

Center for Vaccine
Ethics and Policy



Vaccines and Global Health: The Week in Review
24 February 2024 :: Issue 739
Center for Vaccine Ethics & Policy (CVEP)

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

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

Comments and suggestions should be directed to

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Milestones, Perspectives

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[Africa CDC Spearheads Bold Move to Secure Africa's Health Future by Creating a 50 billion Dollar Medical Market](#)

19 February 2024

African leaders made a decision that will create a robust future market for medical products for African manufacturers. Spearheaded by the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, **a pooled procurement mechanism was agreed upon and signed off late last night at the African Union (AU) Summit in Addis Ababa. This decision is significant because it creates predictable demand so manufacturers can plan for the long term to create a viable vaccine manufacturing ecosystem.**

The Director General of Africa CDC, Dr. Jean Kaseya, said: "The decision means creating a robust market for manufacturers and ensuring the health security of all Africans. This will be the second independence of Africa."

The African market size for medicines and vaccines is approximately 50 billion USD annually. Africa CDC will lead the pooled procurement initiative in collaboration with continental and global partners. The move is also designed to ensure that African Union member states can get better deals on price.

The African Union has also voted to appoint H.E. President William Ruto of Kenya as the local manufacturing champion to ensure the continent reaches its goal of vaccine self-reliance...

In a significant move, the AU also voted to broaden the Africa CDC's mandate to include the manufacturing of medicines and diagnostics, in addition to its current remit of vaccines.

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IHRs

[Member States consider proposed amendments to the International Health Regulations with discussions on equity to continue](#)

19 February 2024 *News release* Geneva

WHO Member States have continued discussions on proposals to amend the International Health Regulations (IHR, 2005), during which the importance of their work to future global security was highlighted.

The seventh meeting of the Working Group on Amendments to the IHR (WGIHR) was held on 5-9 February 2024, and discussion will resume on 8 March to end this seventh round.

“This Working Group will define the next 10 years of global surveillance and of collective security when it comes to health emergencies and particularly high-impact epidemics,” said Dr Michael Ryan, Executive Director, WHO Health Emergencies Programme.

During the latest discussions, governments focused on refining amendments to articles and annexes that were at an advanced stage of negotiation. They also held substantive dialogue on the public health alert – public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) – pandemic continuum. In the final public session, Co-Chair Dr Ashley Bloomfield reiterated that the WGIHR is a Member State-driven process and the final package of amendments would be agreed by consensus.

Additional issues that are also being considered by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB), which deal with equity, collaboration, capacity building and financing, will be addressed by Member States on 8 March 2024, when the seventh meeting of the WGIHR will resume.

Proposed amendments to provisions related to governance, and foundational articles of the Regulations, will be addressed when the WGIHR meets for the eighth time in April 2024 to finalize the package of amendments for consideration by the Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly in May 2024.

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Genomics – Pathogen Surveillance

[International Pathogen Surveillance Network launches catalytic grant fund for pathogen genomics](#)

23 February 2024 News release

The World Health Organization (WHO) today announced US\$ 4 million in funding from donors to create a catalytic grant fund for organizations working in pathogen genomic surveillance. The fund will support projects across the world, particularly in low- and middle-income countries, to pilot projects and in doing so, create an evidence base for how to quickly scale-up pathogen genomic surveillance. The results of this kind of surveillance help countries and the world to respond more quickly and effectively to prevent outbreaks and to respond to them.

The initial grants for the catalytic fund have been provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, The Rockefeller Foundation and Wellcome, to support the International Pathogen Surveillance Network (IPSN). IPSN is a new global network of pathogen surveillance actors convened by WHO through a Secretariat at the WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence in Berlin. The fund is hosted by the UN Foundation on behalf of the IPSN...

The amount of US\$ 4 million will be available for IPSN members to apply for grant funding in February 2024. The fund’s purpose is to empower lower-resource members of the IPSN to create knowledge that can benefit the global genomics surveillance community. This can be done through research to develop pathogen genomics surveillance tools as global goods, or by piloting innovative approaches that generate insights to share across the network. The fund is intended to support equity of engagement across IPSN members and provide catalytic funding for LMICs to scale-up competencies in pathogen genomic surveillance.

More details on the IPSN catalytic grant fund can be found [here](#).

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Featured Journal Content – “Pandemic Accord”

Nature, 23 February 2024

COMMENT

[Save lives in the next pandemic: ensure vaccine equity now](#)

The proposed Pandemic Agreement must ensure that COVID-19 vaccine nationalism is never repeated; 290 scientists call for action.

