



Vaccines and Global Health: The Week in Review
12 December 2020 :: Number 584
Center for Vaccine Ethics & Policy (CVEP)

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

Vaccines and Global Health: The Week in Review is published as a PDF and scheduled for release each Saturday [U.S.] at midnight [0000 GMT-5]. The PDF is posted 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.

Comments and suggestions should be directed to
David R. Curry, MS
Editor and
Executive Director
Center for Vaccine Ethics & Policy
david.r.curry@centerforvaccineethicsandpolicy.org

Request email delivery of the pdf: *If you would like to receive the PDF of each edition via email [Constant Contact], please send your request to david.r.curry@centerforvaccineethicsandpolicy.org.*

Support this knowledge-sharing service: *Your financial support helps us cover our costs and to address a current shortfall in our annual operating budget. Click [here](#) to donate and thank you in advance for your contribution.*

Contents *[click on link below to move to associated content]*

- A. [Milestones :: Perspectives :: Featured Journal Content](#)
- B. [Emergencies](#)
- C. [WHO; CDC \[U.S., Africa, China\]](#)
- D. [Announcements](#)
- E. [Journal Watch](#)
- F. [Media Watch](#)

.....
.....

Milestones :: Perspectives :: Research

.....
.....

Bill and Melinda Gates call for collaboration, continued innovation to overcome challenges of delivering COVID-19 scientific breakthroughs to the world

Gates Foundation pledges additional \$250 million to accelerate development and equitable distribution of COVID-19 tests, treatments, and vaccines to end the pandemic

SEATTLE, December 9, 2020 – **The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation today announced it will commit an additional \$250 million to support the research, development, and equitable delivery of lifesaving tools in the global effort against COVID-19.** Marking the end of a year focused on the scientific breakthroughs needed to end the pandemic, the foundation calls for global commitments to making these innovations available in 2021 to everyone who needs them.

“Everyone, everywhere deserves to benefit from the science developed in 2020,” said Melinda Gates, co-chair of the Gates Foundation. “We are confident that the world will get better in 2021, but whether it gets better for everyone depends on the actions of the world’s leaders and their commitment to deliver tests, treatments, and vaccines to the people who need them, no matter where they live or how much money they have.”

Today’s commitment, the foundation’s largest single contribution to the COVID-19 response to date, builds on the partnerships and expertise it has established over the last 20 years. This funding will support continued innovation to develop tests, treatments, and vaccines that are easier to scale and deliver, to ensure there are many options that are less expensive and can be used in different settings. Today’s commitment will also support the delivery of new COVID-19 tests, treatments, and vaccines, particularly in low- and middle-income countries.

Getting these innovations to where they are needed will require the same level of planning, urgency, and collaboration it took to develop them. It will require manufacturing tests, doses of treatments, and vaccines quickly and safely; securing sufficient funding to buy and distribute them; organizing logistical infrastructure and supply chains; preparing clinics and health workers to administer them; and sharing accurate information with communities so people understand and trust what they are receiving. **Part of today’s funding will enable countries to use cutting-edge technology and delivery systems to plan and implement the rollout of vaccines. It will also support efforts to engage communities in the process to increase trust and improve communication about new COVID-19 interventions.**

“Thanks to the ingenuity of the global scientific community, we are achieving the exciting medical breakthroughs needed to end the pandemic,” said Bill Gates, co-chair of the Gates Foundation. “We have new drugs and more potential vaccines than we could have expected at the start of the year. But these innovations will only save lives if they get out into the world.”

As the world prepares to embark on a global logistical challenge previously unmatched in scale and complexity, **it can draw on the expertise of global organizations like Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and the Global Fund, which have collaborated with governments to deliver vaccines, tests, and treatments against infectious diseases to people in lower-income countries for 20 years.** “Fortunately, reaching people with lifesaving tools is something the world knows how to do,” said Melinda Gates.

“The next phase of fighting this pandemic will be much costlier than the initial development of safe and effective vaccines. Our commitment today is only a fraction of what is needed and will be focused on the areas where philanthropy can best add value,” said Gates Foundation CEO Mark Suzman. “Every institution with a role to play has to be generous now. Multilateral organizations, national governments, companies, and philanthropies—we all must invest in making sure the tests, drugs, and vaccines reach as many people as possible.”

The total commitments include:

Today’s announcement brings the foundation’s total commitments to the global COVID-19 response to \$1.75 billion. This draws from three sources, including new funding commitments above the foundation’s planned annual program budget; at-risk financing from the foundation’s Strategic Investment Fund; and a portion of funds channeled from foundation programs where grantees identified urgent needs or had unique expertise to mitigate the effects of the pandemic...

.....
.....

COVID-19 Vaccines Regulatory Processes :: Announcements/Meeting Dates/Milestones

Week of 7 December 2020

09 December 2020

[Health Canada authorizes first COVID-19 vaccine](#)

...Health Canada received Pfizer's submission on October 9, 2020 and after a thorough, independent review of the evidence, Health Canada has determined that the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine meets the Department's stringent safety, efficacy and quality requirements for use in Canada....

09 December 2020

[UAE Ministry of Health and Prevention announces official registration of inactivated COVID-19 vaccine used in #4Humanity Trials](#)

ABU DHABI, 9th December, 2020 (WAM) -- The UAE’s Ministry of Health and Prevention, MOHAP, has announced the official registration of Beijing Institute of Biological Product’s inactivated COVID-19 vaccine in a major step towards combating the global pandemic. The registration of this vaccine is a decision in response to the application from Sinopharm CNBG. The announcement is a significant vote of confidence by the UAE’s health authorities in the safety and efficacy of this vaccine.

MOHAP, in collaboration with Department of Health Abu Dhabi, DOH, has reviewed Sinopharm CNBG’s interim analysis of the phase III trials, which shows Beijing Institute of Biological Product’s inactivated vaccine to have 86 percent efficacy against COVID-19 infection. The analysis also shows the vaccine to have 99 percent seroconversion rate of neutralising antibody and 100 percent effectiveness

in preventing moderate and severe cases of the disease. Furthermore, the analysis shows no serious safety concerns.

This vaccine was granted Emergency Use Authorisation, EUA, since September by MOHAP to protect frontline workers most at risk of COVID-19. The UAE is conducting Post Authorisation Safety Study, PASS, and Post Authorisation Efficacy Study, PAES, of its EUA programme. These ongoing studies show similar safety and efficacy profiles as the interim analysis.

The #4Humanity phase III trials have included 31,000 volunteers across 125 nationalities in the UAE alone. The EUA vaccination programme has effectively safeguarded the UAE frontline workers. MOHAP's official registration of Beijing Institute of Biological Product's inactivated COVID-19 vaccine leads the way to comprehensively protecting the population and responsibly opening the economy.

11 December 2020

EMA Public stakeholder meeting: development and authorisation of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines in the EU

:: Documents

:: Video recording

Event summary

EMA held this virtual meeting to explain the processes for the development, evaluation, approval and safety monitoring of COVID-19 vaccines in the EU, including EMA's specific role, to all interested parties.

The meeting also gave the opportunity to the public and stakeholder groups to speak and share their needs, expectations and any concerns. This feedback will be considered by EMA and the European medicines regulatory network in the decision-making process.

Please note that some issues of high public interest, such as patient access to COVID-19 vaccines and national vaccination campaigns, lie outside EMA's remit and were not covered at this event.

12 December 2020

FDA Takes Key Action in Fight Against COVID-19 By Issuing Emergency Use Authorization for First COVID-19 Vaccine

Today, the FDA issued the first emergency use authorization (EUA) for a vaccine for the prevention of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) in individuals 16 years of age and older.

11-12 December 2020

Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) - CDC

:: Final Agenda – December 12, 2020 pdf icon[1 page]

:: Presentation Slides – December 11-12, 2020

Editor's Note:

The ACIP approved recommendations for immunization involving the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID vaccine. No official announcement language was posted as of publication time.

.....

.....

Week of 14 December 2020

17 December 2020 – Thursday – 0900-1800/New York

Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Agenda

The Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research's (CBER), **Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC) will meet in open session to discuss Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) of the Moderna, Inc., COVID-19 Vaccine for the prevention of COVID-19 in individuals 18 years and older.**

The online web conference meeting will be available at the following:
<https://fda.yorkcast.com/webcast/Play/5cf9198bcc0745769b39c699850945911d>

18-20 December 2020 Times TBC

Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) - CDC

Emergency Meetings if indicated following VRBPAC Meeting on 17 December 2020.

.....
.....

COVID-19 Vaccines :: Development/Procurement/Distribution/Logistics

Sanofi and GSK announce a delay in their adjuvanted recombinant protein-based COVID-19 vaccine programme to improve immune response in the elderly

11 December 2020 Issued: London and Paris

:: Phase 1/2 interim results showed an immune response comparable to patients who recovered from COVID-19 in adults aged 18 to 49 years

:: Insufficient response in older adults demonstrates the need to refine the concentration of antigen in order to provide high-level immune response across all age groups

:: Companies plan a Phase 2b study with an improved antigen formulation

:: With support from BARDA as part of Operation Warp Speed, study to start in February 2021, including a proposed comparison with an authorised COVID-19 vaccine

:: Product availability now expected in Q4 2021 pending successful completion of the development plan

AstraZeneca will test using component of Russia's Sputnik V in clinical trials of its own vaccine against coronavirus

Press release, 11.12.2020

[See Sputnik below for detail]

Pfizer and BioNTech Celebrate Historic First Authorization in the U.S. of Vaccine to Prevent COVID-19 [FDA]

December 11, 2020

U.S. Government Exercises 1st Option for Additional 100 Million Doses of Moderna's COVID-19 Vaccine Candidate

December 11, 2020

Pfizer and BioNTech Receive FDA Advisory Committee Vote Supporting Potential First Emergency Use Authorization for Vaccine to Combat COVID-19 in the U.S.

December 10, 2020

Pfizer and BioNTech Announce Publication of Results from Landmark Phase 3 Trial of BNT162b2 COVID-19 Vaccine Candidate in The New England Journal of Medicine

December 10, 2020

Moderna Announces First Participants Dosed in Phase 2/3 Study of COVID-19 Vaccine Candidate in Adolescents

December 10, 2020

Switzerland Exercises Increased Option for 7.5 Million Doses of mRNA Vaccine Against COVID-19 (mRNA-1273)

December 08, 2020

Canada Exercises Increased Option for Total of 40 Million Doses of mRNA Vaccine Candidate Against COVID-19 (mRNA-1273)

December 07, 2020

.....

Editor's Note:

To better present a global view of COVID-19 vaccine development, regulatory review, procurement and deployment, we will present headlines from this site – which provides as its contact point the Russian Direct Investment Fund [RDIF – “Russia’s sovereign wealth fund”].

Sputnik V – “the first registered COVID-19 vaccine” [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://sputnikvaccine.com/newsroom/pressreleases/>

Press Releases

AstraZeneca will test using component of Russia’s Sputnik V in clinical trials of its own vaccine against coronavirus

Press release, 11.12.2020

:: Sputnik V is one of the most effective vaccines globally with over 90% efficacy against coronavirus. The unique feature of the Russian vaccine is the use of two different components based on human adenovirus in two separate inoculations in order to deliver genetic material from the spike of the coronavirus into the human body. This approach provides for a stronger and longer-term immune response compared with vaccines using the same component for both inoculations.

:: On November 23, 2020, following results which showed high efficacy for the Sputnik V vaccine, RDIF and the Gamaleya Center offered AstraZeneca the use of one of the two components of the Sputnik V vaccine.

:: AstraZeneca accepted the proposal by RDIF and the Gamaleya Center to use one of the two vectors of the Sputnik V vaccine in additional clinical trials of its own vaccine, which will commence before the end of this year.

RDIF and Government of Argentina have signed a contract to supply 10 million doses of the Sputnik V vaccine

Press release, 10.12.2020

The Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF, Russia's sovereign wealth fund) and the Government of Argentina have agreed to supply to the country 10 million doses of Sputnik V, the world's first registered vaccine against coronavirus.

The vaccine will enable Argentina to secure a diversified portfolio of vaccines against coronavirus. Supplies of the vaccine will be facilitated by international partners of RDIF in India, China, South Korea and other countries...

.....

WHO, national regulators and vaccine manufacturers in South-East Asia Region discuss COVID-19 vaccines

11 December 2020

New Delhi: The World Health Organization, national regulatory authorities and vaccine manufacturers in WHO South-East Asia Region discussed fast tracking of COVID-19 vaccine rollout in Member countries.

"The vaccine manufacturing and regulatory sectors have a critical role to play in equitable and efficient deployment of vaccines," said Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh, Regional Director, WHO South-East Asia Region, at the two-day virtual meeting that ended today.

