Vaccines and Global Health: The Week in Review
07 October 2023 :: Issue 721
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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The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2023
Press Release, 2023-10-02

The Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet has today decided to award the 2023 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine jointly to Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman for their discoveries concerning nucleoside base modifications that enabled the development of effective mRNA vaccines against COVID-19

The discoveries by the two Nobel Laureates were critical for developing effective mRNA vaccines against COVID-19 during the pandemic that began in early 2020. Through their groundbreaking findings, which have fundamentally changed our understanding of how mRNA interacts with our immune system, the laureates contributed to the unprecedented rate of vaccine development during one of the greatest threats to human health in modern times...

Katalin Karikó was born in 1955 in Szolnok, Hungary. She received her PhD from Szeged’s University in 1982 and performed postdoctoral research at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Szeged until 1985. She then conducted postdoctoral research at Temple University, Philadelphia, and the University of Health Science, Bethesda. In 1989, she was appointed Assistant Professor at the University of Pennsylvania, where she remained until 2013. After that, she became vice president and later senior vice president at BioNTech RNA Pharmaceuticals. Since 2021, she has been a Professor at Szeged University and an Adjunct Professor at Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.

Drew Weissman was born in 1959 in Lexington, Massachusetts, USA. He received his MD, PhD degrees from Boston University in 1987. He did his clinical training at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center at Harvard Medical School and postdoctoral research at the National Institutes of Health. In 1997, Weissman established his research group at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. He is the Roberts Family Professor in Vaccine Research and Director of the Penn Institute for RNA Innovations...

Nobel Prize - Read more about this year’s prize

Scientific background: Discoveries concerning nucleoside base modifications that enabled the development of effective mRNA vaccines against COVID-19

When SARS-CoV-2 emerged in late 2019 and rapidly spread to all parts of the world, few thought that vaccines could be developed in time to help curb the increasing global disease burden. Yet, several vaccines were approved in record time, with two of the fastest approved and most effective vaccines produced with the new mRNA technology. The concept of using mRNA for vaccination and in vivo delivery of therapeutic proteins was first proposed over 30 years ago, but several hurdles had to be overcome to make this a clinical reality. Early experiments demonstrated that in vitro transcribed mRNA stimulates undesired inflammatory responses and inefficient protein production in cells and tissues. A turning point was the discovery by Karikó and Weissman demonstrating that mRNA produced with modified bases evades innate immune recognition and improves protein expression. These findings, combined with the development of efficient systems for in vivo mRNA delivery, stabilization of the SARS-CoV-2 spike antigen, and unparalleled investments by industry and governments, led to the approval of two highly successful mRNA-based COVID-19 vaccines in late 2020. The discovery by Karikó and Weissman was critical for making the mRNA vaccine
platform suitable for clinical use at a time when it was most needed, making this an extraordinary contribution to medicine and paving the way for future mRNA applications...

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**Statement on Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman awarded the Nobel Prize in Medicine 2023**

*BioNTech Press Release 2 October 2023*

All of us at BioNTech applaud Kati (Katalin) Karikó and Drew Weissman on their Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for pioneering nucleoside base modifications, which were one of the key innovations applied to our mRNA-based COVID-19 vaccine. We value both for their passion, persistence, and commitment. This Nobel Prize is a reminder for scientists around the world to continue to engage in rigorous research and development with the great aspiration to unlock the full potential of new drug classes. Gratulálunk and congrats!...

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**NAM Members Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman Receive Nobel Prize in Medicine**

*October 2, 2023*

The Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet announced today that they have awarded the 2023 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine jointly to Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman “for their discoveries concerning nucleoside base modifications that enabled the development of effective mRNA vaccines against COVID-19.” Karikó and Weissman were elected to the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) in 2022...

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**WHO recommends R21/Matrix-M vaccine for malaria prevention in updated advice on immunization**

*2 October 2023 News release Geneva*

The World Health Organization (WHO) has recommended a new vaccine, R21/Matrix-M, for the prevention of malaria in children. The recommendation follows advice from the WHO: Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE) and the Malaria Policy Advisory Group (MPAG) and was endorsed by the WHO Director-General following its regular biannual meeting held on 25-29 September.

**WHO also issued recommendations on the advice of SAGE for new vaccines for dengue and meningitis, along with immunization schedule and product recommendations for COVID-19. WHO also issued key immunization programmatic recommendations on polio, IA2030 and recovering the immunization programme.**

The R21 vaccine is the second malaria vaccine recommended by WHO, following the RTS,S/AS01 vaccine, which received a WHO recommendation in 2021. Both vaccines are shown to be safe and effective in preventing malaria in children and, when implemented broadly, are expected to have high public health impact. Malaria, a mosquito-borne disease, places a particularly high burden on children in the African Region, where nearly half a million children die from the disease each year. Demand for malaria vaccines is unprecedented; however, available supply of RTS,S is limited. The addition of R21 to the list of WHO-recommended malaria vaccines is expected to result in sufficient vaccine supply to benefit all children living in areas where malaria is a public health risk...
Key features of the R21 malaria vaccine:
The updated WHO malaria vaccine recommendation is informed by evidence from an ongoing R21 vaccine clinical trial and other studies, which showed:

- **High efficacy when given just before the high transmission season:** In areas with highly seasonal malaria transmission (where malaria transmission is largely limited to 4 or 5 months per year), the R21 vaccine was shown to reduce symptomatic cases of malaria by 75% during the 12 months following a 3-dose series. A fourth dose given a year after the third maintained efficacy. This high efficacy is similar to the efficacy demonstrated when RTS,S is given seasonally.

- **Good efficacy when given in an age-based schedule:** The vaccine showed good efficacy (66%) during the 12 months following the first 3 doses. A fourth dose a year after the third maintained efficacy.

- **High impact:** Mathematical modelling estimates indicate the public health impact of the R21 vaccine is expected to be high in a wide range of malaria transmission settings, including low transmission settings.

- **Cost effectiveness:** At prices of US$ 2 – US$ 4 per dose, the cost-effectiveness of the R21 vaccine would be comparable with other recommended malaria interventions and other childhood vaccines.

- **Similarity of R21 and RTS,S vaccines:** The two WHO-recommended vaccines, R21 and RTS,S, have not been tested in a head-to-head trial. There is no evidence to date showing one vaccine performs better than the other. The choice of product to be used in a country should be based on programmatic characteristics, vaccine supply, and vaccine affordability.

- **Safety:** The R21 vaccine was shown to be safe in clinical trials. As with other new vaccines, safety monitoring will continue.

Next steps for the second recommended malaria vaccine, R21/Matrix-M, include completing the ongoing WHO prequalification which would enable international procurement of the vaccine for broader rollout.

**At least 28 countries in Africa plan to introduce a WHO-recommended malaria vaccine as part of their national immunization programmes.** Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance has approved providing technical and financial support to roll out malaria vaccines to 18 countries. The RTS,S vaccine will be rolled out in some African countries in early 2024, and the R21 malaria vaccine is expected to become available to countries mid-2024...

Note to the editor:
The R21 and RTS,S vaccines act against *P. falciparum*, the deadliest malaria parasite and the most prevalent on the African continent. The updated WHO recommendation for malaria vaccines was informed by the results of the WHO-coordinated Malaria Vaccine Implementation Programme, through which nearly 2 million children in Ghana, Kenya and Malawi have been reached with the RTS,S/AS01 malaria vaccine since 2019. The pilot introduction of the first malaria vaccine has resulted in a substantial impact in reducing severe malaria illness, hospitalizations and child deaths.

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**Full Sage Meeting Highlights:**

[Highlights from the Meeting of the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) on Immunization - 25-29 September 2023](#)

(The full report will be published in the Weekly Epidemiological Record on 1 December 2023, and only the wording of the full report should be considered final)

**Session 1**
Report from the Department of Immunization, Vaccines, and Biologicals.

- Climate change is accelerating the spread and burden of vaccine-preventable diseases and necessitating modifications in the strategy and implementation of immunization programmes; It has contributed to the backsliding in immunization coverage during the pandemic.
- WHO will be convening stakeholders to identify action necessary to adapt vaccines and immunization programmes for the growing climate threat.
- While there has been significant progress in restoring routine vaccination coverage to pre-pandemic levels, the progress has been uneven, especially in LMICs. Several countries have experienced large and disruptive outbreaks of measles and diphtheria in the last two years.
- Major progress has been made with the COVID-19 vaccination response. Starting in January 2024, the focus will shift to ensuring the annual uptake of vaccination in eligible populations.
- Despite the setbacks experienced during the pandemic, there are opportunities to build back better in the future. Several new vaccines, such as against respiratory disease (respiratory syncytial virus – RSV) or bacterial meningitis and sepsis (group B streptococcus – GBS) are likely to become available in the next five years, which will need to be prioritized for introduction and ensuring access to those most in need.
- Major progress has been made with the COVID-19 vaccination response, and it is critical to continue the progress particularly for those most at risk of disease, including with updates to reporting of coverage.
  - 2024 will be the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) and a time to celebrate its successes.

Update from Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

- As part of the “Big Catch-up”, Gavi reviewed requests for support from 25 countries and will provide flexible financing and technical assistance.
- With the closure of the COVAX Facility in 2023, Gavi will transition to providing support for COVID-19 vaccination to the highest priority groups in eligible countries.
- Gavi is strengthening its role in pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response.
- To address shortfalls in oral cholera vaccine (OCV) supply to mitigate the risk of cholera outbreaks, an OCV market-shaping roadmap was agreed with partners and a UNICEF tender is ongoing for vaccine supply for the period 2024 to 2028.
- The pause in support for vaccines approved in the previous Gavi Vaccine Investment Strategy (VIS) has been lifted and their implementation is underway. The VIS 2024 is underway with a final decision expected by the Gavi Board in June 2024.

Session 2

Dengue

- Dengue poses a significant public health burden in endemic countries and is poised to increase further both in terms of incidence and geographic expansion, due to climate change and urbanization.
- The live-attenuated quadrivalent dengue vaccine developed by Takeda (TAK-003) has demonstrated efficacy against all four serotypes of the virus in baseline seropositive children (4-16 years) in endemic countries and against serotypes 1 and 2 in baseline seronegative children.
- In baseline seronegative children, the vaccine trial did not demonstrate efficacy against symptomatic disease against serotypes 3 and 4 and hospitalization due to serotype 3; there were too few cases of hospitalized serotype 4 cases to assess efficacy. The potential risk of enhanced disease due to serotypes 3 and 4 in seronegative vaccinated children cannot be ruled out.
- SAGE recommended that the vaccine be considered for introduction in settings with high dengue disease burden and high transmission intensity to maximize the public health impact and minimize any potential risk in seronegative persons.
- SAGE recommended that the vaccine be introduced to children aged 6 to 16 years of age. Within this age range, the vaccine should be introduced about 1-2 years prior to the age-specific peak
incidence of dengue-related hospitalizations. The vaccine should be administered in a 2-dose schedule with a 3-month interval between doses.
• SAGE recommended that vaccine introduction should be accompanied by a well-designed communication strategy and community engagement.
• Post-authorization studies should be conducted to further study vaccine effectiveness and safety against serotypes 3 and 4.

Session 3
Antimicrobial resistance
• Modelling studies estimate almost 5 million deaths associated with resistant infections in 2019. However, vaccines remain an underrecognized tool to prevent antimicrobial resistance (AMR).
• WHO evaluated the value of existing and future vaccines on AMR. The analyses indicate that vaccines can have a significant impact on AMR-related health and economic burden and reduce antibiotic use.
• SAGE emphasized that AMR-related endpoints should be included in evaluating vaccines under development and that the evidence on the impact of vaccines on AMR should be considered in policy and investment decisions.

Session 4
Meningitis
• SAGE recommended that all countries in the African meningitis belt introduce the novel pentavalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine targeting serogroups A, C, Y, W and X (Men5CV) into their routine immunization programmes in a single-dose schedule at 9 to 18 months of age.
• In high-risk countries, and countries with high-risk districts, a catch-up campaign should also be conducted at the time of the introduction of Men5CV, targeting all individuals aged 1 to 19 years.
• Countries in the meningitis belt that have already introduced a monovalent meningococcal A conjugate vaccine (MenACV) into their routine programme should switch to Men5CV.
• Countries that have not yet introduced MenACV should do so now and not wait until Men5CV is available, to avoid the risk of a resurgence of Neisseria meningitidis serogroup A (NmA).
• Before the planned introduction of Men5CV in immunization programmes, reactive vaccination campaigns may be extended to areas assessed to be at increased risk of an epidemic during the upcoming season.
• The implementation of the recommendation will be instrumental in eliminating epidemic meningitis epidemics in the meningitis belt as envisioned in the 2030 global WHO road map.

