Vaccines and Global Health: The Week in Review
22 July 2023 :: Issue 712
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 published as a PDF and scheduled for release each Saturday [U.S.] at midnight [0000 GMT-5]. The PDF is posted at https://centerforvaccineethicsandpolicy.net. This blog allows full text searching of over 27,000 entries.

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Milestones, Perspectives

Childhood immunization begins recovery after COVID-19 backslide
New WHO and UNICEF data show promising signs of immunization services rebounding in some countries, but, particularly in low-income countries, coverage still falls short of pre-pandemic levels putting children at grave risk from disease outbreaks.

GENEVA/NEW YORK, 18 July 2023 – Global immunization services reached 4 million more children in 2022 compared to the previous year, as countries stepped up efforts to address the historic backsliding in immunization caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to data published today by the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF, in 2022, 20.5 million children missed out on one or more vaccines delivered through routine immunization services, compared to 24.4 million children in 2021. In spite of this improvement, the number remains higher than the 18.4 million children who missed out in 2019 before pandemic-related disruptions, underscoring the need for ongoing catch-up, recovery and system strengthening efforts.

The vaccine against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTP) is used as the global marker for immunization coverage. Of the 20.5 million children who missed out on one or more doses of their DTP vaccines in 2022, 14.3 million did not receive a single dose, so-called zero-dose children. The figure represents an improvement from the 18.1 million zero-dose children in 2021 but remains higher than the 12.9 million children in 2019.

“These data are encouraging, and a tribute to those who have worked so hard to restore life-saving immunization services after two years of sustained decline in immunization coverage,” said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General. “But global and regional averages don’t tell the whole story and mask severe and persistent inequities. When countries and regions lag, children pay the price.”

The early stages of recovery in global immunization have not occurred equally, with the improvement concentrated in a few countries. Progress in well-resourced countries with large infant populations, such as India and Indonesia, masks slower recovery or even continued declines in most low-income countries, especially for measles vaccination...

This is a summary of what was said by Dr Ephrem Tekle Lemango – UNICEF Associate Director of Immunisation – to whom quoted text may be attributed – on the release of the joint WUENIC data, at the press briefing at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

GENEVA, 18 JULY 2023 – “Last year, UNICEF described the backsliding in childhood immunization coverage as a “red alert for child health. Today, we see a hope that this trend is reversing. However,
the recovery is uneven with improvement concentrated in only a few countries. Just, 8 large countries account for 3.8 million of the 4 million additional children reached in 2022: India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines, Brazil, Mexico, Pakistan and Tanzania.

"In 2021, we had reported that 73 countries recorded substantial declines (above 5%) during the pandemic, out of these, just 15 have recovered to pre-pandemic levels. 24 are on route to recovery but the largest number - 34 of them - have stagnated at pandemic levels or continued declining. Low-income countries are struggling the most.

"This is because they are facing other challenges, such as conflict and crises, but also because, over many years, they have not had the resources to build resilient health systems. "The data indicates that countries with steady, sustained vaccination coverage in the years before the pandemic have been able to stabilise immunization services since.

"Regions that suffered longstanding declines, such as Latin America and the Caribbean, have not been as resilient. This underscores how important it is for governments to make progress in immunization coverage but also maintain adequate investment to sustain their achievement.

"What is at stake in these critical decisions? Children’s lives. Since coverage levels declined, we have witnessed increasing outbreak of diseases such as measles, yellow fever and diphtheria and our efforts to eradicate polio have been set back. 59 countries reported a total of 80 outbreaks in 2022. If we don’t catch-up vaccinations of older children that were missed since 2019, quickly and urgently, we will inevitably witness more outbreaks and be responsible for more child deaths.

"In 2022, some countries demonstrated that recovery is possible. Let us receive the findings from WHO and UNICEF today as a powerful and urgent call to action and help countries everywhere follow their lead.

"Governments have an opportunity, in this moment, to:
▪ Double-down on their commitment to increase financing for immunization and work with stakeholders to unlock available resources to implement catch-up efforts.
▪ Enable immunizers reach children who were born just before or during the pandemic and who are now moving past the eligible age when they would be vaccinated by routine immunization services.
▪ Build and sustain vaccine confidence and acceptance through engagement with communities and health providers.
▪ And most importantly, for countries with stagnant coverage, it is critical that they strengthen primary health care services and expand immunization -including through community health workers – to reach the most marginalised children.

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Partnership Council statement on the latest WUENIC release
17 July 2023

The members of the Immunization Agenda 2030 Partnership Council have come together to make the following statement in response to new data from WHO and UNICEF on 2022 immunization coverage.

In 2020 as the leaders of the global Immunization Agenda 2030 Partnership Council we committed that no-one would be left behind in ensuring that the world is protected against deadly diseases through the power of vaccines. Throughout the pandemic we saw unprecedented falls in immunization coverage and warned of a potential missed generation of children who received no vaccinations during that period.

Building on the leadership of countries, we are taking action through a joint recovery plan to address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and to get back on track and accelerate progress towards IA2030 targets. Immunization Agenda 2030 partners, including WHO, UNICEF, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, along with other IA2030 global and national health partners, launched the Big Catch-up effort in 2023, to galvanise action and highlight on a public stage the crisis caused by this historic backsliding.

The new figures released by WHO and UNICEF today underline the power of acting together and also that we must redouble our efforts to ensure a more equitable and faster recovery from the pandemic as well as reaching those that were missed during the pandemic. We are heartened to see that there have been promising signs of recovery with global coverage nearly back to pre-pandemic levels.

However, the recovery is very uneven across countries and vaccines, significant immunity gaps remain, and we note with particular concern that:

- Global efforts for immunization recovery and strengthening are uneven;
- The global average of recovery in coverage masks the lack of progress made in those countries where vulnerable, high risk communities remain unreached, largely in low income and fragile and conflict settings;
- Measles is an unforgiving disease and the latest data clearly show serious lapses in measles coverage, with large immunity gaps in communities causing large and disruptive outbreaks in an increasing number of countries.

Regions that have made sustained improvements in immunization coverage over the decade pre-pandemic, have also shown the greatest resilience following it. Regions with stagnating and declining coverage have continued along that course. So our focus must also be long term, systemic and go beyond catch-up campaigns.

We are concerned that inequities in immunization remain significant and that children are being left behind.

Our shared priority is to ensure that every child has access to vaccines, no matter where they live. We remain focused on continuing the catch-up, recovery, and strengthening efforts to reach “zero dose children”, including over two years of age, and ensuring they receive all the vaccines which they need, by addressing the high dropout rate after first vaccination, particularly in low-income countries. We
also underscore the need to improve coverage and make more rapid progress in measles vaccination rates.

Our shared priority is to ensure that every child has access to vaccines no matter where they live, and we recognise that to strengthen recovery, we need to consider the broader risks across immunization systems as well as focusing on coverage and zero dose.

**We commit as partners to align our global efforts and work together within our respective remits to take the necessary actions required to support countries to strengthen their immunization systems for the long term to ensure that universal, equitable recovery and ongoing vaccine research is achieved.**

Signed by IA2030 Partnership Council

**Members:**

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<td>Ms Eva Kadilli</td>
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<td>Dr. Bruce Aylward</td>
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<td>Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh</td>
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**MEDIA FACTSHEET: Takeaways from the 2022 WUENIC estimates for 57 lower-income countries supported by Gavi**

*News Release  18 July 2023*
The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023: Special Edition
Towards a Rescue Plan for People and Planet
United Nations  10 July 2023 :: 80 pages

Overview
The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023: Special Edition provides a powerful call to action, presenting a candid assessment of the SDGs based on the latest data and estimates. While highlighting the existing gaps and urging the world to redouble its efforts, the report also emphasizes the immense potential for success through strong political will and the utilization of available technologies, resources, and knowledge. Together, the global community can reignite progress towards achieving the SDGs and create a brighter future for all.

According to the report, the impacts of the climate crisis, the war in Ukraine, a weak global economy, and the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have revealed weaknesses and hindered progress towards the Goals. The report further warns that while lack of progress is universal, it is the world’s poorest and most vulnerable who are experiencing the worst effects of these unprecedented global challenges. It also points out areas that need urgent action to rescue the SDGs and deliver meaningful progress for people and the planet by 2030.

The Global SDG Indicators Database containing global, regional and country data and metadata on the official SDG indicators has been updated and accompanies this report.

Foreword  [Editor’s text bolding]
Halfway to the deadline for the 2030 Agenda, the SDG Progress Report; Special Edition shows we are leaving more than half the world behind. Progress on more than 50 per cent of targets of the SDGs is weak and insufficient; on 30 per cent, it has stalled or gone into reverse. These include key targets on poverty, hunger and climate. Unless we act now, the 2030 Agenda could become an epitaph for a world that might have been.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the triple crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution are having a devastating and lasting impact. This has been amplified by Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, which has driven increases in the prices of food and energy and in the cost of access to finance, creating a global cost-of-living crisis affecting billions of people.

Developing countries are bearing the brunt of our collective failure to invest in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Many face a huge financing gap and are buried under a mountain of debt. One in three countries is at high risk of being unable to service their debt.

Developed countries adopted expansionary fiscal and monetary policies during the pandemic and have largely returned to pre-pandemic growth paths. But developing countries were unable to do so, in part because of the risk that their currencies would collapse. Flows of Official Development Assistance are far below the long-standing commitment of 0.7 per cent of GNI. And the financial markets routinely charge developing countries interest rates up to eight times higher than developed countries.
Climate finance is also far below commitments and developed countries have not delivered the $100 billion that was promised annually from 2020.

Meanwhile, vulnerable Middle-Income countries are denied debt relief and concessional financing, and the G20’s Common Framework for Debt Treatment is simply not working.

The SDGs are the universally-agreed road map to bridge economic and geopolitical divides, restore trust and rebuild solidarity. Failure to make progress means inequalities will continue to deepen, increasing the risk of a fragmented, two-speed world. No country can afford to see the 2030 Agenda fail.

This report sounds the alarm, calling for a Rescue Plan for People and Planet. I hope the SDG Summit in September will agree to back this Rescue Plan, based on a global alliance for SDG action and acceleration by all stakeholders.

First and foremost, the international community must move forward on our proposed SDG Stimulus, to scale up affordable long-term financing for all countries in need.

The SDG Stimulus has three areas for action: a massive surge in finance for development, enabled by a transformation in the business model of Multilateral Development Banks; a new initiative on debt, under which short-term debt could be exchanged for longer-term instruments at lower interest rates; and the expansion of contingency financing to all countries in need. It can be achieved under the current rules and will enable immediate investments in basic services, clean energy and the digital transition.

But to deal with the root causes of this dire situation, we need deep reform of our outdated, dysfunctional and unfair international financial architecture. We urgently need financial institutions that are fit for purpose; that ensure the benefits of globalization flow to all; and that deliver on their mandate by providing a safety net for all countries in troubled times.

In short, we need a new Bretton Woods moment. Developing countries should have proportionate voice and representation in global decision-making institutions and processes. Economic and financial decisions should prioritize the well-being of people and planet. Governments and the private sector should reorient their economies towards low-carbon, resilient patterns of growth.

This report calls for ambitious national benchmarks to eradicate poverty and reduce inequality, focusing on key areas: expanding social protection and decent jobs; tackling the crisis in education; addressing gender inequality; and improving digital inclusion. These shifts must be supported by strengthened national institutions, greater accountability, effective regulatory frameworks and stronger digital infrastructure and data capacity.

All of this requires strengthened multilateral cooperation and support for the United Nations development system. Most of all, it requires ambitious, decisive, committed action at the SDG Summit in September and the Summit of the Future next year.

