiments (N = 3,867), we find that advisers who give advisees decisional autonomy rather than offering paternalistic advice are judged to be less competent and less helpful. As a result, advisees are less likely to return to and recommend these advisers and pay them lower wages. Importantly, we also demonstrate that advisers do not anticipate these effects. We document these results both inside and outside the medical domain, suggesting that the preference for paternalism is not unique to medicine but rather is a feature of situations in which there are adviser–advisee asymmetries in expertise. We find that the preference for paternalism holds when advice is solicited or unsolicited, when both paternalism and autonomy are accompanied by expert guidance, and it persists both before and after the outcomes of paternalistic advice are realized. Lastly, we see that the preference for paternalism only occurs when decision makers perceive their decision to be difficult. These results challenge the benefits of recently adopted practices in medical decision making that prioritize full decisional autonomy.

Estimating the deep replicability of scientific findings using human and artificial intelligence
Yang Yang, Wu Youyou, and Brian Uzzi

Significance
After years of urgent concern about the failure of scientific papers to replicate, an accurate, scalable method for identifying findings at risk has yet to arrive. We present a method that combines machine intelligence and human acumen for estimating a study’s likelihood of replication. Our model—trained and tested on hundreds of manually replicated studies and out-of-sample datasets—is comparable to the best current methods, yet reduces the strain on researchers’ resources. In practice, our model can complement prediction market and survey replication methods, prioritize studies for expensive manual replication tests, and furnish independent feedback to researchers prior to submitting a study for review.

Abstract
Replicability tests of scientific papers show that the majority of papers fail replication. Moreover, failed papers circulate through the literature as quickly as replicating papers. This dynamic weakens the literature, raises research costs, and demonstrates the need for new approaches for estimating a study’s replicability. Here, we trained an artificial intelligence model to estimate a paper’s replicability using ground truth data on studies that had passed or failed manual replication tests, and then tested the model’s generalizability on an extensive set of out-of-sample studies. The model predicts replicability better than the base rate of reviewers and comparably as well as prediction markets, the best present-day method for predicting replicability. In out-of-sample tests on manually replicated papers from diverse disciplines and methods, the model had strong accuracy levels of 0.65 to 0.78. Exploring the reasons behind the model’s predictions, we found no evidence for bias based on topics, journals, disciplines, base rates of failure, persuasion words, or novelty words like “remarkable” or “unexpected.” We did find that the model’s accuracy is higher when trained on a paper’s text rather than its reported statistics and that n-grams, higher order word combinations that humans have difficulty processing, correlate with replication. We discuss how combining human and machine intelligence can raise confidence in research, provide research self-assessment techniques, and create methods that are scalable and efficient enough to review the ever-growing numbers of publications—a task that entails extensive human resources to accomplish with prediction markets and manual replication alone.

Prehospital & Disaster Medicine
Volume 35 - Issue 3 - June 2020
https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/prehospital-and-disaster-medicine/latest-issue
Guest Editorial
Declining Public Health Protections within Autocratic Regimes: Impact on Global Public Health Security, Infectious Disease Outbreaks, Epidemics, and Pandemics
Frederick M. Burkle
Published online by Cambridge University Press: 08 April 2020, pp. 237-246
Abstract
Public health emergencies of international concern, in the form of infectious disease outbreaks, epidemics, and pandemics, represent an increasing risk to the world’s population. Management requires coordinated responses, across many disciplines and nations, and the capacity to muster proper national and global public health education, infrastructure, and prevention measures. Unfortunately, increasing numbers of nations are ruled by autocratic regimes which have characteristically failed to adopt investments in public health infrastructure, education, and prevention measures to keep pace with population growth and density. Autocratic leaders have a direct impact on health security, a direct negative impact on health, and create adverse political and economic conditions that only complicate the crisis further. This is most evident in autocratic regimes where health protections have been seriously and purposely curtailed. All autocratic regimes define public health along economic and political imperatives that are similar across borders and cultures. Autocratic regimes are seriously handicapped by sociopathic narcissistic leaders who are incapable of understanding the health consequences of infectious diseases or the impact on their population. A cross section of autocratic nations currently experiencing the impact of COVID-19 (coronavirus disease 2019) are reviewed to demonstrate the manner where self-serving regimes fail to manage health crises and place the rest of the world at increasing risk. It is time to re-address the pre-SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) global agendas calling for stronger strategic capacity, legal authority, support, and
institutional status under World Health Organization (WHO) leadership granted by an
International Health Regulations Treaty. Treaties remain the most successful means the world
has in preventing, preparing for, and controlling epidemics in an increasingly globalized world.