Session 5
Immunization Agenda 2030 (IA2030)
• SAGE was presented with the technical progress report, which was developed through a collaborative, multi-stakeholder process and reviewed and endorsed by the Immunization Agenda Coordination Group.
• Progress against the IA2030 indicators was stalled due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and was off-track for six of the seven impact goal targets; progress against the target for the introduction of new vaccines is on track driven by the introduction of new vaccines in low-income countries in 2022.
• While there are promising signs of recovery, it is uneven; recovery is especially slow in low-income countries and vulnerable populations living in fragile and conflict-affected settings.
• Low coverage of measles-containing vaccines has increased the risk of large, disruptive outbreaks.
• Beyond the time-limited campaigns as one part of the “Big Catch-up”, sustained efforts to fill immunity gaps are required in the immediate and long term through strengthening of immunization programmes within primary health care and along the life-course. The aim is to restore immunization programme performance to pre-pandemic levels (2nd objective of the Big Catch-up)
and to do more to get onto the trajectory needed to achieve the 2030 goals (3rd objective of the Big Catch-up).

- A shared action agenda for 2023-2024 that sets out a series of short-term and high-level priorities to align the efforts of countries, regions, global partners, and other stakeholders has been developed and SAGE was invited to provide feedback on this action agenda.
- The action agenda has six trajectories, which are catch-up and strengthening of immunization programmes, equity promotion, regaining control of measles, making the case for investment into immunization, accelerating the introduction of WHO-recommended vaccines, and advancing vaccination in adolescence.

**Session 6**

**Poliomyelitis**

- SAGE was pleased to note that wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) circulation is confined to a small geographic area at the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan and with lower genetic diversity between isolates.
- SAGE expressed concern about the continued detection of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV) type 2 (cVDPV2) in Africa and increasing detection of cVDPV type 1 in several countries and stressed the need for efforts to improve routine immunization coverage; routine immunization is the means by which most polio vaccines are delivered and hereby establish individual and population-based immunity.
- SAGE recommended that to minimize the risk of seeding new cVDPV2 outbreaks, the novel oral poliovirus vaccine type 2 (nOPV2) should be used in high-quality campaigns with a maximum interval of 4 weeks between campaign rounds.
- SAGE recommended that in areas of type 1 and 2 poliovirus cocirculation, sequential vaccination campaigns with nOPV2 and bivalent OPV (bOPV) should be implemented; short intervals between homologous vaccines should be considered.

**Session 7**

**Malaria**

- In a joint session, SAGE and the Malaria Policy Advisory Group (MPAG) reviewed the available evidence on the novel malaria vaccine R21/Matrix-M.
- The R21/Matrix-M vaccine is similar to the RTS,S/AS01 malaria vaccine and there is no evidence that one vaccine performs better than the other.
- SAGE and MPAG recommended that either the R21/Matrix-M or RTS,S vaccine be used for the prevention of P. falciparum malaria in children living in malaria-endemic areas, prioritizing areas of moderate and high transmission but also considering vaccination in low transmission settings.
- Vaccine introduction should be done in the context of comprehensive malaria control efforts.
- The R21/Matrix-M vaccine should be administered in a 4-dose schedule from 5 months of age, as recommended for RTS,S; a 5th dose may be considered in areas where there is a significant malaria risk remaining in children who have received four doses.
- The availability of this second malaria vaccine is expected to close the gap between supply and demand, enabling broader and possibly unconstrained access; malaria vaccines introduced widely have the potential to save tens of thousands of young lives each year.

**Session 8**

**Smallpox**

- SAGE was presented with the results of a systematic review of the available data on the safety and efficacy of Smallpox vaccines, including the second and third-generation vaccines; no data were available for the fourth-generation orthopoxvirus vaccine.
- First-generation vaccines have higher rates of serious adverse events and myocarditis.
- SAGE recommended the addition of the third-generation MVA vaccine to the WHO reserve in addition to the existing vaccines.
Primary prevention through vaccination is recommended for laboratory personnel handling orthopoxviruses, and outbreak response teams. Revaccination may be administered as often as every 3 to 5 years for laboratory workers at the highest risk. The need and frequency of re-vaccination of other high-risk groups need to be determined.

In the case of outbreak response, targeted vaccination is recommended for contacts and other persons at risk of infection. Second and third-generation vaccines are recommended for outbreak response. When these are not available, first-generation can be considered. Vaccination should not be withheld from previously vaccinated persons. Large-scale mass vaccination is not recommended.

Immunocompromised or pregnant persons and caregivers or close contacts of such persons should receive non-replicating vaccines.

Session 9
COVID-19
SAGE was presented with updated data on the epidemiology of COVID-19, including death rates among priority-use groups; vaccine effectiveness data during Omicron XBB sub-lineages circulation; and preclinical and clinical data on novel monovalent XBB vaccines.

Based on the data reviewed, SAGE recommended a simplified single-dose regime for primary immunization for most COVID-19 vaccines which would improve acceptance and uptake and provide adequate protection at a time when most people have had at least one prior infection.

Available data suggest the monovalent Omicron XBB vaccines provide modestly enhanced protection compared to bivalent variant-containing vaccines and monovalent index virus vaccines.

When monovalent XBB vaccines are not available, any available WHO emergency-use listed or prequalified vaccine, bivalent variant-containing or monovalent index virus vaccines, may be used since they continue to provide benefits against severe disease in high-risk groups.

SAGE approved an updated roadmap for COVID-19 vaccination that reflects the simplified schedule, updated recommendations on revaccination and the currently available COVID-19 vaccines.

Session 10
Mumps
Most countries have introduced mumps vaccination through the use of the measles-mumps-rubella combination (MMR) vaccine.

While associated with significant short-term morbidity, the most severe complication – encephalitis – occurs with a similar frequency and at a similar age as measles. Mumps is a significant cause of long-term hearing loss.

The available evidence indicates that the mumps vaccines in use are safe and effective and that mumps is well controlled in all countries with sustained high coverage.

In low- and middle-income countries, data on the burden and epidemiology of mumps is scarce and the incremental cost of the MMR vaccine over the measles-rubella (MR) vaccine is substantial.

SAGE therefore recommended a careful review of the uncertainties, risks and programmatic implications when considering the introduction of mumps-containing vaccines in LMICs.

Countries that introduce the mumps vaccine should provide it in combination with measles and rubella as MMR vaccine delivered using the same schedule as for MR vaccines and maintain high coverage as recommended for MR vaccines which will mitigate the risk of a shift in age-specific incidence of infection.

Countries that introduce the mumps vaccine should enhance surveillance to demonstrate the impact of the vaccine and monitor epidemiological shifts.

Session 11
Cholera
Since 2021, cholera outbreaks have become more frequent, larger and more deadly with a strong link to climate change.
SAGE reinforced its 2017 recommendation that all relevant target groups for vaccination in OCV campaigns, including pregnant women, be considered for vaccination.

SAGE expressed its deep concern about the continuing supply constraints of the oral cholera vaccine (OCV) and asked that strategies for mitigating the impact of these supply shortfalls be accelerated.

Based on an assessment of evidence, SAGE acknowledged the public health benefit of the use of the killed whole cell bivalent (O1, O139) OCV (EuBiologics) under controlled temperature chain (CTC) conditions of not more than 10 days at ambient temperatures not exceeding 40°C.

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The African Union Vaccine Manufacturing member states ministers of health and their representatives Gathered for the first manufacturers’ marketplace meeting and inaugural ministerial working group in Marrakech, Morocco, from 29 September 2023 to 1 October 2023

Communiqué 4 October 2023

The meeting was represented by eleven (11) of the thirteen (13) vaccine manufacturing Member States: Botswana, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Rwanda, and Uganda, including National Regulatory Authorities (10), African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), Regional Economic Communities (3), Gavi, UNICEF and UNECA and manufacturers from potential African vaccine manufacturing countries. The delegates deliberated on the submission by Africa CDC and UNECA on the proposed Legal Instrument for the adoption of AU Pooled Procurement Mechanism (PPM)...

The meeting recommended the following next steps:

1. **A Framework Agreement for pooled procurement of vaccines, medicines, and other health products shall be prepared by the Africa CDC** to facilitate the pilot pooled procurement mechanism for vaccines while awaiting a legal instrument to expand regional health product manufacturing. The framework will be submitted to the Africa CDC Governing Board and the Committee of the Heads of State and Government for approval, while the draft legal instrument will be tabled for approval at the next AU Summit in February 2024.

2. **The framework can be administered through Service Level Agreements**, which can be tailored to individual Member States or manufacturers when the need arises. These Service Level Agreements shall:
   
   (a) Encourage regional manufacturing of good quality vaccines, medicines, and other health products in African Union Member States;
   
   (b) Ensure uniformity in the contract for the pooled procurement. The contract shall include transparent clauses about pricing, quantitates, production and delivery timelines, rights and liabilities, and conflicts of interest.
   
   (c) Ensure timely access to vaccines; AU Member States shall focus on infrastructure and digitalization for efficient acquisition and distribution;
   
   (d) Establish a specific funding mechanism, along with the utilization of existing financing arrangements, to support the relevant investment and procurement of essential medical supplies;
   
   (e) Invest in developing local technical skills with continuous training and promoting collaboration between the manufacturers and regulators.

3. **The Africa CDC will prepare and implement an activity rollout plan** for the negotiations for a legally binding instrument to:
(a) Resolve to develop the “Common African Legal Instrument for Pooled Procurement of Vaccines, Medicines, and Other Health Products” under the African Union Legal framework;
(b) Advocate for global partners to join in seizing this unprecedented opportunity to accelerate regional manufacturing;
(c) Call Upon WHO to support and expedite the Prequalification of African manufactured products to enable donor-funded markets for vaccines, medicines, and other health products;
(d) Urge Gavi and UNICEF to consider alternative prequalification processes, such as recognized African regulatory authorities at maturity level 3, that provide adequate processes to ensure the safety and quality of vaccines;

4. Call Upon the Heads of State and Government to approve the roadmap for the Platform for Harmonized African Health Products Manufacturing (PHAHM) to be developed by Africa CDC, to ensure the expansion of regional manufacturing for all health products;

5. Uphold the principles stated in this Communiqué by ensuring and advocating for alignment with domestic legislation.

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News Releases  October 5, 2023

“The challenges to global health are numerous and multiple factors make the emergence and spread of another virulent pathogen not only possible but also probable,” warns a new Council Special Report by Yanzhong Huang and Rebecca Katz.

“[T]he window of opportunity for enhancing pandemic preparedness is rapidly diminishing,” caution Huang, senior fellow for global health at the Council on Foreign Relations, and Katz, director of the Center for Global Health Science and Security at Georgetown University.

The new report, Negotiating Global Health Security: Priorities for U.S. and Global Governance of Disease, asserts: “In the face of unprecedented global challenges, three crucial tasks emerge as paramount: promoting public health capabilities, bridging the gaps in global health governance, and effectively mitigating the harmful effects of geopolitical tensions.” Report PDF

While the authors acknowledge well-known global health threats, there are also other contributing factors. They note that climate change increases “the likelihood of contact between disease-carrying animals and humans” and underscore that vulnerabilities in the global supply chain threaten “the production, distribution, and delivery of the medical supplies and commodities essential to global health security.”

“Global health security and pandemic preparedness and response are at a critical juncture,” the authors write. “The goal is not to find the perfect governance structure, but rather to establish robust implementation frameworks and secure the necessary financing to ensure effective functionality when faced with the next pandemic.”

The authors suggest that countries take three critical steps:
- “promote public health capabilities” by “building foundational country-level capacity, investing in medical countermeasures, and supporting regional centers for public health.”
- “close the gaps in global health governance,” which includes “countering misinformation and disinformation, and responding to deliberate biological events and complex health emergencies.”
- “mitigate the harmful effects of geopolitical rivalries” to mobilize “[g]lobal collective action against health threats.”

“As countries emerge from the acute phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, multiple opportunities exist to address the challenges laid bare during the past three years and to build stronger, more equitable, and sustainable systems,” Huang and Katz highlight. “It is imperative to take swift actions to address the significant capacity and governance gaps in global health security before another major epidemic or pandemic arises,” they conclude.


Public Consultations/Call for Papers

Call for Contributions - OHCHR analytical study on key challenges in ensuring access to medicines, vaccines and other health products (HRC resolution 50/13)
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights | Call for input | Treaty bodies
Deadline: 30 November 2023

Purpose:
To inform the OHCHR analytical study on key challenges in ensuring access to medicines, vaccines and other health products (HRC resolution 50/13)

Background:
Vaccine equity and access to medicines is a fundamental component of the full realization of the right to health. Vaccines, medicines and other health products must not only be produced and made available - they must also be accessible to all persons. Yet, access to vaccines, medicines and other health products remains disturbingly uneven in many places.

