Vaccines and Global Health: The Week in Review
30 September 2023 :: Issue 720
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.

Comments and suggestions should be directed to
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:: WHO
:: Organization Announcements
:: Journal Watch
:: Pre-Print Servers
:: Think Tanks
New data highlights rebound in routine immunisation underpinned by record domestic funding; warns of challenges ahead - Gavi

Basic childhood immunisation rebounded in 2022, as lower-income countries committed historic levels of domestic funding to immunisation programmes.

Data on outbreaks, population growth, geographic equity highlights challenges ahead, as countries seek to recover immunisation to pre-pandemic levels and expand progress while dealing with multiple threats.

Read the full report here

Geneva, 28 September 2023 – A year of recovery for routine immunisation services across 57 lower-income countries supported by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance in 2022 was underpinned by historic levels of investment by these countries, according to Gavi’s 2022 Annual Progress Report published today.

In 2022, lower-income countries collectively contributed US$ 162 million to co-finance Gavi-supported vaccines, the highest amount in Gavi’s history. This brings the total amount contributed by lower-income countries since 2008 – when country co-financing began – to US$ 1.5 billion. The report shows that, despite a period of economic turmoil, and with the exception of three waivers due to humanitarian crises, all countries met their vaccine co-financing targets in 2022. This data highlights that immunisation remains a top priority on the political agenda as well as a challenge, with country co-financing projected to substantially increase again, by more than 30%, in 2023.

This sustained commitment from countries has been key to programmatic impact: In 2022, the percentage of children receiving all three doses of diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTP3) – a key benchmark for basic protection – rose 3 percentage points to 81% across 57 Gavi implementing countries. Country ownership and sustainability are essential pillars of the Vaccine Alliance’s approach, which aims to support country systems on the pathway to self-sufficiency as economies develop and grow. Underpinning this are the economic returns from vaccination itself: the report highlights that immunisation programmes in lower-income countries supported by Gavi have generated more than US$ 220.5 billion in economic benefits since 2000.

Alongside these promising results, Gavi’s 2022 Annual Progress Report also sounds a strong note of caution of the challenges lower-income countries face in sustaining this progress. While moving in the right direction, routine immunisation coverage in Gavi implementing countries remains 2 percentage points lower than in 2019, the last year before the pandemic took its toll – and progress across countries and regions is uneven. Similarly, while the number of zero-dose children (those who have not received a single vaccine shot) dropped to 10.2 million in 2022, it is still higher than the estimated 9 million there were in 2019.

While acknowledging the multiple priorities countries are facing, the report also highlights that the toll of failing to consistently reach the most vulnerable communities will only get higher – warning that the impacts of climate change, conflict, migration and deforestation are already being felt, through an increasing number of infectious diseases outbreaks as well as a higher risk of future pandemics...
“The data reported in this year’s Annual Progress Report shows that immunisation really is a global success story in terms of the unprecedented levels of collaboration we are seeing to expand vaccinations, drive equity and build a long-term pathway towards sustainability,” said David Marlow, CEO of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. “At the same time, we must not lose sight of the challenges ahead, as countries face a very uncertain future as a result of deteriorating economic conditions, an uncertain geopolitical outlook and the impact of climate change among other factors. The need for continued collaboration and innovation, today, is greater than ever.”

Other highlights relating to Gavi’s 4 strategic goals of the 2021-2025 period include:

**Goal 1: Introduce and scale up vaccines** – With the addition of COVID-19 and malaria vaccines during the current strategic period, the Gavi portfolio now offers countries vaccines against 19 infectious diseases. Alongside the rebound in DTP3 vaccination, Gavi countries also saw strong gains in coverage of the third dose of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV3), which climbed to 70% in 2022 after stagnating for three years at 56%. Coverage of the last dose in the schedule of human papillomavirus vaccine (HPVC) also reached 10%, as five more countries adopted it into their national immunisation plans.

*Warning sign:* The increasing occurrence of outbreaks of infectious diseases in countries where they have not been detected for many years, if ever, is making detection and response much more challenging. In 2022, only 18% of all globally supported outbreak responses were judged to have met the criteria for timely detection and response, down from 28% in 2021.

**Goal 2: Strengthen health systems to scale up equity in immunisation** – With DTP3 coverage increasing and number of zero-dose children reducing (see above), the direction of travel when it comes to equity is encouraging. Health systems have also been incredibly effective in making the best of limited resources: in 2022, health systems reached 68 million unique children with Gavi-supported routine vaccines, administering 9% more routine doses than in 2019. Importantly, children in Gavi-supported countries are now better protected than children in other countries against ten preventable diseases (56% versus 53%) -- Gavi’s measure of "breadth of protection"., an important metric guiding the Alliance’s work.

*Warning sign:* While Gavi implementing countries reached roughly the same number of children with routine vaccines as in 2019, coverage did not fully return to 2019 levels due to population growth, particularly in Africa. 9 million more babies are being born each year in Gavi implementing countries than in 2000. This population growth highlights the scale of the challenge facing health systems if they are to restore coverage levels to and beyond pre-pandemic levels. The report also highlights that coverage also remains uneven across and within countries. Gavi tracks “geographic equity” by looking at DTP3 coverage rates in the lowest coverage districts in each country – in these areas DTP3 held steady in 2022 at 62%, but this is still lower than in 2019, where average coverage was 67%.

“The global rebound in immunisation is encouraging, and a tribute to those who have worked so hard to restore life-saving immunisation services with now three years of lower coverage compared to pre-pandemic levels,” said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General. “But global and regional averages don’t tell the whole story, and they mask severe and persistent inequities. When countries and regions lag, children pay the price. We are proud to work with Gavi to make sure that every child benefits from the life-saving power of vaccines.”

“Countries have worked hard over the past year to reverse the historic backsliding in routine immunisation, but the job isn’t done yet,” said UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell. “There are still many countries that have yet to recover the ground they lost during
the pandemic, leaving vulnerable children at the mercy of preventable diseases such as polio and HPV. In some low-income contexts, we are even seeing a decline in coverage rates, especially for measles vaccination. We must double down on our efforts to reach every child. The recovery has started, now let’s make sure it’s equitable and durable.”

**Goal 3: Improve sustainability of immunisation programmes** – The Alliance model is built to be catalytic – leveraging and strengthening country systems through supporting country ownership of immunization programs. Despite having to contend with rising debt levels as well as the impact of climate change, the war in Ukraine and other global shocks, in 2022 Gavi countries continued to demonstrate strong commitment to sustainability and country ownership of vaccination programmes. Alongside the record US$162 million in co-financing contributions in 2022 (see above), the number of vaccine programmes originally introduced with Gavi funding that are now fully self-financed reached 54 in 2022, up from 40 in 2018.

*Warning sign:* With countries facing challenges on multiple fronts – pandemic recovery, inflation, debt, conflict, climate and population growth to name a few – even relatively stronger economies at the final stages of transition out of Gavi support may struggle to co-finance programs. In order to reduce the risk of unsuccessful transition for those countries on a pathway towards becoming fully self-sufficient, the Gavi Board in December 2022 agreed to extend the accelerated transition phase from five to eight years, alongside other measures.

**Goal 4: Ensure healthy markets for vaccines and related products** – Healthy immunisation programmes require healthy vaccine production ecosystems to support them. In 2022, Gavi met its target of having at least ten of its vaccine markets assessed as “healthy”. Meanwhile, Gavi’s pipeline of innovative new products grew from two to nine in 2022, including five using microarray patch (MAP) technology – a needle-free means of vaccine delivery that could bring huge benefits in terms of usability.

*Warning sign:* While the number of manufacturers supplying pre-qualified Gavi-supported vaccines has grown from 5 in 2001 to 19 in 2022, some regions – in particular, Africa – remained critically under-served. Gavi published a white paper in 2022 outlining plans to expand sustainable vaccine manufacturing in Africa and has begun urgently working with the African Union, Africa Centres for Disease Control (CDC), donors, and partners to address this imbalance.

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**Top donor Germany signs major contribution to WHO for health emergencies; signs host agreement for WHO pandemic hub**

28 September 2023  WHO Departmental news

Germany deepened its longstanding engagement with WHO on Thursday with **two new agreements: one to contribute a further €40 million to WHO’s work in health emergencies, and a second to host the Berlin-based WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence.** With the new contribution, Germany has provided €53.5 million so far this year to support WHO’s response to more than 50 active health emergencies.

“This is important because climate disasters, conflicts, and the ongoing pandemic demand urgent action,” said Susanne Baumann, State Secretary of the Federal Foreign Office for Germany (GFFO), whose delegation met with WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. “Our support is flexible and vital for saving lives around the globe.”...
Germany is an all-time top donor to WHO’s Contingency Fund for Emergencies (CFE), having contributed €115 million since the CFE’s inception in 2015. The contributions have made a significant impact on the health of people caught up in humanitarian crises; this year alone, CFE funding allowed WHO to bring immediate, lifesaving support to victims of floods in Libya, conflict in Sudan, cholera and diphtheria outbreaks, and earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria...

