Vaccines and Global Health: The Week in Review
4 July 2020 :: Number 558
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 evening at midnight [0000 GMT-5]. The PDF is posted and the elements of each edition are presented as a set of blog posts at https://centerforvaccineethicsandpolicy.net. This blog allows full-text searching of over 9,000 entries.

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UNICEF and WHO support national immunization campaign in Syria amid COVID-19 pandemic

Damascus, 29 June 2020 – With an aim to maintain vital routine immunization services amid the COVID-19 pandemic, a national immunization campaign supported by WHO and UNICEF has concluded across Syria. During the 5-day campaign, implemented by the Syrian Ministry of Health, health workers checked the vaccination status of more than 900 000 children and vaccinated more than 210 100 children to ensure they are caught up with the routine immunization schedule.

Over 1000 health centres, 545 mobile teams, 666 temporary vaccination posts and more than 8000 health workers were mobilized for the campaign. In-line with WHO global guidelines, health workers were trained on preventative and precautionary measures, including disinfection, hygiene protocols and overcrowding prevention. In addition, they were provided with personal protection equipment for their safety and that of children and caregivers during the immunization campaign.

“No child should miss out on their vaccinations, now more than ever” says Fran Equiza, UNICEF Representative in Syria, “These are difficult times, parents may feel overwhelmed with worries. Our message to them is clear: make sure your kids receive their routine immunizations to avoid vaccine-preventable diseases. When vaccination coverage goes down, more outbreaks will occur, including of life-threatening diseases like measles and polio.”...

WHO and UNICEF noted in a joint health brief published this month that health care disruptions due to COVID-19 could have a devastating impact on child mortality in the Middle East and North Africa. The full and safe resumption of immunization campaigns as well as nutrition services, while following strict precautionary measures for infection prevention, are key to helping tens of thousands of children reach their fifth year of age in good health.

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African Union; Africa CDC

Communique from Africa’s Leadership
30 June 2020


Preamble
RECALLING the Heads of State and Government’s Declaration in July 2013 at the African Union Special Summit on HIV, TB and Malaria in Abuja, Nigeria, in which African leaders recognised the need for an Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) to conduct life-saving research on priority health challenges and to serve as a platform to share knowledge and build capacity to respond to public health emergencies and threats in Africa.

NOTING that the African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government in 2014 devoted to responding to the Ebola virus disease outbreak, African leaders formally endorsed an accelerated timeline to launch Africa CDC, together with its five Regional Collaborating Centres.

FURTHER NOTING that Africa CDC was launched in January 2017 and established as a specialised technical institution of the African Union, with the responsibility of promoting the control and prevention of diseases in Africa.

CONSCIOUS of the fact that the COVID-19 outbreak was declared a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) by the World Health Organization (WHO) on 30 January 2020, and declared a pandemic on 11 March 2020, having infected over 9 million persons and caused the deaths of nearly half a million persons globally – including more than 350,000 cases and 9,000 deaths on the African continent.

ALSO CONSCIOUS of the fact that any further potential spread of COVID-19 on the continent is a social, economic, and security threat for Africa, and that the African Union Agenda 2063, which is a strategic framework for the socio-economic transformation of the continent over the next 50 years, will be severely disrupted by disease outbreaks such as COVID-19 if there are no measures for timely coordination, collaboration, communication, and cooperation.

COGNISANT that COVID-19 is spreading rapidly across our continent, which will compound the existing health challenges that Africa already faces, including: (1) rapid population growth leading to increased population movement across the continent and the world; (2) existing endemic diseases such as HIV, TB, and malaria, (re-) emerging infectious diseases, and the ascendance of antimicrobial resistance; (3) increasing incidence of non-communicable diseases and injuries; (4) persistently high maternal mortality rates; (5) threats posed by environmental toxins; and (6) fragile health infrastructure, with limited resilience to numerous disease outbreaks.

RECALLING the 29th Ordinary Session of the African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 3 to 4 July 2017; in which the Heads of State expressed deep concern about the increasing recurrence of epidemics on our continent and their enormous socio-economic impact, as well as the inadequate implementation of the International Health Regulations 2005 (IHR). As such, they committed to: (1) accelerate the implementation of IHR at national, provincial and local levels with a clear roadmap and monitoring mechanisms; (2) institute multi-sectorial mechanisms to accelerate the implementation of IHR; and (3) mobilise the necessary resources to implement the roadmaps for acceleration of implementation of IHR.

FURTHER RECALLING the WHO’s role in managing IHR capacity development in Member States.
NOTING the duty and political mandate of national public health institutes (NPHIs) to respond to PHEIC, working in partnership with WHO and all relevant stakeholders.

ALSO NOTING the strong evidence that health security depends on the establishment of resilient and adaptive national health systems, with a clearly defined public health coordination mechanism.

RECALLING that during the 22 February 2020 emergency meeting of African Ministers of Health, Ministers endorsed the Africa Joint Continental Strategy for COVID-19 Outbreak, including Africa CDC’s leadership role in coordinating the response on the continent.

RECOGNISING the efforts by African Union Member States in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, with a focus on how the continent can prepare for the research and development, manufacturing, procurement, financing, delivery and uptake of a potential COVID-19 vaccine.

The Conference on Africa’s Leadership on COVID-19 Vaccine Development and Access

COLLECTIVELY agrees that identifying and scaling-up an effective COVID-19 vaccine is critical to slow the spread of the disease, protect vulnerable populations and ultimately return our society and economies back to normal and towards Africa’s broader global development agenda.

RECOGNISE the barriers that intellectual property, including patents, trade secrets and other technological knowhow has posed to timely introduction of affordable vaccines in developing countries in the past.

ACKNOWLEDGE this experience, noting that there is an urgent need for countries to make full use of legal and policy measures, including flexibilities enshrined under the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) and Doha Declaration, South-South and North-South collaboration to ensure monopolies do not stand in the way of access to COVID-19 vaccines.

COMMEND the efforts of Africa CDC to coordinate implementation of the Africa Joint Continental Strategy for COVID-19 Outbreak and to rapidly establish an Africa COVID-19 vaccine development and access strategy, which will serve as the roadmap to better coordinate and scale-up efforts across Africa. The strategy will have two major prongs:
[i] securing sufficient vaccine supply; and
[ii] removing barriers to vaccine roll-out

WELCOME the close collaboration between Africa CDC, WHO, African Vaccine Regulatory Forum as well as other relevant stakeholders in supporting countries to strengthen their capacity to adopt and scale-up a vaccine for COVID-19, once clinical approval of a viable vaccine candidate is achieved.

(i) Securing Sufficient Vaccine Supply

ADVOCATE for Africa to receive a sufficient global allocation for timely access to a potential COVID-19 vaccine, including partnership with the COVAX facility within the Access to COVID-19
Tools (ACT) Accelerator initiative, and additional support from partner countries and regional bodies.

**CALL FOR** an equitable and timely distribution of vaccine supply within the African continent, both across and within countries, taking into account equity in gender and socioeconomic status.

**CALL UPON** the African Union Commission, donors, and partners to support Africa’s efforts to secure the necessary vaccine supply by providing the necessary financial resources.

**ALSO CALL UPON** all countries to remove all obstacles, including, but not limited to, the use of the flexibilities provided in the TRIPS agreement, in line with the recommendations of the 73rd World Health Assembly resolution on the COVID-19 response, to ensure that all relevant technologies, intellectual property, data and know how are openly and immediately made available and rapidly scaled-up.

**FURTHER CALL UPON** African Union Member States to raise domestic resources to support the efforts to secure upfront vaccine supplies for the continent.

**(ii) Removing Barriers to Vaccine Roll-out**

**DEVELOP** a continent-wide clinical trial network to better connect organisations that are supporting efforts to test potential vaccine candidates; a network responsible for sharing information, resources, and knowledge in order to increase the data on vaccine efficacy and safety for the African population.

**ENABLE** an effective regulatory control structure for the vaccine, which includes implementing indemnification for vaccine manufacturers, fast-tracked regulatory approvals at country level, and a robust infrastructure for ongoing monitoring of vaccine efficacy and safety.

**ENSURE** that the vaccine can be effectively delivered to target populations by strengthening distribution and supply chain networks in countries, and deploying innovative delivery models to reach the people in need.

**DRIVE** a set of community engagement efforts across the continent to better inform key opinion leaders and the general public on the need for the vaccine and the benefit thereof, to ensure effective uptake and minimise the dissemination of inaccurate public health information.

**PARTNER** and collaborate with relevant global stakeholders to enable technology transfer to ramp up domestic vaccine production capacity so that Africa can better control its supply of the vaccine over time.

**REQUEST** the African Union Commission and Africa CDC to follow-up on the implementation of Africa COVID-19 vaccines development and access strategy, and report to the African Union Heads of State and Government regularly and seek collaboration with United Nations agencies and other partners.
Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: FDA Takes Action to Help Facilitate Timely Development of Safe, Effective COVID-19 Vaccines

June 30, 2020

Today, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration took important action to help facilitate the timely development of safe and effective vaccines to prevent COVID-19 by providing guidance with recommendations for those developing COVID-19 vaccines for the ultimate purpose of licensure. The guidance, which reflects advice the FDA has been providing over the past several months to companies, researchers, and others, describes the agency’s current recommendations regarding the data needed to facilitate the manufacturing, clinical development, and approval of a COVID-19 vaccine.

“We recognize the urgent need to develop a safe and effective vaccine to prevent COVID-19 and continue to work collaboratively with industry, researchers, as well as federal, domestic, and international partners to accelerate these efforts. While the FDA is committed to expediting this work, we will not cut corners in our decisions and are making clear through this guidance what data should be submitted to meet our regulatory standards. This is particularly important, as we know that some people are skeptical of vaccine development efforts,” said FDA Commissioner Stephen M. Hahn, M.D. “We have not lost sight of our responsibility to the American people to maintain our regulatory independence and ensure our decisions related to all medical products, including COVID-19 vaccines, are based on science and the available data. This is a commitment that the American public can have confidence in and one that I will continue to uphold.”

Vaccines have been highly effective in preventing a range of serious infectious diseases. The FDA has the scientific expertise to evaluate any potential COVID-19 vaccine candidate regardless of the technology used to produce or to administer the vaccine. This includes the different technologies such as DNA, RNA, protein and viral vectored vaccines being developed by commercial vaccine manufacturers and other entities.