We are at a moment of truth and reckoning. But together, we can make this a moment of hope. I urge all Member States to make 2023 the moment when we jump-start progress on the SDGs, to create a more peaceful and prosperous future for all.
António Guterres  
Secretary-General of the United Nations

[Excerpts from SDG Goal 3 Discussion]

**Goal 3 / Good health and well-being**

...The alarming decline in childhood vaccination is leaving millions of children at risk from devastating but preventable diseases

The share of children who received three doses of the vaccine against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTP3) – a marker for immunization coverage within and across countries – fell 5 percentage points between 2019 and 2021, to just 81 per cent. This marked the largest sustained decline in childhood vaccinations in approximately 30 years. As a result, 25 million children missed out on one or more doses of DTP through routine immunization services in 2021 alone. This is 2 million more than those who missed out in 2020 and 6 million more than in 2019, highlighting the growing number of children at risk from devastating but preventable diseases. In 2021, only 70 per cent of children received two doses of the vaccine for measles, a highly contagious disease. This was far below the 95 per cent population coverage required to prevent outbreaks. Coverage of the first dose of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine, which has grave consequences for women and girls’ health worldwide, reached only 15 per cent in 2021, despite the first vaccines being licensed over 15 years ago.

**Intersecting crises have left the world off-kilter to achieve SDG targets on HIV, malaria and tuberculosis**

**HIV/AIDS:** There were an estimated 1.5 million new human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infections globally in 2021, almost one third fewer than in 2010. Effective HIV treatment has also cut global AIDS-related deaths by 52 per cent, from 1.4 million in 2010 to 650,000 in 2021. Sub-Saharan Africa, the region with the largest HIV burden, has achieved a 44 per cent decline in annual new HIV infections since 2010. However, the decline has been much sharper among males than among females. Fewer children were accessing treatment than adults. The aforementioned inequalities and others faced by key populations at increased risk of HIV are slowing progress towards ending AIDS. Moreover, new infections are rising in some regions, and the world is off track to meet the targets of fewer than
370,000 new HIV infections by 2025.

**Tuberculosis (TB):** The COVID-19 pandemic has severely impacted access to tuberculosis diagnosis and treatment in many countries, resulting in an increase in the TB disease burden globally. In 2021, an estimated 10.6 million people fell ill with TB, an increase from 10.1 million in 2020. The TB incidence rate also rose by 3.6 per cent between 2020 and 2021, reversing the decline of 2 per cent per year observed for most of the previous two decades. There were an estimated 1.6 million deaths from TB in 2021, an increase of 14.1 per cent from 2020. This is the first time in nearly two decades that the number of TB deaths has increased. Between 2015 and 2021, the net reductions in TB incidence and death were 10 per cent and 5.9 per cent, respectively, only one-fifth and one-tenth of the way to the 2025 milestone of WHO’s End TB Strategy.

**Malaria:** In 2021, the global malaria death toll was estimated at 619,000, compared with 625,000 in 2020 and 568,000 in 2019. The total number of malaria cases worldwide reached 247 million in 2021, surpassing the figures of 245 million in 2020 and 232 million in 2019. Despite COVID-related disruptions, malaria-affected countries around the world largely maintained prevention, diagnosis and treatment measures at levels comparable to pre-pandemic times. In 2021, 128 million insecticide-treated nets reached their target destination, along with 223 million malaria rapid diagnostic tests and 242 million courses of artemisinin-based combination therapy. However, too many people at high risk of malaria are still missing out on the services they need to prevent, detect and treat the disease, and progress towards the ending malaria target by 2030 remains off course. In addition to pandemic-related disruptions, converging humanitarian crises, funding constraints, weak surveillance systems and declines in the effectiveness of core malaria-fighting tools threaten to undermine the global malaria response, particularly in Africa.

**Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs):** In 2021, 1.65 billion people were reported to require mass or individual treatment and care for neglected tropical diseases, down from 2.19 billion in 2010, representing a reduction of 25 per cent. As of December 2022, 47 countries, territories and areas have eliminated at least one NTD. In the LDCs, 46 per cent of the population required treatment and care for NTDs in 2021, down from 79 per cent in 2010.

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**New analysis shows lost ground on adult immunisation during the pandemic with 100 million doses potentially missed**

- Despite successes in Covid-19 vaccination programmes, global uptake of some other adult vaccines fell during the same timeframe—compounding already low adoption of adult immunisation
- Data also show investment in adult vaccines remains low at less than 2% of total pharmaceutical expenditure in all regions
- The analysis provides new evidence on why changes are needed, given existing data that show adult vaccine-preventable diseases are a major cause of morbidity, mortality and healthcare cost

10 July 2023

New data shared today by GSK, in collaboration with the IQVIA Institute for Human Data Science and the Global Coalition on Aging (GCOA), estimate approximately 100 million fewer doses of some adult vaccines (excluding Covid-19 vaccines) were administered in 2021 and 2022 than
anticipated, based on the global vaccination adoption trends observed from 2013 to 2020, compounding already low adoption rates pre-pandemic.

This is shown in a newly commissioned report, funded by GSK, highlighting trends in adult immunisation globally and the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on vaccine uptake in the adult population. According to the analysis, despite the success of Covid-19 adult vaccination programmes—with 132 doses of Covid-19 vaccine doses delivered for every 100 adults in 2022—only 16.2 doses per 100 adults were delivered globally for some other adult vaccines.

The analysis also shows that the Covid-19 pandemic had a particularly negative impact on adult vaccination uptake in countries in the medium or low category on the Human Development Index (HDI), an index which takes into account life expectancy, education and per capita income. Countries such as India, Morocco, Philippines (medium category) and Pakistan, Senegal, Togo and others (low category) had substantial declines in adult vaccination during the pandemic, and rates have also failed to recover, remaining below trendlines. Countries with a “very high” HDI, including USA, most of Europe, Japan and others, were making the most progress in adult immunisation prior to the pandemic. These countries also saw a decline in uptake, after hitting a peak in 2020-2021, from which they are still recovering.

Piyali Mukherjee, VP Global Vaccines Medical Affairs GSK said: "While significant strides in vaccine development have delivered vaccines to help prolong the health span of adults, data shows that we are falling short on protecting adults around the world from vaccine-preventable diseases. Improving access to adult immunisation is part of the solution to support healthy ageing, create robust workforces, improve healthcare capacity, and increase socioeconomic and health systems resiliency. We are committed to collaborating with GCOA, IQVIA and other experts, advocates and communities to ensure more adults can readily access vaccination programmes.”

...To improve vaccination rates, adult immunisation needs to be made a standard of care. Robust national immunisation programmes (NIPs) that integrate adult vaccination recommendations could help improve the implementation of adult immunisation programmes. Adult vaccination schedules that simplify timings for adults to receive vaccinations, alongside additional points of vaccination and an increase in the number of vaccinators will support broad access. Vaccination uptake tracking and target setting would enable ongoing assessment of policy interventions and support introduction of further measures over time.

Michael W. Hodin, CEO, Global Coalition on Aging said: "Similar to Covid-19 vaccine policy, it’s critical that we frame all adult vaccinations as not only valuable for adult health but also for society as a whole. The health of our adult population is a critical factor in the overarching health of our global economy, and thus, prevention is a tool of positive impact for health systems overall. Broad access to adult vaccines will also help to make significant progress on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and the Decade of Healthy Ageing..."

Call for Public Consultation

Public consultation on WHO guidance for best practices for clinical trials
WHO - 19 July 2023
Call for consultation: Deadline 15 Sep 2023
Draft Guidance PDF: https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/research-for-health/2023-07_who-guidance-for-best-practices-for-clinical-trials_draft-for-public-consultation.pdf?sfvrsn=7a5c9fa5_3

Overview
In May 2022, the Seventy-fifth World Health Assembly adopted a resolution on Strengthening clinical trials to provide high-quality evidence on health interventions and to improve research quality and coordination, in which one action requested of the Director-General was to develop WHO guidance on best practices for clinical trials. Please see action 2 under section “Requests the Director-General” at the end of WHA 75.8 resolution here. WHO is launching a public consultation on draft guidance developed in line with this request. 10

GE2P2 Global a foundation/501[c]3 and public benefit corporation affiliate advancing scientific rigor, ethical resilience, and integrity in research and evidence generation informing governance, policy, practice www.ge2p2.org

We aim to obtain input from all relevant stakeholders, spanning all diseases and health conditions during this consultation, so that these inputs can be taken into account in revision of this draft, following advice from the WHO Technical Advisory Group established to support this process. Important stakeholder groups for this technical guidance include, (but are not restricted to): public sector researchers, private sector entities engaged in clinical trials, national health authorities or research councils involved in health research, clinical trial registries, research ethics bodies, national or transnational medicinal product regulatory authorities, decision-making bodies making use of evidence such as guidelines developers, and health technology assessment bodies, healthcare practitioners, patient engagement and community engagement entities, and professional associations in disciplines for whom clinical trials of health interventions are relevant. There may also be some relevance to medical journals.

We would like to receive your overall comments on what the draft guidance does well and less well at the moment, as well as comments on the sections of the document and line by line if desired...

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First-of-its-kind event brings together 10 companies that partnered to deliver vaccines and treatments in response to COVID-19 - IFPMA

Statement 20 Jul 2023
On 7 June 2023, IFPMA hosted a unique opportunity to hear from 10 companies, about the different partnership models that supported the industry’s response to COVID-19. This open event included discussion on the challenges of scaling up manufacturing to meet global demand for vaccines and treatments, with representatives from MSD – Dr Reddy’s Laboratories; Gilead Sciences – Ferozsons Laboratories Limited; Johnson and Johnson – Aspen Pharma Care; Pfizer – Biovac, and AstraZeneca.

The event also saw the presentation of the latest data by health and data analytics company, Airfinity. The data showed that:
- 44 therapeutics have been approved for COVID-19, and 1 in 18 therapeutics in clinical trials have reached the market.
- **59 vaccines have been approved for COVID-19**, around 1 in 5 vaccines in clinical trials have reached the market.
- **177 collaborations have been agreed** for production and commercialization of COVID-19 treatments. There have been 374 manufacturing and supply chain announcements for COVID-19 vaccines, 71% of which involved a collaboration.
- **84 out of 93 voluntary licensing agreements for COVID-19 treatments are active** — **80 of which are in developing countries**.
- Manufacturing partnerships for therapeutics and vaccines were signed in parallel. Most of these happened before or within days of approval.

During the discussion, there was broad agreement that a diversity of partnership approaches were critical to their success. No one single partnership was alike. This included voluntary licensing partnerships; technology transfer; or fill and finish approaches. While different in approach, the common thread amongst these partnerships was that they were enabled by IP and based on trust, prior experience and expertise. Flexibility allows for partners to efficiently adapt to the circumstances and to able to cater to the unique needs of a country or surge demands.

**Companies also spoke about the elements that helped foster these partnerships:**
- A rigorous selection process based on several factors, including ability to meet stringent quality controls, safety track record, technical capability, capacity availability, highly trained workforce, and a trusted relationship.
- Flexible and voluntary approaches that ensure optimum use of resources such as raw materials, shortage of skilled workforce.
- Early engagement between companies allows for a quick response.
- Intellectual property and the innovation ecosystem offers an enabling framework.

**Looking to the future, there was agreement that:**
- In order to have sustained partnerships and manufacturing, there needs to be an innovation ecosystem with stable infrastructure in place.
- IP grounded partnerships based on a voluntary and trusted relationships are key to a rapid response.
- For future pandemics, there are several areas at multilateral and regional level that need to be addressed, such regulatory harmonization, supply chain and healthcare system strengthening and removal of trade barriers...