Preventive Medicine
Volume 134  May 2020
Research article  Abstract only
Tetanus, diphtheria and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine for prevention of pertussis among adults aged 19 years and older in the United States: A cost-effectiveness analysis
Bo-Hyun Cho, Anna M. Acosta, Andrew J. Leidner, Amanda E. Faulkner, Fangjun Zhou
Article 106066

Research article  Abstract only
Higher education associated with better national tetanus vaccination coverage: A population-based assessment
Camerin A. Rencken, Shira Dunsiger, Annie Gjelsvik, Siraj Amanullah
Article 106063

Proceedings of the Royal Society B
13 May 2020  Volume 287  Issue 1926
https://royalsocietypublishing.org/toc/rspb/current
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Public Health
Volume 181  Pages 1-204 (April 2020)
[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Ethics
Volume 12, Issue 3, November 2019
http://phe.oxfordjournals.org/content/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Reports
Volume 135 Issue 2, March/April 2020
https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/phrg/135/2
[Reviewed earlier]

Qualitative Health Research
Volume 30 Issue 6, May 2020
Research Ethics
Volume 16 Issue 1-2, January-April 2020
http://journals.sagepub.com/toc/reab/current

Editorial
The unexpected power of research ethics
Doris Schroeder, Kate Chatfield, Sarah Edwards
First Published February 25, 2020

Original Article: Non-Empirical
Islamic concepts in ethics of pediatric clinical research
Areej AG AlFattani, Hala AlAlem
First Published February 3, 2020; pp. 1–11

Abstract
Background:
Medical research on children has increased in the last 20 years. International ethical regulations for conducting clinical research on children may not pertain to Muslim communities where religious beliefs play a big role in decision-making process.
Methods:
The aim of this paper was to illustrate the origins of bioethics principles in Islam, to appraise the existing regulations of Islamic countries, and to systematically review areas of improvements.
Conclusion:
This review recommends a customized approach for regulators to set culturally adapted ethical guidelines that highlight Islamic traditions in dealing with children of different ages.

Reproductive Health
http://www.reproductive-health-journal.com/content
[Accessed 9 May 2020]
[No new digest content identified]

Revista Panamericana de Salud Pública/Pan American Journal of Public Health (RPSP/PAJPH)
https://www.paho.org/journal/en
Latest articles
[No new digest content identified]

Risk Analysis
Volume 40, Issue 5  Pages: 899-1110  May 2020
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/15396924/current
[New issue; no digest content identified]
Risk Management and Healthcare Policy
[Accessed 9 May 2020]
[No new digest content identified]

Science
08 May 2020  Vol 368, Issue 6491
http://www.sciencemag.org/current.dtl
Special Issue: Early Life Immunology
Introduction to special issue
The immune system's first steps
By Seth Thomas Scanlon

Reviews
Prenatal development of human immunity
By Jong-Eun Park, Laura Jardine, Berthold Gottgens, Sarah A. Teichmann, Muzlifah Haniffa
Science08 May 2020 : 600-603 Restricted Access

Microbial–host molecular exchange and its functional consequences in early mammalian life
By Stephanie C. Ganal-Vonarburg, Mathias W. Hornef, Andrew J. Macpherson
Science08 May 2020 : 604-607 Restricted Access

Contributions of maternal and fetal antiviral immunity in congenital disease
By Laura J. Yockey, Carolina Lucas, Akiko Iwasaki
Science08 May 2020 : 608-612 Restricted Access