“In this particular crisis in which there is so much at stake, we need to help expedite vaccine development as much as we can without sacrificing our standards for quality, safety, and efficacy. We firmly believe that transparency regarding the FDA’s current thinking about the scientific data needed to support approval of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines will help build public confidence in the FDA’s evaluation process, which will be critical in ensuring their use,” said Peter Marks, M.D., Ph.D., director of the FDA’s Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research. “Right now, neither the FDA nor the scientific community can predict how quickly data will be generated from vaccine clinical trials. Once data are generated, the agency is committed to thoroughly and expeditiously evaluating it all. But make no mistake: the FDA will only approve or make available a COVID-19 vaccine if we determine that it meets the high standards that people have come to expect of the agency.”

The guidance published today, “Development and Licensure of Vaccines to Prevent COVID-19,” provides an overview of key considerations to satisfy requirements for chemistry, manufacturing and control, nonclinical and clinical data through development and licensure, and for post-licensure safety evaluation. Importantly, given the current understanding of SARS-CoV-2 immunology, the goal of development programs at this time should be to support traditional
FDA approval by conducting studies to directly evaluate the ability of the vaccine to protect humans from SARS-CoV-2 infection and/or disease.

The FDA strongly encourages the inclusion of diverse populations in all phases of clinical development, including populations most affected by COVID-19, specifically racial and ethnic minorities, as well as adequate representation in late phase trials of elderly individuals and those with medical comorbidities. Sponsors are also encouraged to include studies in their development plans that would provide data to support use during pregnancy, as well as plan for pediatric assessments of safety and effectiveness.

The guidance also discusses the importance of ensuring that the sizes of clinical trials are large enough to demonstrate the safety and effectiveness of a vaccine. It conveys that the FDA would expect that a COVID-19 vaccine would prevent disease or decrease its severity in at least 50% of people who are vaccinated.

Additionally, after approval by the FDA, the safety of all vaccines, including a COVID-19 vaccine, continues to be closely monitored using various existing surveillance systems. The FDA may also require post-marketing studies to further assess known or potential serious risks.

The guidance also notes that, as more is learned about SARS-CoV-2 immunology and vaccine immune responses, consideration may be given to the FDA’s Accelerated Approval pathway for vaccine licensure. However, identification of an immune response or other measure that is reasonably likely to predict clinical benefit would be needed for a specific vaccine candidate to use of this pathway. Due to the current public health emergency, the guidance also addresses considerations regarding Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) of an investigational vaccine – making clear that an assessment regarding any potential EUA for a COVID-19 vaccine would be made on a case-by-case basis considering the target population, the characteristics of the product, and the totality of the relevant, available scientific evidence, including preclinical and human clinical study data on the product’s safety and effectiveness...

ACT-Accelerator moves to expand access to dexamethasone for low- and middle-income countries for COVID-19 treatment
02 July 2020 | Press releases
Geneva – Unitaid and Wellcome have joined forces with partners in the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) to expand access to dexamethasone for low- and middle-income countries as part ensuring equitable access to therapeutics in the COVID-19 response.

Working with other partners in the ACT-A Therapeutics Partnership, UNICEF and Unitaid have agreed an initial purchase of oral and injectable dexamethasone to secure quality treatment. This move will support access for patients in low- and middle-income countries, where it is expected that up to 4.5 million patients could benefit from dexamethasone based on preliminary projection of needs.
Initial funding has been committed equally by UNICEF and Unitaid, with additional funding to come from pledges made to the ACT-A Therapeutics Partnership.

This is a concrete example of the efforts to coordinate a global response to the COVID-19 pandemic through the ACT-A, and in particular the Therapeutics Partnership. Under the joint leadership of Unitaid and Wellcome the ACT-A Therapeutics Partnership is continuing work to identify, accelerate and deliver therapeutics for COVID-19.

Dr Philippe Duneton, Unitaid Executive Director a.i., said, “With this advanced purchase we aim to ensure equitable access for low- and middle-income countries for treatment of COVID-19 with the life-saving drug dexamethasone, and avoid shortages resulting from high-levels of demand from other parts of the world. It will allow UNICEF, the Global Fund and other partners to procure quality dexamethasone.”

Paul Schreier, Chief Operating Officer, Wellcome, said “Dexamethasone is the first and only drug that has made a significant difference to patient mortality for COVID-19, and this agreement will help patients in low-and middle income countries access it.

Researchers have worked at an unprecedented speed to get these results. The ACT-Accelerator is matching this pace by ensuring manufacturing and delivery is as smooth – and equitable – as possible. We don't yet know which treatments, tests and vaccines will be the most effective, which is why we must invest in wide range of options – at risk and at scale.”

“UNICEF and Unitaid along with other ACT Accelerator partners have taken steps now to pre-empt market constraints to facilitate access to a demonstrated life-saving product,” said Etleva Kadilli, Director of the UNICEF supply and procurement headquarters. “I am proud of the collaboration, agility and expertise that will allow us to secure these initial quantities of Dexamethasone. It represents another step towards equitable access to much-needed COVID-19 tools particularly for low and middle income countries. UNICEF will work with WHO and government partners to deliver these medicines and to procure more as more funds are made available.”

Dexamethasone is a low-cost corticosteroid, a class of medicines used to provide relief for inflammation. Evidence announced in June 2020 suggested that dexamethasone can save lives of patients with severe or critical symptoms of COVID-19 that are on ventilators or receiving oxygen therapy.

The World Health Organization is expected to issue revised guidance on the use of dexamethasone in the coming weeks, and this together with national guidelines, will be essential to ensure dexamethasone is used safely and appropriately.

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**EMERGENCIES**

**Coronavirus [COVID-19]**

*Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)*
WHO - Situation report - 166
Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)
4 July 2020

Confirmed cases :: 10 922 324
Confirmed deaths :: 523 011
Countries, areas or territories with cases :: 216

Highlights
:: WHO is providing support to bridge a shortfall in oxygen supplies in Iraq. To counter severe shortages, WHO has airlifted 300 oxygen concentrators from WHO's warehouses in the United Arab Emirates.
:: As African countries begin to reopen borders and air spaces, it is crucial that governments take effective measures to mitigate the risk of a surge in infections.
:: The UN Secretary-General, Mr António Guterres in his remarks to the Security Council on the Maintenance of International Peace and Security warned that the COVID-19 pandemic has been affecting peace and security around the world. He stated that “Collective security and our shared well-being are under assault on many fronts led by a relentless disease and abetted by global fragilities.”
:: In Yemen, healthcare workers face a double battle – COVID-19 in a conflict zone. WHO chronicles the work of Dr Sami Al Hajj, a young doctor working at the Science and Technology Hospital in Sana.

2 July 2020
Global scientific community unites to track progress on COVID-19 R&D, identifies new research priorities and critical gaps

1 July 2020
Redefining global care: Duty, service and choices made in the time of COVID-19

Pfizer and BioNTech Announce Early Positive Data from an Ongoing Phase 1/2 study of mRNA-based Vaccine Candidate Against SARS-CoV-2

In an ongoing U.S. Phase 1/2 placebo-controlled, observer-blinded clinical trial, nucleoside-modified messenger RNA vaccine candidate (BNT162b1) expressing the SARS-CoV-2 receptor binding domain (RBD) is being evaluated in 45 subjects

At day 28 (7 days after dose 2), all subjects who received 10 or 30 mg of BNT162b1 had significantly elevated RBD-binding IgG antibodies with geometric mean concentrations (GMCs) of 4,813 and 27,872 units/ml which are 8- and 46.3-times, respectively, the GMC of 602 units/ml in a panel of 38 sera of convalescent patients who had contracted SARS-CoV-2
At day 28 (7 days after dose 2), all subjects who received 10 or 30 mg of BNT162b1 had SARS-CoV-2 neutralizing antibodies with geometric mean titers (GMTs) of 168 and 267, which are 1.8- and 2.8-times, respectively, the GMT of the convalescent serum panel.

Local reactions and systemic events after immunization with 10 µg and 30 µg of BNT162b1 were dose-dependent, generally mild to moderate, and transient. No serious adverse events were reported.

Further data from the ongoing Phase 1/2 clinical trial of four vaccine candidates will enable selection of a lead candidate and dose level for a large, global Phase 2b/3 safety and efficacy study that may begin as early as July 2020.

Efforts to manufacture the leading candidates, at risk, are gearing up. In case the safety and efficacy study is successful, and the vaccine receives regulatory approval, the companies are expecting to manufacture up to 100 million doses by the end of 2020 and potentially more than 1.2 billion doses by the end of 2021.

July 01, 2020 08:59 AM Eastern Daylight Time
NEW YORK & MAINZ, Germany--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Pfizer Inc. (NYSE: PFE) and BioNTech SE (Nasdaq: BNTX) today announced preliminary data from the most advanced of four investigational vaccine candidates from their BNT162 mRNA-based vaccine program, Project Lightspeed, against SARS-CoV-2, the virus causing the current global pandemic. The BNT162 program is evaluating at least four experimental vaccines, each of which represents a unique combination of mRNA format and target antigen. The manuscript describing the preliminary clinical data for the nucleoside-modified messenger RNA (modRNA) candidate, BNT162b1, which encodes an optimized SARS-CoV-2 receptor binding domain (RBD) antigen, is available on an online preprint server at https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.06.30.20142570v1 and is concurrently undergoing scientific peer-review for potential publication. Overall, the preliminary data demonstrated that BNT162b1 could be administered in a dose that was well tolerated and generated dose dependent immunogenicity, as measured by RBD-binding IgG concentrations and SARS-CoV-2 neutralizing antibody titers.

“We are encouraged by the clinical data of BNT162b1, one of four mRNA constructs we are evaluating clinically, and for which we have positive, preliminary, topline findings”

“We are encouraged by the clinical data of BNT162b1, one of four mRNA constructs we are evaluating clinically, and for which we have positive, preliminary, topline findings,” said Kathrin U. Jansen, Ph.D., Senior Vice President and Head of Vaccine Research & Development, Pfizer.

“We are dedicated to develop potentially groundbreaking vaccines and medicines, and in the face of this global health crisis, we approach this goal with the utmost urgency. We look forward to publishing our clinical data in a peer-reviewed journal as quickly as possible.”...
Johnson & Johnson Announces European Commission Approval for Janssen’s Preventive Ebola Vaccine

This marks the first major regulatory approval of a vaccine developed by Janssen. The Ebola vaccine regimen leverages Janssen’s AdVac® technology, plus Bavarian Nordic’s established MVA-BN® technology. Janssen’s AdVac® technology is also being used to develop a vaccine candidate to prevent COVID-19.