By [Colin Carlson](#), [Daniel Becker](#), [Christian Happi](#), [Zoe O’Donoghue](#), [Tulio de Oliveira](#), [Samuel O. Oyola](#), [Timothée Poisot](#), [Stephanie Seifert](#) & [Alexandra Phelan](#)

Since 2022, member states of the World Health Organization (WHO) have been negotiating a new treaty — provisionally termed the Pandemic Agreement. If adopted, it would transform how the world handles pandemic prevention, preparedness and response. Opinions differ on what negotiators should prioritize. But no issue has captivated public attention as much as vaccine equity — or done more to bring countries to the negotiating table.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, scientists began to design vaccine candidates only a few hours after the first SARS-CoV-2 genome sequence was shared. By the end of 2020, mass vaccination had begun in the United States and Europe. High-income countries promised to share vaccines through the voluntary WHO COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) programme, but failed to meet their commitments.

When South Africa and India appealed to the World Trade Organization for an emergency waiver of intellectual-property rights related to COVID-19 vaccines, so that every country could start their own manufacturing, high-income countries blocked the proposal for months. The [refusal of wealthier nations to cooperate](#) had cost between 200,000 and 1.3 million lives by the end of 2021 in low- and middle-income countries^{1,2}. Today, nearly one-third of the world’s population has still not received a single dose, and the death toll resulting from vaccine nationalism continues to grow.

The Pandemic Agreement could be the last chance to fix this problem before the next COVID-19 arrives. Yet the proposed solution — **the Pathogen Access and Benefit-Sharing (PABS) System, which was outlined in Article 12 of the [latest treaty draft](#) — still hangs in the balance.** The second-to-last session of the treaty’s Intergovernmental Negotiating Body is now under way. So far, countries have been unable to agree on this part of the text. As time runs out, we urge WHO member states to agree on a ‘science-for-science’ mechanism that ensures vaccine equity in the next pandemic.

[The road to PABS](#)

Across all fields, scientists from the global north have frequently extracted data and samples from the global south without the permission of the people there, without collaborating meaningfully — if at all — with local scientists, and [without providing any benefit to the countries where they conduct their work](#). In 1993, the Convention on Biological Diversity recognized parties’ sovereign rights to their ‘genetic resources’. Since 2014, under the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing, countries have developed their own legislation to ensure that they receive benefits (such as financial compensation or scientific collaboration) when scientists and others from outside the country access their genetic resources.

Discussions on access and benefit-sharing in global health began in earnest in 2007, when the Indonesian government refused to share avian influenza samples with the rest of the world, on the grounds that such samples were often used to make vaccines that were never made available in most places³. Sparked by this conflict — and the 2009 H1N1 flu pandemic — WHO member states

developed the 2011 Pandemic Influenza Preparedness (PIP) Framework to streamline the sharing of influenza viruses with pandemic potential, as well as vaccines and other benefits.

Under the PIP Framework, 14 manufacturers have promised that when the next influenza pandemic starts, they will share up to 10% of the vaccines that they make (around 420 million doses) with the WHO. In exchange, these companies have access to a global network of laboratories and their flu samples. The PIP model shows significant promise, but is so far untested and applies only to influenza.

The proposed PABS System in the Pandemic Agreement would take lessons from the PIP Framework and apply an access and benefit-sharing scheme to any pathogen with pandemic potential, such as SARS-CoV-2. Under the PABS System, scientists would share pathogen samples and data through a global network of laboratories and sequence data repositories. **In exchange for access to samples and data, manufacturers of vaccines or therapeutics would give at least 20% of their products to the WHO (half for free, and half at affordable prices).** The WHO would then distribute these on the basis of public-health risk and needs. Users of the PABS System would also contribute to a capacity-development fund, and be encouraged to explore other kinds of benefit-sharing, such as scientific collaborations and technology transfer.

Science-for-science

With regard to physical samples, the Nagoya Protocol and its national implementing legislation can be cumbersome to navigate⁴. Some scientists are apprehensive about the idea of introducing similar barriers into work with genetic sequence data, especially during outbreaks.

In relation to the Nagoya Protocol, several professional societies, including the American Society for Microbiology, have endorsed a group of US scientists that opposes “any restriction or control of access and/or use” of any genetic sequences (see [go.nature.com/3i5ds](https://www.nature.com/3i5ds)). Comments from sessions indicate that such concerns are increasingly being echoed by representatives of global north countries in the current Pandemic Agreement negotiations. Some critics have even argued that the proposals for PABS would block progress towards open science, in favour of a transactional approach⁵.

As a collective of 290 scientists from 36 countries, we argue that a pandemic treaty cannot succeed unless it ensures that everyone will benefit from pandemic science.