::: :::: :::: PHEIC Polio Polio this week as of 19 July 2023 - GPEI Headlines :: New WHO and UNICEF data show promising signs of immunization services rebounding in some countries, but, particularly in low-income countries, coverage still falls short of pre-pandemic levels putting children at grave risk from disease outbreaks. In response to these latest published data, the
membe

Summary of new polioviruses this week:
- Chad: five cVDPV2 cases
- Congo: one cVDPV2 positive environmental sample
- DR Congo: eight cVDPV1 cases, 16 cVDPV2 cases and two cVDPV2 positive environmental samples
- Madagascar: eight cVDPV1 positive environmental samples
- Somalia: three cVDPV2 positive environmental samples
- Tanzania: one cVDPV2 case
- Zambia: one cVDPV2 positive environmental sample

Coronavirus [COVID-19]
https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019

WHO Weekly Epidemiological and Operational updates
Last update: 18 July 2023

Weekly epidemiological update on COVID-19 - 20 July 2023

Overview
Globally, over 836 000 new COVID-19 cases and over 4500 deaths were reported in the last 28 days (19 June to 16 July 2023). While five WHO regions have reported decreases in the number of both cases and deaths, the Western Pacific Region has reported a decline in cases but an increase in deaths. As of 16 July 2023, over 768 million confirmed cases and over 6.9 million deaths have been reported globally. Currently, reported cases do not accurately represent infection rates due to the reduction in testing and reporting globally. During this 28-day period, 56% (131 of 234) of countries and territories reported at least one case – a proportion that has been declining since mid-2022.

Our World in Data

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Vaccinations [Accessed 22 Jul 2023]
:: 70.3% of the world population has received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.
:: 13.48 billion doses have been administered globally, and 157,885 are now administered each day.
:: 32.2% of people in low-income countries have received at least one dose.

MPOX
https://www.who.int/emergencies/situation-reports
Last Report:  
**Multi-country outbreak of mpox, External situation report #26 – 14 July 2023**

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**UN OCHA – Current Emergencies**

Current Corporate Emergencies

**Afghanistan**

Editor’s Note:

We observe that OCHA has removed Afghanistan from its listing of “Current Emergencies.” We did not identify any explanation for its removal.

**Northern Ethiopia**

No new digest content identified.

**Somalia**

No new digest content identified.

**Türkiye/Syria Earthquakes**

20 Jul 2023

Today’s top news: Ukraine, Syria

**Ukraine**

Highlights Last Updated: 26 May 2023

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**WHO & Regional Offices** [to 22 Jul 2023]

https://www.who.int/news

Selected News/Announcements/Statements

23 July 2023  News release

New WHO guidance on HIV viral suppression and scientific updates released at IAS 2023

22 July 2023  Departmental news

WHO recommends optimizing HIV testing services

18 July 2023  News release
Africa CDC, WHO and RKI Launch a Health Security Partnership to Strengthen Disease Surveillance in Africa

18 July 2023  Joint News Release

Childhood immunization begins recovery after COVID-19 backslide

17 July 2023  Departmental news

WHO technical guidance on interruption of transmission and elimination of leprosy disease

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WHO Regional Offices
Selected Press Releases, Announcements

WHO African Region
No new digest content identified.

WHO Region of the Americas  PAHO
:: 20 Jul 2023

Investment, innovation, and implementation key to ensuring primary health care-based systems that work for the 21st Century, PAHO Director says

Washington D.C. 20 July 2023 (PAHO/WHO) – If the Americas is to reverse the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, countries must urgently develop and implement primary health care-based systems that consider the changing epidemiological contexts and population needs of the 21st Century, Dr. Jarbas Barbosa, Director of the Pan American Health...

:: 18 Jul 2023

Global Gateway: EU builds new partnership for improved Latin American and Caribbean health technologies with Pan American Health Organisation

18 July 2023 – As part of the EU-CELAC Summit, European Commissioner for International Partnerships, Jutta Urpilainen, and Director of Health Systems and Services of the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO), Dr James Fitzgerald signed a €3,8 million agreement building a partnership to strengthen Latin American and Caribbean access to...

WHO South-East Asia Region  SEARO
:: 20 July 2023  News release

Investment, innovation, and implementation key to ensuring primary health care-based systems that work for the 21st Century, PAHO Director says

Washington D.C. 20 July 2023 (PAHO/WHO) – If the Americas is to reverse the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, countries must urgently develop and implement primary health care-based systems that consider the changing epidemiological contexts and population needs of the 21st Century, Dr. Jarbas Barbosa, Director of the Pan American Health...

:: Global Gateway: EU builds new partnership for improved Latin American and Caribbean health technologies with Pan American Health Organisation

18 July 2023 – As part of the EU-CELAC Summit, European Commissioner for International Partnerships, Jutta Urpilainen, and Director of Health Systems and Services of the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO), Dr James Fitzgerald signed a €3,8 million agreement building a partnership to strengthen Latin American and Caribbean access to...

WHO European Region  EURO
:: 20 July 2023  News release
Kyrgyzstan takes comprehensive action to prepare for potential polio outbreaks
:: 19 July 2023   News release

European Region achieves high routine immunization coverage, but falls short of pre-pandemic levels

WHO Western Pacific Region
:: 20 July 2023
Viet Nam: Cold chain support helps restore childhood immunization and strengthen primary health care

Disease Outbreak News (DONs)
Latest WHO Disease Outbreak News (DONs), providing information on confirmed acute public health events or potential events of concern.

19 July 2023 | Dengue – the Region of the Americas
...WHO has assessed the risk of dengue as high at the regional level due to the widespread distribution of the Aedes spp. mosquitoes (especially Aedes aegypti), the continued risk of severe disease and death, and the expansion out of historical areas of transmission, where all the population, including risk groups and healthcare workers, may not be aware of warning signs.

WHO does not recommend any travel and/or trade restrictions for countries in the Americas experiencing the current dengue epidemics based on the currently available information...

New WHO Publications
https://www.who.int/publications/i

Selected
22 July 2023
The role of HIV viral suppression in improving individual health and reducing transmission

20 July 2023
Intersectoral global action plan on epilepsy and other neurological disorders

20 July 2023
The diagnostics landscape for sexually transmitted infections

20 July 2023
Primary health care and HIV: convergent actions: policy considerations for decision-makers

19 July 2023
Target product profiles for tests used for mpox (monkeypox) diagnosis

19 July 2023
Responding to the global mpox outbreak: ethics issues and considerations: a policy brief

19 July 2023
19 July 2023  
**Interim recommendations for the use of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines**

19 July 2023  
**Leprosy Programme and Transmission Assessment**

19 July 2023  
**Interruption of transmission and elimination of leprosy disease**

19 July 2023  
**Leprosy Elimination Monitoring Tool**

18 July 2023  
**Point-of-care tests for sexually transmitted infections: target product profiles**

17 July 2023  
**Mekong Malaria Elimination: epidemiology summary, volume 21, January–March 2023**

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**USA – HHS, FDA, CDC**

**HHS**

*News*

No new digest content identified.

**FDA**

*Press Announcements*

**FDA Roundup: July 21, 2023**

On Thursday, the FDA approved Cyfendus, a vaccine for post-exposure prophylaxis of disease following suspected or confirmed exposure to Bacillus anthracis (anthrax) in persons 18 through 65 years of age when administered in conjunction with recommended antibacterial drugs. Information on Cyfendus may be found on FDA’s website.

**FDA VRBPAC**

*Advisory Committee Calendar*

No new meetings identified.

**CDC/ACIP [U.S.]** [to 22 Jul 2023]

http://www.cdc.gov/media/index.html

*Latest News Releases*

No new digest content identified.

**ACIP Meetings**

*Next ACIP Meeting*

August 3, 2023  11:00am – 3:30pm EDT
ACIP meetings are virtual. No registration is required to watch the webcasts.

**MMWR Weekly**
https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/index2023.html
July 21, 2023 / No. 29
**PDF of this issue**
- Progress Toward Hepatitis B Control and Elimination of Mother-to-Child Transmission of Hepatitis B Virus — World Health Organization African Region, 2016–2021
- Use of Respiratory Syncytial Virus Vaccines in Older Adults: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices — United States, 2023

**Europe**

**European Medicines Agency [EMA]**
**News & Press Releases**
**News: Meeting highlights from the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) 17-20 July 2023 (new)**
CHMP, Last updated: 21/07/2023

**News: First RSV vaccine to protect infants up to 6 months of age and older adults (new)**
CHMP, Last updated: 21/07/2023

**Press release: OPEN framework extended to a wider range of medicines (new)**
Last updated: 20/07/2023

**News: Reflection paper on the use of artificial intelligence in the lifecycle of medicines (new)**
Last updated: 19/07/2023

**News: European Health Union: EU steps up action to prevent shortages of antibiotics for next winter (new)**
Last updated: 17/07/2023

**European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control**
https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en
**News/Updates/Reports [Selected]**
**Epidemiological update: Echovirus 11 infections in neonates**
Epidemiological update - 19 Jul 2023
Spread of multidrug-resistant Shigella in EU/EEA among gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men
Epidemiological update - 18 Jul 2023

Africa CDC [to 22 Jul 2023]
http://www.africacdc.org/
News
Press Releases
Africa CDC, WHO and RKI Launch a Health Security Partnership to Strengthen Disease Surveillance in Africa
Addis Ababa/Berlin/Geneva, 18 July 2023 – The Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Robert Koch Institute (RKI) have launched a Health Security Partnership to Strengthen Disease Surveillance and Epidemic Intelligence in Africa. The partnership aims to strengthen Africa’s health security capabilities in the areas of biosecurity, integrated disease surveillance, event-based surveillance, genomic surveillance, and epidemic intelligence...

Launch of the Southern Africa Regional Integrated Surveillance and Laboratory Network (RISLNET)
17 July 2023

China CDC
http://www.chinacdc.cn/en/
National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China [to 22 Jul 2023]
http://en.nhc.gov.cn/
News
No new digest content identified.

National Medical Products Administration – PRC [to 22 Jul 2023]
http://english.nmpa.gov.cn/
News
NMPA accepts clinical trial application for monkeypox vaccine
2023-07-20
The National Medical Products Administration (NMPA) has, on Thursday, officially accepted the clinical trial application for the replication-deficient monkeypox vaccine developed by China National Pharmaceutical Group Corporation (Sinopharm) Beijing Institute of Biological Products.

China CDC Weekly Reports: Current Volume (5)
2023-07-21 / No. 29  HEAT HEALTH RISK EARLY WARNING ISSUE
Foreword: A Public Health Initiative for Action on Early Warning of Heat Health Risks

Notifiable Infectious Diseases Reports: Reported Cases and Deaths of National Notifiable Infectious Diseases — China, December 2022*

Contents [click to move among sections]
:: Milestones, Perspectives
:: WHO
:: Organization Announcements
:: Journal Watch
:: Pre-Print Servers

Organization Announcements

Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://alleninstitute.org/news-press/

News
Allen Institute for Immunology partners with Lilly to better understand autoimmune disease
07.18.2023
The Institute will use cutting-edge molecular profiling techniques and advanced bioinformatics tools to enable precision medicine in clinical trials...

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://www.gatesfoundation.org/ideas/media-center

Press Releases and Statements
No new digest content identified.

Bill & Melinda Gates Medical Research Institute [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://www.gatesmri.org/news

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

News: Articles and Publications
No new digest content identified.