July 01, 2020 09:22 AM Eastern Daylight Time
NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Johnson & Johnson today announced that the European Commission (EC) has granted Marketing Authorisation for its Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies’ Ebola vaccine regimen for the prevention of Ebola Virus Disease. Enabled by this approval, Janssen is now collaborating with the World Health Organization (WHO) on vaccine pre-qualification, which should help accelerate registration of its preventive Ebola vaccine regimen in African countries and facilitate broader access to those most in need.

Two Marketing Authorisation Applications (MAAs) were submitted to the European Medicines Agency (EMA) for the vaccines composing the two-dose regimen, Zabdeno® (Ad26.ZEBOV) and Mvabea® (MVA-BN-Filo). Marketing Authorisation under exceptional circumstances has been granted following Accelerated Assessment of the MAAs and a positive opinion by the EMA’s Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP). Janssen’s Ebola vaccine regimen is indicated for active immunization for the prevention of Ebola Virus Disease caused by the Zaire ebolavirus species in individuals aged one year and above.

“The European approval of Janssen’s Ebola vaccine regimen is a landmark moment – both for our Company and in the world’s battle against the deadly Ebola virus. Building on our history, we are committed to bringing forward vaccines to help overcome the threat of some of the world’s most life-threatening infectious diseases,” said Paul Stoffels, M.D., Vice Chairman of the Executive Committee and Chief Scientific Officer of Johnson & Johnson...

Emergencies

POLIO

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

Polio this week as of 24 June 2020

WHO is looking to fill the Director position of its polio eradication department. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to contribute to a major global public health achievement: polio eradication. More information...
Summary of new viruses this week (AFP cases and ES positives):
:: Afghanistan: seven WPV1 cases
:: Pakistan: two WPV1 cases and 10 WPV1 positive environmental samples
:: Democratic Republic of the Congo: 13 cVDPV2 cases
:: Burkina Faso: five cVDPV2 cases
:: Côte d’Ivoire: eight cVDPV2 cases
:: Somalia: two cVDPV2 positive environmental samples

WHO Grade 3 Emergencies [to 4 July 2020]
Democratic Republic of the Congo
:: Building on Ebola response to tackle COVID-19 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo 25 June 2020
:: Heroes of the Ebola response 25 June 2020

Nigeria
:: Community leaders help drive COVID-19 testing in Nigeria’s Kano 29 June 2020
:: Germany boosts WHO’s strategies to support government-led interventions for vulnerable populations in the North-east 29 June 2020

Syrian Arab Republic
:: WHO calls for unhindered humanitarian access to all Syrians and support for health system resilience 30 June 2020
:: UNICEF and WHO support national immunization campaign in Syria amid COVID-19 pandemic 29 June 2020

Yemen
:: WHO and KSrelief join forces to preserve the health system in Yemen 30 June 2020
:: Noncommunicable diseases are a silent burden on the people of Yemen 30 June 2020

Somalia - No new digest announcements identified
South Sudan - No new digest announcements identified

WHO Grade 2 Emergencies [to 4 July 2020]
Burundi
:: Communities and coordination are crucial in fighting Ebola 04 July 2019
Close to the border with the Ebola-hit Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), over 100 volunteer health workers are busily planning surveillance actions to detect potential Ebola cases and defend against the virus.

Iraq
:: WHO provides support to bridge shortfall in oxygen supplies in Iraq
Baghdad, Iraq, 2 July 2020 – In light of the increasing number of COVID-19 cases in Iraq and the severe shortage of oxygen in hospitals, WHO has succeeded in securing 300 oxygen concentrators to be used in Iraqi hospitals according to the Ministry of Health’s distribution plan. The concentrators were airlifted from WHO's warehouses in the United Arab Emirates and delivered to the Ministry of Health...

Angola - No new digest announcements identified
Afghanistan - No new digest announcements identified
Burkina Faso [in French] - No new digest announcements identified
Cameroon - No new digest announcements identified
Central African Republic - No new digest announcements identified
Ethiopia - No new digest announcements identified
Libya - No new digest announcements identified
Malawi - No new digest announcements identified
Measles in Europe - No new digest announcements identified
MERS-CoV - No new digest announcements identified
Myanmar - No new digest announcements identified
Niger - No new digest announcements identified
occupied Palestinian territory - No new digest announcements identified
Sudan - No new digest announcements identified
Ukraine - No new digest announcements identified
Zimbabwe - No new digest announcements identified

::: WHO Grade 1 Emergencies [to 4 July 2020]
Kenya
:: Kenyan communities taking the lead in curbing COVID-19 spread 02 July 2020
By the time the public health officials reached a Maasai community not far from Nairobi, Julius Oloiboni had already mobilized everyone to protect themselves and others against COVID-19.
:: The EU and WHO working Together to Defeat COVID-19 in Kenya 29 June 2020

Chad - No new digest announcements identified
Djibouti – Page not responding at inquiry
Mali - No new digest announcements identified
Namibia - viral hepatitis - No new digest announcements identified
Tanzania - No new digest announcements identified

::: UN OCHA – L3 Emergencies
The UN and its humanitarian partners are currently responding to three ‘L3’ emergencies. This is the global humanitarian system’s classification for the response to the most severe, large-scale humanitarian crises.
Syrian Arab Republic
:: Syrian Arab Republic: COVID-19 Update No. 13 - 29 June 2020
Yemen

**Highlights Last Updated: 02 Jul 2020**

- A tragedy unfolds as funding falls short
- COVID-19 rapidly spreading
- COVID-19 exacerbates Yemen’s economic problems
- Heavy rains and flooding hit southern and eastern governorates
- Migrant arrivals plummet while anti-migrant abuse spikes leaving thousands stranded

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**UN OCHA – Corporate Emergencies**

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

**East Africa Locust Infestation**

- Desert Locust situation update - 27 June 2020

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**COVID-19**

- No new digest announcements identified

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**WHO & Regional Offices** [to 4 July 2020]

4 July 2020  *News release*

**WHO discontinues hydroxychloroquine and lopinavir/ritonavir treatment arms for COVID-19**

WHO today accepted the recommendation from the Solidarity Trial’s International Steering Committee to discontinue the trial’s hydroxychloroquine and lopinavir/ritonavir arms. The Solidarity Trial was established by WHO to find an effective COVID-19 treatment for hospitalized patients.

The International Steering Committee formulated the recommendation in light of the evidence for hydroxychloroquine vs standard-of-care and for lopinavir/ritonavir vs standard-of-care from the Solidarity trial interim results, and from a review of the evidence from all trials presented at the 1-2 July WHO Summit on COVID-19 research and innovation.

These interim trial results show that hydroxychloroquine and lopinavir/ritonavir produce little or no reduction in the mortality of hospitalized COVID-19 patients when compared to standard of care. Solidarity trial investigators will interrupt the trials with immediate effect.

For each of the drugs, the interim results do not provide solid evidence of increased mortality. There were, however, some associated safety signals in the clinical laboratory findings of the add-on Discovery trial, a participant in the Solidarity trial. These will also be reported in the peer-reviewed publication.

This decision applies only to the conduct of the Solidarity trial in hospitalized patients and does not affect the possible evaluation in other studies of hydroxychloroquine or lopinavir/ritonavir in non-hospitalized patients or as pre- or post-exposure prophylaxis for COVID-19. The interim Solidarity results are now being readied for peer-reviewed publication.

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**Timeline of WHO’s response to COVID-19**
WHO provides this timeline of the Organization’s COVID-19 response activities for general information. WHO will update the timeline on a regular basis and in light of evolving events and new information. Unless noted otherwise, country-specific information and data are as reported to WHO by its Member States.

This timeline supersedes the WHO Rolling Updates and WHO Timeline statement published in April 2020. It is not intended to be exhaustive and does not contain details of every event or WHO activity.

As of 29 June 2020, the following milestones and events focused on COVID-19 have taken place:

- The Director-General and Executive Director of the WHO Health Emergencies Programme have held 75 media briefings. The Director-General’s opening remarks, transcripts, videos and audio recordings for these media briefings are available online.
- There have been 23 Member State Briefings and information sessions.
- WHO convenes international expert networks, covering topics such as clinical management, laboratory and virology, infection prevention and control, mathematical modeling, seroepidemiology, and research and development for diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines, which have held frequent teleconferences, starting in early January. These networks include thousands of scientists, medical and public health professionals from around the world.
- EPI-WIN, WHO’s information network for epidemics, has convened 60 technical webinars, making available 287 expert panelists to more than 13,500 participants, from more than 120 countries and territories, with representation from as many as 460 organizations.
- The OpenWHO platform has had more than 3.7 million enrollments, over 80% of which are in COVID-19 courses. Free training is available on 13 different topics translated into 31 languages to support the coronavirus response, for a total of 100 COVID-19 courses.
- WHO’s landscape of COVID-19 candidate vaccines lists 17 candidate vaccines in clinical evaluation and 132 in preclinical evaluation.
- The Strategic and Technical Advisory Group on Infectious Hazards (STAG-IH) has met 35 times. STAG-IH provides independent advice and analysis to the WHO Health Emergencies Programme on the infectious hazards that may pose a threat to global health security.
- In addition to the selected guidance included below, all of WHO’s technical guidance on COVID-19 can be found online here.
- All events listed below are in the Geneva, Switzerland time zone (CET/CEST). Note that the dates listed for documents are based on when they were finalized and timestamped....

Weekly Epidemiological Record, 3 July 2020, vol. 95, 27 (pp. 301–324)
:: Ebola virus disease – Democratic Republic of the Congo (Update, 26 June 2020)
:: Rubella vaccines: WHO position paper – July 2020
:: COVID-19 update

::
WHO Regional Offices
Selected Press Releases, Announcements

WHO African Region AFRO
:: WHO urges strong COVID-19 safety measures as African countries to resume air travel
02 July 2020
As African countries begin to reopen borders and air spaces, it is crucial that governments take effective measures to mitigate the risk of a surge in infections due to the resumption of commercial flights and airport operations.
:: Kenyan communities taking the lead in curbing COVID-19 spread
02 July 2020
By the time the public health officials reached a Maasai community not far from Nairobi, Julius Oloiboni had already mobilized everyone to protect themselves and others against COVID-19.
:: Community leaders help drive COVID-19 testing in Nigeria’s Kano
29 June 2020

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO
No new digest content identified.