The meeting deliberated processes and timelines to fast-track registration of COVID-19 vaccines in countries using the Emergency Use Listing procedures while comprehending the landscape of COVID-19 vaccine production in the Region.

Aimed at strengthening collaboration between national programmes, vaccine producers and regulators in the region for COVID-19 vaccine deployment, the meeting provided a platform for interaction and experience sharing for vaccine registration, deployment and regulation.

The Regional Director said all countries in the Region are now developing and finalizing national deployment and vaccination plans for COVID-19, of which regulatory preparedness is a core component.

Establishing expedited regulatory pathways for vaccine approval and adjusting regulatory pathways to the type of vaccine that is developed and filed for approval remains critical as emergency use authorization will precede full licensure, Dr Khetrapal Singh said.

While vaccine licensure systems may need to be modified, having standard operating procedures and stipulated timelines for emergency use authorization would be vital, she said.

The Regional Director emphasized on effective coordination, collaboration and information-sharing. From R&D to production, and from information on country readiness to post-marketing surveillance, manufacturers, regulators, policy-makers and planners must continue to work together to optimize and refine vaccine deployment.

"Countries in our Region are among the world's largest vaccine manufacturers, and the vaccines produced here are likely to be administered to billions of people globally. I am certain that together, in solidarity with all people of the Region and world, you will effectively contribute to health and well-being of all," Dr Khetrapal Singh said.

Key global and regional partners such as GAVI and UNICEF participated in the meeting. Among the vaccine manufacturers, from India Bharat Biotech International Ltd, Biological E Ltd, Cadila Healthcare Ltd, Serum Institute of India Pvt. Ltd, Dr Reddy's Laboratories and Wockhardt Limited; from Indonesia Bio Farma Limited, and from Thailand Government Pharmaceutical Organization (GPO), Bionet Asia Co.Ltd and Siam Bioscience, participated in the meeting.

This was the second such meeting with vaccine manufacturers and regulators organized in WHO South East Asia Region, with the first held in April...

.....
.....

EMERGENCIES

Coronavirus [COVID-19]

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

Weekly Epidemiological and Operational updates

Last update: 5 December 2020, 9:02 am GMT-5

Confirmed cases :: 69 808 588 [week ago: 65 257 767] [two weeks ago: 61 299 371]

Confirmed deaths :: 1 588 854 [week ago: 1 513 179] [two weeks ago: 1 439 784]

Countries, areas or territories with cases :: 220

.....

Weekly epidemiological update - 8 December 2020

Overview

Globally in the past week, cases of COVID-19 have remained at approximately 4 million new cases, while new deaths have continued to increase to over 73 000. This brings the cumulative numbers to over 65.8 million reported cases and 1.5 million deaths globally since the start of the pandemic.

.....
.....

Emergencies

POLIO

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

Polio this week as of 09 December 2020

:: Aidan O'Leary appointed new WHO polio eradication director – Mr Aidan O'Leary will assume the responsibilities of Director for Polio Eradication at WHO, effective 1 January 2021. Mr O'Leary will succeed Mr Michel Zaffran, who will enter a well-deserved retirement end-February 2021. Mr O'Leary is from Ireland and is currently Head of Office in Yemen for the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). He has served as the Chief of Polio Eradication in Pakistan for UNICEF and spent three years working in Afghanistan (between 2011 and 2014) as Head

of Office, OCHA. He has extensive experience in emergency settings, including in Iraq and Syria, where he also held the position of Head of Office for OCHA.

Summary of new WPV and cVDPV viruses this week (AFP cases and ES positives):

:: **Pakistan:** five WPV1 positive environmental samples, six cVDPV2 cases and eight cVDPV2 positive environmental samples

:: **Central African Republic:** one cVDPV2 case

:: **Chad:** nine cVDPV2 cases

:: **Somalia:** one cVDPV2 case

.....
.....

Editor's Note:

A number of country pages below did not load at inquiry.

WHO Grade 3 Emergencies [to 12 Dec 2020]

Democratic Republic of the Congo - No new digest announcements identified

Mozambique floods - No new digest announcements identified

Nigeria - No new digest announcements identified

Somalia - No new digest announcements identified

South Sudan - No new digest announcements identified

Syrian Arab Republic - No new digest announcements identified

Yemen - No new digest announcements identified

.....

WHO Grade 2 Emergencies [to 12 Dec 2020]

Iraq

:: An increasing number of suicide cases in Iraq worries public health experts amid COVID-19 pandemic Baghdad Iraq, 9 December 2020 – The growing number of suicide cases in Iraq over the past years is a worrying public health concern that can no longer be ignored. If not addressed, it will keep taking a heavy toll on individuals and communities in the country...

Burkina Faso

:: L'OMS appuie la revue intra action de la riposte contre la COVID-19 au Burkina Faso
10 décembre 2020

Afghanistan - No new digest announcements identified

Angola - No new digest announcements identified

Burundi - No new digest announcements identified

Cameroon - No new digest announcements identified

Central African Republic - No new digest announcements identified

Ethiopia - No new digest announcements identified

Iran floods 2019 - No new digest announcements identified

Libya - No new digest announcements identified

Malawi Floods - No new digest announcements identified

Measles in Europe - No new digest announcements identified

[MERS-CoV](#) - *No new digest announcements identified*
[Mozambique](#) - *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*
[HIV in Pakistan](#) - *No new digest announcements identified*
[Sao Tome and Principe Necrotizing Cellulitis \(2017\)](#) - *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 12 Dec 2020]

Kenya

:: Keeping to the universal health coverage path in Kenya 11 December 2020

[Chad](#) - *No new digest announcements identified*
[Djibouti](#) - *No new digest announcements identified*
[Mali](#) - *No new digest announcements identified*
[Namibia - viral hepatitis](#) - *No new digest announcements identified*
[Tanzania](#) - *No new digest announcements identified*

.....

.....

UN OCHA – L3 Emergencies

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

Syrian Arab Republic

:: Syrian Arab Republic: COVID-19 Response Update No. 13 - 9 December 2020

Yemen

:: Yemen Situation Report, 9 Dec 2020

.....

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.

COVID-19

:: Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19): Weekly Epidemiological Update (8 December 2020)

East Africa Locust Infestation

:: Desert Locust situation update - 10 December 2020

.....

.....

WHO & Regional Offices [to 12 Dec 2020]

11 December 2020 *Departmental news*

[Call for Action: Managing the Infodemic](#)

A global movement to promote access to health information and mitigate harm from health misinformation among online and offline communities

11 December 2020 *Departmental news*

[Leading through example: Norway paves the way to ensure equal access to COVID-19 treatments and develops trailblazing flagship initiative on noncommunicable diseases](#)

11 December 2020 *News release*

[WHO, IFRC sign memorandum of understanding on emergency medical teams](#)

The World Health Organization and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) today launched a new collaboration to strengthen the delivery of emergency medical and health services during humanitarian crises.

11 December 2020 *Departmental news*

[New checklist supports schools to reopen and prepare for COVID-19 resurgences](#)

10 December 2020 *Statement*

[Statement from the 'civil society' track of the 3rd Global Infodemic Management Conference](#)

9 December 2020 *News release*

[WHO reveals leading causes of death and disability worldwide: 2000-2019](#)

Noncommunicable diseases now make up 7 of the world's top 10 causes of death, according to WHO's 2019 Global Health Estimates, published today. This is an increase from 4 of the 10 leading causes in 2000. The new data cover the period from 2000 to 2019 inclusive.

The estimates reveal trends over the last 2 decades in mortality and morbidity caused by diseases and injuries. They clearly highlight the need for an intensified global focus on preventing and treating cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes and chronic respiratory diseases, as well as tackling injuries, in all regions of the world, as set out in the agenda for the UN Sustainable Development Goals...

8 December 2020 *News release*

[WHO launches year-long campaign to help 100 million people quit tobacco](#)

8 December 2020 *Departmental news*

[Strategic partnerships for global health: Luxembourg and WHO convene strategic dialogue](#)

8 December 2020 *Departmental news*

[Retention of the health workforce in rural and remote areas: a systematic review](#)

7 December 2020 *Departmental news*

[G20 First-time Released Report on Digital Health Interventions for Pandemic Management](#)

The first G20 report in area of digital health, Report on Digital Health Implementation Approach to Pandemic Management, was announced in advent of the G20 Summit. This report promptly outlines

digital health emergency responses landscape and proposed actions and implementation recommendations. WHO assumes leadership in multiple strategic recommendation areas in this report, and is committed to support countries to enhance capacity in leveraging digital intervention for emergency response through strengthened international collaboration...the report can be downloaded from digitalhealthtaskforce.org.

7 December 2020 *Departmental news*

[WHO announces forthcoming updates on the systematic screening for tuberculosis](#)

.....

[Call for proposals : to publish a series of Market Information for Access \(MI4A\) reports in peer reviewed journals](#)

Agenda, Policy and Strategy, department of Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals, World Health Organization

8 December 2020

.....

[Weekly Epidemiological Record, 11 December 2020, vol. 95, 50 \(pp. 629–640\)](#)

Schistosomiasis and soil-transmitted helminthiasis: numbers of people treated in 2019

.....

WHO Regional Offices

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

[WHO African Region](#) **AFRO**

:: [Keeping to the universal health coverage path in Kenya](#) 11 December 2020

[WHO Region of the Americas](#) **PAHO**

No new digest content identified

[WHO South-East Asia Region](#) **SEARO**

:: [11 December 2020 News release](#)

[WHO, national regulators and vaccine manufacturers in South-East Asia Region discuss COVID-19 vaccines](#)

[See Milestones above for detail]

[WHO European Region](#) **EURO**

:: [Youth perspectives in focus at high-level meeting on schooling during COVID-19 pandemic](#) 11-12-2020

:: [COVID-19: a stark reminder of the importance of universal health coverage](#) 11-12-2020

:: [Cities of the WHO European Region unite to stop COVID-19 and build a better urban life](#) 10-12-2020

:: [New data from WHO/Europe shows links between gender and noncommunicable diseases](#) 09-12-2020

:: [Italy: over 20% of children are overweight, says new report](#) 09-12-2020

:: [COVID-19 and influenza: sharing knowledge across WHO as Europe heads into winter](#) 09-12-2020

:: Schooling in the time of COVID-19: Opening statement at high-level meeting on keeping schools open and protecting all children amid surging COVID-19 cases 08-12-2020
:: Turkey shielded its elderly from COVID-19 by protecting health workers in nursing homes 07-12-2020

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

:: WHO Regional Director's statement for virtual press briefing, 8 December

8 December 2020 – As winter starts across the Region, the pandemic continues to take a worrying course. A few countries have made progress in controlling the outbreak, while others are still seeing unprecedented increases in the number of cases, and sometimes even the number of deaths. Following a sharp increase in the number of cases over the past few week, Islamic...

:: Islamic Advisory Group reiterates commitment to polio eradication amid COVID-19 pandemic

7 December 2020, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia – The Islamic Advisory Group for Polio Eradication (IAG) in its seventh annual meeting acknowledged the unprecedented challenges to polio eradication posed by the disruptions to health care delivery, including to routine immunization and polio vaccination campaigns, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The IAG noted with concern that children were becoming increasingly...

WHO Western Pacific Region

No new digest content identified

.....
.....

CDC/ACIP [to 12 Dec 2020]

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

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/index.html>

Latest News Releases, Announcements

CDC expands local area health estimates to include data for the entire U.S. New PLACES data help inform local health decisions

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

.....

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Selected Resources

:: **Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination**

Saturday, December 12, 2020

:: **The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Interim Recommendation for Allocating Initial Supplies of COVID-19 Vaccine - United States, 2020**

Thursday, December 10, 2020

.....

Africa CDC [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://www.africacdc.org/>

News

Press Releases

European Union and African Union sign partnership to scale up preparedness for health emergencies

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, 7 DECEMBER 2020. Today, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) launched a new partnership initiative to strengthen the capacity of Africa CDC to prepare for and respond to public health threats in Africa. The four-year project, 'EU for health security in Africa: ECDC for Africa CDC', funded by the EU, will also facilitate harmonised surveillance and disease intelligence, and support the implementation of the public health workforce strategy of Africa CDC...

.....

China CDC

<http://www.chinacdc.cn/en/>

No new digest content identified.

National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://en.nhc.gov.cn/>

News

Dec 12: Daily briefing on novel coronavirus cases in China

On Dec 11, 31 provincial-level regions and the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps on the Chinese mainland reported 13 new cases of confirmed infections.

National Medical Products Administration [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://english.nmpa.gov.cn/news.html>

News

No new digest content identified.

.....

.....