Thursday’s meeting also featured the signing of a host agreement for the WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence. The Hub was established with Germany’s support in Berlin in September 2021 to provide the world with better data, analytics and decisions to detect and respond to health emergencies...

WHO - Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE) - September 2023
25 – 29 September 2023
- Draft agenda
- Declaration of interests
- SAGE Yellow Book - September 2023

Featured Journal Content

medRxiv
https://www.medrxiv.org/content/about-medrxiv
[Accessed 30 Sep 2023]
[Filter: All articles]
Selected Research
Research ethics review during the COVID-19 pandemic: An international study
Fabio Salamanca-Buentello, Rachel Katz, Diego S. Silva, Ross E.G. Upshur, Maxwell J. Smith

ABSTRACT

Research ethics review committees (ERCs) worldwide faced daunting challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. There was a need to balance rapid turnaround with rigorous evaluation of high-risk research protocols in the context of considerable uncertainty. This study explored the experiences and performance of ERCs during the pandemic.

We conducted an anonymous, cross-sectional, global online survey of chairs (or their delegates) of ERCs who were involved in the review of COVID-19-related research protocols after March 2020. The survey ran from October 2022 to February 2023 and consisted of 50 items, with opportunities for open text responses.

Two hundred and three participants [130 from high-income countries (HICs) and 73 from low-and middle-income countries (LMICs)] completed our survey. Respondents came from diverse entities and organizations from 48 countries (19 HICs and 29 LMICs) in all World Health Organization regions. Responses show little of the increased global funding for COVID-19 research was allotted to the operation of ERCs. Few ERCs had pre-existing internal policies to address operation during public health emergencies, but almost half used existing guidelines. Most ERCs modified existing procedures or designed and implemented new ones but had not evaluated the success of these changes. Participants overwhelmingly endorsed permanently implementing several of them. Few ERCs added new members but non-member experts were consulted; quorum was generally achieved. Collaboration among ERCs was infrequent, but reviews conducted by external ERCs were
recognized and validated. Review volume increased during the pandemic, with COVID-19-related studies being prioritized. Most protocol reviews were reported as taking less than three weeks. One-third of respondents reported external pressure on their ERCs from different stakeholders to approve or reject specific COVID-19-related protocols.

ERC members faced significant challenges to keep their committees functioning during the pandemic. Our findings can inform ERC approaches towards future public health emergencies. To our knowledge, this is the first international, COVID-19-related study of its kind.

Understanding the Global Gain-of-Function Research Landscape

Caroline Schuerger, Steph Batalis, atherine Quinn, Ronnie Kinoshita, Owen Daniels, Anna Puglisi

CSET [Center for Security and Emerging Technology - Georgetown University Walsh School of Foreign Service

August 2023


Gain- and loss-of-function research have contributed to breakthroughs in vaccine development, genetic research, and gene therapy. At the same time, a subset of gain- and loss-of-function studies involve high-risk, highly virulent pathogens that could spread widely among humans if deliberately or unintentionally released. In this report, we map the gain- and loss-of-function global research landscape using a quantitative approach that combines machine learning with subject-matter expert review.

Executive Summary

Gain-of-function (GOF) and loss-of-function (LOF) research are two valuable methodologies that allow scientists to study pathogens. These interconnected research approaches alter pathogens’ genomes to add or subtract functionality, allowing scientists to examine and better understand how pathogens function and develop new vaccines and therapies.

Despite its widely recognized value for science, gain-of-function research has attracted attention and concern from U.S. policymakers due to what some see as inherent risks in this methodology, particularly following the outbreak and debated origins of the COVID-19 pandemic. The risk that gain-of-function research could inadvertently contribute to pandemics or widespread illness has sparked discussion about new regulations. LOF research results in weakened pathogens—and thus does not impart the same risks as GOF research—and is rarely mentioned in policy debates in the same way as GOF research.

In this report, we map the gain- and loss-of-function global research landscape using a quantitative approach that combines machine learning with subject-matter expert review. We identify about 7,000 PubMed research papers related to our criteria for GOF and LOF research, published between 2000 and mid-2022. Our research shows that GOF and LOF research are intertwined; they are conducted using the same experimental procedures and thus would both be impacted by any future regulations. As such, throughout this report, the two types of research are often discussed in tandem. Our aim is to help policymakers understand the research landscape in order to more effectively mitigate risks without impacting beneficial GOF and LOF research.
Public Consultation

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.

Polio – PHEIC

Polio this week as of 27 Sep 2023 - GPEI

Headlines [Selected]
:: The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust announced a US$3 million grant to support the GPEI. The contribution is intended to help vaccinate nearly 370 million children against polio annually for the next four years among other programmatic goals. Read more...
:: nOPV2 rollout: Approximately 750 million doses of nOPV2 have been administered across 35 countries under its WHO Emergency Use Listing (EUL) to date. An additional 15 countries have met the requirements for nOPV2 use in the event of an outbreak. Visit the nOPV2 webpage for more information.

Summary of new polioviruses this week, cases and positive environmental isolates:
- DR Congo: six cVDPV1 cases, three cVDPV2 cases and four positive environmental samples
- Guinea: four cVDPV2 cases
- Kenya: one cVDPV2 positive environmental sample
- Nigeria: five cVDPV2 cases and six cVDPV2 positive environmental samples
- Somalia: one cVDPV2 case

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 :: 770 875 433
Confirmed deaths :: 6 959 316
COVID-19 Epidemiological Update - 29 September 2023

Overview
Globally, the number of new cases decreased by 55% during the 28-day period of 28 August to 24 September 2023 as compared to the previous 28-day period, with over 685 000 new cases reported. The number of new deaths decreased by 34% as compared to the previous 28-day period, with over 1900 new fatalities reported. As of 24 September 2023, over 770 million confirmed cases and over 6 million deaths have been reported globally...

Our World in Data

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Vaccinations  [Accessed 30 Sep 2023]
- 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
On 22 September, alongside the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, WHO hosted the event "Building a Common Safer Future: Timely and Equitable Access to Medical Countermeasures (MCMs) Against Pandemic Threats" in New York City. The event was attended by a total of 215 participants, comprising 107 in person and 108 via live stream. The attendees included 21 ministers, representatives from 40 Member States, civil societies, global health partners, and private sector. Furthermore, 11 institutions such as the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), GAVI, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI), the Medical Technology Platform (MTP), the Global Fund, the World Bank, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and Unitaid were also represented.

The aim of the event was to harness collective wisdom to collaboratively shape a more secure future. Ministers, civil society representatives, and other officials actively exchanged viewpoints on tangible actions to ensure future access to medical countermeasures. Participants expressed enthusiasm for the interim mechanism being developed by WHO to foster convergence, inclusiveness, and coherence in a complex MCM landscape...
Launch of WHO tool for benchmarking ethics oversight of health-related research involving human participants

WHO Regional Offices
Selected Press Releases, Announcements

WHO African Region
:: Enhancing polio vaccination campaign quality in Madagascar 22 September 2023

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO
:: 28 Sep 2023
At PAHO's 60th Directing Council, health authorities of the Americas agree to take urgent action to recuperate gains lost during COVID-19 pandemic

Washington D.C. 28 September 2023 – The 60th Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization, which was convened in the United States capital from 25-28 September, concluded today. During the meeting, ministers and high-level health authorities from the Americas, adopted 12 resolutions to strengthen health policies in the Americas and...

:: 28 Sep 2023
PAHO Director calls for urgent actions to reduce health inequities in the Americas

Washington, D.C., September 28, 2023 — While countries of the Americas have adopted mandates to improve health equity, progress has been “limited and slow,” warned Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) Director, Dr Jarbas Barbosa. Countries must implement “urgent actions” to accelerate the reduction of health inequities, particularly given the...

:: 28 Sep 2023
Countries discuss progress in access to sexual and reproductive health in the Americas

Washington, DC, September 28, 2023 (PAHO) — During the 60th Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), health authorities from countries in the Americas approved a report on access to sexual and reproductive health in the region. The document presents the current status of sexual and reproductive health (SHR)...

:: 26 Sep 2023
PAHO gives new impetus to initiative to eliminate more than 30 communicable diseases following negative impact of COVID-19 pandemic

Washington, DC, 26 September 2023 (PAHO)- The Pan American Health Organization's (PAHO) Elimination Initiative, which seeks to put an end to more than 30 communicable diseases and related conditions in Latin America and the Caribbean, received new impetus today at a session held on the sidelines of the 60th Directing Council of the regional public...