Vaccination strategies to enhance immunity in neonates
By Tobias R. Kollmann, Arnaud Marchant, Sing Sing Way
Abstract
Neonates are particularly susceptible to infection. This vulnerability occurs despite their responsiveness to most vaccines. However, current vaccines do not target the pathogens responsible for most of the severe neonatal infections, and the time it takes to induce protective pathogen-specific immunity after vaccination limits protection in the first days to weeks of life. Alternative strategies include using vaccines to broadly stimulate neonatal immunity in a pathogen-agnostic fashion or vaccinating women during pregnancy to induce protective antibodies that are vertically transferred to offspring within their window of vulnerability. Protection may be further improved by integrating these approaches, namely vaccinating the neonate under the cover of vertically transferred maternal immunity. The rationale for and knowledge gaps related to each of these alternatives are discussed.

Editorial
Combination prevention for COVID-19
By Myron S. Cohen, Lawrence Corey

Beat COVID-19 through innovation
By Pierre Azoulay, Benjamin Jones

Policy Forum

In pursuit of open science, open access is not enough
By Claudio Aspesi, Amy Brand
Science08 May 2020 : 574-577 Full Access

Preventing monopolies in knowledge infrastructure is the next battleground for publishers and research institutions

Summary

After decades of debate on the feasibility of open access (OA) to scientific publications, we may be nearing a tipping point. A number of recent developments, such as Plan S, suggest that OA upon publication could become the default in the sciences within the next several years. Despite uncertainty about the long-term sustainability of OA models, many publishers who had been reluctant to abandon the subscription business model are showing openness to OA (1). Although more OA can mean more immediate, global access to scholarship, there remains a need for practical, sustainable models, for careful analysis of the consequences of business model choices, and for “caution in responding to passionate calls for a ‘default to open’” (2). Of particular concern for the academic community, as subscription revenues decline in the transition to OA and some publishers prioritize other sources of revenue, is the growing ownership of data analytics, hosting, and portal services by large scholarly publishers. This may enhance publishers’ ability to lock in institutional customers through combined offerings that condition open access to journals upon purchase of other services. Even if such “bundled” arrangements have a near-term benefit of increasing openly licensed scholarship, they may run counter to long-term interests of the academic community by reducing competition and the diversity of service offerings. The healthy functioning of the academic community, including fair terms and conditions from commercial partners, requires that the global marketplace for data analytics and knowledge infrastructure be kept open to real competition.

Reports

An investigation of transmission control measures during the first 50 days of the COVID-19 epidemic in China
By Huaiyu Tian, Yonghong Liu, Yidan Li, Chieh-Hsi Wu, Bin Chen, Moritz U. G. Kraemer, Bingying Li, Jun Cai, Bo Xu, QiQi Yang, Ben Wang, Peng Yang, Yujun Cui, Yimeng Song, Pai Zheng, Quanyi Wang, Ottar N. Bjornstad, Ruifu Yang, Bryan T. Grenfell, Oliver G. Pybus, Christopher Dye
Science08 May 2020 : 638-642 Full Access

Travel restrictions and the national emergency response delayed the growth and limited the size of the COVID-19 epidemic in China.

Science Translational Medicine
06 May 2020 Vol 12, Issue 542
https://stm.sciencemag.org/

Research Articles

BCG vaccination–induced emergency granulopoiesis provides rapid protection from neonatal sepsis
By Byron Brook, Danny J. Harbeson, Casey P. Shannon, Bing Cai, Daniel He, Rym Ben-Othman, Freddy Francis, Joe Huang, Natallia Varankovich, Aaron Liu, Winnie Bao, Morten Bjerregaard-
Neonatal administration of BCG vaccine rapidly increases neutrophil production to reduce mortality from sepsis.

**Social Science & Medicine**

Volume 251  April 2020

[Accessed 9 May 2020]

**Systematic Reviews**

[Accessed 9 May 2020]

**Interventions for treatment of COVID-19: a protocol for a living systematic review with network meta-analysis including individual patient data (The LIVING Project)**

COVID-19 is a rapidly spreading virus infection that has quickly caused extensive burden to individual, families, countries, and the globe. No intervention has yet been proven effective for the treatment of CO...