CARB-X [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://carb-x.org/
News
No new digest content identified.

Center for Vaccine Ethics and Policy – GE2P2 Global Foundation [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://centerforvaccineethicsandpolicy.net/
News/Analysis/Publications-Digests/Statements
:: Vaccines and Global Health: The Week in Review - Current edition
:: Genomic Medicine – Governance, Ethics, Policy, Practice: A Monthly Digest – July 2023
:: Public Consultations Watch :: Global Calls for Input/Public Comment -
   19 July 2023 – Issue 05

CEPI – Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations [to 22 Jul 2023]
http://cepi.net/
Latest News
Using AI to speed up vaccine development against Disease X
   CEPI partners with Houston Medical Research Institute to use artificial intelligence for design of vaccines to fight diseases with pandemic potential
18 Jul 2023

CIOMS – COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF MEDICAL SCIENCES [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://cioms.ch/
News; Publications; Events
Benefit-risk balance for medicinal products
CIOMS Working Group VII report draft, 12 June 2023
Draft report: CIOMS WG XII For Comment 12June2023
Posted: 03 June 2023 Comments deadline: 24th of July 2023
   The WG will build on previous considerations established by CIOMS WG IV, incorporating the latest thinking in quantitative and qualitative approaches to the evaluation of benefit-risk (B-R), as well as assimilating visual presentations of benefits and risks to improve transparency and understanding amongst key stakeholders, including patients. The perspective of healthcare professionals and patients will be considered based on other ongoing initiatives as well as new guidelines from regulatory authorities and public-private partnerships.

DARPA – Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency [U.S.] [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://www.darpa.mil/news
News
No new digest content identified.

Duke Global Health Innovation Center [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://dukeghic.org/
Report
EDCTP [to 22 Jul 2023]
http://www.edctp.org/
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.

Emory Vaccine Center [to 22 Jul 2023]
http://www.vaccines.emory.edu/
Vaccine Center News
No new digest content identified.

European Vaccine Initiative [to 22 Jul 2023]
http://www.euvaccine.eu/
Latest News, Events
No new digest content identified.

Evidence Aid [to 22 Jul 2023]
Evidence Aid aims to save lives and livelihoods in disasters by providing decision-makers with the best available evidence and by championing its use.
http://www.evidenceaid.org/
Resources [Selected]
Impact of disasters caused by natural hazards on non-communicable diseases
Added July 20, 2023

Fondation Merieux [to 22 Jul 2023]
http://www.fondation-merieux.org/
News, Events
No new digest content identified.

Gavi [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://www.gavi.org/
News Releases
18 July 2023
MEDIA FACTSHEET: Takeaways from the 2022 WUENIC estimates for 57 lower-income countries supported by Gavi

GHIT Fund [to 22 Jul 2023]
Global Fund [to 22 Jul 2023]
News & Stories
18 July 2023
**Global Fund, GSK and ViiV Healthcare Strengthen Their Partnership for Gender Equality**

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria applauds GSK and ViiV Healthcare’s combined commitment of US$7.5 million over three years for the Gender Equality Fund, which will help accelerate progress towards gender equality through commun...

Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness [GloPID-R] [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://www.glopid-r.org/news/
News
No new digest content identified.

Hilleman Laboratories [to 22 Jul 2023]
http://www.hilleman-labs.org/
News & Insights
No new digest content identified.

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://www.hhmi.org/news
Press Room
No new digest content identified.

Human Vaccines Project [to 22 Jul 2023]
http://www.humanvaccinesproject.org/
News
No new digest content identified.

IAVI [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://www.iavi.org/
Latest News
July 17, 2023
**Join IAVI at the 2023 International AIDS Conference!**

Taking place in Brisbane, Australia, this International AIDS Society (IAS) conference features the latest scientific research for progress against the HIV epidemic.
Public Consultation: ICH E6(R3) Principles, Annex 1 and Annex 2
The E6(R3) EWG is working on the revision of the E6(R2) Guideline “Good Clinical Practice” (GCP) with a view to addressing the application of GCP principles to the increasingly diverse trial types and data sources being employed to support regulatory and healthcare related decision-making on drugs, and provide flexibility whenever appropriate to facilitate the use of technological innovations in clinical trials. Additional information may also be found in ICH Reflection Paper on “GCP Renovation” on the ICH Reflection Paper page. When complete, E6(R3) will be composed of an overarching principles and objectives document, Annex 1 and Annex 2.

E6(R3) Draft Guideline
Public consultation dates:
ANVISA, Brazil - Deadline for comments by 31 August 2023
EC, Europe - Deadline for comments by 26 September 2023
MHRA, UK - Deadline for comments by 31 August 2023
TFDA, Chinese Taipei - Deadline for comments by 31 August 2023
IFRC [to 22 Jul 2023]
Press Releases [Selected]
No new digest content identified.

Institut Pasteur [to 22 Jul 2023]
Press Documents
20.07.2023
HIV: 20 months' remission after a bone marrow transplant with no protective mutation – the Geneva patient
In February 2023, the IciStem consortium, which includes Asier Sáez-Cirión's team at the Institut Pasteur, published...

ISC / International Science Council [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://council.science/current/
ISC is a non-governmental organization with a unique global membership that brings together 40 international scientific Unions and Associations and over 140 national and regional scientific organizations including Academies and Research Councils.
Blogs
A new Scientific Committee for the Urban Health and Wellbeing Programme
21.07.2023

Blogs
The S20 must enhance its responsibility for evidence-based policymaking by the G20
21.07.2023

Blogs
Science Driving Transformation: the 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report
18.07.2023

International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS)
https://iuis.org/
News/Events [Selected]
No new digest content identified.

IVAC [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/ivac/index.html
Updates; Events
Ask the Experts: Why Measles Rates are on the Rise (Webinar)
July 2023
Measles is a highly contagious and vaccine-preventable disease that has been steadily on the rise, both in the United States and globally. Missed routine immunizations due to the COVID-19 pandemic and growing mistrust in vaccines have contributed to a dangerous rise in cases. Join IVAC for an upcoming webinar that will provide an overview of [...] 

**Dr. Svea Closser Joins TAG Working Toward Polio Eradication in Afghanistan & Pakistan**

*July 2023*

Last month, Svea Closser, PhD, MPH, an Associate Professor in the International Health Department of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, participated in a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting for polio eradication in Afghanistan and Pakistan. This meeting was hosted by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) and brought together public health experts [...] 

**IVI** [to 22 Jul 2023]
http://www.ivi.int/
*IVI News & Announcements*
*No new digest content identified.*

**Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security** [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://www.centerforhealthsecurity.org/news/center-news/
*Center News [Selected]*
*No new digest content identified.*

**MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières** [to 22 Jul 2023]
http://www.msf.org/
*Latest [Selected Announcements]*
*No new digest content identified.*

**National Academy of Medicine** - USA [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://nam.edu/programs/
*News [Selected]*
**NAM Special Publication on U.S. Health Payment and Financing Identifies Priority Actions to Advance Whole Person and Whole Population Health**
*July 19, 2023*

Whole person, whole population health—the ability for people and populations to thrive and attain their full, optimized potential for health and well-being—is the ultimate goal of a healthy nation. The [...] 

**National Academy of Sciences** - USA [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://www.nationalacademies.org/newsroom?
*News*
*No new digest content identified.*
**Georgetown University Launches Platform to Navigate Laws Governing the Prevention of Infectious Disease Emergence Worldwide**

WASHINGTON | July 19, 2023 — Georgetown University announces the launch of Analysis and Mapping of Policies for all Emerging Infectious Diseases (AMP for EID), a first-of-its-kind policy platform to enhance preparedness, prevention, and response efforts for emerging infectious diseases, including SARS, MERS, Ebola, and Covid-19. With over seventy international agreements related to global health – including some fifty agreements used during the Covid-19 pandemic – the centralized and free-to-access platform allows country leaders and experts to rapidly identify the policy environment for a given pathogen or health threat, accelerating pandemic preparedness and fortifying global health security.

“Covid-19 wasn’t the world’s first global health emergency, and it won’t be the last. Country responses to Covid-19 – a mix of mandates, relief measures, and military mobilizations – formed a complex policy environment that delayed collective response efforts and allowed the virus to spread unchecked,” said Dr. Rebecca Katz, Director of the Center for Global Health Science and Security and Principal Investigator of AMP for EID. “By having all policies related to global health security in one place, a decision maker can, at a glance, identify the international legal context in which an outbreak is unfolding, define roles for collaborators, highlight constraints on medical countermeasures and restrictions on data sharing, and clarify how neighboring countries may respond.”...
A call to action to save SDG10: reduce inequalities

Partners call for urgent action to reverse an explosion in inequalities which are endangering us all

18 July 2023—The Centre for International Cooperation at the University of New York, Development Finance International, Oxfam and UNAIDS are calling for urgent action to save Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 10: Reduced Inequality.

COVID-19 caused the largest rise in income inequality in three decades, as poorer countries lacked financing to support the incomes of the poor or to confront the COVID-19 and AIDS pandemics. During the COVID-19 pandemic and global inflation crisis, inequality of income, wealth and health outcomes rose sharply. Without seriously tackling inequality, we will not end AIDS by 2030 (SDG 3.3), and the SDGs on poverty, gender and education will be strongly compromised.

In his 2023 SDG Progress Report, the United Nations Secretary-General announced that SDG10 is one of the worst performing SDGs. Action has never been more urgent on this goal...


GENEVA, 18 JULY 2023 – “Last year, UNICEF described the backsliding in childhood immunization coverage as a “red alert for child health. Today, we see a hope that this trend is reversing. “However, the recovery is uneven with improvement concentrated in only a few countries. Just, 8 large countries account for 3.8 million of the 4 million...

Press release 18 July 2023

Childhood immunization begins recovery after COVID-19 backslide


GENEVA/NEW YORK, 18 July 2023 – Global immunization services reached 4 million more children in 2022 compared to the previous year, as countries stepped up efforts to address the historic backsliding in immunization caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. According to data published today by the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF, in 2022, 20.5...

Unitaid [to 22 Jul 2023]

https://unitaid.org/

Featured News

19 July 2023

Failure to implement contact tracing and tuberculosis prevention would result in close to 1 million deaths by 2035, according to new study

Combination intervention found to be cost-effective in averting illness and deaths in high-risk groups
People living in close contact with a person with TB disease are at highest risk of infection, and account for a significant percentage of the 10.6 million new TB infections each year. Analysis shows that implementing a combined strategy of identifying household contacts and providing TB preventive treatment is cost-effective and would cut deaths by 35% among household contacts of all ages and people living with HIV by 2035. Additionally, because TB diagnosis is so low among children under five – just over 3 in 10 children with TB are identified – contact tracing and prevention would have an outsized impact on reducing child death from TB. TB prevention and contact tracing can be delivered cost effectively thanks, in part, to the significant price reductions in short-course therapy achieved in recent years. With further decreases in price and by improving the efficiency and integration of contact tracing into disease responses, the intervention could benefit from greater cost savings and public health benefit. As world leaders prepare for the second United Nations High-Level Meeting on TB this September, up-front multi-stakeholder commitment and financial backing is urgently needed to reap the massive rewards of preventing TB illness and death.

Vaccine Equity Cooperative [nee Initiative] [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://vaccineequitycooperative.org/news/
News
No new digest content identified.

Vaccination Acceptance & Demand Initiative [Sabin] [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://www.vaccineacceptance.org/
Announcements, Blog
No new digest content identified.

Vaccine Confidence Project [to 22 Jul 2023]
http://www.vaccineconfidence.org/
News, Research and Reports
No new digest content identified.