25 Sep 2023
PAHO Director's Annual Report highlights lessons learned from the pandemic

Washington, DC, September 25, 2023 (PAHO)- At the opening of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) 60th Directing Council, Director Jarbas Barbosa presented the organization's annual report, which summarizes the technical cooperation provided to member countries, and underlines the lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts...

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO
No new digest content identified.

WHO European Region EURO
:: 29 September 2023  News release
Kyrgyzstan: strengthening primary health care financing for better health
:: 27 September 2023  News release
Uzbekistan hosts central Asia’s health leaders at Samarkand TB Summit ahead of UN high-level meeting
:: 27 September 2023 News release
Second round of SARS-CoV-2 External Quality Assessment (EQA) Programme for National and Subnational Laboratories
:: 26 September 2023 News release
Measles and rubella vaccine arrives in Kyrgyzstan to help stop measles outbreak

WHO Western Pacific Region
No new digest content identified.

Disease Outbreak News (DONs)
Latest WHO Disease Outbreak News (DONs), providing information on confirmed acute public health events or potential events of concern.
No new activity reported.

Weekly Epidemiological Record
Vol. 98, No. 39, pp. 453–470
29 September 2023
PDF: https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/373063/WER9839-eng-fre.pdf
Contents
453 Progress in eliminating onchocerciasis in the WHO Region of the Americas: Advances towards interrupting the transmission of onchocerciasis from the latest preliminary serological assessments conducted in parts of the Yanomami Focus Area, 2018–2022
457 Control of epidemic meningitis in countries in the African meningitis belt, 2022

New WHO Publications
https://www.who.int/publications/i
Selected
5 October 2023
Sanitation and hygiene: training for health care providers, 3rd ed

29 September 2023
Mekong Malaria Elimination: epidemiology summary, volume 22, April–June 2023

29 September 2023
Mongolia COVID-19 vaccines post-introduction evaluation (cPIE), 19-30 September 2022

25 September 2023
Annexes to the recommendations for use of the Biological E Limited’s Corbevax (BECOV-2) vaccine against...

25 September 2023
WHO tool for benchmarking ethics oversight of health-related research involving human participants: userguide
Overview
Jointly developed by WHO’s Regulatory System Strengthening, Regulation and Safety Unit and the Health Ethics & Governance Unit, it is intended to assist countries in evaluating their capacity to provide appropriate ethical oversight of health-related research. In addition to assisting in capacity-building efforts, the tool is intended to promote policy convergence and best practices in research ethics oversight, to enhance public trust in health research, and to ensure that the rights and safety of humans involved in health-related research are adequately protected, both in ordinary times and during public health emergencies.

PDF: https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/373001/9789240080713-eng.pdf?sequence=1

25 September 2023
WHO tool for benchmarking ethics oversight of health-related research involving human participants

Overview
Jointly developed by WHO’s Regulatory System Strengthening, Regulation and Safety Unit and the Health Ethics & Governance Unit, it is intended to assist countries in evaluating their capacity to provide appropriate ethical oversight of health-related research. In addition to assisting in capacity-building efforts, the tool is intended to promote policy convergence and best practices in research ethics oversight, to enhance public trust in health research, and to ensure that the rights and safety of humans involved in health-related research are adequately protected, both in ordinary times and during public health emergencies.

PDF: https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/372984/9789240076426-eng.pdf?sequence=1

USA – HHS, FDA, CDC

HHS
News
No new digest content identified.

FDA
Press Announcements
September 29, 2023 - FDA Launches Pilot Program to Help Further Accelerate Development of Rare Disease Therapies

FDA VRBPAC
Advisory Committee Calendar
Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee Meeting October 5, 2023 Announcement - 10/05/2023

CDC/ACIP [U.S.] [to 30 Sep 2023]
http://www.cdc.gov/media/index.html
Latest News Releases
No new digest content identified.

ACIP Meetings
Next ACIP Meeting
Most recent meeting: September 22, 2023
No future meeting dates identified.

MMWR Weekly
COVID-19 Vaccination Recommendations and Practices for Women of Reproductive Age by Health Care Providers — Fall DocStyles Survey, United States, 2022
- Influenza, Tdap, and COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage and Hesitancy Among Pregnant Women — United States, April 2023
- ACIP Updates: Recommendations for Use of 20-Valent Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine in Children — United States, 2023

Europe

European Medicines Agency [EMA]
News & Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control
https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en
News/Updates/Reports [Selected]
News
ECDC proposes targeted human testing for avian flu in areas with ongoing outbreaks
News - 29 Sep 2023

Weekly COVID-19 country overview
Epidemiological update - 28 Sep 2023

Africa CDC [to 30 Sep 2023]
http://www.africacdc.org/
Press Releases, Statements [Selected]
Africa CDC Statement on Revital Healthcare EPZ Ltd. Achieving WHO Prequalification For Early-Activation Auto-Disable Syringe
29 September 2023
The Africa Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (Africa CDC) proudly commends Revital Healthcare EPZ Ltd for achieving a significant milestone in African manufacturing excellence. This year, Revital Healthcare EPZ Ltd. became the first African company to be granted Pre-Qualification (PQ) status by the World Health Organization (WHO) for their early activation auto-disable (AD) syringe.
While eight manufacturers worldwide have WHO PQ status for this product, Revital Healthcare EPZ Ltd. stands as the first and only African producer. This milestone is expected to revolutionize the healthcare landscape in Africa by reducing average syringe transport times by up to 80-90%, crucial for rapid outbreak responses and timely immunization campaigns. Revital is now poised to produce over 300 million AD syringes annually, strengthening Africa’s healthcare infrastructure and securing the supply of essential medical equipment on the continent...

Blog Posts

World Rabies Day 2023 Campaign: “All for 1 One Health for All”
28 September 2023

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

National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China [to 30 Sep 2023]
http://en.nhc.gov.cn/
News
No new digest content identified.

National Medical Products Administration – PRC [to 30 Sep 2023]
http://english.nmpa.gov.cn/
News
NMPA holds training on internal review of vaccine regulatory quality management system
2023-09-28
The National Medical Products Administration (NMPA) held a training on the internal review of vaccine regulatory quality management system in Beijing from Sept 18 to 19 to cultivate more internal review professionals.

China CDC Weekly Reports: Current Volume (5)
2023-09-29 / No. 39 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS ISSUE
View PDF of this issue

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Organization Announcements

Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://alleninstitute.org/news-press/
News
Projects launch to map brain connections in mouse and macaque
09.26.2023
NIH BRAIN Initiative-funded research will lay the groundwork to map entire brains in incredible detail

BMGF - Gates Foundation  [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://www.gatesfoundation.org/ideas/media-center
Press Releases and Statements
No new digest content identified.

Bill & Melinda Gates Medical Research Institute  [to 30 Sep 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 30 Sep 2023]
https://carb-x.org/
News
No new digest content identified.

Center for Vaccine Ethics and Policy – GE2P2 Global Foundation  [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://centerforvaccineethicsandpolicy.net/
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 – Sep 07 2023 – Issue 07

CEPI – Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations  [to 30 Sep 2023]
http://cepi.net/
Latest News
CEPI and Global Affairs Canada deepen collaboration to strengthen international biosecurity and advance the 100 Days Mission
Partnership will will support CEPI’s continued work to manage the inherent biological security risks of the 21st century
28 Sep 2023
The Viral Most Wanted: The Flavivirus Family
Join CEPI’s disease detectives in exploring a viral family that has plagued us for centuries: from the historical ravages of Yellow Fever, to the rapidly-spreading modern-day epidemics of Dengue. Meet the Flaviviruses.
28 Sep 2023
**The Viral Most Wanted: The Paramyxovirus Family**
This viral family contains several prolific killers: it has spawned not only Measles, the world’s most contagious human disease, but also Nipah, one of the deadliest diseases known to humanity. Meet the Paramyxoviruses.

27 Sep 2023
**Unmasking Nipah virus on a worldwide quest for insight and defence**
Dr Syed M Satter, Associate Scientist and Lead, Emerging Pathogen Research Group, icddr,b, Bangladesh, explores the crucial role of epidemiology on the quest to develop a Nipah virus vaccine.

**CIOMS – COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF MEDICAL SCIENCES** [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://cioms.ch/
*News; Publications; Events*
**CIOMS September 2023 Newsletter**
The CIOMS September 2023 Newsletter is available [here](https://cioms.ch/).

**DARPA – Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency [U.S.]** [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://www.darpa.mil/news
*News*
No new digest content identified.

**Duke Global Health Innovation Center** [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://dukeghic.org/
*News*
No new digest content identified.