Council resolution 50/13 requests the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to prepare an analytical study on key challenges in ensuring access to medicines, vaccines and other health products to be presented to the Human Rights Council at the fifty-sixth session in June 2024. In order to collect inputs for this forthcoming report, OHCHR has published a short questionnaire available in English, Français and Español.

Establishing the impact of WHO’s normative and standard-setting functions: a call for papers
Editorial
Lisa M Askie, Rebekah AL Thomas, Rok Ho Kim, Mubashar Sheikh, Jeremy Farrar
doi: 10.2471/BLT.23.290829
PMCID: PMC10523809

The deadline for submissions is 1 March 2024

... In the past five years, WHO has initiated a major change process, driven by its current Thirteenth Global Programme of Work,6 the transformation agenda, and the need to respond to major global events including the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and other crises. More recently, WHO has developed a comprehensive strategy to enhance its capacities and
capabilities at country level, to ensure that its normative work drives measurable impact for all people more effectively.

Despite these initiatives, to date it is unclear whether these changes have improved WHO’s credibility and impact as a normative organization. Questions remain as to how successful WHO’s normative leadership role has been, how it can be further strengthened and how the impact of WHO’s work in countries should be measured and rated in the future. The recent COVID-19 pandemic exposed both the strengths of and the challenges to WHO’s normative leadership and global reach. While realizing the crucial role of WHO as a key directing and coordinating authority, the global health community has also witnessed the unprecedented rise of misinformation and mistrust in science.

Considering the spotlight on WHO’s global normative leadership role during the pandemic, and looking to prepare for future threats such as the health effects of climate change and ongoing conflict situations, the Bulletin of the World Health Organization calls for papers to help shape and inform WHO’s mandate going forward. Topics of interest include: where has WHO succeeded in its normative leadership role? In what specific areas has it successfully shaped global health, and why were these initiatives successful? Where has WHO normative guidance been less impactful? If so, why was this the case, and what lessons can be learnt to improve impact in the future? What does the future of WHO’s normative function look like, particularly in the context of digital technology and artificial intelligence? What aspects of the Organization’s mandate, structure, function and administration need to be further strengthened or changed?

The Bulletin welcomes contributions from all stakeholders including public health decision-makers, researchers, and civil society and community representatives. Articles that propose innovative but feasible ways by which WHO can further strengthen its normative leadership and guidance role, are encouraged.

...Manuscripts should be submitted in accordance with the Bulletin’s guidelines for contributors (available at: https://www.who.int/publications/journals/bulletin/contributors/guidelines-for-contributors) and the cover letter should mention this call for papers. This theme issue will be published in the October 2024 issue of the Bulletin, to coincide with the annual World Evidence-Based Health Care Day on 20 October 2024.

:: Polio — PHEIC

**Polio this week as of 04 Oct 2023 - GPEI**

*Headlines [Selected]*

:: In the lead-up to World Polio Day on 24 October, GPEI has launched a Make Polio History campaign to rally existing and new supporters of polio eradication from all over the world to champion the cause. We need your help! Add your voice in support of eradication by visiting the [campaign website](https://www.who.int/publications/journals/bulletin/contributors/guidelines-for-contributors) and taking action.

*Summary of new polioviruses this week, cases and positive environmental isolates:*

- Afghanistan: one WPV1 case
- Pakistan: seven WPV1 positive environmental samples
- Cameroon: one cVDPV2 positive environmental sample
- Chad: three cVDPV2 cases and one positive environmental sample
- DR Congo: one cVDPV2 case
- Kenya: two cVDPV2 positive environmental samples
- Madagascar: eight cVDPV1 positive environmental samples
- Nigeria: one cVDPV2 positive environmental sample
- Somalia: 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: 27 September 2023
Confirmed cases :: 771 151 224
Confirmed deaths :: 6 960 783
Vaccine doses administered: 13 513 017 637

Our World in Data
- 70.5% of the world population has received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.
- 13.51 billion doses have been administered globally, and 32,559 are now administered each day.
- 32.6% of people in low-income countries have received at least one dose.

MPOX
https://www.who.int/emergencies/situation-reports
Latest Report
Multi-country outbreak of mpox, External situation report#28 – 19 September 2023
EVIPNet and University College London launch new project to pilot the WHO checklist on EIPM institutionalization

The World Health Organization (WHO), the Evidence for Policy & Practice Information and Coordination Centre (EPPI-Centre) at University College London, and the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) are jointly launching a new project on piloting a checklist for the institutionalization of evidence-informed policy-making (EIPM).

This checklist was developed in 2023 and aims at assisting countries in planning, monitoring, evaluating, and learning about their EIPM institutionalization process. However, this tool has seen limited application in practice, leading to a need to test its validity and feasibility in the real world...

Governments make progress towards agreeing amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005)

Progress was made this week on many of the over-300 proposed amendments to the International Health Regulations 2005 (IHR). In this fifth round of intensive discussions, taking place under the aegis of the Working Group on Amendments to the IHR (WGIHR) – which includes the 196 States Parties to the IHR, the European Union and the Observer Delegation of Palestine...

Quadripartite launches the Working Group on Youth Engagement for Antimicrobial Resistance

Message by the Director of the Department of Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals at WHO - September 2023

WHO recommends R21/Matrix-M vaccine for malaria prevention in updated advice on immunization
**WHO Region of the Americas** PAHO
::: 4 Oct 2023

**PAHO seeks to strengthen pharmaceutical services in the Americas**

Buenos Aires, 4 October 2023 (PAHO) - The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) today presented a new tool to assess the quality of pharmaceutical service provision and launched a network to share information and facilitate collaboration among countries. This aims to improve the quality of pharmacies in the Region through the primary health care...
::: 3 Oct 2023

**PAHO Director meets with President of Argentina to discuss regional vaccine development and other priority health issues**

Buenos Aires, 3 October 2023 (PAHO/WHO) – The Director of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), Dr. Jarbas Barbosa, today met with the President of Argentina, Alberto Fernandez, where they discussed the need to strengthen the production of vaccines and medical supplies in Latin America and the Caribbean in order to ensure regional self-...
::: 2 Oct 2023

**PAHO advances technical cooperation with Argentina to strengthen regional production of mRNA vaccines**

Under the new agreement, the National Administration of Laboratories and Health Institutes (ANLIS-Malbrán) will develop lipid nanoparticles, essential elements for national vaccine production. Buenos Aires, 2 October 2023 (PAHO)- The Director of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), Dr. Jarbas Barbosa today signed a new agreement with...

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**WHO South-East Asia Region** SEARO

*No new digest content identified.*

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**WHO European Region** EURO
::: 5 October 2023 News release

**“What is wrong with me?” Children face a frustrating lack of answers about long COVID**
::: 4 October 2023 News release

**Restoring access to primary health care in war-torn areas: WHO installs modular facilities to serve Ukraine’s frontline communities**
::: 1 October 2023 Statement

**Racing to meet the health needs of refugees entering Armenia**

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**WHO Western Pacific Region**

*No new digest content identified.*

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**WHO - Emergency situation reports**

**Multi-country outbreak of cholera, External situation report #7 - 5 October 2023**

*Overview*

Since the last situation report on the multi-country outbreak of cholera was published on 6 September 2023 (covering data reported until 15 of August), and as of 15 September 2023, a new outbreak of acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) was reported from Iraq. In total, 29 countries have reported cases since the beginning of 2023. The WHO African Region remains the most affected region with 16 countries reporting cholera cases since the beginning of the year. The overall capacity to respond to the multiple and simultaneous outbreaks continues to be strained due to the global lack of resources, including shortages of the oral cholera vaccine and cholera supplies, as well as overstretched public health and medical personnel, who are dealing with multiple parallel disease
outbreaks and other health emergencies. Based on the large number of outbreaks and their geographic expansion, as well as a lack of vaccines and other resources, WHO continues to assess the risk at global level as very high.

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**Disease Outbreak News (DONs)**

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

**3 October 2023 | Nipah Virus Infection - India**

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**Weekly Epidemiological Record**

https://www.who.int/publications/journals/weekly-epidemiological-record

Vol. 98, No. 40, pp. 471–488

**6 October 2023**

PDF: https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/373227/WER9840-eng-fre.pdf

*Contents*

471  Global leishmaniasis surveillance: past ten years

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**New WHO Publications**

https://www.who.int/publications/i

*Selected*

6 October 2023

**Global leishmaniasis surveillance, 2022: assessing trends over the past 10 years**

6 October 2023

**mhGAP Humanitarian Intervention Guide (mhGAP-HIG) training of health-care providers**

5 October 2023

**Guidance for country validation of viral hepatitis elimination and path to elimination**

4 October 2023

**WHO Expert Committee on Biological Standardization. Seventy-seventh report**

3 October 2023

**Strategies to facilitate sharing of technology and knowledge through WHO COVID-19 Technology Access Pool**

*Overview*

The COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP), originally proposed by Costa Rica, is a multi-partner initiative established in May 2020 to accelerate the development, manufacture and global distribution of products to diagnose, prevent and treat COVID-19. Sharing of information, knowledge, data and other resources greatly accelerates product development and avoids duplication of efforts. The C-TAP platform facilitates such sharing for the development of products for public health.

At the time of writing, two technology holders, public institutions in Spain and the USA, had entered into licensing agreements with the C-TAP for inventions and candidate products, including
vaccines. The C-TAP could be expanded if other technology holders made similar contributions. To promote further engagement of technology holders with the C-TAP, the WHO secretariat administered a questionnaire for Member States to identify legislation, regulations, guidelines and procedures that could be amended or introduced to encourage sharing of technology. Thirty-eight Member States submitted responses to the C-TAP questionnaire. The purpose of this report is to summarize the responses made to the C-TAP questionnaire...

2 October 2023

Strategic and technical advisory group for tuberculosis: annual meeting report, 3–5 July 2023

1 October 2023

Ethics and adaptive platform trial design in public health emergencies: meeting report, 18–19 July 2022

Overview

Platform trials using adaptive methods have played a key role in the research response to COVID-19. They raise important ethical issues, however, associated not only with the methods used but also with their scale, their global nature and their probable contribution to pandemic preparedness. This report summarizes the discussions at a 2-day meeting on the findings of five rapid reviews on the ethical aspects of adaptive platform trials after the first 2 years of the COVID-19 pandemic. Cross-cutting themes included the importance of “lean” project management and of pre-pandemic preparedness, particularly in forming trusted relationships in international networks; challenges to meaningful community engagement, ethics review and participant consent; questions of inclusion and the implications for equitable access; factors that influence the fairness and sustainability of international partnerships, including capacity development and knowledge transfer; and governance arrangements that ensure both local and global accountability. Remaining evidence gaps were identified. This report summarizes the key themes that emerged from the review presentations and the subsequent discussion.

USA — HHS, FDA, CDC

HHS

News

HHS Releases Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to Update 2005 Public Health Service Policies on Research Misconduct

October 5, 2023  News Release

FDA

Press Announcements

October 3, 2023 -  FDA Authorizes Updated Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine Formulated to Better Protect Against Currently Circulating Variants

FDA VRBPAC

Advisory Committee Calendar

No new meetings scheduled.

CDC/ACIP [U.S.] [to 07 Oct 2023]

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

Latest News Releases

No new digest content identified.
ACIP Meetings
Next ACIP Meeting
October 25-27.

MMWR Weekly
https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/index2023.html
October 6, 2023 / No. 40
PDF of this issue
- Characteristics and Outcomes Among Adults Aged ≥60 Years Hospitalized with Laboratory-Confirmed Respiratory Syncytial Virus — RSV-NET, 12 States, July 2022–June 2023
- Disease Severity of Respiratory Syncytial Virus Compared with COVID-19 and Influenza Among Hospitalized Adults Aged ≥60 Years — IVY Network, 20 U.S. States, February 2022–May 2023
- COVID-19–Associated Hospitalizations Among U.S. Adults Aged ≥65 Years — COVID-NET, 13 States, January–August 2023
- Disparities in COVID-19 Vaccination Status Among Long-Term Care Facility Residents — United States, October 31, 2022–May 7, 2023

Europe

European Medicines Agency [EMA]
News & Press Releases
News: Revised transparency rules for the EU Clinical Trials Information System (CTIS) (new)
Last updated: 06/10/2023

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control
https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en
News/Updates/Reports [Selected]
News
Weekly COVID-19 country overview
Epidemiological update - 5 Oct 2023

Sweden’s advice-making process on schools during the COVID-19 pandemic: Good practices and lessons learnt
Press release - 4 Oct 2023

Latest publications
Communicable disease threats report, 1-7 October 2023, week 40
Monitoring - 6 Oct 2023

Eleventh external quality assessment scheme for typing of Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli
External quality assessment - 5 Oct 2023
The Swedish advice-making process for distance learning in schools, November 2020 – April 2021
Assessment - 4 Oct 2023

Core protocol for ECDC studies of vaccine effectiveness against symptomatic laboratory-confirmed influenza or SARS-CoV-2 infection at primary care level
Guidance - 3 Oct 2023

Africa CDC  [to 07 Oct 2023]
http://www.africacdc.org/
Press Releases, Statements  [Selected]
Statement
Mastercard Foundation and Africa CDC Remain Committed to Saving Lives and Livelihoods
5 October 2023

Communiqué
The African Union Vaccine Manufacturing member states ministers of health and their representatives Gathered for the first manufacturers’ marketplace meeting and inaugural ministerial working group in Marrakech, Morocco, from 29 September 2023 to 1 October 2023
4 October 2023
[Full post-meeting statement]

Press Releases
African vaccine manufacturing capacity
Form/fill/finish capacity is strong while end-to-end local vaccine production will require additional investment.
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; Boston, MA, USA; Seattle, WA, USA, 03 October 2023 – The Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI), and PATH have released a new briefing paper, “Current and planned vaccine manufacturing in Africa,” following an assessment of vaccine manufacturing capacity in Africa. ...