Vaccine Education Center – Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia [to 22 Jul 2023]
http://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center
News
No new digest content identified.

Wellcome Trust [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://wellcome.ac.uk/news
News. Opinion, Reports
Work in progress
Author - Martin Smith
Four ways our Policy Lab is testing creative approaches to policy development
20 July 2023
New Community Partnership Model Boosts Inclusion of Participants into HIV Cure-Directed Research

Wistar scientists propose a more equitable and collaborative standard to advance HIV cure-directed research.

WFPHA: World Federation of Public Health Associations

No new digest content identified.

World Medical Association [WMA]

No new digest content identified.

World Organisation for Animal Health

Early warning and early action – the coming El Niño Southern Oscillation phenomenon and health impacts

17 July 2023
Statement of the WOAH Working Group on Wildlife

Climatic conditions associated with the El Niño Southern Oscillation [1] (ENSO) phenomenon have short-term extreme effects on weather patterns resulting in departures from normal rainfall, ocean and land temperature and ecological conditions globally. Analyses have shown that disease outbreaks follow these extreme shifts, illustrating that extreme ends of the moisture spectrum (both wetter and drier) provide favourable ecological conditions for arthropod vectors and human and animal pathogens to emerge and propagate clusters of diseases.

Historically when such extreme departures from climatic norms have occurred, host-pathogen imbalances have led to disease epidemics in both human and animal populations...

ARM [Alliance for Regenerative Medicine]

Alliance for Regenerative Medicine Promotes Michael Lehmicke to Senior Vice President, Science & Industry Affairs
First-of-its-kind event brings together 10 companies that partnered to deliver vaccines and treatments in response to COVID-19

On 7 June 2023, IFPMA hosted a unique opportunity to hear from 10 companies, about the different partnership models that supported the industry’s response to COVID-19. This open event included discussion on the challenges of scaling up manufacturing to meet global demand for vaccines and treatments, with representatives from MSD – Dr Reddy’s Laboratories; Gilead...

Global regulators and biopharmaceutical and vaccine industry to share experiences with managing pharmaceutical quality systems

On 20 July 2023, the International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities (ICMRA) is hosting a virtual workshop on the development of a global Pharmaceutical Quality Knowledge Management System (PQ KMS), which aims to facilitate the exchange of knowledge related to pharmaceutical quality amongst national regulatory authorities worldwide.
**International Generic and Biosimilar Medicines Association [IGBA]**
https://www.igbamedicines.org/

News
No new digest announcements identified

**PhRMA** [to 22 Jul 2023]
http://www.phrma.org/
Press Releases
Avalere’s Elizabeth Carpenter to Join PhRMA as EVP for Policy & Research
Succeeds Jenny Bryant who is retiring after 17 years with PhRMA
PhRMA
July 12, 2023

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**Vaccines/Therapeutics/Medicines – Selected Developer/Manufacturer Announcements**

**AstraZeneca**
Press Releases
Beyfortus approved in the US for the prevention of RSV lower respiratory tract disease in infants
17 July 2023

**Bharat Biotech**
Press Releases
Beyfortus approved in the US for the prevention of RSV lower respiratory tract disease in infants
17 July 2023

**BioCubaFarma** – Cuba
Ultimas Noticias - Website not responding at inquiry

**Biological E**
News - No new digest announcements identified

**BioNTech**
Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

**Boehringer**
Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

**CanSinoBIO**
News - Website not responding at inquiry

**CIGB**
Latest News
TV International Symposium Cancer 2023
Varadero, Cuba, September, 2023
Cinnagen
Recent News - No new digest announcements identified

Clover Biopharmaceuticals - China
News - No new digest announcements identified

Curevac [Bayer Ag – Germany]
News - No new digest announcements identified

Gamaleya National Center/Sputnik
Latest News and Events - No new digest announcements identified
https://sputnikvaccine.com/ - No new digest announcements identified

GSK
Press releases for media
10 July 2023
New analysis shows lost ground on adult immunisation during the pandemic with 100 million doses potentially missed
- Despite successes in Covid-19 vaccination programmes, global uptake of some other adult vaccines fell during the same timeframe—compounding already low adoption of adult immunisation
- Data also show investment in adult vaccines remains low at less than 2% of total pharmaceutical expenditure in all regions
- The analysis provides new evidence on why changes are needed, given existing data that show adult vaccine-preventable diseases are a major cause of morbidity, mortality and healthcare cost

IMBCAMS, China
Home - Website not responding at inquiry

Janssen/JNJ
Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

Merck
News releases - No new digest announcements identified

Moderna
Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

Nanogen
News - No new digest announcements identified

Novartis
News - No new digest announcements identified

Novavax
Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

Pfizer
Recent Press Releases
Pfizer Announces New England Journal of Medicine Publication on Group B Streptococcus (GBS) Maternal Vaccine Candidate
07.19.2023
- Results from an ongoing Phase 2 study in pregnant individuals showed the investigational vaccine, GBS6, was generally well-tolerated and generated robust maternal antibody responses that were efficiently transferred to infants
- The safety profile between the vaccine and placebo groups was similar in both the mothers and infants
- GBS6 maternal vaccination may offer meaningful protection against invasive GBS disease in newborns and young infants, based on a natural history study conducted in parallel to the Phase 2 study

R-Pharm
https://rpharm-us.com/index.php
[No news or media page identified]

Sanofi Pasteur
Press Releases
July 17, 2023
Press Release: FDA approves Beyfortus™ (nirsevimab-alip) to protect infants against RSV disease
- Beyfortus™ is the first monoclonal antibody approved to protect all infants through their first RSV season
- Across all clinical endpoints, a single dose of Beyfortus delivered high, consistent and sustained efficacy and favorable safety against RSV disease
- Approval also includes use for children up to 24 months of age who remain vulnerable to severe RSV disease through their second RSV season

Serum Institute of India
NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS   - No new digest announcements identified

Sinopharm/WIBPBIBP
News   - No new digest announcements identified

Sinovac
Press Releases   - No new digest announcements identified

SK Biosciences
Press Releases   - No new digest announcements identified

Takeda
Newsroom   - No new digest announcements identified

Valneva
Press Releases   - No new digest announcements identified

Vector State Research Centre of Viralogy and Biotechnology
Home   - Website not responding [404 error]
**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

**AJOB Empirical Bioethics**

Volume 14, 2023  Issue 2  
https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/uabr21/current  
Article  
[Reviewed earlier]

**AMA Journal of Ethics**
How We Over Rely on BMI

Patients who are fat or perceived as fat are commonly characterized by some clinicians as unreliable narrators of their own health histories. Negative bias can undermine diagnoses, intervention decisions, and even what some clinicians think fat patients deserve. Fat is widely considered a clinical threat, and obesity is a descriptor applied to patients with BMIs at or over 30. While weight and BMI can be helpful clinical indicators, many of its applications are overvalued, imprecise, contested, and can incur substantial iatrogenic harm. This theme issue examines clinical and ethical shortcomings of medicine’s current approaches to fat.

American Journal of Infection Control
July 2023 Volume 51 Issue 7 p725-846
http://www.ajicjournal.org/current
[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine
July 2023 Volume 65 Issue 1 p1-172
[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health
August 2023 113(8)
http://ajph.aphapublications.org/toc/ajph/current
Editorials
Vaccinating the Masses During a Pandemic: Learning in Real Time for Tomorrow
Immunization/Vaccines, Public Health Practice, Editorial
Heather M. Brandt

Perspectives
Improving Indian Health Service Vaccination Campaigns Across the Full Spectrum of Age, Clinical, and Public Health Settings
Health Service Delivery, Prevention, Immunization/Vaccines, Other Race/Ethnicity, Community Health, Sexual Health, Editorial, Race/Ethnicity
Hailey A. Baker, Anna Klunk, Alec J. Calac, Tamee Livermont and Shaquita Bell

OPEN-THEMED RESEARCH
CRISPR in Public Health: The Health Equity Implications and Role of Community in Gene-Editing Research and Applications
Health Service Delivery, Ethics, Statistics/Evaluation/Research, Genetics, Community Health, Analytic Essay, Socioeconomic Factors, Access to Care
Andrew M. Subica
113(8), pp. 874–882

Promising Practices Observed in High-Throughput COVID-19 Vaccination Sites in the United States, February–May 2021
Recent major health shocks, such as the 2014–16 Ebola, the Zika outbreak, and, last but not least, the COVID-19 pandemic, have strongly contributed to drawing attention to the issue of resilience in the health...

Authors: L. Agostini, R. Onofrio, C. Piccolo and A. Stefanini
Citation: BMC Health Services Research 2023 23:774
Content type: Research Published on: 19 July 2023
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http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcinfectdis/content  
(Accessed 22 Jul 2023)

**Cholera and COVID-19 pandemic prevention in multiple hotspot districts of Uganda: vaccine coverage, adverse events following immunization and WASH conditions survey**

Between March, 2020 and December, 2021 due to cholera and coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemics, there were 1,534 cholera cases with 14 deaths and 136,065 COVID-19 cases with 3,285 deaths reported resp...

Authors: Godfrey Bwire, Annet Kisakye, Esther Amulen, John Baptist Bwanika, Joan Badebye, Christine Aanyu, Brenda Doreen Nakirya, Alfred Okello, Stephen Acellam Okello, Justine N. Bukenya and Christopher Garimoi Orach  
Citation: BMC Infectious Diseases 2023 23:487  
Content type: Research article Published on: 21 July 2023

**Use of unsupervised machine learning to characterise HIV predictors in sub-Saharan Africa**

Significant regional variations in the HIV epidemic hurt effective common interventions in sub-Saharan Africa. It is crucial to analyze HIV positivity distributions within clusters and assess the homogeneity o...

Authors: Charles K. Mutai, Patrick E. McSharry, Innocent Ngaruye and Edouard Musabanganji  
Citation: BMC Infectious Diseases 2023 23:482  
Content type: Research Published on: 19 July 2023

**An ecological assessment of the potential pandemic threat of Dengue Virus in Zhejiang province of China**

Dengue fever, transmitted by Aedes mosquitoes, is a significant public health concern in tropical and subtropical regions. With the end of the COVID-19 pandemic and the reopening of the borders, dengue fever rema...

Authors: Yaxing Zhang, Lei Wang, Guozhen Wang, Jiabao Xu and Tianxing Zhang  
Citation: BMC Infectious Diseases 2023 23:473  
Content type: Research Published on: 17 July 2023

**BMC Medical Ethics**

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(Accessed 22 Jul 2023)

**To donate or not to donate? Future healthcare professionals’ opinions on biobanking of human biological material for research purposes**

Over the last few decades biobanks have been recognised as institutions that may revolutionise biomedical research and the development of personalised medicine. Poland, however, still lacks clear regulations r...