Authors: Sophie Juul, Niklas Nielsen, Peter Bentzer, Areti Angeliki Veroniki, Lehana Thabane, Adam Linder, Sarah Klingenberg, Christian Gluud and Janus Christian Jakobsen

Citation: Systematic Reviews 2020 9:108

Content type: Protocol

Published on: 9 May 2020

**Travel Medicine and Infectious Diseases**

Volume 34  March–April 2020

**What do we know about travel for children with special health care needs? A review of the literature**

Sarah E. Kohl, Elizabeth D. Barnett

Article 101438

**COVID-19 – the role of mass gatherings**

Shahul H. Ebrahim, Ziad A. Memish

Article 101617

**Abstract**

Mass gathering (MG) medicine emerged against the backdrop of the 2009 pandemic H1N1 Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) when the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) hosted the largest annual mass gathering of over 3 million pilgrims from 180 plus countries. However, the events surrounding the latest threat to global health, the PHEIC
COVID-19, may be sufficient to highlight the role of mass gatherings, mass migration, and other forms of dense gatherings of people on the emergence, sustenance, and transmission of novel pathogens. The COVID-19 spread illustrates the role of MGs in exacerbation of the scope of pandemics. Cancellation or suspension of MGs would be critical to pandemic mitigation. It is unlikely that medical countermeasures are available during the early phase of pandemics. Therefore, mitigation of its impact, rather than containment and control becomes a priority during pandemics. As the most systematically studied MG-related respiratory disease data come from KSA, the cancellation of Umrah by the KSA authorities, prior to emergence of cases, provide the best opportunity to develop mathematical models to quantify event cancellations related mitigation of COVID-19 transmission in KSA and to the home countries of pilgrims. COVID-19 has already provided examples of both clearly planned event cancellations such as the Umrah suspension in KSA, and where outbreaks and events were continued.

Short communication  Full text access
The cancellation of mass gatherings (MGs)? Decision making in the time of COVID-19
Qanta A. Ahmed, Ziad A. Memish
Article 101631
Abstract
Our recommendation, as experts who have monitored health hazards at the Hajj for over 15 years, especially if the situation with COVID-19 continues to escalate globally is that Hajj 2020 will be at risk of being suspended and a means for Muslims to fulfill their rights in the future either personally or even by proxy need to be announced. The same holds true for the Summer 2020 Olympics in Japan and for many other MGs and large gatherings. Decisions in the time of COVID-19 will be closely followed and will be a blueprint for other mass gatherings.

Tropical Medicine & International Health
Volume 25, Issue 4  Pages: i-iv, 387-505  April 2020
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/13653156/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Vaccine
Volume 38, Issue 21  Pages 3699-3810 (6 May 2020)
https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/vaccine/vol/38/issue/21
Selected Content
Research article  Open access
Immunogenicity and safety of an adjuvanted inactivated polio vaccine, IPV-Al, following vaccination in children at 2, 4, 6 and at 15–18 months
Xavier Sáez-Llorens, Birgit Thierry-Carstensen, Lina Saem Stoey, Charlotte Sørensen, ... Mie Vestergaard Kusk
Pages 3780-3789

Research article  Abstract only
Vaccine skepticism reflects basic cognitive differences in mortality-related event frequency estimation
Mark LaCour, Tyler Davis
Use of tetanus-diphtheria (Td) vaccine in children 4–7 years of age: World Health Organization consultation of experts
Shalini Desai, Heather M. Scobie, Thomas Cherian, Tracey Goodman, The Expert Group on the Use of Td vaccine in Childhood
Pages 3800-3807

Vaccines — Open Access Journal
http://www.mdpi.com/journal/vaccines
(Accessed 9 May 2020)

Open Access Commentary
Pandemic Influenza Vaccines: What did We Learn from the 2009 Pandemic and are We Better Prepared Now?
by Steven Rockman, Karen Laurie and Ian Barr
Vaccines 2020, 8(2), 211; https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines8020211 - 07 May 2020

Value in Health
May 2020 Volume 23, Issue 5, p527-676
https://www.valueinhealthjournal.com/issue/S1098-3015(20)X0006-4