China CDC
http://www.chinacdc.cn/en/

National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China  [to 07 Oct 2023]
http://en.nhc.gov.cn/
News
No new digest content identified.

National Medical Products Administration – PRC  [to 07 Oct 2023]
http://english.nmpa.gov.cn/
News
No new digest content identified.
Preplanned Studies:
The Long-Term Impacts of COVID-19 on Physical and Psychological Health — Beijing Municipality, China, December 2022–April 2023
Notifiable Infectious Diseases Reports: Reported Cases and Deaths of National Notifiable Infectious Diseases — China, June 2023*

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:: Milestones, Perspectives
:: WHO
:: Organization Announcements
:: Journal Watch
:: Pre-Print Servers

Organization Announcements

Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://alleninstitute.org/news-press/
News
No new digest content identified.

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://www.gatesfoundation.org/ideas/media-center
Press Releases and Statements
No new digest content identified.

Bill & Melinda Gates Medical Research Institute [to 07 Oct 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 07 Oct 2023]
https://carb-x.org/
News
10.03.2023 | CARB-X IS FUNDING A UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE RESEARCH TEAM TO DEVELOP AN ORAL THERAPEUTIC TO TREAT DRUG-RESISTANT COMMUNITY-ACQUIRED BACTERIAL PNEUMONIA
CARB-X is awarding US$1.75 million to the University of Melbourne at the Doherty Institute to develop an oral therapeutic that restores the activity of workhorse antibiotics used to treat community-acquired bacterial pneumonia (CABP).

**CEPI – Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations**  [to 07 Oct 2023]
http://cepi.net/
Latest News
No new digest content identified.

**CIOMS – COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF MEDICAL SCIENCES**  [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://cioms.ch/
News; Publications; Events
No new digest content identified.

https://www.darpa.mil/news
News
No new digest content identified.

**Duke Global Health Innovation Center**  [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://dukeghic.org/
News
No new digest content identified.

**EDCTP**  [to 07 Oct 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
03 October 2023
**WHO recommends R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccine**

03 October 2023
**Dr Michael Makanga named new Executive Director of the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking**

**Emory Vaccine Center**  [to 07 Oct 2023]
http://www.vaccines.emory.edu/
Vaccine Center News
No new digest content identified.

**European Vaccine Initiative**  [to 07 Oct 2023]
http://www.euvaccine.eu/
Evidence Aid  [to 07 Oct 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]
Sexual and reproductive health interventions during humanitarian crises
Added October 5, 2023

Fondation Merieux  [to 07 Oct 2023]
http://www.fondation-merieux.org/
News, Events
Project
Introducing PCV and rotavirus vaccine in Chad, Guinea, Somalia, and South Sudan Workshop
October 6, 2023 - N’Djamena (Chad)
The Mérieux Foundation, Every Breath Counts, the Malaria Consortium, the International Vaccine Access Center (IVAC), and Save the Children, in partnership with the Chad Ministry of Public Health and Prevention hosted an in person Workshop, to support the governments of Chad, Guinea, Somalia, and South Sudan after they expressed their commitment to introducing two of the most powerful vaccines for children - the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine and rotavirus vaccine...

Gavi  [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://www.gavi.org/
News Releases
4 October 2023
Life-saving HPV vaccine introduced nationwide into routine immunisation schedule to prevent cervical cancer in Cambodia

4 October 2023
Africa CDC & Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance host the First Manufacturers Marketplace for Vaccine Manufacturing African Union Member States

... The meeting aimed at:
- Gathering African vaccine manufacturers, their Health and Finance Ministers and National Regulatory Authorities, to identify the best modalities for achieving the success and the sustainability of the on-going manufacturing projects;
- Creating awareness among participating member states about the importance of their commitments to select and procure from African manufacturers;
- Creating a platform for manufacturers to present their current vaccine capacity and expansion plans, and discuss how these could help direct/build on market shaping activities;
- Exchanging views on the design of Gavi’s proposed African Vaccine Market Accelerator (AVMA) an instrument seeking approximately US $1 billion of financing, which aims to support sustainable vaccine manufacturing in Africa by offsetting initial costs and enabling competitive entry into the market. The potential AVMA will be considered by the Gavi Board later this year; and
- Sharing best practices for a strengthened private – public partnership.
4 October 2023
The Government of Bangladesh launches nationwide human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination campaign
Supported by UNICEF, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and WHO, the campaign will protect girls and women against cervical cancer

2 October 2023
RBM Partnership to End Malaria welcomes WHO’s recommendation of world’s second malaria vaccine
Global malaria community calls for increased investment in development and scale-up of malaria innovations following R21 vaccine announcement – but RBM Partnership warns “it’s not the only solution”.

GE2P2 Global Foundation [to 07 Oct 2023]
www.ge2p2.org
News/Analysis/Publications-Digests/Statements
:: Vaccines and Global Health: The Week in Review - Current edition
:: Informed Consent: A Monthly Review – October 2023
:: Genomic Medicine – Governance, Ethics, Policy, Practice: A Monthly Digest – Sep 2023
:: Public Consultations Watch :: Global Calls for Input/Public Comment – 06 Oct 2023 – Issue 08

GHIT Fund [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://www.ghitfund.org/newsroom/press
Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

Global Fund [to 07 Oct 2023]
News & Stories
No new digest content identified.

Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness [GloPID-R] [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://www.glpid-r.org/news/
News
No new digest content identified.

Hilleman Laboratories [to 07 Oct 2023]
http://www.hilleman-labs.org/
News & Insights
No new digest content identified.

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://www.hhmi.org/news
Press Room
Research  Oct 4 2023
How Tubular Bacterial Weapons Compromise Plant Cells to Cause Disease

Microbes flood leaves and then proliferate in the water-logged patches. New research answers a long-standing question about just how this happens and points toward a potential countermeasure.

Human Vaccines Project [to 07 Oct 2023]
http://www.humanvaccinesproject.org/
News
No new digest content identified.

IAVI [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://www.iavi.org/
Latest News
No new digest content identified.

INSERM [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://www.inserm.fr/en/home/
Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

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

ICH - International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use [to 07 Oct 2023]
News/Pubs/Press Releases [Selective]
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
Remaining public consultation dates:
Health Canada, Canada - Deadline for comments by 20 October 2023

ICRC [to 07 Oct 2023]
What’s New [Selected]
No new digest content identified.
IFFIm  
http://www.iffim.org/  
Press Releases/Announcements  
No new digest content identified.

IFRC  [to 07 Oct 2023]  
Press Releases [Selected]  
Press release 29/09/2023  
**IFRC launches 20 million Swiss Francs appeal to support people on the move in Armenia**

Press release 28/09/2023  
**Red Cross responding to major humanitarian needs as tens of thousands cross into Armenia**

Institut Pasteur  [to 07 Oct 2023]  
Press Documents  
Press release 03.10.2023  
**The Institut Pasteur & the University of Tokyo have signed a LOI to establish the Planetary Health Innovation Center, marking the first step towards the Institut Pasteur of Japan**

ISC / International Science Council  [to 07 Oct 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.
No new digest content identified.

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

IVAC  [to 07 Oct 2023]  
https://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/ivac/index.html  
Updates; Events  
No new digest content identified.

IVI  [to 07 Oct 2023]  
http://www.ivi.int/  
IVI News & Announcements  
**Profs. Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman, recipients of 2022 IVI – SK bioscience Park MahnHoon Award, named 2023 Nobel laurates in Physiology or Medicine**  
Oct 4,, 2023
**National Academy of Medicine** - USA  [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://nam.edu/programs/
*News [Selected]*
**Statement on NAM Commitment to Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions**
October 4, 2023
The National Academy of Medicine (NAM) is fully committed to the reduction of emissions of CO2 and other greenhouse gases as the single most important step all organizations must take […]

**National Academy of Medicine Announces 10 Emerging Leaders in Health and Medicine**
October 3, 2023
The National Academy of Medicine (NAM) today announced the 2023 Emerging Leaders in Health and Medicine Scholars. These individuals are early- to mid-career professionals from a wide range of health-related fields…
- Adewole S. Adamson, MD, MPP, assistant professor of internal medicine, Division of Dermatology, Dell Medical School, University of Texas at Austin
- Peter Croughan, MD, addiction medicine physician, Acadiana Area Human Services District; and clinical assistant professor of medicine, Louisiana State University
- Cesar de la Fuente, PhD, presidential assistant professor, University of Pennsylvania
- Elizabeth M. Cespedes Feliciano, ScD, ScM, research scientist, Kaiser Permanente Northern California Division of Research
- Celine Gounder, MD, senior fellow and editor-at-large for public health, KFF Health News; medical contributor, CBS News; and clinical associate professor of medicine and infectious diseases, NYU Grossman School of Medicine and Bellevue Hospital
- Jerreed D. Ivanich, PhD, assistant professor, Centers for American Indian and Alaska Native Health, Colorado School of Public Health, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
- Lucinda B. Leung, MD, PhD, MPH, assistant professor of medicine and psychiatry, David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles, and West Los Angeles VA Medical Center
- Akinyemi Oni-Orisan, PharmD, PhD, assistant professor, University of California, San Francisco
- Anita Shukla, PhD, associate professor, Brown University School of Engineering
- Judy Wawira Gichoya, MBChB, MS, assistant professor of radiology, Emory University

**NAM Members Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman Receive Nobel Prize in Medicine**
October 2, 2023
The Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet announced today that they have awarded the 2023 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine jointly to Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman “for their discoveries concerning nucleoside base modifications that enabled the development of effective
mRNA vaccines against COVID-19.” Karikó and Weissman were elected to the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) in 202 The Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet announced today that they have awarded the 2023 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine jointly to Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman “for their discoveries concerning nucleoside base modifications that enabled the development of effective mRNA vaccines against COVID-19.” Karikó and Weissman were elected to the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) in 2022.

**National Academy of Sciences** - USA  [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://www.nationalacademies.org/newsroom?
News
No new digest content identified.

**National Vaccine Program Office** - U.S. HHS  [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://www.hhs.gov/vaccines/about/index.html
Upcoming Meetings/Latest Updates
No new digest content identified.

**NIH**  [to 07 Oct 2023]
http://www.nih.gov/
News Releases
No new digest content identified.

**PATH**  [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://www.path.org/media-center/
Press Releases
PATH statement on the high-level meetings at the 78th United Nations General Assembly
October 5, 2023 by PATH
PATH commends Member States and the international community for reaffirming their commitments to health through their political declarations, recognizing the challenges that persist and the opportunities to accelerate progress in achieving universal health coverage, ending TB, and preventing, preparing for, and responding to future pandemics...

**Rockefeller Foundation**  [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://www.rockefellerfoundation.org/
Selected Reports/Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

**Sabin Vaccine Institute**  [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://www.sabin.org/press/
Latest News & Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

**UNAIDS**  [to 07 Oct 2023]
http://www.unaids.org/en
**UNAIDS welcomes new decision in Colombia allowing more affordable access to quality HIV medicines**

Colombia makes landmark decision to declare the HIV medicine dolutegravir of public interest, allowing the country to purchase or manufacture more affordable, generic versions of the live-saving HIV medicine. 

4 October 2023

**UNICEF** [to 07 Oct 2023]

https://www.unicef.org/media/press-releases

Latest press releases, news notes and statements

Press release 06 October 2023

**Weather-related disasters led to 43.1 million displacements of children over six years - UNICEF**

NEW YORK, 6 October 2023 – Weather-related disasters caused 43.1 million internal displacements of children in 44 countries over a six-year period – or approximately 20,000 child displacements a day - according to a new UNICEF analysis released today. *Children Displaced in a Changing Climate* is the first global analysis of the number of children...