Under the new treaty, should it be adopted with the current vision of the PABS System, countries will still be expected to ensure that their scientists share lifesaving data openly and rapidly. Scientists will still be able to share their data freely outside of PABS platforms, and widely used databases could enter into the PABS System — meaning that most researchers would never experience any disruptions to their workflow. **The WHO could also establish its own repository or clearinghouse for genetic sequence data and samples**, which would potentially provide scientists with more transparent management of these resources and the guarantee of continued access.

Financing committed largely by pharmaceutical firms using these platforms (which sometimes directly derive profits from publicly funded science) would, in turn, go towards expanding sequencing capacity and scientific research in low-resource settings. It would also help to support other priorities, such as pandemic prevention⁶. What’s more, scientists everywhere, but especially in the global south, would benefit from a system that creates opportunities for international collaboration — and that ensures that people receive credit for sharing their data.

Hold the course

Access and benefit-sharing could just as easily be called 'science for science': the PABS System will support more pandemic science, and ensure that scientists' contributions result in their communities having access to lifesaving advancements.

Earlier this week, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body for the Pandemic Agreement reconvened for its penultimate session. **If Article 12 is weakened or dismantled, it will be a monumental setback for global health justice — and for the global scientific community.**

Although today's scientific community has embraced the ideals of open data sharing, the world is no closer to a fair system for sharing vaccines and therapeutics. Intellectual property, not benefit-sharing, is the antithesis of open science. We dream of a world in which such barriers are dismantled for lifesaving medicines. Until that day, the Pandemic Agreement offers the last best chance to avoid repeating the mistakes made during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Gaza

[Statement by Principals of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee \(IASC\): Civilians in Gaza in extreme peril while the world watches on](#)

Ten requirements to avoid an even worse catastrophe

21 February 2024

Statement New York, Geneva, Rome

In the less than five months that followed the brutal 7 October attacks and the ensuing escalation, tens of thousands of Palestinians – mostly women and children – have been killed and injured in the Gaza Strip. More than three quarters of the population have been forced from their homes, many multiple times, and face severe shortages of food, water, sanitation and healthcare – the basic necessities to survive.

The health system continues to be systematically degraded, with catastrophic consequences. As of 19 February, only 12 out of 36 hospitals with inpatient capacity are still functioning, and only partially. There have been more than 370 attacks on health care in Gaza since 7 October.

Diseases are rampant. Famine is looming. Water is at a trickle. Basic infrastructure has been decimated. Food production has come to a halt. Hospitals have turned into battlefields. One million children face daily traumas.

Rafah, the latest destination for well over 1 million displaced, hungry and traumatized people crammed into a small sliver of land, has become another battleground in this brutal conflict. Further escalation of violence in this densely populated area would cause mass casualties. It could also deal a death blow to a humanitarian response that is already on its knees. There is no safe place in Gaza.

Humanitarian workers, themselves displaced and facing shelling, death, movement restrictions and a breakdown of civil order, continue efforts to deliver to those in need. But faced with so many obstacles – including safety and movement restrictions – they can only do so much.

No amount of humanitarian response will make up for the months of deprivation that families in Gaza have endured. **This is our effort to salvage the humanitarian operation so that we**

can provide, at the very least, the bare essentials: medicine, drinking water, food, and shelter as temperatures plummet.

For this, we need:

1. An immediate ceasefire.
2. Civilians and the infrastructure they rely on to be protected.
3. The hostages to be released immediately.
4. Reliable entry points that would allow us to bring aid in from all possible crossings, including to northern Gaza.
5. Security assurances and unimpeded passage to distribute aid, at scale, across Gaza, with no denials, delays and access impediments.
6. A functioning humanitarian notification system that allows all humanitarian staff and supplies to move within Gaza and deliver aid safely.
7. Roads to be passable and neighbourhoods to be cleared of explosive ordnance.
8. A stable communication network that allows humanitarians to move safely and securely.
9. UNRWA (1) , the backbone of the humanitarian operations in Gaza, to receive the resources it needs to provide life-saving assistance.
10. A halt to campaigns that seek to discredit the United Nations and non-governmental organizations doing their best to save lives.

Humanitarian agencies remain committed, despite the risks. But they cannot be left to pick up the pieces.

We are calling on Israel to fulfil its legal obligation, under international humanitarian and human rights law, to provide food and medical supplies and facilitate aid operations, and on the world's leaders to prevent an even worse catastrophe from happening.