Announcements

Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://alleninstitute.org/what-we-do/frontiers-group/news-press/>

News

No new digest content identified.

BARDA – U.S. Department of HHS [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://www.phe.gov/about/barดา/Pages/default.aspx>

BARDA News

December 11, 2020: Trump Administration purchases additional 100 million doses of COVID-19 investigational vaccine from Moderna

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://www.gatesfoundation.org/Media-Center/Press-Releases>

Press Releases and Statements

DECEMBER 09, 2020

Bill and Melinda Gates call for collaboration, continued innovation to overcome challenges of delivering COVID-19 scientific breakthroughs to the world

Gates Foundation pledges additional \$250 million to accelerate development and equitable distribution of COVID-19 tests, treatments, and vaccines to end the pandemic

[See Milestones above for detail]

Bill & Melinda Gates Medical Research Institute [to 12 Dec 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

NEWS RELEASE 12/9/20

MEDICINES PATENT POOL SUBLICENSES SUTEZOLID, AN INVESTIGATIONAL DRUG FOR TB TREATMENT, PAVING THE WAY FOR CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT

Geneva and Cambridge MA-- (Wednesday 9 December 2020) –The Medicines Patent Pool (MPP) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Medical Research Institute (Gates MRI) signed an agreement today to advance the development of investigational sutezolid-containing TB drug regimens, especially for low- and middle-income countries, where most people with TB live. The drug candidate sutezolid, in combination with other drugs, could potentially be used as an all-oral, shortened regimen for all forms of TB, including multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB).

In October 2019, MPP and Pfizer entered into a license agreement, which granted MPP rights to sublicense to third parties the patents and know-how relating to the use of sutezolid (formerly known as PNU-100480), a promising antibiotic drug candidate, in combination with other agents for the prevention and/or treatment of TB. Gates MRI is the first recipient of such a sublicense. The sublicense allows Gates MRI to access Pfizer's existing preclinical, phase 1 and phase 2a clinical study data and results with the aim of further developing this potential component of future TB regimens, should the data be supportive...

CARB-X [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://carb-x.org/>

News

12.08.2020 |

CARB-X honored with award from the Global Health Technologies Coalition for progress made in accelerating R&D to combat drug-resistant bacteria

CARB-X has been awarded the 2020 Partnership Award by the Global Health Technologies Coalition (GHTC) for its work in accelerating R&D. The award recognizes CARB-X's progress in expanding the pipeline of innovation that address one of the world's most pressing public health crises, antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

CEPI – Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://cepi.net/>

Latest News

CEPI statement on University of Queensland and CSL COVID-19 vaccine candidate

10 Dec 2020

CEPI and SK bioscience extend collaboration to develop 'next generation' COVID-19 vaccine

This collaboration represents CEPI's first next-generation or 'Wave 2' vaccine investment

09 Dec 2020

EDCTP [to 12 Dec 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
No new digest content identified.

Emory Vaccine Center [to 12 Dec 2020]

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

Vaccine Center News

No new digest content identified.

European Medicines Agency [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://www.ema.europa.eu/ema/>

News & Press Releases

News: Meeting highlights from the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) 7-10 December 2020

CHMP, Last updated: 11/12/2020

News: Joint strategy sets direction for EMA and EU medicines regulatory agencies to 2025

Last updated: 08/12/2020

... The European medicines agencies network strategy to 2025 outlines six priority areas for the network:

- :: the availability and accessibility of medicines;
- :: data analytics, digital tools and digital transformation;
- :: innovation;
- :: antimicrobial resistance and other emerging health threats;
- :: supply chain challenges; and
- :: the sustainability of the network and operational excellence...

European Vaccine Initiative [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://www.euvaccine.eu/>

Latest News

Dec 10 2020

Value of Vaccines campaign 2020: Collaboration- the key to efficient vaccine development

FDA [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/default.htm>

Press Announcements / Selected Details

December 11, 2020 - FDA Takes Key Action in Fight Against COVID-19 By Issuing Emergency Use Authorization for First COVID-19 Vaccine

... "The FDA's authorization for emergency use of the first COVID-19 vaccine is a significant milestone in battling this devastating pandemic that has affected so many families in the United States and around the world," said FDA Commissioner Stephen M. Hahn, M.D. "Today's action follows an open and transparent review process that included input from independent scientific and public health experts and a thorough evaluation by the agency's career scientists to ensure this vaccine met FDA's rigorous, scientific standards for safety, effectiveness, and manufacturing quality needed to support emergency use authorization. The tireless work to develop a new vaccine to prevent this novel, serious, and life-threatening disease in an expedited timeframe after its emergence is a true testament to scientific innovation and public-private collaboration worldwide."...

December 11, 2020 - FDA Statement on Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee Meeting

Following yesterday's positive advisory committee meeting outcome regarding the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has informed the sponsor that it will rapidly work toward finalization and issuance of an emergency use authorization. The agency has also notified the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Operation Warp Speed, so they can execute their plans for timely vaccine distribution...

December 10, 2020 - Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: December 10, 2020

December 10, 2020 - Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: FDA Holds Advisory Committee Meeting to Discuss Authorization of COVID-19 Vaccine Candidate as Part of Agency's Review of Safety and Effectiveness Data

December 9, 2020 - Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: FDA Authorizes First Direct-to-Consumer COVID-19 Test System

December 8, 2020 - Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: December 8, 2020

FDA - COVID-19 Vaccines [to 12 Dec 2020]

www.fda.gov/covid19vaccines

Upcoming Events

12/17/2020:

Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee Meeting

12/12/2020:

Virtual Press Conference: First COVID-19 Vaccine [External Link Disclaimer](#)

As part of the FDA's commitment to transparency, we invite you to watch our virtual press conference, to be live streamed over the FDA's [YouTube](#) [External Link Disclaimer](#), [Facebook](#) [External Link Disclaimer](#) and [Twitter](#) [External Link Disclaimer](#) accounts on December 12, 2020, at 9:00 AM ET.

12/11/2020:

FDA Takes Key Action in Fight Against COVID-19 By Issuing Emergency Use Authorization for First COVID-19 Vaccine

Today, the FDA issued the first emergency use authorization (EUA) for a vaccine for the prevention of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) in individuals 16 years of age and older.

[See Regulatory Calendar above for details]

Fondation Merieux [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://www.fondation-merieux.org/>

News, Events

Mérieux Foundation co-organized event

Vaccine Acceptance Virtual Event Series – How to maintain and build trust in immunization

December 16, 2020 - 2:00pm - 4:30pm (CET) Virtual

An event to continue the dialogue and increase multi-sectoral efforts to promote vaccination acceptance and immunization programs resilience, now particularly challenged by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The erosion in vaccination trust and additional disruptions in routine immunization programs caused by the current pandemic is becoming an increasing threat to public health. How to tackle it?

To keep the momentum in this critical topic, we would like to bring together the vaccine acceptance public in this 2.5-hour webinar.

Gavi [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://www.gavi.org/>

News releases

What do immunity passports and vaccination certificates mean for COVID-19 restrictions?

Here's why continuing to physically distance and wear masks is vital until we can be sure how long vaccine-acquired immunity lasts.

11 December 2020

An immunity passport is an official document that certifies "an individual has been infected and is purportedly immune to SARS-CoV-2." In principle, this can then give an individual more freedom to travel and socialise, allowing people to enter a country if they can provide evidence that they have already recovered from COVID-19.

The theory is that by providing proof of a positive and then a negative test, the person will have had the disease and is expected to have developed antibodies or other forms of immune memory to protect them from getting ill again.

Hungary has introduced a policy allowing people to enter the country if they can provide evidence that they have already recovered from COVID-19. Iceland is planning on introducing a similar policy that will allow people who have already had COVID-19 to be exempt from the nationwide mask mandate. This raises difficult questions as some people with underlying health conditions, including autism, panic disorders and breathing difficulties, are already exempt from wearing a mask but have not necessarily recovered from infection or have any immunity to it.

In April, the World Health Organization (WHO) cautioned against the use of immunity passports saying: "there is not enough evidence about the effectiveness of antibody-mediated immunity to

guarantee the accuracy of an 'immunity passport' or 'risk-free certificate'." It recently confirmed that this position has not changed.

WHO also suggested that immunity passports could in fact increase the risks of continued transmission, because those carrying one would ignore public health advice about physically distancing.

Immunity passports also raise ethical issues due to concerns that documentation could be fraudulently reproduced, and could even incentivise otherwise healthy people to "willfully seek out infection" so they could enjoy more freedom....

GHIT Fund [to 12 Dec 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
Press Releases

December 8, 2020

GHIT Fund Announces New Investments: A Total of 230 Million Yen in Drugs for Malaria and Chagas Disease

The Global Health Innovative Technology (GHIT) Fund announced today a total of approximately 230 million yen (US\$2.2 million*) to invest in four partnerships to develop new lifesaving drugs for malaria and Chagas disease. This includes three new projects and one that will receive continued funding.

Global Fund [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/news/>

News

No new digest content identified.

Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness [GloPID-R] [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://www.glopid-r.org/news/>

News

GloPID-R appoints new Chair and Vice Chairs to lead the network's Board

05/11/2020

GloPID-R is delighted to announce that Dr. Charu Kaushic has been appointed Chair of the network following the excellent work carried out by Prof. Yazdan Yazdanpanah over the past two years. Prof. Yazdanpanah will continue to serve GloPID-R as a Vice Chair.

Hilleman Laboratories [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://www.hillemanlabs.org/>

No new digest content identified.

Human Vaccines Project [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://www.humanvaccinesproject.org/media/press-releases/>

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

IAVI [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://www.iavi.org/newsroom>

PRESS RELEASES/FEATURES

No new digest content identified.

International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities [ICMRA]

<http://www.icmra.info/drupal/en/news>

Selected Statements, Press Releases, Research

No new digest content identified.

International Generic and Biosimilar Medicines Association [IGBA]

<https://www.igbamedicines.org/>

News

No new digest content identified.

IFFIm

<http://www.iffim.org/>

Press Releases/Announcements

No new digest content identified.

IFRC [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://media.ifrc.org/ifrc/news/press-releases/>

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

Global

WHO, IFRC sign memorandum of understanding on emergency medical teams

The World Health Organization and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) today launched a new collaboration to strengthen the delivery of emergency medical and health services during humanitarian crises.

WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus and IFRC Secretary-General Mr Jagan Chapagain signed a memorandum of understanding to cooperate on implementing the Emergency Medical Team (EMT) initiative.

"We thank the IFRC for their support from the onset of the EMT Initiative and we look forward to this continued partnership in improving the quality of care in emergencies," said Dr Tedros. "With the COVID-19 pandemic and the significant increase in emergencies around the world, this agreement could not come at a better time."

Mr Chapagain said IFRC was committed to working side-by-side with WHO in providing life-saving health services to communities affected by humanitarian emergencies.

"This MoU will allow us to standardize our emergency health response work and provide increased support for National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies which play such a crucial role in emergency response," Mr Chapagain said. "We are very committed to working together with WHO to provide quality emergency health services that communities desperately need in times of crisis."

The MoU, also known as the Red Channel Agreement, is the culmination of years of collaboration between IFRC and the WHO Emergency Medical Team Initiative.

The new agreement will bring more synergies to health emergency response between the two international organizations, particularly in technical standards, accountability, and coordination.

It aligns the IFRC's system with that of the WHO Emergency Medical Teams global classification system, in doing so recognizing the IFRC's Emergency Response Units as EMTs and heightens the involvement of IFRC teams and National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in the capacity building efforts of the EMT network.

Campaign showcases how cash assistance helps refugees in Turkey regain control of their lives

Ankara/Berlin/Geneva, 8 December 2020 – A digital campaign that connects inspiring and talented refugees in Turkey with influencers across Europe has been launched today by the International Federation of Red Cross Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). The ca ...

8 December 2020

Institut Pasteur [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://www.pasteur.fr/en/press-area>

Press documents

09.12.2020

Gut microbiota plays a role in brain function and mood regulation

Depression is a mental disorder that affects more than 264 million people of all ages worldwide. Understanding its...

IRC International Rescue Committee [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://www.rescue.org/press-release-index>

Media highlights [Selected]

Statement

IRC statement on death of staff member in Ethiopia

December 10, 2020

Press Release

Experts declare 'famine like conditions' for almost 17,000 people in Yemen, warns IRC

December 3, 2020

IVAC [to 12 Dec 2020]

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

Updates; Events

Webinar Recording: How will COVID-19 Vaccines be Deployed in Maryland and the U.S.?

December 2020

The International Vaccine Access Center (IVAC) hosted a webinar on October 21 2020 , "How will COVID-19 Vaccines be Deployed in Maryland and the U.S.? A conversation with state and local leaders working to equitably allocate vaccines in 2020 and beyond." Description: This online panel about COVID-19 vaccine allocation in Maryland and the U.S. was [...]