Authors: Jan Domaradzki, Justyna Czekajewska and Dariusz Walkowiak  
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Understanding the barriers and facilitators of COVID-19 risk mitigation strategy adoption and COVID-19 vaccination in refugee settlements in Uganda: a qualitative study
Perspectives on COVID-19 risk and the willingness and ability of persons living in refugee settlements to adopt COVID-19 prevention strategies have not been rigorously evaluated. The realities of living condit...
Authors: Robin E. Klabbers, Timothy R. Muwonge, Scovia Ajidiru, Sukanya Borthakur, Andrew Mujugira, Monisha Sharma, Patrick Vinck, Phuong Pham, Connie Celum, Rosalind Parkes-Ratanshi and Kelli N. O'Laughlin
Citation: BMC Public Health 2023 23:1401
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The COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on health experiences of asylum seekers to the United States
The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated preexisting barriers to accessing healthcare and social services faced by asylum seekers to the United States. This study aimed to uncover the impact of the first year of the ...
Authors: Elizabeth Singer, Kevin Molyneux, Mahalya Gogerly-Moragoda, Dustin Kee and Kim A. Baranowski
Citation: BMC Public Health 2023 23:1376
Content type: Research Published on: 18 July 2023

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June 2023 - Volume 28 - 3
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Volume 101(7); 2023 Jul 1
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Jul 06, 2023 Volume 186 Issue 14 p2951-3136
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Volume 49, Issue 4 Pages: 617-785 July 2023
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Volume 114, Issue 1 Pages: 1-238 July 2023
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June 2023 Volume 45 Issue 6 p483-616
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Volume 20 Issue 4, August 2023
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Articles
Conference Proceedings
Proceedings of the University of Pennsylvania 14th annual conference on statistical issues in clinical trials: Subgroup analysis in randomized clinical trials—Challenges and opportunities
Susan S Ellenberg, Jonas H Ellenberg

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Primary healthcare delivery models in African conflict-affected settings: a systematic review
In conflict-affected settings, access to primary healthcare for displaced populations is constrained by multiple challenges. These include geographical, cultural, communication, logistical and financial barriers...
Authors: Lundi-Anne Omam, Elizabeth Jarman, Kelli N. O’Laughlin and Rosalind Parkes-Ratanshi
Citation: Conflict and Health 2023 17:34
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Volume 130 July 2023
https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/contemporary-clinical-trials/vol/130/suppl/C
[Reviewed earlier]

The CRISPR Journal
Volume 6, Issue 3 / June 2023
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Volume 10, issue 3, September 2022
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Volume 39, Issue 7 2023
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June 2023 - Volume 36 - Issue 3
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Current Protocols in Human Genetics
Volume 108, Issue 1  December 2020
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Volume 23, Issue 2  Pages: 89-195  June 2023
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[Reviewed earlier]

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Volume 33, Issue 4, 2023
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Volume 41, Issue 4  July 2023
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Volume 16 - Issue 6 - December 2022
https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/disaster-medicine-and-public-health-preparedness/latest-issue
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Volume 47, Issue 2  Pages: 245-542  April 2023
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Volume 24  Issue 7  5 July 2023
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Volume 29, Number 6—June 2023
Ethics & Human Research
Volume 45, Issue 4   Pages: 1-39   July–August 2023
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/25782363/current

**Trust and HIV-transmission trials :: Translational science and public input**

*Essay - Ethics in Translational Research*

**Translational Bioethics and Public Input**
John H. Evans
Pages: 35-39
First Published: 27 June 2023

**ABSTRACT**

Translational science is justified as advancing the public's interests but has no mechanism for determining these interests. Standard social science approaches would produce either unrepresentative descriptions or a cacophony of data not easily condensed into a concrete conclusion about moving forward with a translational-science project. Here, I propose that the simplifying and structuring ethics employed by institutional review boards (IRBs) be used to create social science reports of the four to six most prominent values or principles of the public regarding a biotechnology. A board of bioethicists would weigh and balance these values to conclude whether the public supports a given translational-science innovation.

Ethics & International Affairs
Volume 37 - Issue 1 - Spring 2023
https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/ethics-and-international-affairs/latest-issue
[Reviewed earlier]

Ethics, Medicine and Public Health
Volume 28   June 2023
[Reviewed earlier]
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Volume 33, Issue 3, June 2023  
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Vol 22 (1) 2023  Issue In Progress  
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May/June 2023  Volume 102, Number 3  
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[Reviewed earlier]

Forum for Development Studies  
Volume 50, 2023 - Issue 2  
http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/sfds20/current  
[Reviewed earlier]

Genetics in Medicines  
Volume 25, Issue 7  July 2023  
https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/genetics-in-medicine/vol/25/issue/7  
Editorial  
The value of intersectionality for genomic research on human behavior  
Lucas J. Matthews, Daphne O. Martschenko, Maya Sabatello  
Article 100860

Research article  Full text access  
Barriers to completion of expanded carrier screening in an inner city population  
Tirtza S. Strauss, Emily Schneider, Emily Boniferro, Erika Brockhoff, ... Lois Brustman  
Article 100858  
Purpose  
The American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics emphasizes a "consistent and equitable approach for offering carrier screening." At our academic center, publicly insured prenatal patients underwent universal expanded carrier screening (ECS) to promote equitable care. The aim of the study was to evaluate rates, time, and barriers to complete ECS. This was defined as post-test counseling and partner testing after a patient was found heterozygous for a pathogenic variant.

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Vol. 11, No. 3 June 21, 2023
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Health and Human Rights
Volume 25, Issue 1, June 2023,
https://www.hhrjournal.org/special-section-global-voices-for-global-equity-expanding-right-to-health-frameworks/

**Special Section: Global Voices for Global Justice: Expanding Right to Health Frameworks**

...The papers in this special section work together to move toward a global social medicine for the 22nd century. They envision a global social medicine that confronts and moves beyond the traditionally colonial, xenophobic, heteronormative, patriarchal, gender-binary-bound, capitalist, and racist histories of the fields of global health and human rights. They seek to instantiate a global social medicine that centers knowledge and experiences from the Global South and works toward social justice and health equity at scale. In this special section, the authors are particularly interested in understanding, challenging, and expanding our perspectives and enactments of the right to health. Unlike neoliberal perspectives on health that often limit their explanatory capacity to how individuals behave in the world, the papers here move beyond the focus on lifestyles and on the phantasmagoria of a sovereign subject with supposedly free agency. Instead, authors work toward critical consciousness that accounts for structural processes—with their inequities and disruptions, as well as their effects on individuals—
and how this consciousness can open new horizons for collective transformation and social emancipation in health...

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Volume 18 - Issue 3 - July 2023
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Volume 38, Issue 5, June 2023
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Volume 34, Issue 13-14 / July 2023
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Volume 18, Issue 5, 2022
https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/khvi20/18/5?nav=tocList
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Jul 11, 2023 Volume 56 Issue 7 p1429-1698
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**Infectious Agents and Cancer**
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Vol. 10 No. 7 (2023): July 2023
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**International Journal of Epidemiology**
Volume 52, Issue 3, June 2023
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**International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare**
Volume 16 Issue 3 2023
https://www.emerald.com/insight/publication/issn/2056-4902/vol/16/iss/3
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July 18, 2023, Vol 330, No. 3, Pages 203-292
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*Viewpoint*
**Responding to the Call to Meaningfully Assess Institutional Review Board Effectiveness**
Holly Fernandez Lynch, JD, MBE; Elisa A. Hurley, PhD; Holly A. Taylor, PhD, MPH
This Viewpoint discusses the difficult task of creating a stakeholder-driven, evidence-based approach to assessing institutional review board effectiveness beyond regulatory compliance.
Journal of Development Economics
Volume 163  June 2023
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Volume 18 Issue 3, July 2023
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June 2023 - Volume 77 - 6
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Volume 16, Issue 2  Pages: 101-258  June 2023
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Volume 34, Number 2, May 2023
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Volume 25, issue 3, June 2023
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Volume 228, Issue 2, 15 July 2023
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Volume 35, Issue 5 Pages: 669-960 July 2023
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July 2023 - Volume 49 - 7
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Volume 10, Issue 1 (2023)
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The Journal of Pediatrics
Volume 261, October 2023
Reflections on Ethics and Advocacy in Child Health
Genomics Research with Undiagnosed Children: Ethical Challenges at the Boundaries of Research and Clinical Care
Meghan C. Halley, Jennifer L. Young, Charis Tang, Kevin T. Mintz, Sawyer Lucas-Griffin, Audrey Stephannie Maghiro, Euan A. Ashley, Holly K. Tabor, The Undiagnosed Diseases Network

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Journal of Public Health Management & Practice
September/October 2023 - Volume 29 - Issue 5
Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on the Influenza Vaccination and Predictors of Influenza Vaccination in Japan: A Cross-sectional Study
Shojima, Kensaku; Kobayashi, Taiichiro; Tabuchi, Takahiro

Trusted Sources of Information and COVID-19 Vaccine Uptake in a Sample of Latinx Sexual and Gender Minorities in South Florida
Metheny, Nicholas; Scott, Dalton; Buch, Juan; More

Journal of Public Health Policy
Volume 44, issue 2, June 2023
Articles
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Royal Society – Interface
July 2023 Volume 20 Issue 204
https://royalsocietypublishing.org/toc/rsif/current
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Volume 30, Issue 4, May 2023
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Volume 97 Number 6 June 2023
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The Lancet
Jul 22, 2023 Volume 402 Number 10398 p265-346, e5-e8
https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/issue/current
Editorial
Genomic newborn screening: current concerns and challenges
The Lancet
Articles

GBD 2019 Child and Adolescent Communicable Disease Collaborators

Summary

Background

Communicable disease control has long been a focus of global health policy. There have been substantial reductions in the burden and mortality of communicable diseases among children younger than 5 years, but we know less about this burden in older children and adolescents, and it is unclear whether current programmes and policies remain aligned with targets for intervention. This knowledge is especially important for policy and programmes in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. We aimed to use the Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2019 to systematically characterise the burden of communicable diseases across childhood and adolescence.

Methods

In this systematic analysis of the GBD study from 1990 to 2019, all communicable diseases and their manifestations as modelled within GBD 2019 were included, categorised as 16 subgroups of common diseases or presentations. Data were reported for absolute count, prevalence, and incidence across measures of cause-specific mortality (deaths and years of life lost), disability (years lived with disability [YLDs]), and disease burden (disability-adjusted life-years [DALYs]) for children and adolescents aged 0–24 years. Data were reported across the Socio-demographic Index (SDI) and across time (1990–2019), and for 204 countries and territories. For HIV, we reported the mortality-to-incidence ratio (MIR) as a measure of health system performance.

Findings

In 2019, there were 3·0 million deaths and 30·0 million years of healthy life lost to disability (as measured by YLDs), corresponding to 288·4 million DALYs from communicable diseases among children and adolescents globally (57·3% of total communicable disease burden across all ages). Over time, there has been a shift in communicable disease burden from young children to older children and adolescents (largely driven by the considerable reductions in children younger than 5 years and slower progress elsewhere), although children younger than 5 years still accounted for most of the communicable disease burden in 2019. Disease burden and mortality were predominantly in low-SDI settings, with high and high-middle SDI settings also having an appreciable burden of communicable disease morbidity (4·0 million YLDs in 2019 alone). Three cause groups (enteric infections, lower-respiratory-tract infections, and malaria) accounted for 59·8% of the global communicable disease burden in children and adolescents, with tuberculosis and HIV both emerging as important causes during adolescence. HIV was the only cause for which disease burden increased over time, particularly in children and adolescents older than 5 years, and especially in females. Excess MIRs for HIV were observed for males aged 15–19 years in low-SDI settings.

Interpretation

Our analysis supports continued policy focus on enteric infections and lower-respiratory-tract infections, with orientation to children younger than 5 years in settings of low socioeconomic development. However, efforts should also be targeted to other conditions, particularly HIV, given its increased burden in older children and adolescents. Older children and adolescents also experience a large burden of communicable disease, further highlighting the need for efforts to extend beyond the first 5 years of life. Our analysis also identified substantial morbidity caused by communicable diseases affecting child and adolescent health across the world.