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

WHO European Region EURO
:: New 5-year programme for health in Europe on the agenda at virtual annual meeting
03-07-2020
:: WHO/Europe launches new podcast – Health in Europe
01-07-2020
:: WHO addresses European Parliament on COVID-19 response
01-07-2020
:: WHO reinforces COVID-19 response efforts in Turkey: millions of protective items distributed
30-06-2020
:: WHO-backed telephone counselling in Turkey for those dealing with COVID-19 stress
30-06-2020

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO
:: Statement by WHO Regional Director Dr Ahmed Al-Mandhari on COVID-19
Yesterday, 30 June marked six months since WHO received the first reports of a cluster of cases of pneumonia of unknown cause in China. The six-month mark of the outbreak coincides with reaching 10 million cases and 500,000 deaths world-wide. Although many countries have made some progress, globally the pandemic is speeding up. A few days ago, our Region passed its own significant and concerning milestone, with more than one million people now infected with COVID-19. The number of cases reported in June alone is higher than the total number of cases reported during the four months following the first reported case in the Region on 29 January...

WHO Western Pacific Region
:: Virtual press conference with World Economic Forum on COVID-19: 1 July 2020
Remarks by Dr Takeshi Kasai, WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific

::: :::
The coronavirus is spreading too rapidly and too broadly for the U.S. to get it under control as some other countries have, Dr. Anne Schuchat, principal deputy director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said Monday.

“The U.S. stands in stark contrast to countries like South Korea, New Zealand and Singapore as it continues to report over 30,000 new infections per day. “This is really the beginning,” Schuchat said of the U.S.’s recent surge in new cases.
July 4: Daily briefing on novel coronavirus cases in China
On July 3, 31 provincial-level regions and the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps on the Chinese mainland reported 3 new cases of confirmed infections.

Beijing bans people in quarantine from public gatherings
Updated: 2020-07-03
BEIJING -- Beijing has banned people who are in quarantine due to COVID-19 from taking part in public gathering activities, authorities said on July 2.
People under collective or home quarantine should not go outdoors, nor should they participate in "cross-room, cross-family and cross-yard" public gatherings, Pang Xinghuo, deputy director of the Beijing center for disease control and prevention, told a press conference.
The situation is gradually getting better in Beijing, but risks remain, Pang said. Beijing reported one new confirmed domestically transmitted COVID-19 case on Wednesday, the municipal health commission said Thursday...

CDC director: More virus outbreaks likely, but nation can control them
2020-07-03
More COVID-19 outbreaks in China similar to the ongoing one in Beijing are likely because the pandemic has yet to be contained globally, but they will be brought under control quickly, a senior public health expert said.
"With the massive global pandemic going on, it is very natural that the outbreak occurred in Beijing, and it would be no surprise if a similar outbreak happened accidentally in another area in China," said Gao Fu, director of the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention.
"However, I am confident that such local outbreaks will be effectively suppressed once they are identified, as we have experience in COVID-19 epidemic control in Wuhan and competent public health professionals, including community health workers and CDC workers."
As of Wednesday, the outbreak in Beijing, which is linked with a major wholesale food market in the city, had resulted in 329 confirmed cases over the past three weeks...

Announcements

Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group [to 4 July 2020]
News
No new digest content identified.
BARDA – U.S. Department of HHS  [to 4 July 2020]
https://www.phe.gov/about/barda/Pages/default.aspx
No new digest content identified.

BMGF - Gates Foundation  [to 4 July 2020]
http://www.gatesfoundation.org/Media-Center/Press-Releases
No new digest content identified.

Bill & Melinda Gates Medical Research Institute  [to 4 July 2020]
https://www.gatesmri.org/
The Bill & Melinda Gates Medical Research Institute is a non-profit biotech organization. Our mission is to develop products to fight malaria, tuberculosis, and diarrheal diseases—three major causes of mortality, poverty, and inequality in developing countries. The world has unprecedented scientific tools at its disposal; now is the time to use them to save the lives of the world’s poorest people.
No new digest content identified.

CARB-X  [to 4 July 2020]
https://carb-x.org/
CARB-X is a non-profit public-private partnership dedicated to accelerating antibacterial research to tackle the global rising threat of drug-resistant bacteria.
06.30.2020 |
CARB-X funds Eligo Bioscience to develop CRISPR-based therapeutics derived from bacteriophages to kill superbugs and prevent deadly infections in transplant patients
CARB-X is awarding up to US$1.82 million to Eligo Bioscience in Paris, France, with additional funding for a total award of up to US$7.05 million if project milestones are met, for the development of a new generation of highly-specific antimicrobials to prevent multi-drug-resistant bacterial infections in organ transplant patients.

CEPI – Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations  [to 4 July 2020]
http://cepi.net/
Latest News
02 July 2020
Austria donates €2 million to CEPI to support COVID-19 vaccine programmes

The Government of Austria's funding will support CEPI's urgent work to advance the development of COVID-19 vaccines.

EDCTP  [to 4 July 2020]
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

**Latest news**

**03 July 2020**

**EDCTP and Africa CDC workshop report on disparities in research funding**

EDCTP and the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention published a report on gender-related and regional disparities in research and research capacity development. In collaboration with Africa CDC, EDCTP hosted a workshop on this topic in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 19-20 November 2019. The selected participants – 97 researchers and key stakeholders from Africa and Europe – discussed practical solutions to address gender-related and regional imbalances in research and research capacity development. The report summarises the presentations and extensive discussions over the two days and presents the recommendations of the participants...

[Go to the report](#)

**29 June 2020**

**EDCTP COVID-19 emergency funding for twenty research projects**

...The 100 eligible applications went through an expedited and robust peer review which led to a ranked list of 47 proposals. Twenty proposals have been invited to grant preparation and some put on a reserve list while EDCTP continues to explore ways to fund these projects. The cash contribution from the European Union and the co-funding so far received so from France, Sweden, South Africa, and the United Kingdom is gratefully acknowledged...

**Emory Vaccine Center** [to 4 July 2020]

http://www.vaccines.emory.edu/

No new digest content identified.

**European Medicines Agency** [to 4 July 2020]


News & Press Releases •

**Press release: International regulators provide guiding principles for COVID-19 clinical trials**

Last updated: 01/07/2020

**News: EMA and Korean Ministry of Food and Drug Safety to share confidential COVID-19 information**

Last updated: 30/06/2020

**News: Meeting highlights from the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) 22-25 June 2020**

CHMP, Last updated: 26/06/2020

**European Vaccine Initiative** [to 4 July 2020]
Towards a sustainable European vaccine infrastructure
Heidelberg, 3 July 2020

...The new project, TRANSVAC-DS (Design study for a European vaccine infrastructure), further builds on the outstanding success and lessons learned of the TRANSVAC1 and TRANSVAC2 projects (www.transvac.org) also funded by the EC and proposes the establishment of a truly sustainable European vaccine infrastructure. The TRANSVAC-DS consortium comprises twenty-five partners from eleven European countries (DE, FR, NL, NO, BE, PT, ES UK, IT, CH and DK) and includes leading academic and research organisations, other research infrastructures and vaccine alliances working in areas related to vaccine development...

Quick facts about TRANSVAC-DS:
Start Date: 01 June 2020
End Date: 31 May 2022
Coordinator: European Vaccine Initiative (EVI)
Project Funder: European Commission, Grant Number 951668
Total Funding: 1.88M EUR

FDA [to 4 July 2020]
https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/default.htm
Press Announcements
July 2, 2020 - Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: Daily Roundup July 2, 2020

July 2, 2020 - Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: FDA Authorizes Additional COVID-19 Combination Diagnostic Test Ahead of Flu Season

July 2, 2020 - FDA Approves New HIV Treatment for Patients With Limited Treatment Options

July 1, 2020 - Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: Daily Roundup July 1, 2020


June 29, 2020 - Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: Daily Roundup June 29, 2020

Fondation Merieux [to 4 July 2020]
http://www.fondation-merieux.org/
News, Events
No new digest content identified.

Gavi [to 4 July 2020]
https://www.gavi.org/
News releases
New private sector commitments to fund access to future COVID-19 vaccines announced at international pledging summit

Global technology company TransferWise and a donor which asked to remain anonymous made significant financial commitments to Gavi’s Advance Market Commitment for COVID-19 Vaccines (Gavi COVAX AMC)

The new financing mechanism to support affordable access for developing countries is part of a broader COVAX Facility aimed at securing global access to eventual COVID-19 vaccines

The commitments were made at the Global Goal: Unite for our Future summit, organised by the European Commission and Global Citizen

GHIT Fund  [to 4 July 2020]
https://www.ghitfund.org/newsroom/press
GHIT was set up in 2012 with the aim of developing new tools to tackle infectious diseases that
No new digest content identified.

Global Fund  [to 4 July 2020]
Videos
Germany Pledges €150 Million to Global Fund COVID-19 Response at Global Citizen Summit
30 June 2020

Hilleman Laboratories  [to 4 July 2020]
http://www.hillemanlabs.org/
No new digest content identified.

Human Vaccines Project  [to 4 July 2020]
http://www.humanvaccinesproject.org/media/press-releases/
No new digest content identified.

IAVI  [to 4 July 2020]
https://www.iavi.org/newsroom
Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities [ICMRA]
Selected Statements, Press Releases, Research
No new digest content identified.
**International Generic and Biosimilar Medicines Association [IGBA]**

https://www.igbamedicines.org/

_News_

**CILFA, the Argentinian Generic and Biosimilar Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association, joins IGBA (1 July 2020)**

IGBA, the International Generic and Biosimilar medicines Association, representing global manufacturers of generic and biosimilar medicines, announced today that the Cámara Industrial de Laboratorios Farmacéuticos Argentinos (CILFA) has been accepted and welcomed as a new IGBA Associate Member.

**IFFIm**

http://www.iffim.org/

_Anouncements_

*No new digest content identified.*

**IFRC** [to 4 July 2020]


_Selected Press Releases, Announcements_

_Asia Pacific, Bangladesh_

**Early action to save lives in Bangladesh amid severe flood forecast**

Dhaka/Kuala Lumpur/Geneva, 30 June 2020: Urgent early action is being taken to protect lives in Bangladesh as floods threaten 4.1 million people in large areas across the country that are already grappling with COVID-19. The Global Flood Awareness Syst ... 30 June 2020

**IVAC** [to 4 July 2020]

https://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/ivac/index.html

_Update_

**New COVID-19 Testing Trends Tool**

July 2020

Here, we bring together data on diagnostic testing rates, the number of positive cases, and the percent of tests that are positive to help understand the state of the pandemic in each state.