IVI [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://www.ivi.int/>

Selected IVI News, Announcements, Events

No new digest content identified.

JEE Alliance [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://www.jeealliance.org/>

Selected News and Events

No new digest content identified.

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://www.msf.org/>

Latest [Selected Announcements]

Photo Story

[A year in pictures 2020](#)

11 Dec 2020

National Vaccine Program Office - U.S. HHS [to 12 Dec 2020]

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

Upcoming Meetings/Latest Updates

December 2020:

[Preparing for COVID-19 Vaccination: Recommendations from the National Vaccine Advisory Committee - PDF](#)

Approved December 4, 2020 :: 15 pages

...*CONCLUSION*

The COVID-19 pandemic has created an unprecedented need for safe and effective vaccines, among other valuable public health interventions, to prevent further disease transmission and return society fully to normal activities. Many lessons have already emerged from the pandemic that showcase needs to innovate our processes for developing new and improved vaccines, as well as strengthen vaccine communication efforts and confidence in vaccines. Likewise, as the vaccine development process progresses, planning to include children and pregnant women in vaccination clinical trials poses special considerations. The NVAC reviewed, discussed, and approved the recommendations in this report to help ensure these efforts related to COVID-19 vaccination are successful and that we build on efforts to improve the U.S. vaccination system.

NIH [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases>

News Releases

[Baricitinib plus remdesivir shows promise for treating COVID-19](#)

December 11, 2020 — Peer-reviewed results of NIH clinical trial published.

[NIH's All of Us Research Program returns first genetic results to participants](#)

December 10, 2020 — Personalized insights include genetic ancestry and traits, with health-related results to come.

NIH to fund cohort recruitment and development program to enhance diversity and inclusion among biomedical faculty

December 8, 2020 — Groups include underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, individuals with disabilities, individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, and women.

NIH-funded tool helps organizations plan COVID-19 testing

December 7, 2020 — Online calculator computes costs of testing and offers strategies for preventing infections in schools and businesses.

PATH [to 12 Dec 2020]

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

Press Release

Advancing Zambia's goal to end malaria, PATH receives new award from the President's Malaria Initiative

A new cooperative agreement will accelerate malaria burden reduction and elimination goals in Zambia.
December 8, 2020 by PATH

Sabin Vaccine Institute [to 12 Dec 2020]

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

Statements and Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

UNAIDS [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://www.unaids.org/en>

Selected Press Releases/Reports/Statements

11 December 2020

The shero of Butha-Buthe: Matšeliselo Setoko

9 December 2020

PrEP in the City: campaign for transgender women aims to increase PrEP uptake in Thailand

7 December 2020

New HIV infections among gay men and other men who have sex with men increasing

UNICEF [to 12 Dec 2020]

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

Selected Press releases, Statements

Press release 12/11/2020

Update on UNICEF's response for Ethiopian refugees in Sudan and host communities

Press release 12/11/2020

Child poverty will remain above pre-COVID levels for at least five years in high-income countries - UNICEF

In high-income countries, only 2 per cent of fiscal stimulus was allocated specifically to support children during the first wave of COVID-19; a better balance of spending that provides more direct support to children is urgently needed

Statement 12/10/2020

Life a 'waking nightmare' for 12 million children in Yemen

UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore's remarks at the Averting famine in Yemen: What can we do now and in 2021 event

Press release 12/07/2020

COVID-19: UNICEF warns of continued damage to learning and well-being as number of children affected by school closures soars again

UNICEF calls on governments to prioritize the reopening of schools, take all actions possible to make classrooms as safe as possible and avoid nationwide school closures

Unitaid [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://unitaid.org/>

11 December 2020

Strategy development launched and new areas for intervention agreed at 37th meeting of Unitaid's Executive Board

...The Board has approved an external review as an important step towards the development of Unitaid's next strategy. As a key component of this process, extensive stakeholder engagement will be undertaken throughout 2021, to gain the thoughts and inputs of Unitaid's partners, grant implementers and civil society groups.

The new areas for intervention agreed by the Board focus on challenges that are deeply relevant to Unitaid's core work, namely reducing the number of women who die in pregnancy or childbirth, and increasing the detection of TB...

09 December 2020

Annual report: Advancing global health in the age of COVID-19

08 December 2020

Unitaid ranked as one of the world's leaders in funding tuberculosis research

Vaccination Acceptance Research Network (VARN) [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://vaccineacceptance.org/news.html#header1-2r>

Announcements

No new digest content identified.

Vaccine Confidence Project [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://www.vaccineconfidence.org/>

Research and Reports

No new digest content identified.

Vaccine Education Center – Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center>

News

Five ways to build confidence in vaccines

Heidi Larson, Director, Vaccine Confidence Project

With potential new vaccines for COVID-19 on the horizon, we need to engage with public to understand their concerns and build vaccine confidence.

“Vaccinate, liberate!” That could be the rally cry to mobilise public enthusiasm around the remarkable and rapid scientific progress that has made it possible to have not just one, but multiple, new COVID-19 vaccines. Vaccines which will finally help the world get back to some semblance of “normal” – or at least start the COVID-19 recovery path to a “new normal.”

Just think – we would be able to go back to work, get the economy back on track, spend cherished time with friends and families, attend sports events, go to concerts, and travel!

Addressing the challenges around vaccination

But not everyone is celebrating the value of vaccines. Some of the same people protesting against lockdown, and even masks, are also seeing vaccination as a form of control; ironically the one thing that has the potential to free us from the constraints of lockdown as well as, most importantly, freedom from disease.

This is one of many examples – including, but beyond COVID-19 – where there are vastly different, often polarised, interpretations of vaccines and vaccination.

Most people believe in the value of vaccines more broadly, with some having questions or concerns around one vaccine, but not others. There are some who are staunchly against vaccines, or at least opposed to the ways in which vaccines are regulated, recommended sometimes required by government.

These sentiments are not new to vaccines. The first organised “anti-vaccine” movement in the 1800s was actually call the “anti-compulsory vaccine league.” The protest was not against the vaccine, per se, but about the mandate requiring it.

The impact of coronavirus on routine vaccination

The pandemic has been a time when most governments have called for exceptional measures, limiting freedom of movement and socialisation, stopping some workplaces, even schools from opening – all to protect the public’s health.

In the meantime, many routine vaccines have fallen behind with all the restrictions and difficult access, alongside fear of contagion.

I propose five ways to build confidence, not only in a COVID-19 vaccine but pave the way for a new relationship around vaccines and the public.

- 1) Listen: There are many different experiences, histories, beliefs, perceptions and genuine questions around vaccines. Listen to them, they may reveal more than you expected and help understand what is driving those beliefs.
- 2) Engage: Make communication a dialogue, engage multiple people in the community outside of the health services to be listeners, and help address concerns and questions.
- 3) Innovate: Try something different than you have ever tried before. Try to think of anything else that is like a vaccine, think of metaphors. Does anything come close?
- 4) Co-create: Involve those who are meant to get vaccines in designing the best strategy to reach them and their peers.
- 5) Vaccinate Liberate: Think of all the ways that vaccination is a passport to freedom.

Wellcome Trust [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://wellcome.ac.uk/news>

No new digest content identified.

The Wistar Institute [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://www.wistar.org/news/press-releases>

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

WFPHA: World Federation of Public Health Associations [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://www.wfpha.org/>

Latest News

Being Rich and Sick Is Much Better than Being Poor and Sick!

Dec 10, 2020

Being Rich and Sick Is Much Better than Being Poor and Sick! With more vaccines on the way, we can see an end to the COVID-19 pandemic. But it remains to be seen how the vaccines will be distributed.

COVID-19 Vaccination: A Question about Global Equity in Health

Dec 8, 2020

COVID-19 Vaccination: A Question about Global Equity in Health COVID-19 has had no respect for borders! Vaccines against COVID-19 will be a scarce good, at least for some time ahead. Therefore, both in order to achieve the best possible population...

16th World Congress on Public Health: Personal Experiences

Dec 7, 2020

16th World Congress on Public Health: Personal Experiences In October, several interns from the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA) were invited to help organize and attend the virtual 16th World Congress on Public Health (WCPH...

World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://www.oie.int/en/for-the-media/press-releases/2020/>

No new digest content identified.

.....

ARM [Alliance for Regenerative Medicine] [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://alliancerm.org/>

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

BIO [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://www.bio.org/press-releases>

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

DCVMN – Developing Country Vaccine Manufacturers Network [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://www.dcvmn.org/>

News; Upcoming events

No new digest content identified.

ICBA – International Council of Biotechnology Associations [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://internationalbiotech.org/news/>

News

No new digest content identified.

IFPMA [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://www.ifpma.org/resources/news-releases/>

Selected Press Releases, Statements, Publications

[Speak Up Africa and IFPMA launch the “Africa Young Innovators for Health Award” to fuel](#)

08 December 2020

[Pharma innovation delivers COVID-19 solutions beyond expectations, but calls for the dilution of intellectual property rights are counterproductive](#)

08 December 2020

[A broad alliance, a crucial mission: A new multi-stakeholder association to combat falsified medicines](#)

07 December 2020

PhRMA [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://www.phrma.org/>

Selected Press Releases, Statements

[New analysis finds stark difference in coverage of breast cancer medicines for seniors in the United States and England](#)

Nicole Longo | December 10, 2020

Eli Lilly and Company Chairman and CEO David Ricks Becomes PhRMA Board Chairman

December 9, 2020

The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) is pleased to announce that David Ricks, chairman and CEO of Eli Lilly and Company, has assumed the role of chairman of the PhRMA board of directors.

Guest post: How COVID-19 underscores the importance of public confidence in vaccines

Guest Contributor | December 7, 2020

Serese Marotta, Chief Operating Officer for Families Fighting Flu, about the importance of influenza vaccination.

*

*

*

*

Journal Watch

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

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

AJOB Empirical Bioethics

Volume 11, 2020 Issue 4

<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/uabr21/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

AMA Journal of Ethics

Volume 22, Number 12: E981-1070

<https://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/issue/socially-situated-brain-death>

Socially Situated Brain Death

In 1980, the Uniform Determination of Death Act (UDDA) defined death as "(1) irreversible cessation of circulatory and respiratory functions, or (2) irreversible cessation of all functions of the entire brain, including the brain stem ... in accordance with accepted medical standards." Interpreting the UDDA definition and applying neurological criteria for diagnosing brain death sound straightforward. Brain death is, however, socially situated, not observer independent, and fraught with uncertainty and ambiguity. This issue investigates some of the ethical, cultural, and legal complexities of one of medicine's most critical tasks: being sharp and sure about who is alive and who is dead.

[Full Issue PDF](#)

American Journal of Infection Control

December 2020 Volume 48 Issue 12 p1415-1570

<http://www.ajicjournal.org/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

December 2020 Volume 59 Issue 6 p773-914

<http://www.ajpmonline.org/current>

Research Articles

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health

December 2020 110(12)

<http://ajph.aphapublications.org/toc/ajph/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

Volume 103, Issue 6, December 2020

<http://www.ajtmh.org/content/journals/14761645/103/6>

[Reviewed earlier]

Annals of Internal Medicine

1 December 2020 Volume 173, Issue 11

<http://annals.org/aim/issue>

[Reviewed earlier]

Artificial Intelligence – An International Journal

Volume 289, December 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/artificial-intelligence/vol/289/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

<http://resource-allocation.biomedcentral.com/>

(Accessed 12 Dec 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Global Health

December 2020 - Volume 5 - 12

<https://gh.bmj.com/content/5/12>

Original research

[Infection and mortality of healthcare workers worldwide from COVID-19: a systematic review](#) (4 December, 2020)

Soham Bandyopadhyay, Ronnie E Baticulon, Murtaza Kadhum, Muath Alser, Daniel K Ojuka, Yara Badereddin, Archith Kamath, Sai Arathi Parepalli, Grace Brown, Sara Iharchane, Sofia Gandino, Zara

Markovic-Obiago, Samuel Scott, Emery Manirambona, Asif Machhada, Aditi Aggarwal, Lydia Benazaize, Mina Ibrahim, David Kim, Isabel Tol, Elliott H Taylor, Alexandra Knighton, Dorothy Bbaale, Duha Jasim, Heba Alghoul, Henna Reddy, Hibatullah Abuelgasim, Kirandeep Saini, Alicia Sigler, Leenah Abuelgasim, Mario Moran-Romero, Mary Kumarendran, Najlaa Abu Jamie, Omaira Ali, Raghav Sudarshan, Riley Dean, Rumi Kissyova, Sonam Kelzang, Sophie Roche, Tazin Ahsan, Yethrib Mohamed, Andile Maqhawe Dube, Grace Paida Gwini, Rashidah Gwokyaala, Robin Brown, Mohammad Rabiul Karim Khan Papon, Zoe Li, Salvador Sun Ruzats, Somy Charuvila, Noel Peter, Khalil Khalidy, Nkosikhona Moyo, Osaid Alser, Arielis Solano, Eduardo Robles-Perez, Aiman Tariq, Mariam Gaddah, Spyros Kolovos, Faith C Muchemwa, Abdullah Saleh, Amanda Gosman, Rafael Pinedo-Villanueva, Anant Jani, Roba Khundkar

BMC Health Services Research

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmchealthservres/content>

(Accessed 12 Dec 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Infectious Diseases

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcinfectdis/content>

(Accessed 12 Dec 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Medical Ethics

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcmedethics/content>

(Accessed 12 Dec 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Medicine

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcmed/content>

(Accessed 12 Dec 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcpregnancychildbirth/content>

(Accessed 12 Dec 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Public Health

<http://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles>

Research article

[**Systematic literature review of the impact and effectiveness of monovalent meningococcal C conjugated vaccines when used in routine immunization programs**](#)

Monovalent meningococcal C conjugate vaccine (MCCV) was introduced into the routine immunization program in many countries in Europe and worldwide following the emergence of meningococcal serogroup C (MenC) in...