**EDCTP** [to 30 Sep 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
No new digest content identified.

**Emory Vaccine Center** [to 30 Sep 2023]
http://www.vaccines.emory.edu/
*Vaccine Center News*
No new digest content identified.

**European Vaccine Initiative** [to 30 Sep 2023]
http://www.euvaccine.eu/
*Latest News, Events*
No new digest content identified.
Evidence Aid  [to 30 Sep 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]
The concept of resilient health systems (multiple reviews)
Added September 26, 2023

Fondation Merieux  [to 30 Sep 2023]
http://www.fondation-merieux.org/

News, Events
Lessons from COVID-19 vaccine introduction: The current state of behavioral & social determinants of vaccination
October 30 - November 1, 2023 - Les Pensières, Center for Global Health, Veyrier-du-Lac (France)
Context
The Mérieux Foundation’s Vaccine Acceptance Event Series aims to:
:: Establish and maintain dialogue and increase multi-sectoral efforts.
:: Promote vaccination acceptance, understand trust bubbles and strengthen the resilience of immunization programs widely affected globally facing important challenges during the pandemic of coronavirus disease 2019, or COVID-19.

Gavi [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://www.gavi.org/

News Releases
28 September 2023
New data highlights rebound in routine immunisation underpinned by record domestic funding; warns of challenges ahead

GHIT Fund  [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://www.ghitfund.org/newsroom/press
Press Releases
September 27, 2023
Approximately USD 8 million Investment for New Vaccine and Drug Development against Malaria in Sumitomo Pharma, Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma and new product development in NTDs

Global Fund  [to 30 Sep 2023]
News & Stories
29 September 2023
Global Fund Support for PrEP Ring Ushers in New Era for Women and HIV Prevention in South Africa
Three key organizations involved in preventing and responding to HIV in South Africa – AIDS Foundation of South Africa, Beyond Zero, and Networking HIV & AIDS Community of Southern Africa – have placed an initial order of 16,000 dapivirine vaginal ri...
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:
HSA, Singapore - Deadline for comments by 30 September 2023
Health Canada, Canada - Deadline for comments by 20 October 2023

**ICRC** [to 30 Sep 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 30 Sep 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 30 Sep 2023]
Press Documents
Press release 28.09.2023
**Malaria: treatment of Plasmodium falciparum malaria patients under threat in the Horn of Africa**
Diagnosis of Plasmodium falciparum malaria using rapid diagnostic tests and treatment with artemisinin derivatives, the...

**ISC / International Science Council** [to 30 Sep 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/
**IVAC**  [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/ivac/index.html

Updates; Events
No new digest content identified.

**IVI**  [to 30 Sep 2023]
hhttp://www.ivi.int/

**IVI News & Announcements**

**Growing and building together for sustainable vaccine manufacturing in Africa**
In a united effort to ensure sustainable vaccine manufacturing in Africa, an IVI delegation, led by Director General Dr. Jerome Kim and Deputy DG Dr. Florian Marks, had an official visit to Ghana from August 28th to 30th, 2023.
Sep 15, 2023

**Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security**  [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://www.centerforhealthsecurity.org/news/center-news/

**Center News [Selected]**
September 29, 2023

**Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security Launches a New Project to Support CDC in Facilitating Regional Public Health Preparedness Efforts**
A contract has been awarded to the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Office of Readiness and Response (ORR) to prepare a workplan for the establishment of a network of regional Centers for Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (PHEPR).

**MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières**  [to 30 Sep 2023]
http://www.msf.org/

**Latest [Selected Announcements]**

**Conflict in Sudan**

**Overwhelming needs in White Nile as conflict pushes people to limit**
Voices from the Field 28 Sep 2023

**Armenia**

**Nagorno Karabakh: MSF prepares to respond to people fleeing to Armenia**
Press Release 27 Sep 2023

**Libya**

**Mental health support needed after Storm Daniel destroys Derna**
Interview 27 Sep 2023

**Ethiopia**

**Two decades of combatting the world’s most neglected diseases**
Project Update 26 Sep 2023
Robert Califf Receives Lienhard Award From National Academy of Medicine for Leadership in Clinical Trial and Health Outcomes Research
September 28, 2023
The National Academy of Medicine (NAM) today announced that Robert Califf is the recipient of the 2023 Gustav O. Lienhard Award for Advancement of Health Care, for his instrumental role leading clinical trials and health outcomes research and his ability to translate research into advances in science, evidence-based medicine, and improved public health.

Team from Center for Vaccine Development at Texas Children’s Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine Receives Hamburg Award From National Academy of Medicine for Developing Safe, Effective, and Affordable COVID-19 Vaccine Technology
September 28, 2023
The National Academy of Medicine (NAM) today announced that a team from the Center for Vaccine Development (CVD) at Texas Children’s Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine is the recipient of the 2023 David and Beatrix Hamburg Award for Advances in Biomedical Research and Clinical Medicine for developing a safe, effective, and affordable recombinant protein-based COVID-19 vaccine technology. The award, which recognizes the group’s achievements with a medal and $50,000, will be presented at the NAM’s annual meeting on Oct. 8.

Team leaders and co-directors of the Texas Children’s Center for Vaccine Development Peter J. Hotez, MD, PhD, dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine, and Maria Elena Bottazzi, PhD, senior associate dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine, will accept the award on behalf of the team.

Additional members of the CVD team recognized include:
- Wen-Hsiang Chen, PhD, assay development and quality control unit leader and assistant professor in pediatric tropical medicine at Baylor College of Medicine
- Jason Kimata, PhD, genetic engineering unit leader and associate professor of molecular virology and microbiology at Baylor College of Medicine
- Jungsoon Lee, PhD, process development unit leader and tropical medicine research director at Baylor College of Medicine
- Zhuyun Liu, MS, process development unit leader and tropical medicine research director at Baylor College of Medicine
- Jeroen Pollet, PhD, formulation and delivery unit leader and assistant professor of pediatric tropical medicine at Baylor College of Medicine
- Bin Zhan, MD, molecular biology unit leader and associate professor of pediatric tropical medicine at Baylor College of Medicine

Fall 2023 Vaccination Strategies — New Expert Consultation
Media Advisory | September 27, 2023
This fall is the first time that vaccines for three respiratory illnesses — COVID-19, the seasonal flu, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) — will be available simultaneously. This convergence demands a comprehensive and coordinated strategy that provides clear, transparent information on each vaccine’s unique characteristics, says a new rapid expert consultation from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

In addition to improving communication, the consultation says, vaccination strategies can address challenges to accessing vaccines — such as lack of transportation or language barriers —
particularly among marginalized communities, which bear a disproportionate health burden of these
diseases.

Trust in vaccines can be fostered by acknowledging and working to address structural inequalities,
engaging with communities in a culturally responsive manner, and implementing community-based
initiatives. Collaboration with trusted community leaders and health care providers can build vaccine
confidence among historically marginalized populations.

While many vaccination strategies apply to all three illnesses, the consultation says each has
distinct characteristics that warrant some different areas of emphasis in public communication.
- COVID-19: There is a need to communicate the value and benefit of the updated COVID-19
  vaccine, including what it is for and why individuals should get it, as well as what efforts have
  been made to facilitate easier access to the shot since the end of the COVID-19 Public Health
  Emergency.
- Flu: Emphasis on how to get the flu shot, communicating the associated risks and benefits, and
  reinforcing why people should get vaccinated are important.
- RSV: The RSV vaccine is new, and there is a need to educate the public about what it is for, how
  to get it, and why they should get it, as well as to report on its safety and efficacy.

DETAILS: Promoting Uptake of COVID-19, Flu, and RSV Vaccine for Fall 2023 is available for
immediate release.

National Vaccine Program Office - U.S. HHS [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://www.hhs.gov/vaccines/about/index.html
Upcoming Meetings/Latest Updates
No new digest content identified.

NIH [to 30 Sep 2023]
http://www.nih.gov/
News Releases
SARS-CoV-2 infects coronary arteries, increases plaque inflammation
September 28, 2023 — NIH-funded research sheds light on link between COVID-19 infection and
increased risk of cardiovascular disease and stroke.

NIH launches community-led research program to advance health equity
September 27, 2023 — Awards to community organizations will enable examination of structural
drivers of health.

Combined, high maternal stress and prenatal COVID-19 infection may affect attention
span in infants
September 27, 2023 — NIH-funded study identifies managing maternal stress as a possible way to
lessen impacts of prenatal infection on infant socioemotional and cognitive development.
development since 2004.

PATH [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://www.path.org/media-center/
Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

Rockefeller Foundation [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://www.rockefellerfoundation.org/
Selected Reports/Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

**Sabin Vaccine Institute** [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://www.sabin.org/press/

**Latest News & Press Releases**
**Sabin Vaccine Institute and Indonesia Sign Agreement to Develop and Operationalize Cervical Cancer Elimination Strategy**
September 28, 2023
Indonesia’s Ministry of Health and the Sabin Vaccine Institute have entered into a three-year agreement to collaborate on cervical cancer prevention and elimination strategy for Indonesia.