**Unitaid** [to 07 Oct 2023]

https://unitaid.org/

Featured News

02 October 2023

**Unitaid welcomes J&J’s announcement not to enforce patents for vital TB drug**

Unitaid applauds Johnson & Johnson’s decision, announced Friday 29 September, not to enforce its secondary patents for bedaquiline, a critical medicine for treating drug-resistant tuberculosis (DR-TB). The decision will affect people in 134 low- and middle-income countries, many of which have the highest burden of disease and have struggled to supply the critical medicine due to high costs...

02 October 2023

**World Oxygen Day**

In our new Issue Brief, we explain how Unitaid is working with partners to ensure equitable, sustainable access to medical oxygen for the people who need it most. From introducing innovative new devices to provide oxygen to newborns who are struggling to breathe to negotiating cost-saving new deals with liquid oxygen suppliers, we’re responding to today’s crises while helping build sustainable systems that will save millions more lives in the future.

**Vaccine Equity Cooperative [nee Initiative]** [to 07 Oct 2023]

https://vaccineequitycooperative.org/news/

News

No new digest content identified.

**Vaccination Acceptance & Demand Initiative [Sabin]** [to 07 Oct 2023]

https://www.vaccineacceptance.org/

Announcements, Blog
Childhood immunisation is recovering, but there’s a long way to go

4 October 2023

20.5 million children hadn’t received essential vaccinations in 2022, according to the latest data from the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF. While that marks an improvement to 2021, coverage still falls short of pre-pandemic levels for many countries.
Gender equality in healthcare is not just a goal, but a necessity. It is integral to ensuring the health and well-being of all individuals, leaving no one behind, the newly elected President of the Association said today.

Dr. Lujain AlQodmani, former International Relations Director of the Kuwait Medical Association in her inaugural speech at WMA’s General Assembly in Kigali highlighted the glaring gender disparities that persist in healthcare worldwide.

She pointed to the shocking imbalance in COVID-19 vaccinations, where some countries saw only one woman vaccinated for every three men. The President stressed that this disparity extends beyond vaccinations to maternal healthcare, underscoring that not all women have access to the quality care she was privileged to receive...

World Organisation for Animal Health  [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://www.oie.int/en/
Press Releases, Statements
Quadripartite launches the Working Group on Youth Engagement for Antimicrobial Resistance
5 October 2023
The Quadripartite (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Environment Programme, World Health Organization and World Organisation for Animal Health) announces the creation of a new Working Group on Youth Engagement for Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). The members of the working group will inform and guide the quadripartite efforts to raise awareness and include young people in global AMR action...

...Over 200 stakeholders participated at the global consultations on AMR awareness raising, organized in 2022 and identified young people (children, students and youth) as a priority audience for awareness and education efforts. Youth play a significant role as future professionals and consumers. They can also be ‘agents of change’ with their energy and potential influence on national and global decision-making processes. Therefore, the quadripartite organizations have prioritized young people in AMR awareness-raising efforts. The call for expressions of interest to join the working group was published in May 2023, and the response was overwhelming. The 14 members were selected based on their backgrounds, actively considering the need for sectoral, gender and geographical representation...

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ARM [Alliance for Regenerative Medicine]  [to 07 Oct 2023]
Selected Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

BIO  [to 07 Oct 2023]
Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

DCVMN – Developing Country Vaccine Manufacturers Network  [to 07 Oct 2023]
http://www.dcvmn.org/
News; Upcoming events
No new digest content identified.
ICBA – International Council of Biotechnology Associations [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://internationalbiotech.org/news/
News
No new digest content identified.

IFPMA [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://ifpma.org/
Selected Press Releases/Statements
Press release 5 Oct 2023
Four innovators awarded Africa Young Innovators for Health Award for contributions to Universal Health Coverage

Statement 2 October 2023
Fifth meeting of the Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005)
By IFPMA
On 2 October, IFPMA delivered a statement at the fifth meeting of the Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations (WGIHR) (2005) in Geneva.
...As negotiations take on a more technical deep dive, the industry urges the WGIHR to consider the following two key elements:
- Facilitating and promoting the sharing of outbreak information, including the immediate and unhindered access to pathogens and their genetic information, must be strengthened to support the technical objectives of the IHR; and
- Finding fit-for-purpose outcomes for equitable access to medical countermeasures must not undermine the innovation system, which developed, scaled, and delivered the vaccines, treatments, and tests at record speed during COVID-19. We also call for more inclusive, broader multi-stakeholder dialogue.

International Alliance of Patients’ Organizations – IAPO [to 07 Oct 2023]
https://www.iapo.org.uk/news/topic/6
Press and media [Selected]
No new digest announcements identified

International Generic and Biosimilar Medicines Association [IGBA]
https://www.igbamedicines.org/
News
No new digest announcements identified

PhRMA [to 07 Oct 2023]
http://www.phrma.org/
Press Releases
No new digest announcements identified

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::::::

Vaccines/Therapeutics/Medicines – Selected Developer/Manufacturer Announcements
AstraZeneca
*Press Releases*

*AstraZeneca research reveals unique associations between rare changes in genes and plasma proteins that could improve drug discovery with data from over 50,000 UK Biobank participants*

04 October 2023

Bharat Biotech
*Press Releases* - No new digest announcements identified

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

Biological E
*News* - No new digest announcements identified

BioNTech
*Press Releases*

2 October 2023

*Statement on Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman awarded the Nobel Prize in Medicine 2023*

Boehringer
*Press Releases*

*Boehringer Ingelheim Partners with Precision Health Research, Singapore to Bring Future Medical Breakthroughs to Patients*

Ingelheim, Germany and Singapore, 2 October 2023 – Boehringer Ingelheim joins forces with Precision Health Research, Singapore (PRECISE) in a new partnership with the joint aim of transforming healthcare and improving patient outcomes in Singapore and beyond.

This partnership will energize Singapore’s precision medicine research, innovation and industry collaboration in data science. It will also strengthen Boehringer Ingelheim’s data science, enabling the company to connect genetic data with symptoms and lifestyle data in its key research and development (R&D) focus areas. By addressing the diversity gap for Asian genomes, it will also advance both partner’s joint ambition to build a database including all ethnicities, enabling the development of treatments for all people worldwide...

CanSinoBIO
*News* - Website not responding at inquiry

CIGB
*Latest News* - No new digest announcements identified

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
**GSK**

*Press releases for media*

05 October 2023

**GSK survey finds parents know less about meningitis compared to some other childhood diseases**

New multi-country survey finds 93% of parents couldn’t identify all three of the most common meningitis symptoms.

**IMBCAMS, China**

*Home* - Website not responding at inquiry

**Janssen/JNJ**

*Press Releases*

Oct 03, 2023

**Janssen Enters into Agreement with Sanofi to Advance Potential First-In-Class Vaccine Program**

Vaccine candidate is being evaluated in Phase 3 study for the prevention of invasive E. coli disease (IED) which affects nearly 10 million adults annually.

**Merck**

*News releases* - No new digest announcements identified

**Moderna**

*Press Releases*

10/04/2023

**Moderna Announces Positive Phase 1/2 Data from mRNA-1083, the Company’s Combination Vaccine Against Influenza and COVID-19**

**Nanogen**

*News* - No new digest announcements identified

**Novartis**

*News*

Oct 04, 2023

**Novartis executes Sandoz Spin-off, completing strategic transformation into a leading, focused innovative medicines company**

**Novavax**

*Press Releases*

Oct 3, 2023

**COVID-19**

**Novavax 2023-2024 COVID-19 Vaccine Now Authorized and Recommended for Use in the U.S.**

Oct 2, 2023

**Statement Malaria**
R21/Matrix-M™ Malaria Vaccine with Novavax’s Adjuvant Technology Receives WHO Recommendation

Pfizer
Recent Press Releases
Pfizer Presents New Data at IDWeek 2023 Highlighting Advances in Prevention and Treatment of Certain Respiratory Illnesses and Other Infectious Diseases
October 05, 2023
Presentations showcase diversity and momentum of Pfizer’s growing portfolio of vaccines and anti-infectives

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

Sanofi Pasteur
Press Releases
October 3, 2023
Press Release: Sanofi announces agreement for potential first-in-class vaccine against extraintestinal pathogenic E. coli

Serum Institute of India
NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS
Oxford R21/Matrix-M™ malaria vaccine receives WHO recommendation for use paving the way for global roll-out
The highly effective vaccine developed by the University of Oxford and the Serum Institute of India, leveraging Novavax’s adjuvant is critical to reducing over half a million malaria-related deaths annually.
- Oct 2, 2023
  R21 Vaccinations at Tanzania clinical site - Photo Credit Tom Wilkinson, University of Oxford
- R21/Matrix-M™ malaria vaccine has been recommended for use by the World Health Organization’s Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) and the Malaria Policy Advisory Group (MPAG)
- Developed by The University of Oxford and the Serum Institute of India, leveraging Novavax’s adjuvant technology, R21/Matrix-M™ malaria vaccine demonstrates high efficacy with a reassuring safety profile
- The R21/Matrix-M™ malaria vaccine is an easily deployable vaccine that can be manufactured at mass scale and modest cost, enabling as many as hundreds of millions of doses to be supplied to countries which are suffering a significant malaria burden
- The Serum Institute of India has already established production capacity for 100 million doses per annum, which will be doubled over the next two years
- The World Health Organization’s recommendation today is required for UNICEF to procure and GAVI to purchase the vaccine, paving the way for vaccination of children in populations most at risk
- R21/Matrix-M™ malaria vaccine marks the culmination of 30 years of malaria vaccine research at the University of Oxford’s Jenner Institute

Sinopharm/WIBPBIBP
News - No new digest announcements identified  [English translation function not operating]

Sinovac
Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified
**SK Biosciences**
*Press Releases* - No new digest announcements identified

**Takeda**
*Newsroom*

**Takeda’s Dengue Vaccine Recommended by World Health Organization Advisory Group for Introduction in High Dengue Burden and Transmission Areas in Children Ages Six to 16 Years**
October 3, 2023
- Experts Reviewed Data from QDENGA’s Clinical Program Across 19 Phase 1, 2 and 3 Trials with More Than 28,000 Participants
- WHO Will Consider the SAGE Recommendation and Provide Final Guidance on the Use of QDENGA in Public Vaccination Programs in the Coming Months
- Dengue Poses a Significant and Growing Public Health Burden to People Living in and Traveling to Endemic Countries

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

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

**WestVac Biopharma**
*Media* - No new digest announcements identified

**Zhifei Longcom, China**
[Anhui Zhifei Longcom Biologic Pharmacy Co., Ltd.]
[No website identified]

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

**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.
Geriatric Psychiatry
Twenty percent of the US population is expected to be 65 years of age or older by 2030. Ageism’s pervasiveness in US culture means it is also pervasive in health care and a cause of inequity that profoundly undermines older adults’ quality of life. Independence and autonomy losses tend to accompany aging for all of us. Older adults are vulnerable to exploitation and are exposed to late-life stressors that affect their mental health, accompany compromise or loss of independence and autonomy, and tend to track declines in general health and cognitive function. This theme issue investigates reasons why diminishing numbers of geriatric mental health clinicians should draw clinical, ethical, and legal attention to whether and how well US health care and its workforce is prepared to deliver the volume and quality of care older adults deserve.

American Journal of Human Genetics
Oct 05, 2023 Volume 110 Issue 10 p1607-1826
https://www.cell.com/ajhg/current
Commentary
The need for an intersectionality framework in precision medicine research
Maya Sabatello, et al.
Summary
Precision medicine research has seen growing efforts to increase participation of communities that have been historically underrepresented in biomedical research. Marginalized racial and ethnic communities have received particular attention, toward the goal of improving the generalizability of scientific knowledge and promoting health equity. Against this backdrop, research has highlighted three key issues that could impede the promise of precision medicine research: issues surrounding (dis)trust and representation, challenges in translational efforts to improve health outcomes, and the need for responsive community engagement. Existing efforts to address these challenges have predominantly centered on single-dimensional demographic criteria such as race, ethnicity, or sex, while overlooking how these and additional variables, such as disability, gender identity, and socioeconomic factors, can confound and jointly impact research participation. We argue that increasing cohort diversity and the responsiveness of precision medicine research studies to community needs requires an approach that transcends conventional boundaries and embraces a more nuanced, multi-layered, and intersectional framework for data collection, analyses, and implementation. We draw attention to gaps in existing work, highlight how overlapping layers of marginalization might shape and substantiate one another and affect the precision-medicine research cycle, and put forth strategies to facilitate equitable advantages from precision-medicine research to diverse participants and internally heterogeneous communities.
Argentina currently uses a pentavalent vaccine containing diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whole cell), Haemophilus influenza type b and hepatitis B antigens, administered concomitantly with the inactivated polio ...

Authors: Ignacio Olivera, Carlos Grau Pérez, Luis Lazarov, Eduardo Lopez, Cristian Oddo and Hugo Dibarboure

Citation: BMC Health Services Research 2023 23:1067
Content type: Research Published on: 6 October 2023
Investigating the tendency to use COVID-19 vaccine booster dose in Iran

Vaccine hesitancy is recognized as a significant public health threat, characterized by delays, refusals, or reluctance to accept vaccinations despite their availability. This study, aimed to investigate the ...