Authors: Myint Tin Tin Htar, Sally Jackson, Paul Balmer, Lidia Cristina Serra, Andrew Vyse, Mary Slack, Margarita Riera-Montes, David L. Swerdlow and Jamie Findlow

Citation: BMC Public Health 2020 20:1890

Published on: 9 December 2020

BMC Research Notes

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcresnotes/content>

(Accessed 12 Dec 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Open

December 2020 - Volume 10 - 12

<https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/10/12>

[Reviewed earlier]

Bulletin of the World Health Organization

Volume 98, Number 12, December 2020, 821-908

<https://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/98/12/en/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Child Care, Health and Development

Volume 47, Issue 1 Pages: 1-141 January 2021

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/13652214/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics

Volume 108, Issue 6 Pages: 1107-1325 December 2020

<https://ascpt.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/15326535/current>

Reviews

The Drug Shortage Era: A Scoping Review of the Literature 2001–2019

Emily L. Tucker, Yizhou Cao, Erin R. Fox, Burgunda V. Sweet

Pages: 1150-1155

First Published: 10 June 2020

Clinical Therapeutics

November 2020 Volume 42 Issue 11 p2119-2238, e209-e258

<http://www.clinicaltherapeutics.com/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Clinical Trials

Volume 17 Issue 6, December 2020

<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/ctja/17/5>

[Reviewed earlier]

Conflict and Health

<http://www.conflictandhealth.com/>

[Accessed 12 Dec 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Contemporary Clinical Trials

Volume 98 November 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/contemporary-clinical-trials/vol/98/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

The CRISPR Journal

Volume 3, Issue 5 / October 2020

<https://www.liebertpub.com/toc/crispr/3/5>

[Reviewed earlier]

Current Genetic Medicine Reports

Volume 8, issue 4, December 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/40142/volumes-and-issues/8-4>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases

December 2020 - Volume 33 - Issue 6

<https://journals.lww.com/co-infectiousdiseases/pages/currenttoc.aspx>

[Reviewed earlier]

Current Protocols in Human Genetics

Volume 107, Issue 1 September 2020

<https://currentprotocols.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/19348258/2020/107/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Developing World Bioethics

Volume 20, Issue 3 Pages: 115-171 September 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14718847/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Development in Practice

Volume 30, Issue 8, 2020

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cdip20/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness

Volume 14 - Issue 3 - June 2020

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/disaster-medicine-and-public-health-preparedness/latest-issue>

[Reviewed earlier]

Disasters

Volume 45, Issue 1 Pages: 1-252 January 2021

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14677717/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

EMBO Reports

Volume 21 Issue 12 3 December 2020

<https://www.embopress.org/toc/14693178/current>

Review 8 December 2020

Antibiotic resistance and persistence—Implications for human health and treatment perspectives

Markus Huemer, Srikanth Mairpady Shambat, Silvio D Brugger, Annelies S Zinkernagel

Bacteria that survive antibiotics challenges are one of the greatest threats to human health. While antibiotic resistance has been well studied, the survival and re-growth of fully susceptible bacteria, called antibiotic persistence, is less well understood. This review discusses the mechanisms and implications of antibiotic resistance and persistence.

Emerging Infectious Diseases

Volume 26, Number 12—December 2020

<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Epidemics

Volume 32 September 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/epidemics/vol/32/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 6 Pages: 1-40 November–December 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/25782363/current>

Video-capture studies • Benefit sharing and genomics research

[Reviewed earlier]

The European Journal of Public Health

Volume 30, Issue 5, October 2020

<https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/issue/30/5>

[Reviewed earlier]

Expert Review of Vaccines

Vol 19 (109) 2020

<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/ierv20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Gates Open Research

<https://gatesopenresearch.org/browse/articles>

[Accessed 12 Dec 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Genome Medicine

<https://genomemedicine.biomedcentral.com/articles>

[Accessed 12 Dec 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Global Health Action

Volume 13, Issue 1 (2020)

<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/zgha20/current?nav=tocList>

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Health: Science and Practice (GHSP)

Vol. 8, No. 3 October 01, 2020

<http://www.ghspjournal.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Public Health

Volume 15, 2020 Issue 12

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rgph20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Globalization and Health

<http://www.globalizationandhealth.com/>

[Accessed 12 Dec 2020]

Research

Public health and corporate social responsibility: exploratory study on pharmaceutical companies in an emerging market

Corporate social responsibility (CSR) is studied from many perspectives and has gained unprecedented importance in recent years, especially in emerging economies. Pharmaceutical companies play a very important role in a population's well-being and health through the CSR and corporate governance practices that they apply.

Authors: Tatiana Dănescu and Maria-Alexandra Popa

10 December 2020

Health Affairs

Vol. 39, No. 11 November 2020

<https://www.healthaffairs.org/toc/hlthaff/current>

Health Spending, Medicaid & More

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Health and Human Rights

Volume 22, Issue 2, December 2020

<https://www.hhrjournal.org/volume-22-issue-2-december-2020/>

Special Section: Big Data, Technology, Artificial Intelligence and the Right to Health **Analyzing the Human Rights Impact of Increased Digital Public Health Surveillance during the COVID-19 Crisis**

Sharifah Sekalala, Stéphanie Dagron, Lisa Forman, and Benjamin Mason Meier

The COVID-19 pandemic has led policy makers to expand traditional public health surveillance to take advantage of new technologies, such as tracking apps, to control the spread of SARS-CoV-2. This article explores the human rights dimensions of how these new surveillance technologies are being used and assesses the extent to which they entail legitimate restrictions to a range of human rights, including the rights to health, life, and privacy. We argue that human rights offer a crucial framework for protecting the public from regulatory overreach by ensuring that digital health surveillance does not undermine fundamental features of democratic society...

Human Rights and Digital Health Technologies

Nina Sun, Kenechukwu Esom, Mandeep Dhaliwal, and Joseph J. Amon

...The COVID-19 pandemic has led policy makers to expand traditional public health surveillance to take advantage of new technologies, such as tracking apps, to control the spread of SARS-CoV-2. This article explores the human rights dimensions of how these new surveillance technologies are being used and assesses the extent to which they entail legitimate restrictions to a range of human rights, including the rights to health, life, and privacy. We argue that human rights offer a crucial framework

for protecting the public from regulatory overreach by ensuring that digital health surveillance does not undermine fundamental features of democratic society.

VIEWPOINTS

From Information to Valuable Asset: The Commercialization of Health Data as a Human Rights Issue

Amy Dickens

Health data is a valuable source of knowledge that states can use to advance or undermine the right to health. But the sources and use of health data are changing in our emerging global data economy. Novel forms of digitized health information are fueling a booming industry for algorithmic technologies in health care, rendering it a huge source of scientific and commercial value. To date, the tech giants—Google, Apple, Microsoft, Facebook, and Amazon—are way ahead of public health systems in capitalizing on this value. There is an urgent need for states to recognize the value of health data and use it to advance human rights. Failing to do so risks private actors gaining ever more expansive monopoly powers that threaten patients' social and economic rights.

Health Economics, Policy and Law

Volume 15 - Issue 4 - October 2020

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/health-economics-policy-and-law/latest-issue>

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Policy and Planning

Volume 35, Issue Supplement_1, November 2020

https://academic.oup.com/heapol/issue/35/Supplement_1

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Research Policy and Systems

<http://www.health-policy-systems.com/content>

[Accessed 12 Dec 2020]

No new digest content identified]

Human Gene Therapy

Volume 31, Issue 21-22 / November 2020

<https://www.liebertpub.com/toc/hum/31/21-22>

[Reviewed earlier]

Humanitarian Exchange Magazine

Number 78, October 2020

<https://odihpn.org/magazine/inclusion-of-persons-with-disabilities-in-humanitarian-action-what-now/>

Disability inclusion in humanitarian action

by HPN October 2020

The theme of this edition of Humanitarian Exchange, co-edited with Sherin Alsheikh Ahmed from Islamic Relief Worldwide, is disability inclusion in humanitarian action. Persons with disabilities are not

only disproportionately impacted by conflicts, disasters and other emergencies, but also face barriers to accessing humanitarian assistance. At the same time, global commitments and standards and the IASC Guidelines on the inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action all emphasise how persons with disabilities are also active agents of change. Disability and age-focused organisations have led on testing and demonstrating how inclusion can be done better. Yet despite this progress, challenges to effective inclusion remain.

As Kirstin Lange notes in the lead article, chief among these challenges is humanitarian agencies' lack of engagement with organisations of persons with disabilities. Simone Bula, Elizabeth Morgan and Teresa Thomson look at disability inclusion in humanitarian response in the Pacific, and Kathy Al Jubeh and Alradi Abdalla argue for a 'participation revolution', building on learning from the gender movement. Tchaurea Fleury and Sulayman AbdulMumuni Ujah outline how the Bridge Article 11 training initiative is encouraging constructive exchange between humanitarian and disability actors. The lack of good, disaggregated data is highlighted by Sarah Collinson; Frances Hill, Jim Cranshaw and Carys Hughes emphasise the need for training resources in local languages and accessible formats; and Sophie Van Eetvelt and colleagues report on a review of the evidence on inclusion of people with disabilities and older people.

Rebecca Molyneux and co-authors analyse the findings of a review of a DFID programme in north-east Nigeria, while Carolin Funke highlights the importance of strategic partnerships between disability-focused organisations, drawing on her research in Cox's Bazar. Sherin Alsheikh Ahmed describes Islamic Relief Worldwide's approach to mainstreaming protection and inclusion, while Pauline Thivillier and Valentina Shafina outline IRC's Client Responsive Programming. The edition ends with reflections by Mirela Turcanu and Yves Ngunzi Kahashi on CAFOD's SADI approach.

Human Vaccines & Immunotherapeutics (formerly Human Vaccines)

Volume 16, Issue 9, 2020

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/khvi20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Infectious Agents and Cancer

<http://www.infectagentscancer.com/content>

[Accessed 12 Dec 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Infectious Diseases of Poverty

<http://www.idpjournals.com/content>

[Accessed 12 Dec 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

International Health

Volume 12, Issue 6, November 2020

<https://academic.oup.com/inthealth/issue/12/6>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health

Vol 7, No 11 (2020) November 2020

<https://www.ijcmph.com/index.php/ijcmph/issue/view/68>

Table of Contents

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Epidemiology

Volume 49, Issue 4, August 2020

<https://academic.oup.com/ije/issue/49/4>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare

Volume 13 Issue 4 2020

<https://www.emerald.com/insight/publication/issn/2056-4902/vol/13/iss/4>

Table of Contents

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Infectious Diseases

November 2020 Volume 100 p1-512

<https://www.ijidonline.com/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA

December 8, 2020, Vol 324, No. 22, Pages 2238-2334

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/currentissue>

Viewpoint

A Proposed Framework and Timeline of the Spectrum of Disease Due to SARS-CoV-2 Infection Illness Beyond Acute Infection and Public Health Implications

S. Deblina Datta, MD; Amish Talwar, MD, MPH; James T. Lee, MD, MSc

free access has active quiz

JAMA. 2020;324(22):2251-2252. doi:10.1001/jama.2020.22717

This Viewpoint uses clinical observations of the natural course of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) infection to propose 3 phases of illness: acute infection (what people commonly refer to with the COVID-19 designation); postacute hyperinflammatory illness (referred to clinically as multisystem inflammatory syndrome); and late inflammatory sequelae, manifest as enduring cardiac, neurological, and psychological symptoms.