**UNAIDS** [to 30 Sep 2023]
http://www.unaids.org/en

**Selected Press Releases/Reports/Statements**
**Press release**
**UNAIDS’ key takeaways from the 78th United Nations General Assembly**
GENEVA, 29 September 2023—The topic of the global AIDS response—including its successes and invaluable lessons for handling pandemics—permeated many discussions during last week’s United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York. From three High-Level meetings on health, to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Summit to remarks given to the General Assembly and at High-Level Side events, the lessons from 40 years of responding to HIV—including the principle of leaving no one behind—were repeatedly referenced in the context of a future of health and equality for all.

**UNICEF** [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://www.unicef.org/media/press-releases

**Latest press releases, news notes and statements**
**Press release**
**Number of unaccompanied children crossing deadly Central Mediterranean Sea migration route to Italy increases by 60 per cent — UNICEF**
GENEVA/ROME, 29 September 2023 – More than 11,600 children crossed the Central Mediterranean Sea to Italy without their parents or legal guardians between January and mid-September 2023. This is an increase of 60 per cent compared to the same period last year, where around 7,200 unaccompanied or separated children made the perilous crossing.…

**Press release** 28 September 2023
**DR Congo: Children killed, injured, abducted, and face sexual violence in conflict at record levels for third consecutive year – UNICEF**
GOMA, Democratic Republic of the Congo, 28 September 2023 – The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is on track to have record levels of verified grave violations against children for a third consecutive year in 2023. Intensifying violence, massive displacement, and proximity of armed groups to communities are leading to an alarming increase in...
More than 16,000 children are displaced following Libya floods - UNICEF

NEW YORK/AMMAN/TRIPOLI, 28 September 2023 – More than 16,000 children are displaced in eastern Libya following Africa’s deadliest storm in recorded history, UNICEF warned today. Their psychosocial wellbeing is at stake. Many more children are affected due to lack of

**Unitaid** [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://unitaid.org/
*Featured News*
29 September 2023

**Johnson & Johnson pricing agreement for critical TB drug still unfairly restricts access in countries where the need is greatest**

Open letter from Unitaid’s Executive Director calls on the drug company to drop secondary patents for the drug-resistant TB (DR-TB) medicine bedaquiline, and to make negotiated rates available to all countries, regardless of how they purchase drugs.

**Vaccine Equity Cooperative [nee Initiative]** [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://vaccineequitycooperative.org/news/
*News*
*No new digest content identified.*

**Vaccination Acceptance & Demand Initiative [Sabin]** [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://www.vaccineacceptance.org/
*Announcements, Blog*
*No new digest content identified.*

**Vaccine Confidence Project** [to 30 Sep 2023]
http://www.vaccineconfidence.org/
*News, Research and Reports*
*No new digest content identified.*

**Vaccine Education Center – Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia** [to 30 Sep 2023]
http://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center
*News*
**Vaccine Update for Providers**
September 2023
Announcements: Updated Q&As, Spanish infographic, visit us at AAP, September webinar recording, and college health & vaccine policy

**Wellcome Trust** [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://wellcome.ac.uk/news
*News, Opinion, Reports*
*No new digest content identified.*
The Wistar Institute  [to 30 Sep 2023]
Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

World Bank  [to 015 Oct 2022]
All News [Selected]
No new digest content identified.

WFPHA: World Federation of Public Health Associations  [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://www.wfpha.org/
Latest News - Blog
No new digest content identified.

World Medical Association [WMA]  [to 30 Sep 2023]
Press Releases
Educating for a Rabies-Free World: ‘All for 1, One Health for all’
28.09.2023
Rabies, a global threat endangering approximately 4.6 billion people, poses a significant threat, with children disproportionately affected.

The World Veterinary Association (WVA) and the World Medical Association (WMA) emphasize the critical importance of incorporating rabies education within the school curricula. Rabies, particularly when transmitted through dog bites, predominantly impacts marginalized populations in resource-poor regions. Tragically, a large majority of these fatalities could be prevented if more than 70 percent of dogs were vaccinated, and if prompt wound washing and post-exposure treatment were administered to bite victims. While the tools to combat rabies are readily available, their effective implementation remains a challenge.

By imparting knowledge to children about the risks associated with rabies and the essential preventive measures, we can empower the next generation to safeguard themselves and their communities...

World Organisation for Animal Health  [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://www.oie.int/en/
Press Releases, Statements
No new digest content identified.

::::::::::

ARM [Alliance for Regenerative Medicine]  [to 30 Sep 2023]
Selected Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

BIO  [to 30 Sep 2023]
**DCVMN – Developing Country Vaccine Manufacturers Network**  [to 30 Sep 2023]
http://www.dcvmn.org/
News: Upcoming events
No new digest content identified.

**ICBA – International Council of Biotechnology Associations**  [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://internationalbiotech.org/news/
News
No new digest content identified.

**IFPMA**  [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://ifpma.org/
Selected Press Releases/Statements
Statement 26 Sep 2023
**IFPMA and industry leaders applaud 10 years of collective action on ethics and business integrity in APEC region**
Washington, D.C. and Geneva, 26 September 2023: This week, IFPMA joins hundreds of stakeholders from across economies in the Asia-Pacific at the APEC Business Ethics for SMEs Forum to recognize and applaud progress made by the initiative in the past decade to advance business ethics in the medical device and biopharmaceutical sectors in the region....

Statement 25 Sep 2023
**IFPMA statement at PAHO 60th Directing Council – Agenda item 4.4**
On 25 September 2023 in Washington, DC, USA, IFPMA submitted a statement at the 60th Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) on agenda item 4.4: Policy on Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases in Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults.

**International Alliance of Patients’ Organizations – IAPO**  [to 30 Sep 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 30 Sep 2023]
http://www.phrma.org/
Press Releases
No new digest announcements identified

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

AstraZeneca
Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

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
28 September 2023
Pfizer and BioNTech Receive Health Canada Authorization for XBB.1.5-Adapted Monovalent COVID-19 Vaccine

Boehringer
Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

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
Press Release September 28, 2023
CureVac Reports Progress in Intellectual Property Infringement Case Against BioNTech in Germany

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

GSK
Press releases for media
27 September 2023
GSK announces Wendy Becker to join the Board as Non-Executive Director
GSK has announced that Wendy Becker will join the Board of the Company as a Non-Executive Director with effect from 1 October 2023.

25 September 2023

Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare approves GSK’s Arexvy, the country’s first respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine for older adults

Arexvy’s approval will help protect adults 60 years of age and older in Japan from RSV disease for the first time

IMBCAMS, China
Home - Website not responding at inquiry

Janssen/JNJ
Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

Merck
News releases - No new digest announcements identified

Moderna
Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

Nanogen
News - No new digest announcements identified

Novartis
News - No new digest announcements identified

Novavax
Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

Pfizer
Recent Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

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

Sanofi Pasteur
Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

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

Sinopharm/WIBP BIBP
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  - No new digest announcements identified

Valneva
Press Releases  - No new digest announcements identified
September 25, 2023
Valneva Announces New IXIARO® Supply Contract with the U.S. Government Worth a Minimum of $32 Million
...Under this new one-year contract, the DoD will buy a minimum of $32 million worth of IXIARO® vaccines and has the possibility to purchase additional doses during the coming twelve months. Deliveries will commence immediately...

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

AJOB Empirical Bioethics
Volume 14, 2023  Issue 3
https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/uabr21/current
[Reviewed earlier]
All general medical, surgical, and psychiatric patients deserve palliative approaches to their care. Palliative psychiatry, especially, deserves clinical and ethical attention because of its promise as an emerging field renewing attention to patients whose illnesses—such as treatment resistant depression—and symptoms—such as persistent suicidality—challenge our faith in health care as a life-affirming source of hope. Responding with care to vulnerabilities and needs of these patients requires prioritizing symptom management, relieving suffering, focusing on quality of life, reducing harms of aggressive interventions, and minimizing use of physical or chemical force. This theme issue investigates how inquiry into palliative psychiatry can reinvigorate core philosophy of medicine investigations into what health care is for.
Assessment of immunization data management practices in Cameroon: unveiling potential barriers to immunization data quality

One crucial obstacle to attaining universal immunization coverage in Sub-Saharan Africa is the paucity of timely and high-quality data. This challenge, in part, stems from the fact that many frontline immunization programs lack adequate infrastructure, training, and resources to collect and manage data effectively. The study conducted in Cameroon aimed to assess the current state of immunization data management and identify key barriers to improving data quality.