**IVI** [to 4 July 2020]

http://www.ivi.int/

_Selected IVI News & Announcements_

**LINE and International Vaccine Institute Release BT21 Donation Stickers to Promote Global Vaccination and Vaccine Development**

LINE FRIENDS’ BT21 characters featured in IVI sticker set to raise funds for child immunization initiatives and COVID-19 vaccine development

SEONGNAM, South Korea – June 30, 2020 – LINE Corporation today released a set of animated stickers together with the International Vaccine Institute (IVI) featuring LINE FRIENDS’ BT21 characters. With all sales proceeds going to IVI, this sticker initiative is one
more demonstration of LINE’s mission of “Closing the Distance,” which includes taking actions to help people and improve their lives...
*Sticker download URL: [https://line.me/S/sticker/17793](https://line.me/S/sticker/17793)

**JEE Alliance** [to 4 July 2020]
[https://www.jeealliance.org/](https://www.jeealliance.org/)
Selected News and Events
No new digest content identified.

**MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières** [to 4 July 2020]
[http://www.msf.org/](http://www.msf.org/)
Latest [Selected Announcements]
Lebanon
**COVID-19 and economic downfall reveal migrant workers’ mental health cr...**
Report 3 Jul 2020

Women's health
**Women and girls face greater dangers during COVID-19 pandemic**
Project Update 2 Jul 2020

Mozambique
**“It was like the end of the world” during attack in northern Mozambique**
Voices from the Field 30 Jun 2020

**Syria**

*Life in an open-air prison: living under the bombs in Idlib*

Voices from the Field 29 Jun 2020

**Venezuela**

*MSF helps fight against malaria in Venezuela’s Sucre state*

Project Update 29 Jun 2020

**National Vaccine Program Office** - U.S. HHS  [to 4 July 2020]

https://www.hhs.gov/vaccines/about/index.html

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

**NIH**  [to 4 July 2020]


*Selected News Releases
NIH ACTIV vaccine working group weighs role of human challenge studies for SARS-CoV-2 vaccine development*

July 1, 2020 — The authors conclude that large, randomized, controlled trials of SARS-CoV-2 are the fastest and most effective path forward for establishing vaccine safety and efficacy.

*NIH study shows genomic variation causing common autoinflammatory disease may increase resilience to bubonic plague*

June 29, 2020 — Genomic variants that cause common periodic fever have spread in Mediterranean populations over centuries, potentially protecting people from the plague.

**PATH**  [to 4 July 2020]

https://www.path.org/media-center/

*Selected Announcements
Join PATH Virtually at AIDS 2020*

July 2, 2020 by PATH

Driving client-centered, differentiated services to turn the tide towards HIV epidemic control

**Sabin Vaccine Institute**  [to 4 July 2020]

http://www.sabin.org/updates/pressreleases

*Statements and Press Releases
Withdrawing Funding from the World Health Organization Will Have Dangerous Consequences*

Wednesday, July 1, 2020

Sabin Vaccine Institute condemns Trump administration decision to pull financial support from the World Health Organization; Urges reconsideration
**UNAIDS** [to 4 July 2020]
http://www.unaids.org/en

*Selected Press Releases/Reports/Statements*

**AIDS 2020**

The 23rd International AIDS Conference – known as AIDS 2020 – will take place from 6 to 10 July 2020 with the theme, Resilience.

1 July 2020

**Providing support to COVID-19-hit households in Côte d’Ivoire**

30 June 2020

**Delivery of PrEP at home in the Republic of Moldova**

29 June 2020

**UNAIDS supporting people stranded in Egypt to access HIV treatment**

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**UNICEF** [to 4 July 2020]
https://www.unicef.org/media/press-releases

*Selected Press releases/Announcements*

**Press release**

02/07/2020

**COVID-19: EU Humanitarian Air Bridge helps deliver over 50 tonnes of UNICEF supplies for vulnerable children and families**

**Statement**

30/06/2020

**Statement by UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore ahead of the 2020 Brussels video conference on supporting the future of Syria and the region**

**Press release**

30/06/2020

**Not just numbers: Syrian families identify their needs and concerns as war enters tenth year**

Education in high demand: Syrian families say education for children greatest challenge

**Press release**

29/06/2020

**UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore remarks at the 2020 Executive Board Annual Session**

As prepared

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**Unitaid** [to 4 July 2020]
https://unitaid.org/

*Featured News*

02 July 2020 | **Press releases**
**ACT-Accelerator moves to expand access to dexamethasone for low- and middle-income countries for COVID-19 treatment**

Geneva – Unitaid and Wellcome have joined forces with partners in the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) to expand access to dexamethasone for low- and middle-income countries as part ensuring equitable access to therapeutics in the COVID-19 response.

[See Milestones above for detail]

**Vaccination Acceptance Research Network (VARN) [to 4 July 2020]**
https://vaccineacceptance.org/news.html#header1-2r

Announcements
No new digest content identified.

**Vaccine Confidence Project [to 4 July 2020]**
http://www.vaccineconfidence.org/

Latest News & Archive
No new digest content identified.

**Vaccine Education Center – Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia [to 4 July 2020]**
http://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center

No new digest content identified.

**Wellcome Trust [to 4 July 2020]**
https://wellcome.ac.uk/news

*Opinion* | 30 June 2020

This virus isn’t going away. The only way to beat it is to work together

Jeremy Farrar, Director Wellcome

Six months on from the first case of COVID-19, the pandemic is accelerating and spreading into new areas. Jeremy Farrar talks about the lessons we learned and the long-term solutions.

**The Wistar Institute [to 4 July 2020]**

Press Released
No new digest content identified.

**WFPHA: World Federation of Public Health Associations [to 4 July 2020]**
https://www.wfpha.org/

Latest News

WFPHA Joins The Launch of The Global Sustainable Health Equity Movement

Tuesday, 30 June 2020

[See Milestones above for detail]
World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)  [to 4 July 2020]
Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

ARM [Alliance for Regenerative Medicine]  [to 4 July 2020]
Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

BIO  [to 4 July 2020]
Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

DCVMN – Developing Country Vaccine Manufacturers Network  [to 4 July 2020]
http://www.dcvmn.org/
News
No new digest content identified.

IFPMA  [to 4 July 2020]
http://www.ifpma.org/resources/news-releases/
Selected Press Releases, Statements, Publications
IFPMA Statement - Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-Accelerator)
Investment Case
26 June 2020
...We are proud to be a founding partner of the ACT-Accelerator and are fully committed to the goal of the COVAX pillar to accelerate development, production, and equitable access to safe, effective, and affordable COVID-19 vaccines.
Access to COVID-19 vaccines is a collective responsibility that calls for highly coordinated and collaborative action by public and private actors alike and global solidarity to end the COVID-19 pandemic

ICBA – International Council of Biotechnology Associations  [to 4 July 2020]
https://internationalbiotech.org/
News
No new digest content identified.

PhRMA  [to 4 July 2020]
http://www.phrma.org/
Selected Press Releases, Statements
How biopharmaceutical researchers are ensuring COVID-19 vaccines will be safe and effective
Richard Moscicki, M.D. | June 29, 2020

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

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

American Journal of Infection Control
July 2020 Volume 48, Issue 7, p733-858
http://www.ajicjournal.org/current
[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine
July 2020 Volume 59, Issue 1, p1-148
http://www.ajpmonline.org/current
[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health
July 2020 110(7)
http://ajph.aphapublications.org/toc/ajph/current
[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene
Volume 102, Issue 6, June 2020
http://www.ajtmemh.org/content/journals/14761645/102/6
[Reviewed earlier]

Annals of Internal Medicine
16 June 2020 Volume 172, Issue 12
http://annals.org/aim/issue
[Reviewed earlier]
Short- and long-term impact of vaccination against cytomegalovirus: a modeling study

Infection with cytomegalovirus (CMV) is highly prevalent worldwide and can cause severe disease in immunocompromised persons and congenitally infected infants. The disease burden caused by congenital CMV infec...

Authors: Ganna Rozhnova, Mirjam E. Kretzschmar, Fiona van der Klis, Debbie van Baarle, Marjolein Korndewal, Ann C. Vossen and Michiel van Boven
BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth
http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcpregnancychildbirth/content
(Accessed 4 July 2020)
[No new digest content identified]

BMC Public Health
http://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles
(Accessed 4 July 2020)
[No new digest content identified]

BMC Research Notes
http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcresearchnotes/content
(Accessed 4 July 2020)
[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Open
July 2020 - Volume 10 - 7
https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/10/7
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Bulletin of the World Health Organization
Volume 98, Number 7, July 2020, 441-508
https://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/98/7/en/

EDITORIALS
Tackling antimicrobial resistance in the COVID-19 pandemic
— Haileyesus Getahun, Ingrid Smith, Kavita Trivedi, Sarah Paulin & Hanan H Balkhy
http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.20.268573

RESEARCH
Modelling the effects of Wuhan’s lockdown during COVID-19, China
— Zheming Yuan, Yi Xiao, Zhijun Dai, Jianjun Huang, Zhenhai Zhang & Yuan Chen
http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.20.254045

Variant analysis of SARS-CoV-2 genomes
— Takahiko Koyama, Daniel Platt & Laxmi Parida
http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.20.253591

Child Care, Health and Development
Volume 46, Issue 4  Pages: 397-536  July 2020
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/13652214/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics
Volume 107, Issue 6  Pages: 1263-1457  June 2020
[Reviewed earlier]

Clinical Therapeutics
http://www.clinicaltherapeutics.com/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Clinical Trials
Volume 17 Issue 3, June 2020
https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/ctja/17/3
[Reviewed earlier]

Conflict and Health
http://www.conflictandhealth.com/
[Accessed 4 July 2020]
[No new digest content identified]

Contemporary Clinical Trials
Volume 94  July 2020
[New issue; No digest content identified]

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

Current Genetic Medicine Reports
Volume 8, Issue 2, June 2020
https://link.springer.com/journal/40142/8/2
[Reviewed earlier]

Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases
The CRISPR babies controversy: Responsibility and regulation in the spotlight

Morgan Meyer

The genome editing of human embryos by He Jianjui and the announcement to do so by Denis Rebrikov should spur the research community into discussing robust and transparent governance for human germline modification.
C. Lin et al.