Science Denial and COVID Conspiracy Theories Potential Neurological Mechanisms and Possible Responses

Bruce L. Miller, MD

free access has active quiz

JAMA. 2020;324(22):2255-2256. doi:10.1001/jama.2020.21332

This Viewpoint discusses possible parallels between the distortion in sensory information and faulty monitoring of ideas characteristic of some patients with neurodegenerative diseases (dementia with Lewy bodies and Capgras syndrome, frontotemporal dementia) and the creation and maintenance of false conspiratorial beliefs about the COVID-19 pandemic in healthy populations that has hobbled an effective national response in the US.

JAMA Network

COVID-19 Update December 12, 2020

These articles on COVID-19 were published across the JAMA Network in the last week.

[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA Pediatrics

December 2020, Vol 174, No. 12, Pages 1130-1228

<http://archpedi.jamanetwork.com/issue.aspx>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

JBI Evidence Synthesis

November 2020 - Volume 18 - Issue 11

<https://journals.lww.com/jbisrir/Pages/currenttoc.aspx>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Adolescent Health

December 2020 Volume 67 Issue 6 p733-880

<https://www.jahonline.org/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research

Vol. 69 (2020)

<https://www.jair.org/index.php/jair>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Community Health

Volume 45, issue 6, December 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10900/volumes-and-issues/45-6>

Articles

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Development Economics

Volume 148 January 2021

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-development-economics/vol/148/suppl/C>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics

Volume 15 Issue 5, December 2020

<http://journals.sagepub.com/toc/jre/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

December 2020 - Volume 74 - 12

<https://jech.bmj.com/content/74/12>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine

Volume 13, Issue 4 Pages: 251-324 November 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/17565391/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Global Ethics

Volume 16, Issue 2, 2020

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rjge20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved (JHCPU)

Volume 31, Number 4, November 2020 Supplement

<https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/43320>

Table of Contents

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health

Volume 22, issue 6, December 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10903/volumes-and-issues/22-6>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies

Volume 18, 2020_ Issue 4

<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/wimm20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Infectious Diseases

Volume 222, Issue 3, 1 August 2020

<https://academic.oup.com/jid/issue/222/3>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Ethics

December 2020 - Volume 46 - 12

<http://jme.bmj.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews

Volume 7, Issue 4 (2020)

<https://digitalrepository.aurorahealthcare.org/jpcrr/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pediatrics

December 2020 Volume 227p1-330

<http://www.jpeds.com/current>

Editorials

Transparency and Accountability of Pediatric Trials: Should Consent Rate Reporting Be Mandatory?

Ana Marušić, Ivan Buljan

Published online: August 05, 2020

p9-10

Consent Rates Reported in Published Pediatric Randomized Controlled Trials

Julia A. Lonhart, Ashley R. Edwards, Swati Agarwal, Brian P. Lucas, Alan R. Schroeder

Published online: June 26, 2020

p281-287

Barriers to Pretransplant Immunization: A Qualitative Interview Study of Pediatric Solid Organ Transplant Stakeholders

Amy G. Feldman, Rebekah Marsh, Allison Kempe, Megan A. Morris

Published online: July 14, 2020

p60-68

Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice

<https://joppp.biomedcentral.com/>

[Accessed 12 Dec 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Journal of Public Health Management & Practice

November/December 2020 - Volume 26 - Issue 6

<https://journals.lww.com/jphmp/pages/currenttoc.aspx>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Public Health Policy

Volume 41, issue 4, December 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/41271/volumes-and-issues/41-4>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Refugee & Global Health

Volume 3, Issue 1 (2020)

<https://ir.library.louisville.edu/rgh/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Royal Society – Interface

December 2020 Volume 17 Issue 173

<https://royalsocietypublishing.org/toc/rsif/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Travel Medicine

Volume 27, Issue 7, October 2020

<https://academic.oup.com/jtm/issue/27/7>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Virology

November 2020; Volume 94, Issue 21

<http://jvi.asm.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

The Lancet

Dec 12, 2020 Volume 396 Number 10266 p1861-1940

<https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/issue/current>

Editorial

Facing up to long COVID

The Lancet

... Although vaccination has become the immediate focus of the pandemic response for many countries, patients with long COVID must not be forgotten or sidelined as countries begin to consider the end of the pandemic. Acknowledging the potential scale of the problem now and the complexities and variabilities of the disease course, and pressing for better research and care, could avoid years of struggle and mismanagement for patients with long COVID.

The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health

Dec 2020 Volume 4 Number 12 p853-908

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Digital Health

Dec 2020 Volume 2 Number 12 e629-e680

<https://www.thelancet.com/journals/landig/issue/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Global Health

Dec 2020 Volume 8 Number 12 e1444-e1564

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Infectious Diseases

Dec 2020 Volume 20 Number 12 p1349-1482, e298-e311

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Public Health

Dec 2020 Volume 5 Number 12 e628-e691

<https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpub/issue/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

Dec 2020 Volume 8 Number 12 p1159-1244, e87-e98

[Reviewed earlier]

Maternal and Child Health Journal

Volume 24, issue 12, December 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10995/volumes-and-issues/24-12>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Medical Decision Making (MDM)

Volume 40 Issue 8, November 2020

<http://mdm.sagepub.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

The Milbank Quarterly

A Multidisciplinary Journal of Population Health and Health Policy

Volume 98, Issue 3 Pages: 619-1020 September 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14680009/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature

Volume 588 Issue 7837, 10 December 2020

http://www.nature.com/nature/current_issue.html

Editorial | 08 December 2020

COVID vaccines: the world's medical regulators need access to open data

The global race to produce COVID vaccines is a chance for regulators and drug companies to create a more harmonized approvals process.

The roll out of COVID-19 vaccines is under way, but without, it seems, much global coordination. China, Russia and the United Arab Emirates began administering vaccines before the conclusion of clinical trials. Last week, the United Kingdom issued emergency approval for a vaccine developed by the US biopharmaceutical company Pfizer and BioNTech of Mainz, Germany, following positive results from phase III testing. The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has needed longer to make its decision on the same vaccine. And the regulatory agencies of Australia, the European Union and Switzerland are taking longer still.

This patchwork of approvals processes, despite COVID-19 being a common enemy, has revived a long-standing question about how to accelerate harmonization in vaccine regulation. Researchers reviewing the regulatory landscape found at least 51 pathways to various types of accelerated vaccine approval in a group of 24 countries¹.

Greater harmonization would bring many benefits. Drug companies could look forward to agreed definitions for different types of approval, and would benefit from agreed guidelines for criteria that their vaccine candidates would need to meet. If regulators were to ask for broadly the same things, companies could cut the time needed to prepare their drug applications. Companies, for their part, would need to allow — or help to create — a secure way for regulators to share data, which they are often not permitted to do at present.

By assessing the same data, regulators could more easily compare their findings and analyses with those of others, and their decisions would not only be more robust, but also be seen to be more robust. That, in turn, would shore up public confidence in a world in which vaccine hesitancy is rising and in which many citizens already have the means to compare regulatory verdicts. This would be an evolutionary shift, not a revolutionary one, because in recent years — and particularly since the 2014–16 Ebola crisis — regulators have made unprecedented efforts to discuss, coordinate and begin to harmonize some of their processes.

The FDA, which was set up in 1906, is the world's oldest national medicines regulator. But the world has been moving towards greater regulatory coordination for some time. Europe's regulatory system comprises a network of 50 national bodies from 31 European countries. The European Medicines Agency (EMA), created in 1995, sits at the centre of this network. All countries have their own medical regulators, but the EMA provides manufacturers with a single place for scientific evaluation of drug applications, if they want Europe-wide approval.

Although EMA and FDA verdicts are often broadly similar, the authorities differ in key ways. For example, the FDA requires drug companies to submit all the raw data from laboratory, animal and human trials so that it can do its own statistical analysis. By contrast, the EMA relies more on drug companies' own analyses.

In other regions — Africa, for example — countries are also inching towards an approach that allows for the pooling of regulatory expertise. This is the purpose of the African Vaccine Regulatory Forum, set up in 2006.

And at the global level, in 2012, the member states of the World Health Organization (WHO) agreed to establish the International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities (ICMRA) to allow regulators to share information and agree on approaches. The ICMRA has 29 members, including regulators from China, Europe and the United States. Through it, members have been able to reach a consensus on the best animal models for testing COVID-19 vaccines, the ideal clinical-trial end points and the complicated issue of continuing placebo-controlled trials after vaccine roll out begins. The coalition's COVID-19 working group is now trying to harmonize the monitoring of vaccines once they have been deployed, because faint signals of adverse effects might be too weak to spot in any one country.

And then there is the WHO itself. Low- and middle-income countries can now benefit from the work that goes into its Emergency Use Listing (EUL) process. On 13 November, the agency issued its first ever such vaccine listing, for a polio vaccine. National regulators still need to decide whether this vaccine is right for their country, but a recommendation from the WHO — and confidence in its assessment process — means that most are likely to follow its advice.

Around the end of October, the WHO requested that both the FDA and the EMA assess the suitability of COVID-19 vaccines for low- and middle-income countries as they consider whether to issue emergency authorizations. It is not clear whether the regulators will agree — but if either does, the WHO can draw on that analysis and issue its own EUL within days of the decision. That would be collaboration indeed.

These are all important and necessary efforts. The need now is to go one step further and find a path through the many different types of vaccine approval. Before the pandemic, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, a global group of funding agencies, companies and non-governmental organizations, set up a working group to map out obstacles to better global regulatory alignment, in anticipation of a new infectious disease. This process confirmed how regulatory agencies differ on issues such as the use of genetic modification in vaccine development, clinical trials in pregnant women, and even vial labelling. But it also meant that inconsistencies were already mapped out and under discussion when the pandemic struck. COVID-19 has intensified these discussions. The next step will not be easy. Regulators want to be able to exchange data. Their experiences during the pandemic have convinced many that they are moving towards a point at which this will be possible. They want to be able to talk to each other in the same units and about the same end points, and to make decisions based on the same data.

Ultimately, each country must make its own decisions about what's best. But the goal of a harmonized regulatory dossier for vaccines, conforming to an agreed set of international regulatory requirements, would be transformative.

World View | 14 October 2020

[Institutions can retool to make research more rigorous](#)

Big moves to rebuild the scientific infrastructure are possible.

Ulrich Dirnagl

Nature Biotechnology

Volume 38 Issue 12, December 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nbt/volumes/38/issues/12>

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Communications

<https://www.nature.com/subjects/health-sciences/ncomms>

(Accessed 12 Dec 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

Nature Genetics

Volume 52 Issue 12, December 2020

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Human Behaviour

VOL 4 | November 2020 | 1092–1094 |

www.nature.com/nathumbehav

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Medicine

Volume 26 Issue 11, November 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nm/volumes/26/issues/11>

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Reviews Genetics

Volume 21 Issue 12, December 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nrg/volumes/21/issues/12>

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Reviews Immunology

Volume 20 Issue 12, December 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nri/volumes/20/issues/12>

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Reviews Drug Discovery

Volume 19 Issue 12, December 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nrd/volumes/19/issues/12>

[Reviewed earlier]

New England Journal of Medicine

December 10, 2020 Vol. 383 No. 24

<http://www.nejm.org/toc/nejm/medical-journal>

Perspective

History of Medicine: The Discovery of Hepatitis C — The 2020 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine
J.H. Hoofnagle and S.M. Feinstone

Original Articles

Phase 1–2 Trial of a SARS-CoV-2 Recombinant Spike Protein Nanoparticle Vaccine C. Keech and Others

Editorial

Dec 10, 2020

SARS-CoV-2 Vaccination — An Ounce (Actually, Much Less) of Prevention

E.J. Rubin and D.L. Longo

Original Article

Safety and Efficacy of the BNT162b2 mRNA Covid-19 Vaccine

December 10, 2020

DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2034577

Fernando P. Polack, M.D....Kathrin U. Jansen, Ph.D., and William C. Gruber, M.D. for the C4591001 Clinical Trial Group*

Abstract

Background

Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) infection and the resulting coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) have afflicted tens of millions of people in a worldwide pandemic. Safe and effective vaccines are needed urgently.

Methods

In an ongoing multinational, placebo-controlled, observer-blinded, pivotal efficacy trial, we randomly assigned persons 16 years of age or older in a 1:1 ratio to receive two doses, 21 days apart, of either placebo or the BNT162b2 vaccine candidate (30 µg per dose). BNT162b2 is a lipid nanoparticle–formulated, nucleoside-modified RNA vaccine that encodes a prefusion stabilized, membrane-anchored SARS-CoV-2 full-length spike protein. The primary end points were efficacy of the vaccine against laboratory-confirmed Covid-19 and safety.