Funding

The Australian National Health and Medical Research Council Centre for Research Excellence for Driving Investment in Global Adolescent Health and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.
The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health
Aug 2023 Volume 7 Number 8 p519-598
https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanchi/issue/current
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Lancet Digital Health
Jul 2023 Volume 5 Number 7 e395-e476
https://www.thelancet.com/journals/landig/issue/current
Editorial
Digital health equity for older populations
The Lancet Digital Health
...Ensuring that people of all ages can benefit from digital tools is essential, given the rising proportion of older people globally and society's growing dependence on technology in health care. Researchers have a responsibility to develop, and governments to implement equitable, unbiased, and accessible tools that are designed with older people as a priority. Doing so will give older populations more equitable access to health care and its benefits, and will ensure that all people, everywhere, can benefit from digital health.

Lancet Global Health
Aug 2023 Volume 11 Number 8 e1137-e1313
https://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/issue/current
Articles
Health effects of routine measles vaccination and supplementary immunisation activities in 14 high-burden countries: a Dynamic Measles Immunization Calculation Engine (DynaMICE) modelling study
Megan Auzenbergs, et al.

Health Policy
The values and risks of an Intergovernmental Panel for One Health to strengthen pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response
Alexandre Hobeika, et al.

Summary
The COVID-19 pandemic has shown the need for better global governance of pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response (PPR) and has emphasised the importance of organised knowledge production and uptake. In this Health Policy, we assess the potential values and risks of establishing an Intergovernmental Panel for One Health (IPOH). Similar to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, an IPOH would facilitate knowledge uptake in policy making via a multisectoral approach, and hence support the addressing of infectious disease emergence and re-emergence at the human–animal–environment interface. The potential benefits to pandemic PPR include a clear, unified, and authoritative voice from the scientific community, support to help donors and institutions to prioritise their investments, evidence-based policies for implementation, and guidance on defragmenting the global health system. Potential risks include a scope not encompassing all pandemic origins, unclear efficacy in fostering knowledge uptake by policy makers, potentially inadequate speed in facilitating response efforts, and coordination challenges among an already dense set of stakeholders. We
recommend weighing these factors when designing institutional reforms for a more effective global health system.

**Lancet Infectious Diseases**
Jul 2023 Volume 23 Number 7 p763-878, e227-e265
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*Articles*

**Protective immunity of SARS-CoV-2 infection and vaccines against medically attended symptomatic omicron BA.4, BA.5, and XBB reinfections in Singapore: a national cohort study**
Celine Y Tan, et al.

**Effectiveness of one dose of MVA–BN smallpox vaccine against mpox in England using the case-coverage method: an observational study**
Marta Bertran, et al.

**Review**

**Economic evaluations of interventions to prevent and control health-care-associated infections: a systematic review**
Stephen Rice, et al.

**Lancet Public Health**
Jul 2023 Volume 8 Number 7 e473-e574
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*Articles*

**Global, regional, and national estimates of tuberculosis incidence and case detection among incarcerated individuals from 2000 to 2019: a systematic analysis**
Leonardo Martinez, et al.

**Lancet Respiratory Medicine**
Jul 2023 Volume 11 Number 7 p577-662, e61-e72`
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**Maternal and Child Health Journal**
Volume 27, issue 8, August 2023
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**Medical Decision Making (MDM)**
Volume 43 Issue 5, July 2023
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[Reviewed earlier]
The Milbank Quarterly
A Multidisciplinary Journal of Population Health and Health Policy
Volume 101, Issue 2 Pages: 249-635 June 2023
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14680009/current
[Reviewed earlier]

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Jul 05, 2023 Volume 31 Issue 7 p1859-2298
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[Reviewed earlier]

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Volume 619 Issue 7970, 20 July 2023
https://www.nature.com/nature/volumes/619/issues/7970
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Nature Biotechnology
Volume 41 Issue 7, July 2023
https://www.nature.com/nbt/volumes/41/issues/7
Patents
Machine learning in drug discovery
Recent patents relating to machine learning in drug discovery and screening.

Nature Communications
https://www.nature.com/subjects/health-sciences/ncomms
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Nature Genetics
Volume 55 Issue 7, July 2023
https://www.nature.com/ng/volumes/55/issues/7
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Nature Human Behaviour
Volume 7 Issue 6, June 2023
https://www.nature.com/nathumbehav/volumes/7/issues/6
[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Medicine
Editorial 18 Jul 2023

**Building healthy populations**

In this issue, we ask what it takes to build a healthier future for populations — a necessary condition to deliver on the commitments of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

*World View* 18 Jul 2023

**The poorest and most vulnerable communities should be the first to be vaccinated**

Eighteen million children have received no routine vaccines — prioritizing them will save lives and build health infrastructure.

Seth Berkley

*Perspective* 18 Jul 2023

**Digital health for aging populations**

As the proportion of older adults increases globally, digital health innovations, particularly wearables, could transform the future of healthy aging.

Chuanrui Chen, Shichao Ding, Joseph Wang

*Nature Reviews Drug Discovery* Volume 22 Issue 7, July 2023

*Comment* 01 Jun 2023

**Including African data in drug discovery and development**

The low number of clinical trials in Africa and biomedical datasets that disproportionately represent populations of European ancestry contribute to the suboptimal efficacy and safety of some medicines in African populations. To address these disparities, we propose greater incorporation of African data into drug discovery and development, as well as the development of African-centric preclinical and clinical models and tools.

Clinton G. L. Veale, Adrienne L. Edkins, Kelly Chibale

*Review Article* 30 May 2023

**Amplifying gene expression with RNA-targeted therapeutics**

Many diseases involve reduced or absent levels of a particular protein and would benefit from therapies that increase gene expression. In their Review, Khorkova et al. discuss the growing range of RNA-targeted therapies in development that aim to boost gene expression, including nucleic acid-based therapeutics targeting the complex regulatory network of non-coding RNA species.

Olga Khorkova, Jack Stahl, Claes Wahlestedt

*Perspective* 12 May 2023

**Accelerating antiviral drug discovery: lessons from COVID-19**

The COVID-19 pandemic spurred a wave of rapid and collaborative drug discovery efforts. This Perspective article summarizes scientific drivers and considerations behind such antiviral small-molecule discovery programmes and proposes strategies to accelerate future efforts.

Annette von Delft, Matthew D. Hall, Alpha A. Lee
Mendelian inheritance revisited: dominance and recessiveness in medical genetics

This Review discusses the importance of understanding the mechanisms by which specific allelic variants and allelic combinations cause disease for accurately diagnosing, treating and counselling individuals with genetic disorders.

Johannes Zschocke, Peter H. Byers, Andrew O. M. Wilkie
Policy recommendations to ensure that research software is openly accessible and reusable
Perspective | published 21 Jul 2023 PLOS Biology
https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.3002204

PLoS Genetics
https://journals.plos.org/plosgenetics/
(Accessed 22 Jul 2023)
[No new digest content identified]

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(Accessed 22 Jul 2023)
Credibility of vaccine-related content on Twitter during COVID-19 pandemic
Samira Yousefinaghani, Rozita Dara, Alice Wang, Melissa MacKay, Andrew Papadopoulos, Shayan Sharif
Research Article | published 19 Jul 2023 PLOS Global Public Health
https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0001385

PLoS Medicine
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(Accessed 22 Jul 2023)
[No new digest content identified]

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(Accessed 22 Jul 2023)
[No new digest content identified]

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Oghenebrume Wariri, Chigozie Edson Utazi, Uduak Okomo, Malick Sogur, Kris A. Murray, Chris Grundy, Sidat Fofanna, Beate Kampmann
Research Article | published 21 Jul 2023 PLOS ONE
https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0288741
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http://journals.plos.org/plospathogens/
[Accessed 22 Jul 2023]
[No new digest content identified]

PNAS - Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States
July 4, 2023 | vol. 120 | no. 27
https://www.pnas.org/toc/pnas/120/27
[New issue; No digest content identified]

PNAS Nexus
Volume 2, Issue 6  June 2023
https://academic.oup.com/pnasnexus/issue
[Reviewed earlier]

Prehospital & Disaster Medicine
Volume 38 - Issue 3 - June 2023
https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/prehospital-and-disaster-medicine/latest-issue
[Reviewed earlier]

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Volume 172  July 2023
[Reviewed earlier]

Proceedings of the Royal Society B
12 July 2023  Volume 290  Issue 2002
https://royalsocietypublishing.org/toc/rspb/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health
Volume 220  Pages 1-196 (July 2023)
Review article  Full text access
Predictors of COVID-19 vaccination hesitancy in China: a meta-analysis
Y. Liu, K. Kuang
Pages 135-141

Public Health Ethics
Volume 16, Issue 1, April 2023
http://phe.oxfordjournals.org/content/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Reports
Volume 138 Issue 4, July/August 2023
https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/phrg/138/4
[Reviewed earlier]

Qualitative Health Research
Volume 33 Issue 7, June 2023
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[Reviewed earlier]

Research Ethics
Volume 19 Issue 3, July 2023
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Reproductive Health
http://www.reproductive-health-journal.com/content
[Accessed 22 Jul 2023]
[No new digest content identified]

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https://www.paho.org/journal/en
Selected Articles
[No new digest content identified]

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Volume 43, Issue 7 Pages: 1297-1519 July 2023
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/15396924/current
[Reviewed earlier]

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Volume 28, Issue 7  Pages: i-iv, 507-585  July 2023
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[Reviewed earlier]

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Volume 41, Issue 26  Pages 3801-3946 (13 June 2023)
https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/vaccine/vol/41/issue/26
Selected Content
Review article  Open access
Efficacy and safety of mRNA and AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines in patients with autoimmune rheumatic diseases: A systematic review
Anwar I. Joudeh, Abdu Qaid Lutf, Salah Mahdi, Gui Tran
Pages 3801-3812

Research article  Full text access
COVID-19 vaccine decision-making among pregnant and lactating women in Bangladesh
Rupali J. Limaye, Prachi Singh, Alicia Paul, Berhaun Fesshaye, ... Towfida Jahan Siddiqua
Pages 3885-3890

Research article  Open access
COVID-19 vaccination decisions among Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller communities: A qualitative study moving beyond “vaccine hesitancy”
Charlotte Kühlbrandt, Catherine R. McGowan, Rachel Stuart, Pippa Grenfell, ... Cicely Marston
Pages 3891-3897

Research article  Full text access
Uncovering inequities in Covid-19 vaccine coverage for adults and elderly in Brazil: A multilevel study of 2021–2022 data
Antonio Fernando Boing, Alexandra Crispim Boing, Lorena Barberia, Marcelo Eduardo Borges, S.V. Subramanian
Pages 3937-3945

Vaccines
https://www.mdpi.com/journal/vaccines
[Accessed 22 Jul 2023]
Latest Articles
Open Access  Systematic Review
Use of Information and Communication Technology Strategies to Increase Vaccination Coverage in Older Adults: A Systematic Review
by Alessandra Buja, et al.
Vaccines 2023, 11(7), 1274; https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines11071274 (registering DOI)
Received: 16 June 2023 / Revised: 14 July 2023 / Accepted: 19 July 2023 / Published: 21 July 2023
Abstract
Background: Coverage rates of routinely recommended vaccines in older adults still fall below the targets established by international and national advisory committees. As a result, related diseases still
have a high incidence, morbidity, and mortality. Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) could provide useful tools to improve immunization rates by bringing information directly to the target user at a relatively low cost. The present research aims to systematically review recent literature on interventions applying ICT to improve the uptake of influenza, pneumococcal, COVID-19 and herpes zoster immunization rates among older adults. Methods: Studies published in English between 1 January 2000 and 10 November 2022 were identified by searching electronic medical databases (PubMed, Scopus) and were independently reviewed by two different authors. A total of 22 studies were included in this review. Findings: Interventions applied the following ICT tools: phone calls, text messages, messages sent via personal electronic medical records, automated phone calls, remote patient monitoring in a home telehealth program and emails. In terms of the vaccines promoted, 11 studies prompted the influenza vaccine, four prompted the influenza and pneumococcal vaccines, three the pneumococcal vaccine, two the herpes zoster vaccine, one the COVID-19 vaccine and one both the pneumococcal and herpes zoster vaccines. Overall, more than half of the studies (n = 12) found some level of effectiveness of these ICT strategies in increasing vaccination rates among older adults, while five studies were partially effective (for specific vaccines or population subgroups), and five reported no significant effect. Conclusions: Prevention programs using ICT tools could be effective in promoting immunizations among older adults.