**Epidemics**
Volume 31  June 2020
https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/epidemics/vol/31/suppl/C
[Reviewed earlier]

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

**Ethics & Human Research**
Volume 42, Issue 3  Pages: 1-44  May–June 2020
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/25782363/current
*Perspectives of minors and parents • Non-English speakers • Covid-19 and other infectious diseases*
[Reviewed earlier]

**The European Journal of Public Health**
Volume 30, Issue 3, June 2020
https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/issue/30/3
[Reviewed earlier]

**Gates Open Research**
https://gatesopenresearch.org/browse/articles
[Accessed 4 July 2020]
[No new digest content identified]

**Genome Medicine**
https://genomemedicine.biomedcentral.com/articles
[Accessed 4 July 2020]
[No new digest content identified]

**Global Health Action**
Volume 12, 2019  Issue 1
https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/zgha20/12/sup1?nav=tocList
[Reviewed earlier]

**Global Health: Science and Practice (GHSP)**
A systematic review of global health capacity building initiatives in low-to middle-income countries in the Middle East and North Africa region

Low-and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region are facing increasing global health challenges with a reduced ability to manage them. Global Health Capacity Building (GHCB) initiatives have the potential to improve health workforce performance and health outcomes, however little is known about the GHCB topics and approaches implemented in this region. This is the first systematic review of GHCB initiatives among LMICs in the MENA region.

Authors: Hady Naa, Maria El Koussa, Melissa El Hamouch, Layal Hneiny and Shadi Saleh
Content type: Review
3 July 2020
Responding to Ebola in the Democratic Republic of Congo
by Humanitarian Practice Network
This edition of Humanitarian Exchange, co-edited with Anne Harmer, focuses on the response to the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Although at the time of publication the outbreak appeared to have ended, over its course it claimed 2,200 lives, with more than 3,300 infected, making this the world’s second largest outbreak ever.

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

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

**Human Vaccines & Immunotherapeutics** (formerly Human Vaccines)
Volume 16, Issue 5, 2020
http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/khvi20/current
*Special Issue: Vaccine Acceptance*
[Reviewed earlier]

**Infectious Agents and Cancer**
http://www.infectagentscancer.com/content
[Accessed 4 July 2020]
[No new digest content identified]

**Infectious Diseases of Poverty**
http://www.idpjournals.com/content
[Accessed 4 July 2020]
*Health-education to prevent COVID-19 in schoolchildren: a call to action*
There is currently considerable international debate around school closures/openings and the role of children in the transmission of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Whilst evidence suggests that children ...
Authors: Darren J. Gray, Johanna Kurscheid, Mary Lorraine Mationg, Gail M. Williams, Catherine Gordon, Matthew Kelly, Kinley Wangdi and Donald P. McManus
Citation: Infectious Diseases of Poverty 2020 9:81
Content type: Opinion
Published on: 1 July 2020

**International Health**
Volume 12, Issue 4, July 2020
https://academic.oup.com/inthealth/issue/12/4
*COMMENTARIES*
**Urgent call for a global enforcement of the public sharing of health emergencies data: lesson learned from serious arboviral disease epidemics in Sudan**
Ayman Ahmed
International Health, Volume 12, Issue 4, July 2020, Pages 238–240,
https://doi.org/10.1093/inthealth/ihz122

**Artificial intelligence: opportunities and implications for the health workforce**
Indrajit Hazarika
International Health, Volume 12, Issue 4, July 2020, Pages 241–245,
https://doi.org/10.1093/inthealth/ihaa007
*Abstract*
Healthcare involves cyclic data processing to derive meaningful, actionable decisions. Rapid increases in clinical data have added to the occupational stress of healthcare workers, affecting
their ability to provide quality and effective services. Health systems have to radically rethink strategies to ensure that staff are satisfied and actively supported in their jobs. Artificial intelligence (AI) has the potential to augment provider performance. This article reviews the available literature to identify AI opportunities that can potentially transform the role of healthcare providers. To leverage AI’s full potential, policymakers, industry, healthcare providers and patients have to address a new set of challenges. Optimizing the benefits of AI will require a balanced approach that enhances accountability and transparency while facilitating innovation.

**International Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health**
Vol 7, No 7 (2020) July 2020
https://www.ijcgmph.com/index.php/ijcgmph/issue/view/64
[Reviewed earlier]

**International Journal of Epidemiology**
Volume 49, Issue Supplement_1, April 2020
https://academic.oup.com/ije/issue/49/Supplement_1
*Big Data, Small Area*
[Reviewed earlier]

**International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare**
Volume 13 Issue 3 2020
https://www.emerald.com/insight/publication/issn/2056-4902/vol/13/iss/3
*Table of Contents*
[Reviewed earlier]

**International Journal of Infectious Diseases**
June 2020 Volume 95, p1-480
[Reviewed earlier]

**JAMA Network**
*COVID-19 Update* July 4, 2020
These articles on COVID-19 were published across the JAMA Network in the last week.

**JAMA**
June 23/30, 2020, Vol 323, No. 24, Pages 2445-2536
https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/currentissue
[Reviewed earlier]

**JAMA Pediatrics**
Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine
Volume 13, Issue 2  Pages: 89-177  May 2020
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/17565391/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Global Ethics
Volume 16, Issue 1, 2020
http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rjge20/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved (JHCPU)
Volume 31, Number 2, May 2020
https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/42391
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health
Volume 22, Issue 4, August 2020
https://link.springer.com/journal/10903/22/4
[New issue; No digest content identified]

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

Journal of Infectious Diseases
Volume 221, Issue 11, 1 June 2020
https://academic.oup.com/jid/issue/221/11
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Ethics
July 2020 - Volume 46 - 7
http://jme.bmj.com/content/current
Covid 19 Current Controversies
Ethical considerations for epidemic vaccine trials (15 May, 2020) Free
Joshua Teperowski Monrad

Original research
Limits of trust in medical AI (27 March, 2020)
Joshua James Hatherley
Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews
Volume 7, Issue 2 (2020)
https://digitalrepository.aurorahealthcare.org/jpcrr/
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pediatrics
June 2020 Volume 221, p1-268
http://www.jpeds.com/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice
https://joppp.biomedcentral.com/
[Accessed 4 July 2020]
[No new digest content identified]

Journal of Public Health Management & Practice
July/August 2020 - Volume 26 - Issue 4
https://journals.lww.com/jphmp/pages/currenttoc.aspx
Commentaries
COVID-19: The Shift From Clinical to Public Health Ethics
DeBruin, Debra; Leider, Jonathon P.

Journal of Public Health Policy
Volume 41, Issue 2, June 2020
https://link.springer.com/journal/41271/41/2
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Refugee & Global Health
https://ir.library.louisville.edu/rgh/
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Royal Society – Interface
July 2020 Volume 17 Issue 168
https://royalsocietypublishing.org/toc/rsif/current
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Travel Medicine
Volume 27, Issue 3, April 2020
The Lancet
Jul 04, 2020 Volume 396 Number 10243 p1-70
https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/issue/current
Editorial
Zoonoses: beyond the human–animal–environment interface
The Lancet
...Sounding the alarm about the risk of zoonotic pandemics has largely been the preserve of a handful of scientists and global health experts. Until now. COVID-19 has coalesced the research community around calls for establishing broad transformational change. This pandemic is a sobering warning against exploiting the natural world without pause, and that zoonoses affect not only health but the whole fabric of society. COVID-19 will not be the last, and perhaps not the worst, zoonotic pandemic. Climate change has shown how an existential threat to human civilisation can galvanise a sense of urgency in a whole-of-society response. Tackling zoonoses needs exactly the same.

Health Policy
Active case finding with case management: the key to tackling the COVID-19 pandemic
Zhongjie Li, and the China CDC COVID-19 Emergency Response Strategy Team

The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health
Jul 2020 Volume 4 Number 7 p479-554, e17-e25
https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanchi/issue/current
Editorial
Prioritising children's rights in the COVID-19 response
The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health
Although substantial progress has been made in many aspects of child health in the past two decades, the COVID-19 pandemic and its wide-ranging effects are threatening some of these hard-won gains. Public health measures such as lockdown, school closures, and restrictions in population movement—while necessary to halt virus transmission—are causing prolonged disruption to societal functioning and exacerbating inequalities worldwide. The global Human Development Index (HDI) is projected to decline this year for the first time since 1990, effectively erasing all progress in human development made in the past 6 years...

Lancet Digital Health
Jul 2020 Volume 2 Number 7 e331-e379
**Viewpoint**

*The European artificial intelligence strategy: implications and challenges for digital health*

I Glenn Cohen, Theodoros Evgeniou, Sara Gerke, Timo Minssen

**Summary**

In February, 2020, the European Commission published a white paper on artificial intelligence (AI) as well as an accompanying communication and report. The paper sets out policy options to facilitate a secure and trustworthy development of AI and considers health to be one of its most important areas of application. We illustrate that the European Commission's approach, as applied to medical AI, presents some challenges that can be detrimental if not addressed. In particular, we discuss the issues of European values and European data, the update problem of AI systems, and the challenges of new trade-offs such as privacy, cybersecurity, accuracy, and intellectual property rights. We also outline what we view as the most important next steps in the Commission's iterative process. Although the European Commission has done good work in setting out a European approach for AI, we conclude that this approach will be more difficult to implement in health care. It will require careful balancing of core values, detailed consideration of nuances of health and AI technologies, and a keen eye on the political winds and global competition.

**Lancet Global Health**

Jul 2020 Volume 8 Number 7 e860-e972

**Comment**

*A wake-up call: COVID-19 and its impact on children's health and wellbeing*

Henrietta H Fore, Executive Director, UNICEF

As cases of COVID-19 surge worldwide and threaten to overwhelm life-saving health services, the survival of mothers and children is at great risk.

In The Lancet Global Health, Timothy Roberton and colleagues present startling new evidence on the potential rise in maternal and child mortality in low-income and middle-income countries if essential health services are disrupted as a result of COVID-19. Building on lessons learned from previous outbreaks of Ebola virus disease and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), the authors estimate a devastating increase in the numbers of maternal and child deaths resulting from reductions in routine health service coverage.

Left unchecked, these reductions (due to, for example, disruptions in medical supply chains or the availability of human and financial resources) along with declines in the uptake of health services by communities fearful of infection will be more catastrophic for mothers and children than COVID-19 itself. The projection of an additional 1.2 million child deaths and 56,700 maternal deaths in 118 countries if coverage of essential services drops by around 45% for 6 months is alarming. It is also avoidable if we act now.

These findings reinforce the multi-part approach that UNICEF has adopted from the start of the outbreak. First, we are working to prevent COVID-19 transmission and treat those who fall sick. Second, we are working to address the effects of the policy responses aimed at containing the spread, including maintaining routine health services for all children and mothers, ensuring
continuity of learning, keeping mothers and children safe and protected from violence, and scaling up social protections to keep children and their families afloat. Third, we are working to strengthen the systems that underpin all of these services...