Results

A total of 43,548 participants underwent randomization, of whom 43,448 received injections: 21,720 with BNT162b2 and 21,728 with placebo. There were 8 cases of Covid-19 with onset at least 7 days after the second dose among participants assigned to receive BNT162b2 and 162 cases among those assigned to placebo; BNT162b2 was 95% effective in preventing Covid-19 (95% credible interval, 90.3 to 97.6). Similar vaccine efficacy (generally 90 to 100%) was observed across subgroups defined by age, sex, race, ethnicity, baseline body-mass index, and the presence of coexisting conditions. Among 10 cases of severe Covid-19 with onset after the first dose, 9 occurred in placebo recipients and 1 in a BNT162b2 recipient. The safety profile of BNT162b2 was characterized by short-term, mild-to-moderate pain at the injection site, fatigue, and headache. The incidence of serious adverse events was low and was similar in the vaccine and placebo groups.

Conclusions

A two-dose regimen of BNT162b2 conferred 95% protection against Covid-19 in persons 16 years of age or older. Safety over a median of 2 months was similar to that of other viral vaccines. (Funded by BioNTech and Pfizer; ClinicalTrials.gov number, [NCT04368728](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT04368728). opens in new tab.)

Pediatrics

Vol. 146, Issue 6 1 Dec 2020

<https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Pharmaceutics

Volume 12, Issue 7 (July 2020) – 97 articles

<https://www.mdpi.com/1999-4923/12/7>

[Reviewed earlier]

PharmacoEconomics

Volume 38, issue 11, November 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/40273/volumes-and-issues/38-11>

[Reviewed earlier]

PLoS Genetics

<https://journals.plos.org/plosgenetics/>

(Accessed 12 Dec 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Medicine

<http://www.plosmedicine.org/>

[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases

<http://www.plosntds.org/>

(Accessed 12 Dec 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

PLoS One

<http://www.plosone.org/>

Research Article

[Influenza vaccination hesitancy in five countries of South America. Confidence, complacency and convenience as determinants of immunization rates](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0243833)

Miguel Ángel González-Block, Emilio Gutiérrez-Calderón, Blanca Estela Pelcastre-Villafuerte, Juan Arroyo-Laguna, Yamila Comes, Pedro Crocco, Andréa Fachel-Leal, Laura Noboa, Daniela Riva-Knauth, Berenice Rodríguez-Zea, Mónica Ruoti, Elsa Sarti, Esteban Puentes-Rosas

Research Article | published 11 Dec 2020 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0243833>

Vaccines safety and maternal knowledge for enhanced maternal immunization acceptability in rural Uganda: A qualitative study approach

Dan Kajungu, Michael Muhoozi, James Stark, Daniel Weibel, Miriam C. J. M. Sturkenboom
Research Article | published 10 Dec 2020 PLOS ONE
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0243834>

Timeliness of immunisation with the pentavalent vaccine at different levels of the health care system in the Lao People's Democratic Republic: A cross-sectional study

Lisa Hefe, Sengdavanh Syphan, Dalouny Xayavong, Anousin Homsana, Daria Kleine, Phetsavanh Chanthavilay, Phonethipsavanh Nouanthong, Kinnaly Xaydalasouk, Outavong Phathamavong, Somxay Billamay, Anonh Xeuatvongsa, Daniel Reinhartz, Antony P. Black, Claude P. Muller
Research Article | published 08 Dec 2020 PLOS ONE
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0242502>

PLoS Pathogens

<http://journals.plos.org/plospathogens/>

[Accessed 12 Dec 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/>

Articles

The spread of COVID-19 shows the importance of policy coordination

Joshua Graff Zivin and Nicholas Sanders
PNAS first published December 11, 2020.
<https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2022897117>

Prehospital & Disaster Medicine

Volume 35 - Issue 6 - December 2020

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/prehospital-and-disaster-medicine/latest-issue>

[Reviewed earlier]

Preventive Medicine

Volume 141 December 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/preventive-medicine/vol/141/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Proceedings of the Royal Society B

09 December 2020 Volume 287 Issue 1940

<https://royalsocietypublishing.org/toc/rspb/current>

[No new digest content identified]

Public Health

Volume 188 Pages A1-A2, 1-54 (November 2020)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/public-health/vol/188/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Ethics

Volume 13, Issue 2, July 2020

<http://phe.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Reports

Volume 135 Issue 6, November/December 2020

<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/phrg/135/6>

[Reviewed earlier]

Qualitative Health Research

Volume 30 Issue 14, December 2020

<http://qhr.sagepub.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Research Ethics

Volume 16 Issue 3-4, July-October 2020

<http://journals.sagepub.com/toc/reab/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Reproductive Health

<http://www.reproductive-health-journal.com/content>

[Accessed 12 Dec 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Revista Panamericana de Salud Pública/Pan American Journal of Public Health (RPSP/PAJPH)

<https://www.paho.org/journal/en>

[No new digest content identified]

Risk Analysis

Volume 40, Issue 11 Pages: 2301-2477 November 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/15396924/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Risk Management and Healthcare Policy

<https://www.dovepress.com/risk-management-and-healthcare-policy-archive56>

[Accessed 12 Dec 2020]

Original Research

Hepatitis B Vaccination Uptake Rate and Predictors in Healthcare Professionals of Ethiopia

Getnet MA, Bayu NH, Abtew MD, W/Mariam TGM

Risk Management and Healthcare Policy 2020, 13:2875-2885

Published Date: 8 December 2020

Science

11 December 2020 Vol 370, Issue 6522

<http://www.sciencemag.org/current.dtl>

Feature

China's vaccine gambit

By Jon Cohen

Science 11 Dec 2020 : 1263-1267 Full Access

With its global campaign to test and promote COVID-19 vaccines, China aims to win friends and cut deals.

Summary

On 29 February, less than 2 months after the world awakened to the threat of the pandemic coronavirus, virologist Chen Wei, a major general in China's army, and six military scientists on her team received injections of an experimental COVID-19 vaccine. Chen, a national hero for her work on Ebola vaccines, had come to the initial center of the pandemic, Wuhan, with her group from the Academy of Medical Military Sciences, in part to help make the candidate vaccine with pharmaceutical company CanSino Biologics. In the United States, the Trump administration's \$10.8 billion Operation Warp Speed accelerated vaccine R&D faster than many researchers thought possible. But an equally massive effort has unfolded in China. CanSino and two other Chinese companies are investing substantial resources and testing four candidates in tens of thousands of volunteers around the world. They are likely only days or weeks away from announcing the outcomes of efficacy trials, just behind the encouraging early results recently announced by a brace of companies and institutions outside China.

Policy Forum

COVID-19 vaccine trial ethics once we have efficacious vaccines

By David Wendler, Jorge Ochoa, Joseph Millum, Christine Grady, Holly A. Taylor

Science 11 Dec 2020 : 1277-1279 Full Access

Some placebo-controlled trials can continue ethically after a candidate vaccine is found to be safe and efficacious

Summary

The unprecedented effort to identify one or more safe and effective vaccines for COVID-19 includes more than 180 candidates in development (1), with at least 12 in phase 3 trials (2). The testing of so many vaccine candidates, in a pandemic of a disease for which there are to date limited treatment options, raises a critical challenge: What should researchers do if a vaccine candidate is judged to be safe and efficacious? Guidance from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) states that in the event that a COVID-19 vaccine candidate is judged to be "safe and effective," discussion may be necessary "to address ethical arguments to break the blind and offer vaccine to placebo recipients" (3).

We consider here two questions raised by this guidance: First, if a vaccine candidate is found to be safe and efficacious in a placebo-controlled trial, should the researchers continue that trial as designed? Second, should researchers continue to test other vaccine candidates using placebo-controlled trials? These two questions are especially timely given recent announcements by Pfizer and Moderna that their vaccine candidates have been found to be efficacious in preventing symptomatic COVID-19 (4, 5).

Reports

Preexisting and de novo humoral immunity to SARS-CoV-2 in humans

By Kevin W. Ng, Nikhil Faulkner, Georgina H. Cornish, Annachiara Rosa, Ruth Harvey, Saira Hussain, Rachel Ulferts, Christopher Earl, Antoni G. Wrobel, Donald J. Benton, Chloe Roustán, William Bolland, Rachael Thompson, Ana Agua-Doce, Philip Hobson, Judith Heaney, Hannah Rickman, Stavroula Paraskevopoulou, Catherine F. Houlihan, Kirsty Thomson, Emilie Sanchez, Gee Yen Shin, Moira J. Spyer, Dhira Joshi, Nicola O'Reilly, Philip A. Walker, Svend Kjaer, Andrew Riddell, Catherine Moore, Bethany R. Jebson, Meredyth Wilkinson, Lucy R. Marshall, Elizabeth C. Rosser, Anna Radziszewska, Hannah Peckham, Coziana Ciurtin, Lucy R. Wedderburn, Rupert Beale, Charles Swanton, Sonia Gandhi, Brigitta Stockinger, John McCauley, Steve J. Gamblin, Laura E. McCoy, Peter Cherepanov, Eleni Nastouli, George Kassiotis

Science 11 Dec 2020 : 1339-1343 Open Access

SARS-CoV-2 neutralizing antibodies can be found in some uninfected individuals—predominantly children and adolescents.

Antibodies predating infection

Immunological memory after infection with seasonal human coronaviruses (hCoVs) may potentially contribute to cross-protection against severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). Ng et al. report that in a cohort of 350 SARS-CoV-2–uninfected individuals, a small proportion had circulating immunoglobulin G (IgG) antibodies that could cross-react with the S2 subunit of the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein (see the Perspective by Guthmiller and Wilson). By contrast, COVID-19 patients generated IgA, IgG, and IgM antibodies that recognized both the S1 and S2 subunits. The anti-S2 antibodies from SARS-CoV-2–uninfected patients showed specific neutralizing activity against both SARS-CoV-2 and SARS-CoV-2 S pseudotypes. A much higher percentage of SARS-CoV-2–uninfected children and adolescents were positive for these antibodies compared with adults. This pattern may be due to the fact that children and adolescents generally have higher hCoV infection rates and a more diverse antibody repertoire, which may explain the age distribution of COVID-19 susceptibility.

Science Translational Medicine

09 December 2020 Vol 12, Issue 573

<https://stm.sciencemag.org/>

Research Articles

Genomic epidemiology of superspreading events in Austria reveals mutational dynamics and transmission properties of SARS-CoV-2

By Alexandra Popa, Jakob-Wendelin Genger, Michael D. Nicholson, Thomas Penz, Daniela Schmid, Stephan W. Aberle, Benedikt Agerer, Alexander Lercher, Lukas Endler, Henrique Colaço, Mark Smyth, Michael Schuster, Miguel L. Grau, Francisco Martínez-Jiménez, Oriol Pich, Wegene Borena, Erich Pawelka, Zsófia Keszei, Martin Senekowitsch, Jan Laine, Judith H. Aberle, Monika Redlberger-Fritz, Mario Karolyi, Alexander Zoufaly, Sabine Maritschnik, Martin Borkovec, Peter Hufnagl, Manfred Nairz, Günter Weiss, Michael T. Wolfinger, Dorothee von Laer, Giulio Superti-Furga, Nuria Lopez-Bigas, Elisabeth Puchhammer-Stöckl, Franz Allerberger, Franziska Michor, Christoph Bock, Andreas Bergthaler

Science Translational Medicine 09 Dec 2020 Open Access

Epidemiological and genomic analyses uncover viral mutational dynamics and transmission bottleneck size during the early COVID-19 pandemic in Austria.