THEMED SECTION: PRECISION MEDICINE
Being Precise About Precision Medicine: What Should Value Frameworks Incorporate to Address Precision Medicine? A Report of the Personalized Precision Medicine Special Interest Group
Eric Faulkner, Anke-Peggy Holtorf, Surrey Walton, Christine Y. Liu, Hwee Lin, Eman Biltaj, Diana Brixner, Charles Barr, Jennifer Oberg, Gurmit Shandhu, Uwe Siebert, Susan R. Snyder, Simran Tiwana, John Watkins, Maarten J. IJzerman, Katherine Payne
p529–539
Published online: April 1, 2020

Highlights
:: Various stakeholder groups (eg, developers, regulators, payers, providers, patients) view the value attributes associated with precision medicine in different ways, not all of which are reflected in value assessment models.
:: Value assessment of precision medicine is inconsistent and, in some cases, unclear across different geographies and health technology assessment, bodies, irrespective of some groups articulating approaches. Currently, there is not uniform standard, which has potential to result in variable patient access to precision medicine.
:: Rapid expansion of diagnostic testing, including evolution of next-generation testing, whole genome and exome testing and integration of evidence with machine learning are also key areas that health technology assessment, processes will need to adapt around.

Abstract
Precision medicine is a dynamic area embracing a diverse and increasing type of approaches that allow the targeting of new medicines, screening programs or preventive healthcare strategies, which include the use of biologic markers or complex tests driven by algorithms also potentially taking account of patient preferences. The International Society for
Pharmacoeconomics and Outcome Research expanded its current work around precision medicine to (1) describe the evolving paradigm of precision medicine with examples of current and evolving applications, (2) describe key stakeholders perspectives on the value of precision medicine in their respective domains, and (3) define the core factors that should be considered in a value assessment framework for precision medicine. With the ultimate goal of improving health of well-defined patient groups, precision medicine will affect all stakeholders in the healthcare system at multiple levels spanning the individual perspective to the societal perspective. For an efficient, timely and practical precision medicine value assessment framework, it will be important to address these multiple perspectives through building consensus among the stakeholders for robust procedures and measures of value aspects, including performance of precision mechanism; aligned reimbursement processes of precision mechanism and subsequent treatment; transparent expectations for evidence requirements and study designs adequately matched to the intended use of the precision mechanism and to the smaller target patient populations; recognizing the potential range of value-generation such as ruling-in and ruling-out decisions.

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From Google Scholar & other sources: Selected Journal Articles, Newsletters, Dissertations, Theses, Commentary

University of South Carolina
Scholar Commons - Senior Theses. 344
Vaccine Confidence, Coverage, and Hesitancy Worldwide: A Literature Analysis of Vaccine Hesitancy and Potential Causes Worldwide
J Hammond
Thesis Summary
Vaccines are one of the world’s most impactful medical therapies. They are cost-effective, successfully proven, and one of the quickest treatment options available today (Clark et al., 2016). They save millions of lives every year and have eliminated certain diseases on a national and international level. However, millions of people worldwide still remain unvaccinated. In developed nations, mainly The United States (U.S.) and the European countries, many of the unvaccinated are a result of rising vaccine hesitancy of parents in conjunction with the anti-vaccination movement. Vaccine hesitancy is defined as “a delay in acceptance or refusal of vaccines despite availability” (Macdonald, 2015, p. 34). After a thorough literature review, evidence reveals that there is a gap between perceived vaccine importance and perceived vaccine safety in developed nations as many survey respondents believe in the efficacy and importance of vaccines but lack confidence in the safety of vaccines. This gap is seemingly connected to overall health literacy. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, Article V, defines health literacy as a patient’s ability to “obtain, communicate, and process” health services and information needed to make health decisions (Department of Health and Human Services [HHS], 2010). However, more direct and detailed projects must be conducted before a direct connection can be made.

Am J Respir Crit Care Med
Rationale:
Adults have the highest mortality from vaccine-preventable respiratory infections, yet vaccine programs historically have targeted only young children. Little is known about which countries recommend adult immunization.