Articles

**Early estimates of the indirect effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on maternal and child mortality in low-income and middle-income countries: a modelling study**

While the COVID-19 pandemic will increase mortality due to the virus, it is also likely to increase mortality indirectly. In this study, we estimate the additional maternal and under-5 child deaths resulting from the potential disruption of health systems and decreased access to food...Our estimates are based on tentative assumptions and represent a wide range of outcomes. Nonetheless, they show that, if routine health care is disrupted and access to food is decreased (as a result of unavoidable shocks, health system collapse, or intentional choices made in responding to the pandemic), the increase in child and maternal deaths will be devastating. We hope these numbers add context as policy makers establish guidelines and allocate resources in the days and months to come.

Timothy Roberton, Emily D Carter, Victoria B Chou, Angela R Stegmuller, Bianca D Jackson, Yvonne Tam, Talata Sawadogo-Lewis, Neff Walker

**Lancet Infectious Diseases**

Jul 2020  Volume 20  Number 7  p755-874, e148-e179

http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/issue/current

Comment

**Two Middle East respiratory syndrome vaccines: first step for other coronavirus vaccines?**

Kayvon Modjarrad, Jerome H Kim

**Balanced immunity is key for a successful dengue vaccine**

Arturo Reyes-Sandoval

**Next-generation rotavirus vaccines: important progress but work still to be done**

Julie E Bines, Karen L Kotloff

**A future vaccination campaign against COVID-19 at risk of vaccine hesitancy and politicisation**

The COCONEL Group

Articles

**Safety and immunogenicity of a candidate Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus viral-vectored vaccine: a dose-escalation, open-label, non-randomised, uncontrolled, phase 1 trial**

Pedro M Folegatti, et al

**Safety and immunogenicity of a modified vaccinia virus Ankara vector vaccine candidate for Middle East respiratory syndrome: an open-label, phase 1 trial**

Till Koch, et al
Safety and immunogenicity of the tetravalent, live-attenuated dengue vaccine Butantan-DV in adults in Brazil: a two-step, double-blind, randomised placebo-controlled phase 2 trial
Esper G Kallas, et al

Safety and immunogenicity of a parenteral trivalent P2-VP8 subunit rotavirus vaccine: a multisite, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial
Michelle J Groome, et al

Lancet Public Health
Jul 2020 Volume 5 Number 7 e361-e413
https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpub/issue/current

Editorial
Education: a neglected social determinant of health
The Lancet Public Health

Articles
Education and wealth inequalities in healthy ageing in eight harmonised cohorts in the ATHLOS consortium: a population-based study
Yu-Tzu Wu, et al on behalf of the ATHLOS consortium

Background
The rapid growth of the size of the older population is having a substantial effect on health and social care services in many societies across the world. Maintaining health and functioning in older age is a key public health issue but few studies have examined factors associated with inequalities in trajectories of health and functioning across countries. The aim of this study was to investigate trajectories of healthy ageing in older men and women (aged ≥45 years) and the effect of education and wealth on these trajectories.

Interpretation
The apparent difference in baseline healthy ageing scores between those with high versus low education levels and wealth suggests that cumulative disadvantage due to low education and wealth might have largely deteriorated health conditions in early life stages, leading to persistent differences throughout older age, but no further increase in ageing disparity after age 70 years. Future research should adopt a lifecourse approach to investigate mechanisms of health inequalities across education and wealth in different societies.

Lancet Respiratory Medicine
Jun 2020 Volume 8 Number 6 p527-646, e43-e54
http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanres/issue/current
[Reviewed earlier]

Maternal and Child Health Journal
Volume 24, Issue 7, July 2020
https://link.springer.com/journal/10995/24/7
[New issue; No digest content identified]
Mapping and characterization of structural variation in 17,795 human genomes
Structural variants in more than 17,000 human genomes are mapped and characterized using whole-genome sequencing, showing how this type of variation contributes to rare deleterious coding and noncoding alleles.
Haley J. Abel, David E. Larson & Ira M. Hall

Whole-genome sequencing of a sporadic primary immunodeficiency cohort
Whole-genome sequencing analysis of individuals with primary immunodeficiency identifies new candidate disease-associated genes and shows how the interplay between genetic variants can explain the variable penetrance and complexity of the disease.
James E. D. Thaventhiran, Hana Lango Allen & Kenneth G. C. Smith

Whole-genome sequencing of patients with rare diseases in a national health system
Whole-genome sequencing and phenotype data sharing are introduced in a national health system to streamline diagnosis and to discover coding and non-coding variants that cause rare diseases.
Ernest Turro, William J. Astle & Willem H. Ouwehand
Effective study design for comparative functional genomics

Comparative studies struggle to balance technical properties with the need to obtain samples from multiple species. The authors argue for extensive record keeping and reporting of metadata to minimize the effect of confounders and increase the robustness of inferences from these studies.

Joanna L. Kelley & Yoav Gilad

COVID-19 vaccines: neutralizing antibodies and the alum advantage

Here, Peter Hotez and colleagues discuss the advantages of using an aluminium-based adjuvant in candidate COVID-19 vaccines.

Peter J. Hotez, David B. Corry & Maria Elena Bottazzi

Passive antibody therapy in COVID-19

In this Comment, Jonathan Abraham highlights the potential of passive immunization strategies for COVID-19.

Jonathan Abraham
**Next-generation stem cells — ushering in a new era of cell-based therapies**

Primary stem cells have long been used therapeutically for applications such as bone marrow transplantation. This Review discusses how cell-engineering approaches are enabling the development of next-generation stem cell therapies with improved function, specificity and responsiveness, thereby expanding their applications into areas such as delivering drugs and oncolytic viruses to tumours and promoting tissue repair in various diseases.

Erin A. Kimbrel & Robert Lanza

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**New England Journal of Medicine**
July 2, 2020  Vol. 383 No. 1
http://www.nejm.org/toc/nejm/medical-journal

*Perspective*

**A Half-Century of Progress in Health: The National Academy of Medicine at 50: Four Decades of HIV/AIDS — Much Accomplished, Much to Do**
Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., and H. Clifford Lane, M.D.

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**Pediatrics**
Vol. 146, Issue 1  1 Jul 2020
https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/

*Articles*

**Parental Hesitancy About Routine Childhood and Influenza Vaccinations: A National Survey**
Allison Kempe, Alison W. Saville, Christina Albertin, Gregory Zimet, Abigail Breck, Laura Helmkamp, Sitaram Vangala, L. Miriam Dickinson, Cindy Rand, Sharon Humiston, Peter G. Szilagyi
Pediatrics, Jul 2020, 146 (1) e20193852

**Improving HPV Vaccination Rates: A Stepped-Wedge Randomized Trial**
Pediatrics, Jul 2020, 146 (1) e20192737

*Commentaries*

**Rethinking Flu Vaccine Messaging**
Annabelle de St. Maurice, Kathryn Edwards
Pediatrics, Jul 2020, 146 (1) e20201770

*Special Articles*

**The Ethics of Creating a Resource Allocation Strategy During the COVID-19 Pandemic**
Naomi Laventhal, Ratna Basak, Mary Lynn Dell, Douglas Diekema, Nanette Elster, Gina Geis, Mark Mercurio, Douglas Opel, David Shalowitz, Mindy Statter, Robert Macauley
Pediatrics, Jul 2020, 146 (1) e20201243

The coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic has affected nearly every aspect of medicine and raises numerous moral dilemmas for clinicians. Foremost of these quandaries is how to
delineate and implement crisis standards of care and, specifically, how to consider how health care resources should be distributed in times of shortage. We review basic principles of disaster planning and resource stewardship with ethical relevance for this and future public health crises, explore the role of illness severity scoring systems and their limitations and potential contribution to health disparities, and consider the role for exceptionally resource-intensive interventions. We also review the philosophical and practical underpinnings of crisis standards of care and describe historical approaches to scarce resource allocation to offer analysis and guidance for pediatric clinicians. Particular attention is given to the impact on children of this endeavor. Although few children have required hospitalization for symptomatic infection, children nonetheless have the potential to be profoundly affected by the strain on the health care system imposed by the pandemic and should be considered prospectively in resource allocation frameworks.

Pharmaceutics
Volume 12, Issue 6 (June 2020) – 114 articles
https://www.mdpi.com/1999-4923/12/5
[No issue; No digest content identified]

PharmacoEconomics
Volume 38, Issue 6, June 2020
https://link.springer.com/journal/40273/38/6
[No issue; No digest content identified]

PLoS Genetics
https://journals.plos.org/plosgenetics/
(Accessed 4 July 2020)
[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Medicine
http://www.plosmedicine.org/
(Accessed 4 July 2020)
Will COVID-19 be evidence-based medicine’s nemesis?
Trisha Greenhalgh
Editorial | published 30 Jun 2020 PLOS Medicine
https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1003266

PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases
http://www.plosntds.org/
(Accessed 4 July 2020)
[No new digest content identified]

PLoS One
Elderly people and responses to COVID-19 in 27 Countries
J. F. Daoust
Research Article | published 02 Jul 2020 PLOS ONE
https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0235590

PLoS Pathogens
http://journals.plos.org/plospathogens/
[Accessed 4 July 2020]
[No new digest content identified]

PNAS - Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America
http://www.pnas.org/content/early/
Inaugural Article
The challenges of modeling and forecasting the spread of COVID-19
Andrea L. Bertozzi, Elisa Franco, George Mohler, Martin B. Short, and Daniel Sledge
Significance
The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has placed epidemic modeling at the forefront of worldwide public policy making. Nonetheless, modeling and forecasting the spread of COVID-19 remain a challenge. Here, we present and detail three regional-scale models for forecasting and assessing the course of the pandemic. This work is intended to demonstrate the utility of parsimonious models for understanding the pandemic and to provide an accessible framework for generating policy-relevant insights into its course. We show how these models can be connected to each other and to time series data for a particular region. Capable of measuring and forecasting the impacts of social distancing, these models highlight the dangers of relaxing nonpharmaceutical public health interventions in the absence of a vaccine or antiviral therapies.

Prehospital & Disaster Medicine
Volume 35 - Issue 3 - June 2020
https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/prehospital-and-disaster-medicine/latest-issue
[Reviewed earlier]

Preventive Medicine
Volume 136  July 2020
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Proceedings of the Royal Society B
08 July 2020  Volume 287  Issue 1930
As scientists rush to develop a vaccine for the new coronavirus, experts warn that public health agencies need new strategies to persuade people to accept a vaccine. Antivaccine activists have helped stoke rising levels of "vaccine hesitancy" in the United States and elsewhere. Now, those groups are turning their attention to the coronavirus. Polls have found as few as half of Americans are committed to taking the coronavirus vaccine. Now, researchers who study health behavior are urging adoption of some of the tactics used by vaccine critics: telling compelling, personal stories; spreading messages quickly and creatively through social media; offering more individualized responses to the concerns of different groups; and recruiting volunteers to act as a pro-vaccine counterweight.