Research Articles

[Preexisting immunity shapes distinct antibody landscapes after influenza virus infection and vaccination in humans](#)

By Haley L. Dugan, Jenna J. Guthmiller, Philip Arevalo, Min Huang, Yao-Qing Chen, Karlynn E. Neu, Carole Henry, Nai-Ying Zheng, Linda Yu-Ling Lan, Micah E. Tepora, Olivia Stovicek, Dalia Bitar, Anna-Karin E. Palm, Christopher T. Stamper, Siriruk Changrob, Henry A. Utset, Lynda Coughlan, Florian Krammer, Sarah Cobey, Patrick C. Wilson

Science Translational Medicine 09 Dec 2020 Full Access

Antibody immunodominance to conserved influenza virus epitopes is affected by both preexisting B cell memory and route of exposure

Social Science & Medicine

Volume 265 November 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/social-science-and-medicine/vol/264/suppl/C>

Review article Abstract only

[The Amish health culture and culturally sensitive health services: An exhaustive narrative review](#)

Cory Anderson, Lindsey Potts

Article 113466

Systematic Reviews

<https://systematicreviewsjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles>

[Accessed 12 Dec 2020]

<https://stm.sciencemag.org/>

[No new digest content identified]

Travel Medicine and Infectious Diseases

Volume 37 September–October 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/travel-medicine-and-infectious-disease/vol/37/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Tropical Medicine & International Health

Volume 25, Issue 12 Pages: i-iv, 1431-1567 December 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/13653156/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Vaccine

Volume 39, Issue 1 Pages 1-166 (3 January 2021)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/vaccine/vol/39/issue/1>

Research article Open access

[A nationwide post-marketing survey of knowledge, attitude and practice toward human papillomavirus vaccine in general population: Implications for vaccine roll-out in mainland China](#)

Shangying Hu, Xiaoqian Xu, Yanyang Zhang, Yawen Liu, ... Fanghui Zhao
Pages 35-44

Research article Open access

[Economic evaluation of the introduction of rotavirus vaccine in Hong Kong](#)

Karene Hoi Ting Yeung, Shi Lin Lin, Andrew Clark, Sarah M. McGhee, ... E. Anthony S. Nelson
Pages 45-58

Research article Open access

[An immunization program for US-bound refugees: Development, challenges, and opportunities 2012–present](#)

Tarissa Mitchell, Warren Dalal, Alexander Klosovsky, Catherine Yen, ... Michelle Weinberg
Pages 68-77

Research article Open access

[An immunization program for US-bound refugees: Development, challenges, and opportunities 2012–present](#)

Tarissa Mitchell, Warren Dalal, Alexander Klosovsky, Catherine Yen, ... Michelle Weinberg
Pages 68-77

Review article Open access

[Pregnant women & vaccines against emerging epidemic threats: Ethics guidance for preparedness, research, and response](#)

Carleigh B. Krubiner, Ruth R. Faden, Ruth A. Karron, Margaret O. Little, ... Paulina O. Tindana
Pages 85-120

Special Section on Maternal Pertussis Immunization: Cost-effectiveness in LMICs; Edited by Stanley Plotkin and Elizabeth Miller

Editorial Open access

[Evaluating the cost-effectiveness of maternal pertussis immunization in low- and middle-income countries: A review of lessons learnt](#)

Louise B. Russell, Ajoke Sobanjo-ter Meulen, Cristiana M. Toscano
Pages 121-124

Research article Open access

[Cost-effectiveness of maternal pertussis immunization: Implications of a dynamic transmission model for low- and middle-income countries](#)

Sun-Young Kim, Kyung-Duk Min, Sung-mok Jung, Louise B. Russell, ... Anushua Sinha
Pages 147-157

Vaccines — Open Access Journal

<http://www.mdpi.com/journal/vaccines>

(Accessed 12 Dec 2020)

Open Access Review

Parents' Knowledge, Attitude and Perceptions on Childhood Vaccination in Saudi Arabia: A Systematic Literature Review

by Marwa Alabadi and Zakariya Aldawood

Vaccines 2020, 8(4), 750; <https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines8040750> - 10 Dec 2020

Viewed by 189

Background: The responsibility of vaccinating children lies with their parents. Therefore, parents' attitudes, knowledge and perceptions towards vaccination are of great importance as it drives their actions for timely and complete immunisation. This systematic literature review was conducted to gain a better...

Open Access Article

Evaluating a Technology-Mediated HPV Vaccination Awareness Intervention: A Controlled, Quasi-Experimental, Mixed Methods Study

by Heather M. Brandt, Beth Sundstrom, Courtney M. Monroe, Gabrielle Turner-McGrievy, Chelsea Larsen, Melissa Stansbury, Karen Magrader, Andrea Gibson and Delia Smith West

Vaccines 2020, 8(4), 749; <https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines8040749> (registering DOI) - 10 Dec 2020

Viewed by 135

Abstract

College-aged women and men are an important catch-up population for human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination interventions. Limited research has explored technology-mediated HPV vaccination awareness interventions aimed at college students. The purpose was to evaluate a novel, technology-mediated, social media-based intervention to promote HPV vaccination...

Value in Health

December 2020 Volume 23 Issue 12 p1523-1672

<https://www.valueinhealthjournal.com/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

*

*

*

*

Media/Policy Watch

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

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

The Atlantic

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

Accessed 12 Dec 2020

Ideas

How to Build Trust in the Vaccines

To succeed in immunizing the population against COVID-19, the United States must draw on the resources it already has.

12 Dec 2020

Brendan Nyhan, Professor of government at Dartmouth College

The Next Six Months Will Be Vaccine Purgatory

The period after a vaccine is approved will be strange and confusing, as certain groups of people get vaccinated but others have to wait.

Sarah Zhang is a staff writer at The Atlantic.

December 11th, 2020 December 11th, 2020

Ideas

The Public-Health Value of Speaking Plainly

An interview with the infectious-disease expert and community health provider Lisa Fitzpatrick

December 10, 2020

Conor Friedersdorf, Staff writer at The Atlantic

BBC

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

Accessed 12 Dec 2020

[No new, unique, relevant content]

The Economist

<http://www.economist.com/>

Accessed 12 Dec 2020

Charlemagne

Why is Europe so riddled with vaccine scepticism?

Anti-vaxxers could hinder the struggle against covid-19

Dec 12th 2020 edition

Coming soon

Europe prepares for its first batches of covid-19 vaccines

But supplies and uptake are both uncertain

Dec 12th 2020 edition

Financial Times

<https://www.ft.com/>

Accessed 12 Dec 2020

US-China relations

Beijing racks up the points in its great game against Washington

December 13, 2020

News in-depth

Coronavirus treatment

US states wrestle with what makes workers 'essential' in Covid jab rush

December 11, 2020

Forbes

<http://www.forbes.com/>

Accessed 12 Dec 2020

Breaking /

Pfizer Covid Vaccine Expected To Arrive In All 50 States By Monday

The vaccines are already being packaged, an official said.

By Nicholas Reimann Forbes Staff

Breaking /

Pfizer Covid Vaccine Expected To Arrive In All 50 States By Monday

The vaccines are already being packaged, an official said.

By [Nicholas Reimann](#) Forbes Staff

Pfizer Covid Vaccine Expected To Arrive In All 50 States By Monday

The vaccines are already being packaged, an official said.

By [Nicholas Reimann](#) Forbes Staff

Editors' Pick /

Dec 11, 2020

AstraZeneca, Oxford To Create Combination Covid-19 Vaccine With Russia's Sputnik V

Many officials worried about how fast Russia developed and approved the vaccine, launching it without completing the large-scale clinical trials needed to prove safety and efficacy.

By [Robert Hart](#) Forbes Staff

Foreign Affairs

<http://www.foreignaffairs.com/>

Accessed 12 Dec 2020

Essay January/February 2021

Latin America's Lost Decades

The region's COVID-19 crisis is, above all, a crisis of inequality.

Luis Alberto Moreno

Audio available for this article

Comment January/February 2021

To Stop a Pandemic

The United States and other countries need to look beyond COVID-19 and focus on preparing for the next pandemic threat.

Jennifer Nuzzo

Foreign Policy

<http://foreignpolicy.com/>

Accessed 12 Dec 2020

[No new, unique, relevant content]

The Guardian

<http://www.guardiannews.com/>

Accessed 12 Dec 2020

[No new, unique, relevant content]

New Yorker

<http://www.newyorker.com/>

Accessed 12 Dec 2020

Daily Comment

What an F.D.A. Committee Weighed in Voting for the Pfizer COVID Vaccine

In the present circumstances, one could imagine a far more fraught F.D.A. hearing than the one that took place on Thursday.

By Amy Davidson Sorkin

December 11, 2020

Medical Dispatch

The Deadly Cost of America's Pandemic Politics

Vaccines are on the way, but until they arrive tens of thousands of lives depend on the battle for public opinion.

By Dhruv Khullar

December 8, 2020

New York Times

<http://www.nytimes.com/>

Accessed 12 Dec 2020

Health

C.D.C. Panel Recommends Pfizer Vaccine for Patients as Young as 16

The advisory panel of experts endorsed the vaccine and will soon issue specific guidance for pregnant and lactating women and for people who have had severe allergic reactions to other shots.

By Jan Hoffman

PRINT EDITION December 13, 2020

Politics

First U.S. Coronavirus Vaccines Set to Be Delivered Monday

Gen. Gustave F. Perna, chief officer of Operation Warp Speed, said boxes of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine were being readied for shipment with an emphasis on quality control.

By Reuters

Deal Book

Should Companies Require Employees to Take the Vaccine?

It's a debate that's roiling boardrooms around the world.

By Andrew Ross Sorkin

Dec. 12

Americas

How the Vaccine Rollout Will Compare in Britain, Canada and the U.S.

Within days, all three countries could be giving the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, but they have varying strategies and challenges. The U.S. plan, working through the states, is the least centralized.

By Richard Pérez-Peña

PRINT EDITION December 13, 2020

World

Superspreading Boston biotech conference in February is linked to 1.9 percent of all U.S. cases.

By Amy Harmon

Dec. 11

Washington Post

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/>

Europe

As Germany awaits vaccine, mass vaccination centers are built in less than a week

Loveday Morris and Luisa Beck · Dec 12, 2020

Brazil govt releases pandemic vaccination plan with holes

· Dec 12, 2020

Morocco to use Chinese vaccine to kick off mass vaccinations

· Dec 8, 2020

*

*

*

*

Think Tanks et al

Brookings

<http://www.brookings.edu/>

Accessed 12 Dec 2020

[No new relevant content]

Center for Global Development [to 12 Dec 2020]

<http://www.cgdev.org/page/press-center>

December 10, 2020

Restricting Mobility Will Not Stop the Next Pandemic

Given that international travelers introduced COVID-19 to almost every country in the world, it's natural to associate international mobility with the spread of disease. During the pandemic, 179 countries have implemented some form of travel restrictions. And beyond COVID-19, some countries may uphold such restrictions for fear of the next pandemic.

Michael Clemens, Thomas Ginn and Reva Resstack

The COVID-19 Vaccine: Do We Know Enough to End the Pandemic?

Publication

12/7/20

The SARS-COV-2/COVID-19 pandemic has created an unprecedented public health challenge, spurring a global race to develop and distribute viable vaccines. By mid-2021, there will likely be multiple licensed vaccines. Although there is an urgent need for these vaccines to be made available, several critical features of any COVID-19 vaccine must be considered to ensure optimal delivery and impact.

Chatham House [to 12 Dec 2020]

<https://www.chathamhouse.org/>

Accessed 12 Dec 2020

[No new relevant content]

CSIS

<https://www.csis.org/>

Accessed 12 Dec 2020

Upcoming Event

Online Event: Trusting a Covid-19 Vaccine: Where Do We Stand?

December 16, 2020

Upcoming Event

Online Event: Year-End Reflections on 2020 with Dr. Anthony Fauci

December 14, 2020

Council on Foreign Relations

<http://www.cfr.org/>

Accessed 12 Dec 2020

December 10, 2020

Pharmaceuticals and Vaccines

Russian Disinformation Popularizes Sputnik V Vaccine in Africa

In Africa, perceptions of Russia's flagship vaccine, Sputnik V, are largely positive, despite it having not undergone the rigorous clinical trials that other vaccines have.

Blog Post by Guest Blogger for John Campbell

Kaiser Family Foundation

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

Accessed 12 Dec 2020

December 10, 2020 *News Release*

New National and State Estimates for Recommended COVID-19 Vaccination Priority Population

This month the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) adopted a recommendation that health care workers and long-term care residents should be the first to receive the COVID-19 vaccine once it is authorized or approved by the FDA. A new KFF analysis estimates there are 15.5 million people working...

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| * | * | * | * |
| * | * | * | * |

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

publication, subject to the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>). Copyright is retained by CVEP.

CVEP is a program of the GE2P2 Global Foundation – whose purpose and mission is to advance ethical and scientific rigor in research and evidence generation for governance, policy and practice in health, human rights action, humanitarian response, heritage stewardship, education and sustainable development. The Foundation serves governments, international agencies, INGOs, civil society organizations (CSOs), commercial entities, consortia and alliances. CVEP maintains an academic affiliation with the Division of Medical Ethics, NYU School of Medicine, and an operating affiliation with the Vaccine Education Center of Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia [CHOP].

Support for this service is provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; PATH, and industry resource members Janssen/J&J, Pfizer, Sanofi Pasteur U.S., Takeda, (list in formation).

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

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| * | * | * | * |
| * | * | * | * |