Authors: Mehrdad Askarian, AmirAli Rastegar Kazerooni, Zahra Shayan, Parisa Karimzadeh, Mohammad Movahedi and Nahid Hatam

Citation: BMC Health Services Research 2023 23:1051
Content type: Research Published on: 2 October 2023

BMC Infectious Diseases
http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcinfectdis/content
(Accessed 07 Oct 2023)
[No new digest content identified]

Public attitudes towards genomic data sharing: results from a provincial online survey in Canada

While genomic data sharing can facilitate important health research and discovery benefits, these must be balanced against potential privacy risks and harms to individuals. Understanding public attitudes and p...

Authors: Holly Etchegary, Georgia Darmonkov, Charlene Simmonds, Daryl Pullman and Proton Rahman

Citation: BMC Medical Ethics 2023 24:81
Content type: Research Published on: 7 October 2023

BMC Medicine
http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcmed/content
(Accessed 07 Oct 2023)
[No new digest content identified]

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth
http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcpregnancychildbirth/content
(Accessed 07 Oct 2023)
[No new digest content identified]

BMC Public Health
http://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles
(Accessed 07 Oct 2023)
[No new digest content identified]

BMC Research Notes
http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcresearchnotes/content
(Accessed 07 Oct 2023)
BMJ Evidence-Based Medicine
October 2023 - Volume 28 - 5
https://ebm.bmj.com/content/28/5
[New issue; No digest content identified]

BMJ Global Health
August 2023 - Volume 8 - 9
https://gh.bmj.com/content/8/9
[Reviewed earlier]

Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists
September 2023
https://thebulletin.org/magazine/2023-09/
Contents
[Reviewed earlier]

Bulletin of the World Health Organization
Volume 101(10); 2023 Oct 1
https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/issues/446112/
Editorials
Establishing the impact of WHO’s normative and standard-setting functions: a call for papers
Lisa M Askie, Rebekah AL Thomas, Rok Ho Kim, Mubashar Sheikh, Jeremy Farrar
doi: 10.2471/BLT.23.290829
PMCID: PMC10523809

What’s needed to sustain malaria elimination in the Region of the Americas
Maria Eugenia Grillet
doi: 10.2471/BLT.23.290506
PMCID: PMC10523816

Systematic Reviews
Elimination and eradication goals for communicable diseases: a systematic review
Laila Khawar, Basil Donovan, Rosanna W Peeling, Rebecca J Guy, Skye McGregor
doi: 10.2471/BLT.23.289676
PMCID: PMC10523812
Abstract
Objective
To consolidate recent information on elimination and eradication goals for infectious diseases and clarify the definitions and associated terminology for different goals.
Methods
We conducted a systematic search of the World Health Organization’s Institutional Repository for Information Sharing (WHO IRIS) and a customized systematic Google advanced search for
documents published between 2008 and 2022 on elimination or eradication strategies for infectious conditions authored by WHO or other leading health organizations. We extracted information on names of infectious conditions, the elimination and eradication goals and timelines, definitions of goals, non-standardized terminology, targets and assessment processes.

Findings
We identified nine goals for 27 infectious conditions, ranging from disease control to eradication. In comparison with the hierarchy of disease control, as defined at the Dahlem Workshop in 1997, six goals related to disease control with varying levels of advancement, two related to elimination and one to eradication. Goals progressed along a disease-control continuum, such as end of disease epidemic to pre-elimination to elimination as a public health problem or threat. We identified the use of non-standardized terminology with certain goals, including virtual elimination, elimination of disease epidemics, public health threat and public health concern.

Conclusion
As we approach the 2030 target date to achieve many of the goals related to disease control and for other infections to become candidates for elimination in the future, clarity of definitions and objectives is important for public health professionals and policy-makers to avoid misperceptions and miscommunication.

Policy & Practice
Differentiating sex and gender in health research to achieve gender equity
Michelle R Kaufman, Evan L Eschliman, Tahilin Sanchez Karver
doi: 10.2471/BLT.22.289310
PMCID: PMC10523819

Lessons from a global antimicrobial resistance surveillance network
Etienne Ruppé, on behalf of the Network for Enhancing Tricycle ESBL Surveillance Efficiency (NETESE) group
doi: 10.2471/BLT.22.289520
PMCID: PMC10523813

Cell
Sep 28, 2023 Volume 186 Issue 20 p4257-4474
https://www.cell.com/cell/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Child Care, Health and Development
Volume 49, Issue 5 Pages: 787-940 September 2023
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/13652214/current
SPECIAL ISSUE: THE PERVASIVE EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON CHILDREN: A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE PART II
[Reviewed earlier]

Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics
Volume 114, Issue 4 Pages: 723-932 October 2023
https://ascpt.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/15326535/current
White Paper Open Access
Current Medical Research and Opinion
Volume 39, Issue 9  2023
https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/icmo20/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases
October 2023 - Volume 36 - Issue 5
https://journals.lww.com/co-infectiousdiseases/pages/currenttoc.aspx
[Reviewed earlier]

Current Protocols in Human Genetics
https://currentprotocols.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/19348258
[Accessed 07 Oct 2023]
[No new digest content identified]

Developing World Bioethics
Volume 23, Issue 3  Pages: 197-292  September 2023
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14718847/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Development in Practice
Volume 33, Issue 7, 2023
http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cdip20/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Development Policy Review
Volume 41, Issue 5  September 2023
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14677679/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness
Volume 16 - Issue 6 - December 2022
https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/disaster-medicine-and-public-health-preparedness/latest-issue
[Reviewed earlier]

Disasters
Volume 47, Issue 3  Pages: 543-846  July 2023
[Reviewed earlier]
EMBO Reports
Volume 24 Issue 9  6 September 2023
https://www.embopress.org/toc/14693178/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Emerging Infectious Diseases
Volume 29, Number 10—October 2023
http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/
[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemics
Volume 44 September 2023
https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/epidemics/vol/44/suppl/C
[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemiology and Infection
Volume 151 - 2023
https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/epidemiology-and-infection/latest-issue
[Reviewed earlier]

Ethics & Human Research
Volume 45, Issue 5 Pages: 1-47  September–October 2023
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/25782363/current

Adaptive clinical trials :: Deprioritizing ongoing clinical trials
Articles
Ethics of Adaptive Designs for Randomized Controlled Trials
Gershom Chongwe, Joseph Ali, Dan Kabonge Kaye, Charles Michelo, Nancy E. Kass
Pages: 2-14
First Published: 01 October 2023

Deprioritization of Ongoing Clinical Trials
Barbara E. Bierer, Deborah A. Zarin, Luke Gelinas
Pages: 27-33
First Published: 01 October 2023

Ethics & International Affairs
Volume 37 - Issue 2 - Summer 2023
https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/ethics-and-international-affairs/latest-issue
[Reviewed earlier]

Ethics, Medicine and Public Health
Volume 30  October 2023
[New issue; No digest content identified]
The European Journal of Public Health
Volume 33, Issue 4, August 2023
https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/issue/33/4
[Reviewed earlier]

Expert Review of Vaccines
Vol 22 (1) 2023 Issue In Progress
https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/ierv20/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Foreign Affairs
September/October 2023 Volume 102, Number 5
https://www.foreignaffairs.com/issues/2023/102/5
[Reviewed earlier]

Forum for Development Studies
Volume 50, 2023 - Issue 3
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Genetics in Medicine
Volume 25, Issue 9 September 2023
[Reviewed earlier]

Genome Medicine
https://genomemedicine.biomedcentral.com/articles
[Accessed 07 Oct 2023]
[No new digest content identified]

Global Health Action
Volume 16, Issue 1 (2023)
https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/zgha20/current?nav=tocList
[Reviewed earlier]

Global Health: Science and Practice (GHSP)
Vol. 11, No. 4 August 28, 2023
http://www.ghspjournal.org/content/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Global Legal Monitor – Library of Congress/USA
https://www.loc.gov/collections/global-legal-monitor/
[Accessed 07 Oct 2023]
Global Public Health
Volume 18, Issue 1 (2023)
http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rgph20/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Globalization and Health
http://www.globalizationandhealth.com/
[Accessed 07 Oct 2023]
[No new digest content identified]

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...

Health Economics, Policy and Law
Volume 18 - Issue 3 - July 2023
https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/health-economics-policy-and-law/latest-issue
[Reviewed earlier]

Health Policy and Planning
Volume 38, Issue 8, October 2023
https://academic.oup.com/heapol/issue/38/8

ORIGINAL ARTICLES
Contributions of declining mortality, overall and from HIV, TB and malaria, to reduced health inequality and inequity across countries
Markus Haacker
Health Policy and Planning, Volume 38, Issue 8, October 2023, Pages 939–948,
https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czad046
Factors associated with recommendation behaviors of four non-National Immunization Program vaccines: a cross-sectional survey among public health workers in China

Immunization is a crucial preventive measure to safeguard children under five years old against a range of diseases. In China, the coverage rate of non-National Immunization Program (non-NIP) vaccines can be i...

Authors: Yun Lyu, Xiaozhen Lai, Yidi Ma and Hai Fang

Citation: Infectious Diseases of Poverty 2023 12:91
Content type: Research Article Published on: 7 October 2023
JAMA
October 3, 2023, Vol 330, No. 13, Pages 1209-1295
https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/currentissue

Research Letter
Receipt of BNT162b2 Vaccine and COVID-19 Ambulatory Visits in US Children Younger Than 5 Years
Sara Y. Tartof, PhD, MPH; Timothy B. Frankland, MA; Jeff M. Slezak, MS; et al.
free access
This study examines the association of the receipt of wild-type BNT162b2 vaccine with medically attended COVID-19 outcomes among children younger than 5 years in the US.

Editorial
Peer Review and Scientific Publication at a Crossroads Call for Research for the 10th International Congress on Peer Review and Scientific Publication
John P. A. Ioannidis, MD, DSc; Michael Berkwits, MD, MSCE; Annette Flanagin, RN, MA; et al.
free access

Editorial
Three Decades of Peer Review Conferences
Drummond Rennie, MD; Annette Flanagin, RN, MA
JAMA
Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics
Volume 18 Issue 4, October 2023
http://journals.sagepub.com/toc/jre/current

Ethical Issues in Research in Low and Middle-Income Countries
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health
September 2023 - Volume 77 - 9
https://jech.bmj.com/content/77/9
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine
Volume 16, Issue 3 Pages: 259-413 September 2023
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/17565391/current
ARTICLES
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Global Ethics
Volume 19, Issue 2 (2023)
http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rjge20/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved (JHCPU)
Volume 34, Number 3, August 2023
https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/50808
Table of Contents
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health
Volume 25, issue 5, October 2023
Contents
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies
Volume 21, 2023 Issue 3
https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/wimm20/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Infectious Diseases
Volume 228, Issue 5, 1 September 2023
https://academic.oup.com/jid/issue/228/5
[Reviewed earlier]
Journal of International Development
Volume 35, Issue 6 Pages: 961-1548 August 2023
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/10991328/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Ethics
October 2023 - Volume 49 - 10
http://jme.bmj.com/content/current
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews
Volume 10, Issue 3 (2023)
https://institutionalrepository.aah.org/jpcrr/
[New issue; No digest content identified]

The Journal of Pediatrics
Volume 261, October 2023
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice
https://joppp.biomedcentral.com/
[Accessed 07 Oct 2023]
[No new digest content identified]

Journal of Public Health Management & Practice
September/October 2023 - Volume 29 - Issue 5
https://journals.lww.com/jphmp/pages/currenttoc.aspx
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Public Health Policy
Volume 44, issue 3, September 2023
https://link.springer.com/journal/41271/volumes-and-issues/44-3
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Royal Society – Interface
October 2023 Volume 20 Issue 207
https://royalsocietypublishing.org/toc/rsif/current
[No new digest content identified]

Journal of Travel Medicine
Volume 30, Issue 5, July 2023
https://academic.oup.com/jtm/issue
The Lancet's 200 years: much more to do

The Lancet

Oct 5, 2023, is The Lancet's 200th anniversary. To mark the moment, we are this week publishing a special theme issue to reflect on what our history means and what the future might hold. The Lancet's founder, Thomas Wakley, intended to open medical knowledge to a wider readership and to engage politically with the health issues of his time. In their review article, Martin Gorsky and Agnes Arnold-Forster describe The Lancet's participation in some of the biggest scientific discoveries of the past two centuries, together with the campaigns our predecessors initiated or joined. But the reality is that the personality of the journal—its interests and attitudes—has evolved with each new generation of editors, reviewers, authors, and contributors.