**Policy Forum**

**Improve alignment of research policy and societal values**

By Peter Novitzky, Michael J. Bernstein, Vincent Blok, Robert Braun, Tung Tung Chan, Wout Lamers, Anne Loeber, Ingeborg Meijer, Ralf Lindner, Erich Griessler

Science 03 Jul 2020 : 39-41 Restricted Access

Summary

Historically, scientific and engineering expertise has been key in shaping research and innovation (R&I) policies, with benefits presumed to accrue to society more broadly over time (1). But there is persistent and growing concern about whether and how ethical and societal values are integrated into R&I policies and governance, as we confront public disbelief in science and political suspicion toward evidence-based policy-making (2). Erosion of such a social contract with science limits the ability of democratic societies to deal with challenges presented by new, disruptive technologies, such as synthetic biology, nanotechnology, genetic engineering, automation and robotics, and artificial intelligence. Many policy efforts have emerged in response to such concerns, one prominent example being Europe's Eighth Framework Programme, Horizon 2020 (H2020), whose focus on “Responsible Research and Innovation” (RRI) provides a case study for the translation of such normative perspectives into concrete policy action and implementation. Our analysis of this H2020 RRI approach suggests a lack of consistent integration of elements such as ethics, open access, open innovation, and public engagement. On the basis of our evaluation, we suggest possible pathways for
strengthening efforts to deliver R&I policies that deepen mutually beneficial science and society relationships.

**Science Translational Medicine**  
01 July 2020  Vol 12, Issue 550  
https://stm.sciencemag.org/  
[New issue; No digest content identified]

**Social Science & Medicine**  
Volume 253  May 2020  
[Reviewed earlier]

**Systematic Reviews**  
https://systematicreviewsjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles  
[Accessed 4 July 2020]  
[No digest content identified]

**Travel Medicine and Infectious Diseases**  
Volume 35  May–June 2020  
[New issue; No digest content identified]

**Tropical Medicine & International Health**  
Volume 25, Issue 7  Pages: i-iv, 751-904  July 2020  
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/13653156/current  
[New issue; No digest content identified]

**Vaccine**  
Volume 38, Issue 30  Pages 4651-4782 (19 June 2020)  
https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/vaccine/vol/38/issue/30  
*Review article  Open access*  
**Factors limiting data quality in the expanded programme on immunization in low and middle-income countries: A scoping review**  
Katherine Harrison, Nargis Rahimi, M. Carolina Danovaro-Holliday  
Pages 4652-4663

*Research article  Open access*  
**Advanced vaccinology education: Landscaping its growth and global footprint**  
Edwin J. Asturias, Philippe Duclos, Noni E. MacDonald, Hanna Nohynek, ... Paul-Henri Lambert  
Pages 4664-4670
Research article  Abstract only
**Timeliness of childhood vaccinations in Armenia, 2015–2016**
Anya Agopian, Heather Young, Scott Quinlan, Madeline Murguia Rice
Pages 4671-4678

Research article  Open access
**Cost-effectiveness analysis of a gender-neutral human papillomavirus vaccination program in the Netherlands**
Joost J.M. Simons, Nora Vida, Tjalke A. Westra, Maarten J. Postma

Research article  Abstract only
**Acceptability of vaccination against human papillomavirus among women aged 20 to 45 in rural Hunan Province, China: A cross-sectional study**
Si Qin, Jing-Xia Fu, Ming-Zhu Chen, Yan-Ting Meng, ... Yang Luo
Pages 4732-4739

Research article  Abstract only
**Low vaccination in rural Sindh, Pakistan: A case of refusal, ignorance or access?**
Durenaz Jamal, Shehla Zaidi, Sara Husain, David W. Orr, ... Rabia Najmi
Pages 4747-4754

History of Vaccinology paper
Research article  Open access
**Early smallpox vaccine manufacturing in the United States: Introduction of the “animal vaccine” in 1870, establishment of “vaccine farms”, and the beginnings of the vaccine industry**
José Esparza, Seth Lederman, Andreas Nitsche, Clarissa R. Damaso
Pages 4773-4779

**Vaccines — Open Access Journal**
http://www.mdpi.com/journal/vaccines
(Accessed 4 July 2020)

Open Access  Article
**Strategies to Improve Vaccination among At-Risk Adults and the Elderly in Italy**
by Giovanna Elisa Calabrò, Alessia Tognetto, Elettra Carini, Silvia Mancinelli, Laura Sarnari, Vittoria Colamesta, Walter Ricciardi and Chiara de Waure
Vaccines 2020, 8(3), 358; https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines8030358 (registering DOI) - 04 Jul 2020

**Abstract**
The World Health Organization (WHO), the United States (US) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the European Center for Disease Control (ECDC), and the immunization guidelines of many countries issue vaccination recommendations for adults and the elderly. However, the uptake of vaccination

Open Access  Article
**Strategies to Improve Vaccination among At-Risk Adults and the Elderly in Italy**
Abstract
The World Health Organization (WHO), the United States (US) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the European Center for Disease Control (ECDC), and the immunization guidelines of many countries issue vaccination recommendations for adults and the elderly. However, the uptake of vaccination

Open Access Review
HPV Vaccination: The Position Paper of the Italian Society of Colposcopy and Cervico-Vaginal Pathology (SICPCV)
by Andrea Ciavattini, Luca Giannella, Rosa De Vincenzo, Jacopo Di Giuseppe, Maria Papiccio, Ankica Lukic, Giovanni Delli Carpini, Antonio Perino, Antonio Frega, Francesco Sopracordevole, Maggiorino Barbero and Murat Gultekin
Vaccines 2020, 8(3), 354; https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines8030354 - 02 Jul 2020

Value in Health
June 2020 Volume 23, Issue 6, p677-826
https://www.valueinhealthjournal.com/issue/S1098-3015(20)X0008-8
[Reviewed earlier]
content is published without restriction, but most publications require registration and some subscription level.

**The Atlantic**  
http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/  
*Accessed 4 July 2020*  
[No new, unique, relevant content]

**BBC**  
http://www.bbc.co.uk/  
*Accessed 4 July 2020*  
**Health**  
**Covaxin: India to hold human trial of coronavirus vaccine in July**  
30 June 2020

**The Economist**  
http://www.economist.com/  
*Accessed 4 July 2020*  
**Leaders**  
Jul 4th 2020 edition  
**The way we live now**  
**Covid-19 is here to stay. People will have to adapt**  
The world is not experiencing a second wave: it never got over the first

**Britain**  
Jul 2nd 2020 edition  
**Covid-19 - Oxford University is leading in the vaccine race**  
Governments are pouring money into a more urgent version of the space race

**Financial Times**  
http://www.ft.com/home/uk  
*Accessed 4 July 2020*  
[No new, unique, relevant content]

**Forbes**  
http://www.forbes.com/  
*Accessed 4 July 2020*  
Jul 2, 2020  
**Fauci: Covid-19 Vaccine Safety And Effectiveness Should Be Known ‘By Early Winter’**  
Dr. Anthony Fauci said the safety and effectiveness of a vaccine for the coronavirus strain Covid-19 should be known by “early winter” with 200 million doses available for U.S. use by early 2021.  
By Bruce Japsen  Senior Contributor

**Foreign Affairs**  
http://www.foreignaffairs.com/  
*Accessed 4 July 2020*
India's Clinical Research Body Defends Timeline for Coronavirus Vaccine Trials
India's leading clinical research agency said Saturday its decision to fast-track development of a potential coronavirus vaccine was in line with international standards, after health experts raised concerns about the schedule for clinical trials.
By Reuters   July 4, 2020

Americas
Brazil Health Regulator Anvisa Allows Chinese COVID-19 Vaccine Trial
Brazilian health regulator Anvisa on Friday approved clinical trials of a potential coronavirus vaccine developed by China's Sinovac, according to an official gazette publication.
By Reuters   July 4, 2020

Asia Pacific
WHO Sees First Results From COVID Drug Trials Within Two Weeks
The World Health Organization (WHO) should soon get results from clinical trials it is conducting of drugs that might be effective in treating COVID-19 patients, its Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said on Friday.
By Reuters   July 3, 2020

Asia Pacific
Health Experts Cast Doubt on India's Timeline for COVID Vaccine
The chief of India's top clinical research agency said in a leaked letter circulated on Friday it envisaged launching a novel coronavirus vaccine by Aug. 15, prompting scepticism from some health experts who questioned the short timeline.
By Reuters   July 3, 2020

U.S.
COVID-19 Vaccines to Enter Late-Stage Trial by End of July, Fauci Says
COVID-19 vaccine candidates will enter late-stage clinical studies by the end of the month, with others beginning in August, September and October, the U.S. government's top infectious diseases expert said on Thursday.

By Reuters  July 3, 2020

**U.S. NIH Director Collins Optimistic on COVID-19 Vaccine by Year End**
The U.
By Reuters

**Washington Post**
https://www.washingtonpost.com/
Accessed 4 July 2020
**Prospect of a coronavirus vaccine unites anti-vaxxers, conspiracy theorists and hippie moms in**
Loveday Morris  · Jul 3, 2020

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**Think Tanks et al**

**Brookings**
http://www.brookings.edu/
Accessed 4 July 2020
[No new relevant content]

**Center for Global Development**  [to 4 July 2020]
http://www.cgdev.org/page/press-center
Accessed 4 July 2020
[No new relevant content]

**Chatham House**  [to 4 July 2020]
https://www.chathamhouse.org/
[No new relevant content]

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https://www.csis.org/
Accessed 4 July 2020
[No new relevant content]

**Council on Foreign Relations**
http://www.cfr.org/
Accessed 4 July 2020
June 30, 2020
**Pharmaceuticals and Vaccines**
**What Is the World Doing to Create a COVID-19 Vaccine?**
Backgrounder by Claire Felter
Kaiser Family Foundation
https://www.kff.org/search/?post_type=press-release
Accessed 4 July 2020
July 1, 2020 News Release
KFF’s Kaiser Health News (KHN), AP Investigate the State of the Nation’s Public Health Infrastructure as It Confronts the Challenge of the COVID-19 Pandemic
A new investigation from KHN and The Associated Press examines the troubling state of the public health infrastructure the nation is relying on to navigate the health and economic threats presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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