Authors: Yauba Saidu, Jessica Gu, Budzi Michael Ngenge, Sangwe Clovis Nchinjoh, Amani Adidja, Nadege Edwidge Nnang, Nkwain Jude Muteh, Vouking Marius Zambou, Clarence Mbanga, Valirie Ndip Agbor, Diaby Ousmane, Andreas Ateke Njoh, Junie Flegere, Demba Diack, Owens Wiwa, Emmanuele Montomoli...

Citation: BMC Health Services Research 2023 23:1033
Content type: Research Published on: 27 September 2023

Addressing conflicts of interest regarding the vaccine in infectious disease outbreaks based on good governance for health approach: a policy brief

Infectious disease outbreaks pose a significant threat to public health, and achieving herd immunity highlights the importance of addressing conflicts of interest (COI) in vaccine development and policy-making. This policy brief highlights the need for transparent, accountable, and inclusive governance mechanisms to ensure that vaccine development, distribution, and use are guided by public health needs rather than commercial interests.

Authors: Nazanin Soleimani, Hamed Ghoshouni, Hakimeh Mostafavi, Mohammad Hossein Modiri, Mohammad Hasan Movahedian Attar and Seyed Masood Mousavi

Citation: BMC Health Services Research 2023 23:1028
Content type: Research Published on: 25 September 2023

Researching the future: scenarios to explore the future of human genome editing

Forward-looking, democratically oriented governance is needed to ensure that human genome editing serves rather than undercuts public values. Scientific, policy, and ethics communities have recognized this need to anticipate and prepare for future developments in genome editing.

Authors: Cynthia Selin, Lauren Lambert, Stephanie Morain, John P. Nelson, Dorit Barlevy, Mahmud Farooque, Haley Manley and Christopher T. Scott
Informed choice and routinization of the second-trimester anomaly scan: a national cohort study in the Netherlands

Since 2007 all pregnant women in the Netherlands are offered the second-trimester anomaly scan (SAS) in a nationwide prenatal screening program. This study aims to assess the level of informed choice of women...


The epidemiology of varicella and effectiveness of varicella vaccine in Ganyu, China: a long-term community surveillance study

The real-world data of long-term protection under moderate vaccination coverage is limited. This study aimed to evaluate varicella epidemiology and the long-term effectiveness under moderate coverage levels in...

Authors: Lingxian Qiu, Sheng Liu, Minglei Zhang, Guohua Zhong, Siying Peng, Jial Quan, Hongyan Lin, Xiaowen Hu, Kogxin Zhu, Xingcheng Huang, Junchao Peng, Yue Huang, Shoujie Huang, Ting Wu, Jinbo Xu, Zifang Dong...

Validation of the vaccination attitudes examination scale in a South African context in relation to the COVID-19 vaccine: quantifying dimensionality with bifactor indices

The COVID-19 pandemic represented a global public health emergency. Existing studies support the view that vaccination and mass immunization are among the most effective means of containing the outbreak and pr...

Authors: Anita Padmanabhanunni, Tyrone Brian Pretorius and Serena Ann Isaacs
Clinical Trials
Volume 20 Issue 5, October 2023
https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/ctja/20/5
[Reviewed earlier]

Conflict and Health
http://www.conflictandhealth.com/
[Accessed 30 Sep 2023]
[No new digest content identified]

Contemporary Clinical Trials
Volume 132 September 2023
[Reviewed earlier]

The CRISPR Journal
Volume 6, Issue 4 / August 2023
https://www.liebertpub.com/toc/crispr/6/4
[Reviewed earlier]

Current Genetic Medicine Reports
Volume 10, issue 3, September 2022
https://link.springer.com/journal/40142/volumes-and-issues/10-3
[Reviewed earlier]

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 30 Sep 2023]
[No new digest content identified]
Ethics & Human Research
Volume 45, Issue 4  Pages: 1-39  July–August 2023
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/25782363/current
Trust and HIV-transmission trials :: Translational science and public input
[Reviewed earlier]

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 29  August 2023
[Reviewed earlier]

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 2
http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/sfds20/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Genetics in Medicines
Volume 25, Issue 9  September 2023
[Reviewed earlier]
The barriers, facilitators and association of vaccine certificates on COVID-19 vaccine uptake: a scoping review
Authors: David T. Zhu, Mohamed Serhan, Salima S. Mithani, David Smith, Joyce Ang, Maya Thomas and Kumanan Wilson
Content type: Review 27 September 2023
Globally, COVID-19 vaccines have proven to be instrumental for promoting population health by reducing illness from SARS-CoV-2. Vaccine certificates emerged as a potentially promising solution for encouraging vaccination and facilitating the safe reopening of society, however, they were controversial due to criticisms of infringing upon individual rights. While there is extensive literature describing the ethical, legal, and public health implications of vaccine certificates, there is currently a gap in knowledge about the association of vaccine certificates on vaccine uptake during the COVID-19 pandemic and barriers and facilitators to their use.
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 7, August 2023
https://academic.oup.com/heapol/issue/38/7
[Reviewed earlier]

Health Research Policy and Systems
http://www.health-policy-systems.com/content
[Accessed 30 Sep 2023]
[No new digest content identified]

Human Gene Therapy
Volume 34, Issue 17-18 / September 2023
https://www.liebertpub.com/toc/hum/34/17-18
[Reviewed earlier]

Humanitarian Practice Network
https://odihpn.org/
Featured Publications
[No new digest content identified]

Human Vaccines & Immunotherapeutics (formerly Human Vaccines)
Volume 18, Issue 5, 2022
https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/khvi20/18/5?nav=tocList
[Reviewed earlier]
JAMA Health Forum
September 2023, Vol 4, No. 9
https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama-health-forum/issue
[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA Pediatrics
September 2023, Vol 177, No. 9, Pages 877-985
https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamapediatrics/currentissue
[Reviewed earlier]

JBI Evidence Synthesis
September 2023 - Volume 21 - Issue 9
https://journals.lww.com/jbisrir/Pages/currenttoc.aspx
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Adolescent Health
September 2023 Volume 73 Issue 3 p401-610
https://www.jahonline.org/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research
Vol. 77 (2023)
https://www.jair.org/index.php/jair
Contents
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Community Health
Volume 48, issue 5, October 2023
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Current Medical Research and Opinion
...a peer-reviewed, international journal for the rapid publication of original research on new and existing drugs and therapies, and post-marketing investigations. Equivalence, safety and efficacy/effectiveness studies are especially encouraged.
June 18, 2023 Vol 6, No 06 (2023)
https://www.cmro.in/index.php/jcmro/issue/view/68
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Development Economics
Volume 164 September 2023
Although adolescent human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination initiation increased over time in the United States (2011–2020), two-thirds of parents of unvaccinated adolescents remain hesitant about HPV vaccination; their reasons changed over time and varied by sex and race and ethnicity.
Research intelligence

Whether it is distilling statistics or determining protein structures, the reach of artificial intelligence (AI) is rapidly extending to encompass all aspects of scientific research. Starting this week, Nature takes a deep dive into how AI is helping to reshape the scientific enterprise. In this week’s issue, we look at why researchers are so excited about the burgeoning technology — and we also probe the risks posed by AI-generated disinformation. Over the coming weeks, we will explore other aspects of how AI could transform science, and will bring all of our content together in an online resource.

Editorial 19 Sept 2023

AI will transform science — now researchers must tame it

A new Nature series will explore the many ways in which artificial intelligence is changing science — for better and for worse.
Threatening the Global AIDS Response — Obstacles to PEPFAR’s Reauthorization
S.S. Abdool Karim and Others

AI in Medicine: Where Medical Statistics Meets Artificial Intelligence
D.J. Hunter and C. Holmes

npj Vaccines
https://www.nature.com/npjvaccines/
[Accessed 30 Sep 2023]
[No new digest content identified]

Pediatrics
Volume 152, Issue 3  September 2023
https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/issue/152/3
[Reviewed earlier]

PharmacoEconomics
Volume 41, issue 10, October 2023
https://link.springer.com/journal/40273/volumes-and-issues/41-10
[Reviewed earlier]

PLoS Biology
https://journals.plos.org/plosbiology/
(Accessed 30 Sep 2023)
[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Genetics
https://journals.plos.org/plosgenetics/
(Accessed 30 Sep 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 30 Sep 2023)
Persuasive COVID-19 vaccination campaigns on Facebook and nationwide vaccination coverage in Ukraine, India, and Pakistan
Research Article | published 27 Sep 2023 PLOS Global Public Health
https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0002357
Area-based determinants of outreach vaccination for reaching vulnerable populations: A cross-sectional study in Pakistan
Xiaoting Chen, Allan Porter, Nabeel Abdur Rehman, Shaun K. Morris, Umar Saif, Rumi Chunara
Research Article | published 27 Sep 2023 PLOS Global Public Health
https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0001703