The journal's perspective today is very different from that of 1823. Our collective task is to reinvent Wakley's purpose for a new time. Perhaps the most important difference between then and now is that we seek to be more inclusive of communities worldwide. Our intention is to foster a truly global conversation about health, medicine, and medical science, with the goals of advancing health, health equity, and social justice. To achieve these aims, we depend on collaborations with the medical community, especially the academic medical community—indeed, we view the research community as a transformative untapped resource in society for science-based advocacy and social change.
To try to accelerate progress towards our objectives and to mark our special anniversary, we have chosen five areas that we see as important priorities (Spotlights): universal health coverage (UHC), mental health, climate change and health, research for health, and child and adolescent health. What have we learned so far? For UHC, despite fine words and false promises from political leaders and international agencies, lack of sustainable financing, fragmentation of services, and siloed approaches are continuing barriers to progress. Midway through the Sustainable Development Goals, UHC needs not merely renewed attention, but also concrete operational commitments at national levels. The prospects are not encouraging...

...200 years isn’t a milestone. It is only a brief moment in the long and erratic history of human endeavour. Much of what we call progress in health is as much due to increasing prosperity and wider educational opportunity, as it is to technical medical advance. But the importance of health as an idea in society lies beyond the immediate materiality of bodily wellbeing. Our concern for health and our investment in health systems are proof of our social commitments to one another—health is an expression of our human solidarity. We will be learning lessons from our anniversary Spotlights, lessons that we will take with us into 2024 and beyond. Meanwhile, we wish to thank you for being part of a community inspired by the notion that practising medicine is a privilege that comes with a great responsibility—to advance the health of society, as well as the individual person.

**Articles**

**Integrated management of HIV, diabetes, and hypertension in sub-Saharan Africa (INTE-AFRICA): a pragmatic cluster-randomised, controlled trial**
Sokoine Kivuyo, et al.; on behalf of the RESPOND-AFRICA Group
Open Access

**Review**

**The Lancet 1823–2023: the best science for better lives**
Martin Gorsky, Agnes Arnold-Forster

**Summary**
The Lancet celebrates its 200th anniversary in 2023. In this survey of the journal's history, we explore how it has contributed to shaping medicine both in the UK and internationally, and how it has demonstrated a commitment to “The best science for better lives”. For two centuries, the journal has published pioneering articles on key developments in medical science and the organisation of health care. We explore the campaigning and advocacy work of the journal through several indicative areas where science and policy meet, balancing national and global themes over the 19th and 20th centuries. Themes include the raising of professional standards; environmental health in urbanising Britain; the transformation of surgery; the emergence of tropical medicine; the science and politics of vaccination; the advance towards universal health coverage; and the transition from international to global health. In the imperial era, both the journal's research reports and editorial stance were sometimes inflected with colonial attitudes, although it consistently presented medicine as an international endeavour. The Lancet's blend of science and advocacy demonstrates a track record of campaigning for medicine in the cause of social betterment.

**The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health**
Sep 2023 Volume 7 Number 9 p599-670, e17
https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanchi/issue/current
[Reviewed earlier]

**Lancet Digital Health**
Sep 2023 Volume 5 Number 9e 545-e631
Nature
Volume 622 Issue 7981, 5 October 2023
https://www.nature.com/nature/volumes/621/issues/7981
Perspective 04 Oct 2023
The status of the human gene catalogue
Paulo Amaral, Silvia Carbonell-Sala, Steven L. Salzberg
Abstract
Scientists have been trying to identify every gene in the human genome since the initial draft was published in 2001. In the years since, much progress has been made in identifying protein-coding genes, currently estimated to number fewer than 20,000, with an ever-expanding number of distinct protein-coding isoforms. Here we review the status of the human gene catalogue and the efforts to complete it in recent years. Beside the ongoing annotation of protein-coding genes, their isoforms and pseudogenes, the invention of high-throughput RNA sequencing and other technological breakthroughs have led to a rapid growth in the number of reported non-coding RNA genes. For most of these non-coding RNAs, the functional relevance is currently unclear; we look at recent advances that offer paths forward to identifying their functions and towards eventually completing the human gene catalogue. Finally, we examine the need for a universal annotation standard that includes all medically significant genes and maintains their relationships with different reference genomes for the use of the human gene catalogue in clinical settings.

Nature Biotechnology
Volume 41 Issue 9, September 2023
https://www.nature.com/nbt/volumes/41/issues/9
[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Communications
https://www.nature.com/subjects/health-sciences/ncomms
(Accessed 07 Oct 2023)
[No new digest content identified]

Nature Genetics
Volume 55 Issue 9, September 2023
https://www.nature.com/ng/volumes/55/issues/9
[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Human Behaviour
Volume 7 Issue 9, September 2023
https://www.nature.com/nathumbehav/volumes/7/issues/9
[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Medicine
Volume 29 Issue 9, September 2023
https://www.nature.com/nm/volumes/29/issues/9
[Reviewed earlier]
Ten-Year Follow-up of 9-Valent Human Papillomavirus Vaccine: Immunogenicity, Effectiveness, and Safety
Jaime Restrepo, MD; Teobaldo Herrera, MD; Rudiwilai Samakoses, MD; Julio C. Reina, MD; Punnee Pitisuttithum, MBBS, DTM&H ...
The 9vHPV vaccine demonstrated sustained immunogenicity and effectiveness through \(\sim\)10 years post 3 doses of 9vHPV vaccination of boys and girls aged 9 to 15 years.

Quality Reports
Increasing COVID-19 Vaccination Rates for Children With Sickle Cell Disease
Adam P. Yan, MD; Natasha M. Archer, MD, MPH; Dianne Arnold, RN, MSN; Eileen Hansbury, PA-C, MS; Matthew M. Heeney, MD ...
The COVID-19 vaccine is important for children with sickle cell disease (SCD). This quality improvement project’s objective was to increase the proportion of children with SCD receiving \(\geq 2\) COVID-19 vaccine doses to \(\geq 70\%\) by June 2022.
PLOS Biology
https://journals.plos.org/plosbiology/
(Accessed 07 Oct 2023)
**A call to implement preclinical study registration in animal ethics review**
Matthew S. Jeffers, Aileen MacLellan, Marc T. Avey, Julia ML Menon, Janet Sunohara-Neilson, Dean A. Fergusson, Manoj M. Lalu
Perspective | published 05 Oct 2023 PLOS Biology
https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.3002293

PLOS Genetics
https://journals.plos.org/plosgenetics/
(Accessed 07 Oct 2023)
[No new digest content identified]

PLOS Global Public Health
https://journals.plos.org/globalpublichealth/search?sortOrder=DATE_NEWEST_FIRST&filterStartDate=2021-10-01&filterJournals=PLOSGlobalPublicHealth&q=&resultsPerPage=60
(Accessed 07 Oct 2023)
**Internal and external factors affecting vaccination coverage: Modeling the interactions between vaccine hesitancy, accessibility, and mandates**
Kerri-Anne M. Anderson, Nicole Creanza
Research Article | published 04 Oct 2023 PLOS Global Public Health
https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0001186

PLOS Medicine
http://www.plosmedicine.org/
(Accessed 07 Oct 2023)
**Prioritizing persons deprived of liberty in global guidelines for tuberculosis preventive treatment**
Policy Forum | published 03 Oct 2023 PLOS Medicine
https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1004288

**Summary points**
- Persons deprived of liberty (PDLs) are disproportionately impacted by tuberculosis, with high incidence rates and often limited access to diagnostics, treatment, and preventive measures.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) expanded its recommendations for tuberculosis preventive treatment (TPT) to many high-risk populations, but their guidance does not include PDL, and most low- and middle-income countries do not routinely provide TPT in prisons.
- Recent studies demonstrate high acceptability and completion rates of short-course TPT regimens in jails and prisons; costs of these regimens have been markedly reduced through international agreements, making this an opportune for further expanding their use.
- We argue that PDL should be a priority group for TPT in national guidelines and discuss implementation considerations and resource needs for TPT programs in carceral facilities.
- Scaling access to TPT for PDL is important for reducing disease and transmission in this population; it is also critical to advancing an equitable response to tuberculosis.

**PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases**  
http://www.plosntds.org/  
(Accessed 07 Oct 2023)  
[No new digest content identified]

**PLoS One**  
http://www.plosone.org/  
(Accessed 07 Oct 2023)  
*Preferences for public engagement in decision-making regarding four COVID-19 non-pharmaceutical interventions in the Netherlands: A survey study*  
Sophie Kemper, Marloes Bongers, Frank Kupper, Marion De Vries, Aura Timen  
Research Article | published 05 Oct 2023 PLOS ONE  
https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0292119

**PLoS Pathogens**  
http://journals.plos.org/plospathogens/  
(Accessed 07 Oct 2023)  
[No new digest content identified]

**PNAS - Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States**  
October 3, 2023 vol. 120 no. 40  
https://www.pnas.org/toc/pnas/120/40  
[New issue; No digest content identified]

**PNAS Nexus**  
Volume 2, Issue 9, September 2023  
https://academic.oup.com/pnasnexus/issue/2/9  
[Reviewed earlier]

**Prehospital & Disaster Medicine**  
Volume 38 - Issue 5 - October 2023  
https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/prehospital-and-disaster-medicine/latest-issue  
[New issue; No digest content identified]

**Preventive Medicine**  
Volume 174 September 2023  
[Reviewed earlier]
**Governmental anti-pandemic policies, vaccination, population mobility, Twitter narratives, and the spread of COVID-19: Evidence from the European Union countries**

Elena Fedorova, Svetlana Ledyaeva, Oksana Kulikova, Alexandr Nevredinov

Pages: 1975-2003
First Published: 09 January 2023

**The benefits and costs of U.S. employer COVID-19 vaccine mandates**

Maddalena Ferranna, Lisa A. Robinson, Daniel Cadarette, Michael R. Eber, David E. Bloom

Pages: 2053-2068
First Published: 17 January 2023

**Science**

Volume 382| Issue 6666| 6 Oct 2023

[Accessed 07 Oct 2023]
[Reviewed earlier]

**Introduction to Special Issue**

**Glimpses of genomes past**

BY Corinne Simonti, Madeleine Seale

05 Oct 2023: 46-47

Ancient DNA has radically altered our understanding of the evolutionary history of many plants and animals, as well as our own. It has revealed areas of our genomes that were inherited from closely related archaic hominins, granted insight into past ecosystems, and unveiled extinct species and populations from across the tree of life. Each sample of ancient DNA is a snapshot of a place and time, giving a brief glimpse into the past. A better understanding of the DNA that was inherited by modern individuals—and, sometimes more importantly, the DNA that wasn’t—can inform us about many evolutionary processes, including adaptation, speciation, and domestication.

As the field of ancient DNA matures, we now have the foundational understanding to appreciate the finer details granted by these snapshots. Studies of past plants and animals can help to illuminate the changing ecological landscape, as well as our role in those changes. When human studies are done ethically and responsibly, we can integrate with communities and rediscover stories that have been lost or erased from history, thereby possibly reconnecting modern people to historical relatives. Beyond these focused investigations, however, the technical limits of ancient DNA remain unclear. Although methodologies for capturing ancient DNA have greatly improved, how long DNA can survive environmental damage in different climates and conditions is still an open question. Though we will never be able to get a full picture of the past, studies of ancient DNA continue to reveal previously unknown aspects of history across organisms. This special issue examines the changing landscape of how ancient DNA is studied today, including previously untapped sources,
improvements in technology, and ethical challenges, and what we’ve learned about ourselves through ancient DNA.

**Science and Engineering Ethics**
Volume 29, issue 5, October 2023
[Reviewed earlier]

**Science Translational Medicine**
Volume 15| Issue 716| 4 Oct 2023
https://www.science.org/toc/stm/current
[New issue; No digest content identified]

**Scientific Reports**
https://www.nature.com/srep/articles?type=article
[Accessed 07 Oct 2023]
[No new digest content identified]

**Social Science & Medicine**
Volume 332  September 2023
[Reviewed earlier]

**Systematic Reviews**
https://systematicreviewsjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles
[Accessed 07 Oct 2023]
[No new digest content identified]

**Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics**
Volume 44, issue 4, August 2023
https://link.springer.com/journal/11017/volumes-and-issues/44-4
[Reviewed earlier]

**Travel Medicine and Infectious Diseases**
Volume 54  July–August 2023
[Reviewed earlier]

**Tropical Medicine & International Health**
Volume 28, Issue 10  Pages: i-iv, 797-838  October 2023
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/13653156/current
RESEARCH ARTICLE
EDITORS' CHOICE
Open Access
Mariam Adam, et al.
Pages: 817-829
First Published: 13 September 2023

Vaccine
Volume 41, Issue 43  Pages 6403-6542 (13 October 2023)
https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/vaccine/vol/41/issue/43
Short communication  Open access
Insights to COVID-19 vaccine delivery: Results from a survey of 27 countries
Ishani Mathur, Rachael Church, Anika Ruisch, Karina Noyes, ... Christian Suharlim
Pages 6406-6410
Abstract
Most countries rolled out COVID-19 vaccination during 2021–2022. However, COVID-19 vaccine delivery cost estimates are still needed to support planning and budgeting to integrate COVID-19 vaccines into routine programs and to target high risk populations, specifically within resource-scarce contexts. Management Sciences for Health and the COVID-19 Vaccine Delivery Partnership Working Group collected country-level data through two surveys exploring global experiences with vaccine roll-out. 40 respondents from 27 countries responded to the surveys in November 2021 and May 2022. Respondents described their country's human resources needs, vaccine delivery modalities, demand generation strategies, booster uptake, cold chain capacity, supplies, and sub-population targets. The surveys highlighted unexpected trends in hiring, reliance on newer and costlier delivery and demand generation methods and significant gaps regarding HR, supplies, boosters, cold chain and reaching sub-populations. These types of opportunity assessments are useful ways of rapidly filling gaps in information needed to adequately cost alternative delivery strategies.