Methods:
We undertook a study to determine national adult immunization policies for influenza, pneumococcal polysaccharide (PPSV), and pneumococcal conjugate (PCV) vaccines globally. We accessed the World Health Organization (WHO)/UNICEF Joint Reporting Form (JRF) on Immunization for 2017. The JRF is a publicly available monitoring and evaluation tool that collects national reports of immunization information, including coverage and indicators of immunization system performance. We merged JRF data with country economic information from the World Bank. We conducted a descriptive analysis of national adult immunization policies and program performance, and we used bivariate analyses to identify factors associated with having such policies.

Results:
Of 194 WHO Member States in 2017, 114 countries (59%) reported having an adult influenza vaccine program, while 50 countries (26%) reported having any adult pneumococcal vaccine program. Among countries reporting adult pneumococcal vaccine programs, 34 countries (68%) recommend PPSV alone, while 7 countries (14%) recommend PCV alone, and 9 countries (18%) recommend both PPSV and PCV for adults. Of 77 low- and lower-middle-income countries, 15 (19%) reported adult influenza programs and two (3%) reported adult pneumococcal programs. Compared to countries without adult influenza vaccine policies, countries with such policies were significantly more likely to have introduced human papillomavirus vaccine (p<0.0001), to have achieved global goals (≥95%) for routine pediatric coverage of third dose diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DTP3) vaccines (p<0.0001), to have strong enough routine immunization programs to have eliminated maternal-neonatal tetanus (p<0.0001), and to have national independent, expert vaccine advisory groups (national immunization technical advisory groups; NITAGs) (p=0.0035). Compared to countries without adult pneumococcal vaccine policies, countries with such policies are more likely to have introduced human papillomavirus vaccine (p<0.0001) and childhood PCV (p<0.0001), to have achieved global goals for DTP3 vaccine coverage (p=0.0001), to have eliminated maternal-neonatal tetanus (p=0.039), and to have a NITAG (p=0.008).

Conclusions:
Our review of the 2017 JRF permits an assessment of national adult influenza and pneumococcal immunization policies. Adult immunization is under-utilized globally, particularly in low resource countries. Recently published data demonstrating efficacy and safety of a tuberculosis vaccine candidate in adults highlights the need for global adult vaccine platforms. Countries with weaker immunization infrastructure may require increased resources and system strengthening to achieve parity with wealthy countries.
**Media/Policy Watch**

This watch section is intended to alert readers to substantive news, analysis and opinion from the general media and selected think tanks and similar organizations on vaccines, immunization, global public health and related themes. *Media Watch* is not intended to be exhaustive, but indicative of themes and issues CVEP is actively tracking. This section will grow from an initial base of newspapers, magazines and blog sources, and is segregated from *Journal Watch* above which scans the peer-reviewed journal ecology.

We acknowledge the Western/Northern bias in this initial selection of titles and invite suggestions for expanded coverage. We are conservative in our outlook in adding news sources which largely report on primary content we are already covering above. Many electronic media sources have tiered, fee-based subscription models for access. We will provide full-text where content is published without restriction, but most publications require registration and some subscription level.

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**The Atlantic**

http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/

*Accessed 9 May 2020*

[No new, unique, relevant content]

**BBC**

http://www.bbc.co.uk/

*Accessed 9 May 2020*

[No new, unique, relevant content]

**The Economist**

http://www.economist.com/

*Accessed 9 May 2020*

Leaders  May 9th 2020 edition

*High-speed science*

**Speeding up science during the pandemic**

Things ought not to go back to the way they were before

**Financial Times**

http://www.ft.com/home/uk

*Accessed 9 May 2020*

*Coronavirus*

**Researchers prepare for human challenge trials of Covid-19 vaccine**

May 9, 2020

**Forbes**

http://www.forbes.com/

*Accessed 9 May 2020*

[No new, unique, relevant content]

**Foreign Affairs**

http://www.foreignaffairs.com/
How Long Until There's a Coronavirus Vaccine?

The European Union facilitated an $8 billion fundraising drive on Monday, with the U.S. conspicuously absent from the contributions.

Morning Brief | Colm Quinn

Why Herd Immunity Won't Save India From COVID-19

Rather than relying on mass infection to build resistance to the coronavirus, the country needs a long-term, data-driven, decentralized approach.