Value in Health
July 2023 Volume 26 Issue 7 p957-1138
https://www.valueinhealthjournal.com/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Contents [click to move among sections]
:: Milestones, Perspectives
:: WHO
:: Organization Announcements
:: Journal Watch
:: Pre-Print Servers

Gates Open Research
https://gatesopenresearch.org/browse/articles
[Accessed 22 Jul 2023]
Selected Research
Research Article metrics AWAITING PEER REVIEW
Women's groups, covariate shocks, and resilience: An evidence synthesis of past shocks to inform a response to COVID-19 [version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]
Rebecca Walcott, Carly Schmidt, Marina Kaminsky, Roopal Jyoti Singh, Leigh Anderson, Sapna Desai, Thomas de Hoop
Peer Reviewers Invited
Study Protocol metrics AWAITING PEER REVIEW


Lay-Myint Yoshida, Stefan Flasche, Kim Mulholland, Hien-Anh Nguyen, Cattram Nguyen, Michiko Toizumi, Duc-Anh Dang

Peer Reviewers Invited

Funders
Wellcome Trust and the Royal Society
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Efficacy of federated learning on genomic data: a study on the UK Biobank and the 1000 Genomes Project
Dmitry Kolobkov, Satyarth Mishra Sharma, Aleksandr Medvedev, Mikhail Lebedev, Egor Kosaretskiy, Ruslan Vakhitov

medRxiv 2023.01.24.23284898; doi: https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.01.24.23284898 Revision

The scientific chaos phase of the Great Pandemic: A longitudinal analysis and systematic review of the first surge of clinical research concerning COVID-19
Till Adami, Markus Ries


Abstract

Background

Early stages of catastrophes like COVID-19 are often led by chaos and panic. To characterize the initial chaos phase of clinical research in such situations, we analyzed the first surge of more than 1000 clinical trials about the new disease at baseline and after two years follow-up. Our 3 main objectives were: (1) Assessment of spatial and temporal evolution of clinical research of COVID-19 across the
globe, (2) Assessment of transparency and quality - trial registration, (3) Assessment of research waste and redundancies.

Methods
By entering the keyword “COVID-19” we screened the International Clinical Trials Registry Platform of the WHO and downloaded the search output when our goal of 1000 trials was reached on the 1st of April. Additionally, we verified the integrity of the downloaded data from the meta registry by comparing the data with each individual registration record on their source register. Also, we conducted a follow-up after two years to track their progress.

Results
(1) The spatial evolution followed the geographical spread of the disease as expected, however, the temporal development suggested that panic was the main driver for clinical research activities.
(2) Trial registrations and registers showed a huge lack of transparency by allowing retrospective registrations and not keeping their registration records up to date. Quality of trial registration seems to have improved over the last decade, yet crucial information still was missing.
(3) Research waste and redundancies were present as suggested by discontinuation of trials, preventable flaws in study design, and similar but uncoordinated research topics operationally fragmented in isolated silo-structures.

Conclusion
The scientific response mechanism across the globe was intact during the chaos phase. However, supervision, leadership, and accountability are urgently needed to prevent research waste, to ensure effective structure, quality, and validity to ultimately break the “panic-then-forget” cycle in future catastrophes.

The historical fingerprint and future impact of climate change on childhood malaria in Africa
Colin J. Carlson, Tamma A. Carleton, Romaric C. Odoulami, Christopher H. Trisos

Immune boosting bridges leaky and polarized vaccination models
Sang Woo Park, Michael Li, C. Jessica E. Metcalf, Bryan T. Grenfell, Jonathan Dushoff

Coding Inequity: Assessing GPT-4’s Potential for Perpetuating Racial and Gender Biases in Healthcare
Travis Zack, Eric Lehman, Mirac Suzgun, Jorge A. Rodriguez, Leo Anthony Celi, Judy Gichoya, Dan Jurafsky, Peter Szolovits, David W. Bates, Raja-Elie E. Abdulnour, Atul J. Butte, Emily Alsentzer

COVID-19 vaccine information, misinformation, and vaccine uptake in Malawi
John Songo, Hannah S. Whitehead, Khumbo Phiri, Pericles Kalande, Eric Lungu, Sam Phiri, Joep J. van Oosterhout, Agnes Moses, Risa M. Hoffman, Corrina Moucheraud
We observe increasing levels of "posting pollution" by individuals, sometimes posting 10+ items of no value. If this continues, we may decide to no longer monitor this resource.

We are temporarily suspending active coverage of this resource due to "posting pollution".

Public engagement with genomics

[version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]

Anna Middleton, et al.

Abstract

As detailed in its flagship report, Genome UK, the UK government recognises the vital role that broad public engagement across whole populations plays in the field of genomics. However, there is limited evidence about how to do this at scale, particularly for public audiences who are not especially interested in the science, are unsure of the relevance to their lives or who feel disengaged from it. We use a narrative review to explore: (i) UK attitudes towards genetics and genomics and what may influence reluctance to engage with these topics; (ii) innovative public engagement approaches that have been used to bring diverse public audiences into conversations about the technology. Whilst we have found some novel engagement methods that have used participatory arts, film, social media and deliberative methods, there is no clear agreement on best practice. We did not find a consistently used, evidence-based strategy for delivering public engagement about genomics across diverse and broad populations, nor a specific method that is known to encourage engagement from groups that have historically felt (in terms of perception) and been (in reality) excluded from genomic research. We argue there is a need for well-defined, tailor-made engagement strategies that clearly articulate the audience, the purpose and the proposed impact of the engagement intervention. This needs to be coupled with robust evaluation frameworks to build the evidence-base for population-level engagement strategies.

Where next for partial randomisation of research funding? The feasibility of RCTs and alternatives

[version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]

Tom Stafford, Ines Rombach, Dan Hind, Bilal Mateen, Helen Buckley Woods, Munya Dimario, James Wilsdon

Abstract

We outline essential considerations for any study of partial randomisation of research funding, and consider scenarios in which randomised controlled trials (RCTs) would be feasible and appropriate. We highlight the interdependence of target outcomes, sample availability and statistical power for determining the cost and feasibility of a trial. For many choices of target outcome, RCTs may be less
practical and more expensive than they at first appear (in large part due to issues pertaining to sample size and statistical power). As such, we briefly discuss alternatives to RCTs. It is worth noting that many of the considerations relevant to experiments on partial randomisation may also apply to other potential experiments on funding processes (as described in The Experimental Research Funder’s Handbook, RoRI, June 2022).

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**Think Tanks**

**Brookings** [to 22 Jul 2023]
http://www.brookings.edu/
*Latest Research [Selected]*
No new digest content identified.

**Center for Global Development** [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://www.cgdev.org/
*All Research [Selected]*
No new digest content identified.

**Chatham House** [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://www.chathamhouse.org/
*Selected Analysis, Comment, Events*
No new digest content identified.

**Council on Foreign Relations** [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://www.cfr.org/media/news-releases
*New Releases [Selected]*
No new digest content identified.

**CSIS** [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://www.csis.org/
*Selected Reports, Events*
**Strengthening Global Health Security through Critical Immunization Programs**
For the United States, closing global gaps in access to immunizations for children while preparing health systems to both maintain health services and reach adolescent and adult populations with new vaccines during a health crisis is a matter of national security.
Brief by Katherine E. Bliss — July 20, 2023
**The Issue**
By preventing or mitigating the severity of infection with deadly diseases, immunizations save money, save lives, and link people who receive vaccines to other important health services. But the decades-long effort to ensure equitable global access to vaccines is under threat. Even before the first cases of Covid-19 were reported, vaccine coverage rates had plateaued, and pandemic-era disruptions to health
services, as well as the erosion of public trust in science and the politicization of vaccines, have made restoring momentum and increasing the reach of immunizations a challenge. Increasing bilateral and multilateral funding for global immunization activities; elevating the importance of equitable access to immunizations within U.S. political and diplomatic engagement on global health, addressing the challenges of vaccine confidence and acceptance, strengthening the health systems that deliver vaccines and preparing the health work for to deliver vaccines across the life course, and supporting the development of innovative vaccine delivery options to increase uptake and expand coverage are all steps the United States can take to improve health equity and health security globally.

Kaiser Family Foundation  [to22 Jul 2023]
https://www.kff.org/search/?post_type=press-release
Newsroom
New KFF Health News Podcast Explores How the Eradication of Smallpox in India Informs Public Health Ambitions and Challenges in 2023
July 18, 2023 News Release
KFF Health News today launched a new limited-series podcast, "Epidemic: Eradicating Smallpox," with host Dr. Céline Gounder, senior fellow and editor-at-large for public health at KFF Health News. The eight-episode podcast takes listeners on a journey to South Asia, the site of the last days of variola major smallpox. There,...

McKinsey Global Institute  [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://www.mckinsey.com/mgi/overview
Latest Research
No new digest content identified.

ODI  [Overseas Development Institute]  [to 22 Jul 2023]
Publications [Selected]
No new digest content identified.

Pew Research Center  [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://www.pewresearch.org/
Latest Publications [Selected]
short read | Jul 20, 2023
Most Americans favor restrictions on false information, violent content online
Most Americans say the U.S. government and technology companies should each take steps to restrict false information and extremely violent content online.

Rand  [to 22 Jul 2023]
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Published Research [Selected]
Journal Article
The Impact of COVID-19 Shelter-In-Place Policy Responses on Excess Mortality
Using an event study approach we measure changes in excess deaths following the implementation of COVID-19 policies. We do not find that countries or U.S. states that implemented policies earlier had lower excess deaths.

Jul 21, 2023
Jonathan H. Cantor, Neeraj Sood, Christopher M. Whaley

Journal Article
The Stability of Influenza Vaccination Behavior Over Time: A Longitudinal Analysis of Individuals Across 8 Years
U.S. adults completed multiple surveys about influenza vaccinations over an 8 year period. Findings indicate that individuals with only a weak tendency to vaccinate or not to vaccinate are mostly likely to be impacted by interventions.

Jul 19, 2023
Matthew Walsh, Andrew M. Parker, Raffaele Vardavas, Sarah A. Nowak, David P. Kennedy, Courtney A. Gidengil

Urban Institute  [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://www.urban.org/publications
New Research Publications - Selected

Brief
Models for Equitably Organizing Art Funding in Cities
July 21, 2023

Brief
The Rapid Increase of School Accountability during the Pandemic
July 20, 2023

Brief
Employment and Material Hardship among Adults with Long COVID in December 2022
July 20, 2023

World Economic Forum  [to 22 Jul 2023]
https://agenda.weforum.org/news/
Media
No new digest content identified.

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Vaccines and Global Health: The Week in Review is a service of the Center for Vaccine Ethics and Policy (CVEP) / GE2P2 Global Foundation, which is solely responsible for its 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.

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