Review article  Open access
Protocol for a living evidence synthesis on variants of concern and COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness
Nicole Shaver, Melanie Katz, Gideon Darko Asamoah, Lori-Ann Linkins, ... Julian Little

Review article  Abstract only
Review: Factors influencing parents' decisions to vaccinate children against COVID-19
Haifa S. Alharbi
Pages 6419-6425

Research article  Open access
Vaccination coverage survey of children aged 1–3 years in Beijing, China, 2005–2021
Wen-yan Ji, Dong- lei Liu, Rui Yu, Liang Miao, ... Jian-Ping Yu
Pages 6444-6452

Research article  Abstract only
Coverage and predictors of influenza and pertussis vaccination during pregnancy: a whole of population-based study
Nusrat Homaira, Wen-Qiang He, Jocelynne McRae, Kristine Macartney, Bette Liu
Pages 6522-6529
Systematic Review

Vaccine Hesitancy of COVID-19 among Parents for Their Children in Middle Eastern Countries—A Systematic Review
by Muhammad Shahid Iqbal1,*, Salah-Ud-Din Khan2 Shafqat Qamer3 and Saeed Vohra
Vaccines 2023, 11(10), 1556; https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines11101556
Received: 13 August 2023 / Revised: 12 September 2023 / Accepted: 21 September 2023 /
Published: 1 October 2023

Abstract
The current systematic review presents COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy among parents for their children in Middle Eastern countries. Moreover, the vaccine acceptance rate of parents from the Middle East and the factors effecting the acceptance rate were reviewed and summarized. For this systematic review, basic electronic academic databases (Scopus, Science Direct, ProQuest, Web of Science and PubMed) were used for the search, along with a manual search on Google Scholar. This systematic review was conducted by following the “Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA)” guidelines. Moreover, utilizing the framework of the PECO-S (Population Exposure Comparison Outcome Study design), various observational studies were recruited for this review. Out of 2123 studies, 25 studies meeting the inclusion criteria were included in the current review. All of the included studies were about parental vaccine hesitancy for COVID-19 in Middle Eastern countries and published during 2020–2022. Overall, 25 research papers comprising 10 different Middle Eastern countries with 33,558 parents were included. The average age of parents was 39.13 (range: 18–70) years, while the mean age of children was 7.95 (range: 0–18) years. The overall hesitancy rate was 44.2% with a SD of ± 19.7. The included studies presented enhanced COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy among parents in Middle Eastern countries. The lower vaccine acceptance rate among parents was mainly because of a fear of the potential side effects. Furthermore, the lack of information regarding vaccine safety and efficacy, the fear of unreported side effects and concerns about the authenticity of vaccine development and preparation were the predictors of parental COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy among Middle Eastern countries.

Value in Health
October 2023 Volume 26 Issue 10 p1435-1580
https://www.valueinhealthjournal.com/current

POLICY PERSPECTIVE
Recognizing the Broader Value of Meningococcal Vaccination: A Matter of Evidence, Ability, or Willingness?
Margherita Neri, et al.
Published online: July 03, 2023

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:: Milestones, Perspectives
:: WHO
:: Organization Announcements
:: Journal Watch
:: Pre-Print Servers
Pre-Print Servers

Gates Open Research
https://gatesopenresearch.org/browse/articles
[Accessed 07 Oct 2023]

Selected Research
Research Article metrics AWAITING PEER REVIEW

How resilient were family planning programs during the COVID-19 pandemic? Evidence from 70 countries [version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]
Karen Hardee, Rebecca Rosenberg, John Ross, Imelda Zosa-Feranil
Peer Reviewers Invited
Funder - Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
PUBLISHED 28 Sep 2023

medRxiv
https://www.medrxiv.org/content/about-medrxiv
[Accessed 07 Oct 2023]
[Filter: All articles]

Selected Research
Effectiveness of one dose of MVA-BN vaccine against mpox infection in males in Ontario, Canada: A target trial emulation
Christine Navarro, Cindy Lau, Sarah A Buchan, Ann Burchell, Sharifa Nasreen, Lindsay Friedman, Evaazi Opokoro, Peter Austin, Darrell Tan, Jonathan Gubbay, Jeffrey C Kwong, Sharmistha Mishra
medRxiv 2023.10.04.23296566; doi: https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.10.04.23296566

A mixed method study to assess behavioral and social predictors of parent/caregiver’s intention to vaccinate their children against COVID-19 disease in an Indian state marked by significant health disparities.
Tulika Singh, Sanjay Kumar, Setu Sinha, Varsha Singh
medRxiv 2023.10.05.23296592; doi: https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.10.05.23296592

Modelling the health and economic impacts of M72/AS01E vaccination and BCG-revaccination: estimates for South Africa
Tom Sumner, Rebecca A Clark, Christina Mukandavire, Allison A Portnoy, Chathika Krishan Weerasuriya, Roel Bakker, Danny Scarponi, Mark Hatherill, Nicolas A Menzies, Richard G White
medRxiv 2023.10.04.23296538; doi: https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.10.04.23296538

The TB vaccine clinical trial centre directory: an inventory of clinical trial centres in sub-Saharan Africa
Puck Teetje Pelzer, Marit Holleman, Michelle EH Helinski, Ana Lucia Weinberg, Pauline Beattie, Thomas Ny irenda, Job van Rest, Gerald Voss
medRxiv 2023.10.04.23296539; doi: https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.10.04.23296539

Early underdetected dissemination across countries followed by extensive local transmission propelled the 2022 mpox epidemic
Miguel I. Paredes, Nashwa Ahmed, Marlin Figgins, Vittoria Colizza, Philippe Lemey, John T McCrone, Nicola F Müller, Cécile Tran-Kiern, Trevor Bedford
medRxiv 2023.07.27.23293266; doi: https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.07.27.23293266 Revision
Understanding the factors affecting global political priority for controlling sexually transmitted infections: a qualitative policy analysis

Dadong Wu, Nicola Low, Sarah J Hawkes

nicola.low@unibe.ch

medRxiv 2023.10.03.23296476; doi: https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.10.03.23296476

Abstract

Introduction Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are a significant public health challenge, but there is a perceived lack of political priority in addressing STIs as a global health issue. Our study aimed to understand the determinants of global political priority for STIs since the 1980s and to discern implications for future prioritisation.

Methods Through semi-structured interviews from July 2021 to February 2022, we engaged 20 key stakeholders (8 women, 12 men) from academia, United Nations agencies, international non-governmental organisations, philanthropic organisations, and national public health agencies. A published policy framework was employed for thematic analysis, and findings triangulated with relevant literature and policy documents. We examined issue characteristics, prevailing ideas, actor power dynamics and political contexts.

Results A contrast in perspectives before and after the year 2000 emerged. STI control was high on the global health agenda during the late 1980s and 1990s, as a means to control HIV. A strong policy community agreed on evidence about the high burden of STIs and that STI management could reduce the incidence of HIV. The level of importance decreased when further research evidence did not find an impact of STI control interventions on HIV incidence. Since 2000, cohesion in the STI community has decreased. New framing for broad STI control has not emerged. Interventions that have been funded, such as human papillomavirus vaccination and congenital syphilis elimination have been framed as cancer control or improving newborn survival, rather than as STI control.

Conclusion Globally, the perceived decline in STI control priority might stem from discrepancies between investment choices and experts' views on STI priorities. Addressing STIs requires understanding the intertwined nature of politics and empirical evidence in resource allocation. The ascent of universal health coverage presents an opportunity for integrated STI strategies but high-quality care sustainable funding and strategic coordination are essential.

OSF Pre-prints
https://osf.io/preprints/discover?provider=OSF&subject=bepress%7CLife%20Sciences
[Provider Filter: OSF Pre-prints  Subject filters: Arts & Humanities; Education, Life Sciences; Medicine and Health Sciences; Social and Behavioral Sciences]

We observe increasing levels of “posting pollution” by individuals, sometimes posting 10+ items of no value. We will resume selective monitoring beginning in September.

Wellcome Open Research
https://wellcomeopenresearch.org/browse/articles
[Accessed 07 Oct 2023]

Selected Research

Open Letter  Open Access

Multidisciplinary approach to community engagement in global public health research
[version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]
Oluwafemi Adeagbo, et al. oluwafemi-adeagbo@uiowa.edu

Abstract

Recently, there has been a renewed interest in the role of community engagement in knowledge production and ethical issues such as ‘helicopter research’, indicating exploitative research activities of some researchers as well as short-term relationships with research communities especially in low- and middle-income countries. This approach is detrimental to both communities and the larger
scientific community as this may breed mistrust. Major institutions such as the National Institute of Health and Care Research in the United Kingdom have highlighted the importance of community engagement as a tool to improve the reach, quality, and impact of the research by incorporating the voices and concerns of marginalized communities. Similarly, in its 2022 guidance, the American Society for Human Genetics (ASGH) highlights the need to address underrepresentation in genomics research through community engagement. Establishing ethical and meaningful long-term relationships can be challenging especially for researchers who are not members of the community or those from other countries. This article describes how ‘community-engaged research’ can address some ethical challenges in global public health in different cultural settings.

Study Protocol Open Access

Abstract
Tuberculosis (TB) caused 1.5 million deaths in 2020, making it the leading infectious killer after COVID-19. Bacille Calmette-Guerin (BCG) is the only licensed vaccine against TB but has sub-optimal efficacy against pulmonary TB and reduced effectiveness in regions close to the equator with high burden. Efforts to find novel vaccines are hampered due to the need for large-scale, prolonged, and costly clinical trials. Controlled human infection models (CHIMs) for TB may be used to accelerate vaccine development by ensuring only the most promising vaccine candidates are selected for phase 3 trials, but it is not currently possible to give participants Mycobacterium tuberculosis as a challenge agent.

This feasibility study will transfer and refine an existing and safe model of BCG controlled human infection. Longitudinal BCG quantification has the potential to increase model sensitivity to detect vaccine and therapeutic responses. If successful, we aim to transfer the model to Malawi in future studies, a setting with endemic TB disease, to accelerate development of vaccines and therapeutics relevant for underserved populations who stand to benefit the most.

Registration: ISRCTN: ISRCTN94098600 and ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT05820599

Think Tanks
Brookings [to 07 Oct 2023]
http://www.brookings.edu/research/

No new digest content identified.

Center for Global Development [to 07 Oct 2023]
This paper uses a straightforward Resilience Indicator, constructed from a small set of economic and institutional variables, to show that by 2019, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent global shocks, it was possible to identify emerging markets and developing countries that would encounter serious economic and financial problems if an external shock were to materialize. The list of developing countries identified as less resilient in 2019 using this simple methodology closely aligns with the World Bank’s 2022 compilation of countries in distress or at high risk of external debt distress. Furthermore, the emerging market economies that this indicator identified as the least resilient in 2019 were countries that had either defaulted or were teetering on the edge of default by 2022. Identifying countries that are most vulnerable to large external shocks can assist policymakers and the international community in directing their efforts towards crisis prevention, thereby avoiding the detrimental consequences of financial crises on development.
Lebanon hosts the highest number of refugees per capita of any country in the world. Key amongst their pressing needs is services for sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), which are often more acute at times of (and following) crisis when fertility rates tend to rise and gender-based violence increases.

SRHR is often seen as lower priority than other areas of humanitarian response, and existing SRHR programming typically focuses on maternal health and interventions related to gender-based violence for heterosexual, cisgender women of reproductive age. In so doing, it fails to address the breadth of SRHR needs and does little to recognise the differing experiences and needs of marginalised groups.

Using Lebanon as a case study, this project sets out to provide evidence of unmet needs for SRHR services in protracted crisis settings and their impacts, addressing persistent misconceptions about the criticality and need for such services...