PLoS Medicine
http://www.plosmedicine.org/
(Accessed 30 Sep 2023)
Policy Forum
Recommendations on data sharing in HIV drug resistance research
| published 22 Sep 2023 PLOS Medicine
https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1004293
Abstract
Author summary

• Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) drug resistance has implications for antiretroviral treatment strategies and for containing the HIV pandemic because the development of HIV drug resistance leads to the requirement for antiretroviral drugs that may be less effective, less well-tolerated, and more expensive than those used in first-line regimens.
• HIV drug resistance studies are designed to determine which HIV mutations are selected by antiretroviral drugs and, in turn, how these mutations affect antiretroviral drug susceptibility and response to future antiretroviral treatment regimens.
• Such studies collectively form a vital knowledge base essential for monitoring global HIV drug resistance trends, interpreting HIV genotypic tests, and updating HIV treatment guidelines.
• Although HIV drug resistance data are collected in many studies, such data are often not publicly shared, prompting the need to recommend best practices to encourage and standardize HIV drug resistance data sharing.
• In contrast to other viruses, sharing HIV sequences from phylogenetic studies of transmission dynamics requires additional precautions as HIV transmission is criminalized in many countries and regions.
• Our recommendations are designed to ensure that the data that contribute to HIV drug resistance knowledge will be available without undue hardship to those publishing HIV drug resistance studies and without risk to people living with HIV.

PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases
http://www.plosntds.org/
(Accessed 30 Sep 2023)
[No new digest content identified]
Public Health
Volume 222  Pages e1-e26, 1-230 (September 2023)
[Reviewed earlier]

Proceedings of the Royal Society B
13 September 2023  Volume 290  Issue 2006
https://royalsocietypublishing.org/toc/rspb/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Preventive Medicine
Volume 174  September 2023
[Reviewed earlier]

Prehospital & Disaster Medicine
Volume 38 - Issue 4 - August 2023
https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/prehospital-and-disaster-medicine/latest-issue
[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health and Epidemiology
Retrospective analysis of equity-based optimization for COVID-19 vaccine allocation
Erin Stafford and others
PNAS Nexus, Volume 2, Issue 9, September 2023, pgad283,
https://doi.org/10.1093/pnasnexus/pgad283

Preventive Medicine
Volume 174 September 2023
[Reviewed earlier]

Proceedings of the Royal Society B
13 September 2023  Volume 290  Issue 2006
https://royalsocietypublishing.org/toc/rspb/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health
Volume 222  Pages e1-e26, 1-230 (September 2023)
[Reviewed earlier]
The importance of a gender focus in building resilient, equitable, and universal health systems

Opinion and analysis | Spanish |
Review article  Open access
A systematic review of barriers and enablers associated with uptake of influenza vaccine among care home staff
Faisal Alsaif, Michael Twigg, Sion Scott, Annie Blyth, ... Amrish Patel
Pages 6156-6173

Review article  Abstract only
An overview of protein-based SARS-CoV-2 vaccines
Yogesh R. Suryawanshi
Pages 6174-6193

Review article  Open access
Prophylactic HPV vaccines in patients with HPV-associated diseases and cancer
Miriam Reuschenbach, John Doorbar, Marta del Pino, Elmar A. Joura, ... Alfred J. Saah
Pages 6194-6205

Research article  Open access
Background rates of adverse events of special interest for COVID-19 vaccines: A multinational Global Vaccine Data Network (GVDN) analysis
A. Phillips, Y. Jiang, D. Walsh, N. Andrews, ... A. Hviid
Pages 6227-6238

Research article  Abstract only
Eliminating hepatitis B vaccination disparities for West African immigrants
Jessie A. Birnbaum, Daniel Guttman, Mugdha Parulekar, Fatima Omarufilo, ... Samuel H. Sigal
Pages 6255-6260

Research article  Abstract only
Pathways to informed choices: The impact of freedom of choice and two-sided messages on psychological reactance and vaccination intentions among individuals who express concerns
Toni Claessens, Simone Krouwer, Heidi Vandebo, Karolien Poels
Pages 6272-6280

Research article  Abstract only
Genomic associations with antibody response to an oral cholera vaccine
Vijay Laxmi Roy, Partha P. Majumder
Pages 6391-6400

Vaccines
https://www.mdpi.com/journal/vaccines
Acceptance of the COVID-19 Vaccine by Prisoners and Staff in Spanish Prisons
by Nancy Vicente-Alcalde

Abstract
The COVID-19 vaccination of prisoners and prison staff represents a public health intervention to reduce the impact of the pandemic in conglomerate settings. In Spanish prisons, the road map of the Ministry of Health was followed to protect the population at risk. We conducted a cross-sectional study to assess the acceptance of COVID-19 vaccination by prisoners and prison staff in a prison in Alicante, Spain. We analyzed data obtained through a standardized, self-administered, and anonymous questionnaire; 1016 prisoners and 288 prison staff responded to the survey. The majority of inmates and staff reported no history of symptomatic COVID-19, 90.15% and 91.66%, respectively. Respondents reported that 88.72% agreed to be vaccinated and 89.64% would recommend the vaccine to others. Approximately 89% believe that the benefit of getting vaccinated against COVID-19 is greater than the risk, and 70.55% reported that vaccination should be mandatory for inmates and staff to participate in some activities. The acceptance of COVID-19 vaccination among prisoners and prison staff is high in a Provincial Prison in Spain. Elevated acceptance of COVID-19 vaccination in prisons is a major factor in public health intervention and vaccine equity.

Factors Related to the Compliance of Arab Parents in Israel to the Vaccination of Children and Adolescents against COVID-19
Ola Ali-Saleh

Abstract
The Arab minority consists of 20% of the Israeli population. Most of the Arab minority live in rural villages, mostly in closed communities, with specific psycho-social and sociodemographic characteristics. Previous studies showed different attitudes to COVID-19 vaccination among Arab adults. Objectives: To examine the influence of factors on the willingness of parents to vaccinate their young and adolescent children and if there is a difference between parents’ attitudes to both groups. Methods and Materials: The survey examined correlations between variables and attitudes toward the vaccine and the pandemic and was disseminated anonymously to parents of children between the ages of 5 and 18 in the Arab population of Israel through social media networks, using the snowball method. Statistical analyses included the Pearson correlation, MANCOVA, and logistic regression tests. Results: In total, 361 Arab Israeli parents participated. As mentioned above, 130 parents had both children and adolescents. Overall, 48 parents (36.9%) chose not to vaccinate both their children and adolescents, 52 parents (40.0%) chose to vaccinate only their adolescents, only 1 parent (0.8%) chose to vaccinate only the child, and 29 parents (22.3%) vaccinated both their children and adolescents. Significant correlations were found among a higher age of parents and socioeconomic status, attitudes toward COVID vaccination, subjective norms, perceived severity of the disease, perceived benefits of vaccination, and trust in formal sources. Discussion: There is a difference between parents’ decision to be vaccinated and their willingness to vaccinate their children. There is a difference between their decision to vaccinate their adolescents and their young children. Different factors positively or negatively influenced parents’ decisions. Addressing these factors by authorities may increase compliance of Arab minorities with instructions in the future.
Selected Research

No new digest content identified.

**medRxiv**

https://www.medrxiv.org/content/about-medrxiv

[Accessed 30 Sep 2023]

[Filter: All articles]

Selected Research

Research Note  Open Access

Did the emergence of the Omicron variant impact the COVID-19 vaccine acceptance in the Arab world? A Twitter-based sentiment analysis [version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]

Nada Dimashkieh Chehab

Abstract

Background: Low vaccine acceptance constitutes a major obstacle for achieving herd immunity against coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Data on COVID-19 show a significant rise in the number of cumulative cases in Arab countries where vaccine uptake is lower than the uptake at the global level for the 2021-2022 period. The aim of this study is to analyze sentiments related to vaccine acceptance before and after the emergence of the COVID-19 Omicron variant in the Arab-speaking world.

Methods: Tweets were collected before and after the Omicron emergence period in the Arab-speaking world using Python-enabled CAMeL Tools (Arabic Natural Language Processing toolkit) libraries. A sentiment analysis on COVID-19 vaccines using Arabic hashtags and a sentiment analysis by city were conducted.

Results: Two data sets pre-Omicron and post-Omicron tweets exhibited a difference in sentiments marking a shift towards less negativity and more neutrality. Sentiments by city showed most tweets in both periods coming from Riyadh and Jeddah in Saudi-Arabia, and from Salt in Jordan.