Argument | Devi Sridhar, Genevie Fernandes

Moderna Gets OK to Start Larger Trial for a Coronavirus Vaccine

The company announced that the Food and Drug Administration had cleared its application to proceed to a clinical trial involving about 600 people.

May 7  By Knvul Sheikh

Pfizer Begins Human Trials of Possible Coronavirus Vaccine

The drug company, along with a German partner, is running tests in healthy volunteers. It’s one of several companies on an accelerated timetable to try to find a safe, effective vaccine.

May 5  By Knvul Sheikh

A Coronavirus Vaccine Project Takes a Page From Gene Therapy

The technique aims to make a person’s cells churn out proteins that will stimulate the body to fight the coronavirus.

May 4  By Denise Grady
Get Ready for the Global Fight Over Vaccines
This isn't just about saving lives. It’s also about power, profit and national prestige.
April 30 By Stuart Blume

Washington Post
https://www.washingtonpost.com/
Accessed 9 May 2020
Trump says coronavirus will disappear without a vaccine. Fauci has said the opposite.
Aaron Blake May 8, 2020
Video :: Trump says coronavirus will ‘go away without a vaccine’

CDC warns of potential measles outbreaks as kids fail to get vaccines
Rachel Weiner · May 8, 2020

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Think Tanks et al

Brookings
http://www.brookings.edu/
Accessed 9 May 2020
[No new relevant content]

Center for Global Development  [to 9 May 2020]
http://www.cgdev.org/page/press-center
Accessed 9 May 2020
Balancing the COVID-19 Response with Wider Health Needs: Key Decision-Making Considerations for Low- and Middle-Income Countries
Publication 5/8/20
As the pandemic accelerates, governments must also protect other essential health services. Already, there have been numerous reports of disrupted access to services ranging from labor and delivery and immunization to HIV and tuberculosis care to dialysis and cancer treatment—most notably in countries with strict lockdowns. Initial estimates paint a grim picture of the potential magnitude of negative impacts on health outcomes due to these disruptions.

Supporting Africa in the Fight Against COVID-19 and Beyond
Event 5/12/20
Africa is home to 16 percent of the world’s population and carries 24 percent of the world’s disease burden but accounts for just 1 percent of global health spending. 54 of the 55 African Union (AU) member states have now reported cases of COVID-19; Africa could likely be the next epicenter of the outbreak. Ensuring that health financing is mobilized quickly and
effectively to support national responses and essential health services across Africa is of paramount importance.

**Leave No One Behind: Using a Benefit-Based Advance Market Commitment to Incentivise Development and Global Supply of COVID-19 Vaccines**

*Publication*
5/7/20

The global effort to control the COVID-19 pandemic has seen an exceptional allocation of public and philanthropic funds to advance the development of diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines as quickly as possible. While critical, even these significant commitments represent only a “down payment” on a price tag that could eventually exceed $50 billion just to scale the production of vaccines to control this global pandemic—amounts that cannot be raised through traditional donor and philanthropic commitments.

**CSIS**
https://www.csis.org/
Accessed 9 May 2020

**Critical Questions**

**Compulsory Licensing: A Cure for Distributing the Cure?**

May 8, 2020 | By William Alan Reinsch, Jack Caporal

**Report**

**Covid-19 Demands Innovative Ideas for Financing the SDGs**

May 7, 2020 | By Daniel F. Runde

**Council on Foreign Relations**

http://www.cfr.org/

Accessed 9 May 2020

**Diplomacy and International Institutions**

**Virtual Meeting: The WHO and the State of Global Health Governance**

Panelists discuss the structure of the global health governance system, the role of the World Health Organization, and their perspectives on an effective international pandemic response.

May 1, 2020
Event by David L. Heymann, Ashish K. Jha, and Ilona Kickbusch

**Kaiser Family Foundation**

https://www.kff.org/search/?post_type=press-release

Accessed 9 May 2020

[No new relevant content]
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Support is also provided by a growing list of individuals who use this membership service to support their roles in public health, clinical practice, government, NGOs and other international institutions, academia and research organizations, and industry.