Conclusions: Despite the limitations of the study, the change in sentiments detected by the study may suggest more vaccine acceptance which raises some hope and perhaps a higher vaccine uptake in the future. The sentiments by city findings may help in the design of future research.
Predictors of vaccination card retention in Tamale Metropolis, Ghana
Matthew Y. Konlan, Fuseini Mahama, Braimah Baba Abubakari, Paul Konka, Benedict Ofori Appiah, Maxwell Oduro Yeboah, Peter Gyamfi Kwarteng, Pobilla ofosu Apea, Michael Rockson Adjei, Martin Nyaaba Adokaiya, Ohenaba Boadum, Hiliarius Asiwowo Kosi Abiwu
medRxiv 2023.09.28.23296305; doi: https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.09.28.23296305

Vaccine Effectiveness Against Long COVID in Children: A Report from the RECOVER EHR Cohort
Hanieh Razzaghi, Christopher Forrest, Kathryn Hirabayshi, Qiong Wu, Andrea Allen, Suchitra Rao, Yong Chen, Timothy Bunnell, Elizabeth A Chрисchilles, Lindsey G Cowell, Mollie R Cummins, David A Hanauer, Miranda J Higginbotham, Benajmine Horne, Carol R Horowitz, Rhavi Jhaveri, Susan Kim, Aaron Mishkin, Jennifer Muszynski, Susanna Naggie, Nathan M Pajor, Anuradha Paranjape, Hayden T Schwenk, Marion R Sills, Yacob G Tedla, David A Williams, Charles Bailey
medRxiv 2023.09.27.23296100; doi: https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.09.27.23296100 Revision

The potential health and economic impacts of new tuberculosis vaccines under varying delivery strategies in Delhi and Gujarat, India: a modelling study
Rebecca A Clark, Allison Portnoy, Chathika Krishan Weerasuriya, Tom Sumner, Roel Bakker, Rebecca C Harris, Kirankumar Rade, Sanjay Kumar Mattoo, Dheeraj Tumu, Nicolas A Menzies, Richard G White
medRxiv 2023.09.27.23296211; doi: https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.09.27.23296211

Reduced effectiveness of repeat influenza vaccination: distinguishing among within-season waning, recent clinical infection, and subclinical infection
Qifang Bi, Barbra A Dickerman, Huong Q McLean, Emily T Martin, Manjusha Gaglani, Karen J Wernli, G.K. Balasubramani, Brendan Flannery, Marc Lipsitch, Sarah Cobey
medRxiv 2023.03.12.23287173; doi: https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.03.12.23287173 Revision

Recruitment, Consent and DNA Sample Acquisition in a U.S. Precision Health Cohort During the COVID-19 Pandemic
medRxiv 2023.09.25.23289158; doi: https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.09.25.23289158

Programmatic considerations for chikungunya vaccine introduction in countries at risk of chikungunya outbreaks: stakeholder analysis
Megan Auzenbergs, Clara Maure, Hyolim Kang, Oliver J Brady, Sushant Sahastrabuddhe, Kaja Abbas

Inferring vaccine efficacy and mode of action from human challenge studies
Fuminari Miura, Don Klinkenberg, Kylie E.C. Ainslie, Jantien A. Backer, Ka Yin Leung, Scott A. McDonald, Pieter de Boer, Jacco Wallinga

Abstract
To assess the long-term effect of a vaccination programme, understanding both the efficacy and the mode of action of the vaccine is crucial. The actual mode of action is difficult to infer from field trials, because of the heterogeneity of exposure to infection. Here we show an approach to determine both vaccine efficacy and the mode of action of vaccines from human challenge studies.
Our approach reveals how vaccines alter an individual’s susceptibility, and identifies a mixture of different modes of action as a function of the challenged dose. By applying the proposed method to influenza challenge data, we illustrate that potentially the lowest vaccine efficacy may occur at intermediate doses, suggesting a hypothesis that moderate transmission intensities might be optimal for establishing infections in vaccinated individuals.

*One sentence summary*

Human challenge studies reveal the protection mechanism of vaccines by measuring variation in susceptibility to infection.

**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 30 Sep 2023]

**Selected Research**

**Research Note  Open Access**

**Did the emergence of the Omicron variant impact the COVID-19 vaccine acceptance in the Arab world? A Twitter-based sentiment analysis** [version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]

Nada Dimashkieh Chehab

**Abstract**

Background: Low vaccine acceptance constitutes a major obstacle for achieving herd immunity against coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Data on COVID-19 show a significant rise in the number of cumulative cases in Arab countries where vaccine uptake is lower than the uptake at the global level for the 2021-2022 period. The aim of this study is to analyze sentiments related to vaccine acceptance before and after the emergence of the COVID-19 Omicron variant in the Arab-speaking world.

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Conclusions: Despite the limitations of the study, the change in sentiments detected by the study may suggest more vaccine acceptance which raises some hope and perhaps a higher vaccine uptake in the future. The sentiments by city findings may help in the design of future research.

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**Think Tanks**

**Brookings**  [to 30 Sep 2023]

http://www.brookings.edu/
Kaiser Family Foundation  [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://www.kff.org/search/?post_type=press-release
Newsroom
Poll: Nearly Half of Adults Expect to Get the New COVID-19 Vaccine, But Most Parents Don’t Expect to Get It for Their Children; More Eligible Adults Expect to Get a Flu Shot and the New RSV Vaccine
September 27, 2023 News Release
Nearly half of adults say that they will “definitely” or “probably” get the newly recommended COVID-19 vaccine, though most parents are not planning to get the shot for their children, according to the latest KFF COVID-19 Vaccine Monitor poll. Among all adults, 23% say they will definitely get the new...

McKinsey Global Institute  [to 30 Sep 2023]
https://www.mckinsey.com/mgi/overview
Latest Research
No new digest content identified.

ODI  [Overseas Development Institute]  [to 30 Sep 2023]
Publications [Selected]
No new digest content identified.
Can South Korea Help the World Beat the Next Pandemic?

How can South Korea turn its COVID-19 control success into a successful “soft power asset” for health diplomacy? The RAND Center for Asia Pacific Policy hosted a webinar discussion to promote the sharing of innovative ideas and best practices.

Sep 29, 2023
Kathleen Stephens, Youngmee Jee, Tikki Pang, Jennifer Bouey

Report
Syndromic Surveillance 2.0: Emerging Global Surveillance Strategies for Infectious Disease Epidemics

To aid in the detection of emerging epidemics and pandemics, researchers investigate the effectiveness of the newest syndromic surveillance strategies — those designed to identify outbreaks before clinical data are available.

Sep 27, 2023
Rajeev Ramchand, Sangeeta C. Ahluwalia, Mary Avriette, Gary Cecchine, Monika Cooper, Christy Foran, Daniel Hicks, Natasha Lander, Sarita D. Lee

The U.S. Army has a long history of preventing, detecting, and treating infectious diseases. Like other organizations and agencies involved in public health, the Army is increasingly interested in syndromic surveillance strategies — those designed to identify outbreaks before clinical data are available. Researchers use various methods to identify surveillance strategies across the globe, investigate these strategies' benefits and limitations, and recommend actions to aid the Army in their efforts to detect emerging epidemics and pandemics.

Key Findings
- Many systems and strategies can identify and track epidemics before clinical confirmation; however, these efforts are often siloed. Increased cooperation among universities, private industry, and the military could improve syndromic surveillance.
- Although there are numerous systems and tools to help combatant command personnel track possible disease outbreaks, there appears to be uneven awareness among some medical personnel regarding what systems, tools, and information they should use for this purpose.
- In contrast to the many strategies for surveillance at the outbreak phase, there are relatively few at the emergence and spread stages in which the Army could be uniquely poised to contribute.
- The inability to sustain, maintain, and update surveillance resources can create barriers to scientific advancement.

Journal Article
Health Care Provider Knowledge and Attitudes Regarding Adult Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine Recommendations — United States, September 28–October 10, 2022

Despite the availability of effective vaccines, pneumococcal disease continues to be a significant cause of morbidity among U.S. adults.
Artificial Intelligence (AI) applications in health care are prone to biases that could perpetuate health disparities. In this paper, we study the ways in which AI may maintain, perpetuate, or worsen inequitable outcomes in health care. We review current approaches to evaluating and mitigating biased AI and potential applications of AI to address health equities. Finally, we discuss current incentives for equitable AI and potential changes in the regulation and policy space. As AI becomes increasingly embedded in the daily operations of health care systems, it is imperative that we understand its risks and evaluate its impacts on health equity.

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

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Support for this service is provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; the Bill & Melinda Gates Medical Research Institute, and industry resource members Janssen/J&J, Pfizer, Sanofi US, and Takeda, (list in formation).

Support is also provided by a growing list of individuals who use this membership service to support their roles in public health, clinical practice, government, NGOs and other international institutions, academia and research organizations, and industry.