Signatories:

Mr. Martin Griffiths, Emergency Relief Coordinator and Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

Ms. Sofia Sprechmann Sineiro, Secretary General, CARE International

Dr. Qu Dongyu, Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Ms. Jane Backhurst, Chair, ICVA (Christian Aid)

Mr. Jamie Munn, Executive Director, International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA)

Mr. Tom Hart, Chief Executive Officer and President, InterAction

Ms. Amy E. Pope, Director General, International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Ms. Tjada D'Oyen McKenna, Chief Executive Officer, Mercy Corps

Mr. Volker Türk, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Ms. Janti Soeripto, President and Chief Executive Officer, Save the Children

Ms. Paula Gaviria Betancur, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons (SR on HR of IDPs)

Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Dr. Natalia Kanem, Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Mr. Filippo Grandi, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Mr. Michal Mlynár, Executive Director a.i., United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat)

Ms. Catherine Russell, Executive Director, UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Ms. Sima Bahous, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director, UN Women

Ms. Cindy McCain, Executive Director, World Food Programme (WFP)

Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, World Health Organization (WHO)

1. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) fully supports the statement.

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WHO - [Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization \(SAGE\) - March 2024](#)

11 – 14 March 2024 Geneva

[Draft agenda](#)

- Global and regional reports – Session 1
- IA2030 deep dive – Session 2
- Polio – Session 3
- Hepatitis E – Session 4
- COVID-19 – Session 5
- Mpox – Session 6
- Immune correlates – Session 7
- RSV – Session 8

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Polio – PHEIC

[Polio this week as of 21 Feb 2024 - GPEI](#)

Headlines

:: In December 2023, novel oral polio vaccine type 2 (nOPV2) made history by becoming the first vaccine to move from use under a WHO Emergency Use Listing (EUL) recommendation to full licensure and [WHO prequalification](#). We catch up with Chair of the GPEI’s nOPV Working Group Dr. Ananda S. Bandyopadhyay, from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Chair of GPEI’s Vaccine Supply Group Ann Ottosen, from UNICEF’s Supply Division, and WHO African Region’s Polio Eradication Coordinator Jamal Ahmad to discuss how things have changed in terms of nOPV2’s use, and next steps for this innovative tool. [Read more...](#)

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

- Pakistan: two WPV1-positive environmental samples
- DR Congo: one cVDPV2-positive environmental sample
- Egypt: one cVDPV2-positive environmental sample
- Guinea: four cVDPV2 cases and three positive environmental samples

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[Polio outbreak in Yemen: situation update](#)

21 February 2024

[China to establish organization for poliovirus containment](#)

2024-02-21

BEIJING -- China will establish an organization to better fulfill its commitment to global polio eradication efforts and reduce biosecurity risks, according to the National Health Commission.

The organization, named the National Authority for Containment (NAC), will ensure the research and use of relevant vaccines, read a circular jointly issued by the National Health Commission, the

National Disease Control and Prevention Administration and the National Medical Products Administration...



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WHO & Regional Offices [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://www.who.int/news>

Selected News/Announcements/Statements

23 February 2024 News release

[Recommendations announced for influenza vaccine composition for the 2024-2025 northern hemisphere influenza season](#)

23 February 2024 News release

[International Pathogen Surveillance Network launches catalytic grant fund for pathogen genomics](#)

21 February 2024 Statement

[Statement by Principals of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee \(IASC\): Civilians in Gaza in extreme peril while the world watches on](#)

19 February 2024 Joint News Release

[Children's lives threatened by rising malnutrition in the Gaza Strip](#)

19 February 2024 News release

[Member States consider proposed amendments to the International Health Regulations with discussions on equity to continue](#)

19 February 2024 Departmental news

[WHO releases new guidance on monitoring the social determinants of health equity](#)

18 February 2024 Departmental news

[WHO and International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities \(IAMRA\) sign memorandum of understanding](#)

Today, the World Health Organization (WHO) signed a memorandum of understanding with the International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities (IAMRA), which supports medical regulators around the world to exchange best practice through scientific, educational and collaborative activities.

The agreement was signed by WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus and Joan Simeon, Chair of IAMRA, who was joined by IAMRA secretary Dr Humayun Chaudhry and Dr Jeffrey Carter, Chair of the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States.

Through the memorandum of understanding, WHO and IAMRA will work to strengthen health workforce regulation using research and identifying evidence gaps, providing technical support to increase regulatory capacity in countries, honing understanding of issues faced in low- and middle-income countries through increased participation and collaboration with their regulators, and support for the implementation and uptake of the WHO Guidance on Health Practitioner Regulation...

15 February 2024 Departmental news

[WHO Launched the WHO Biomanufacturing Workforce Training Initiative to Strengthen Global Health Resilience](#)

... WHO is launching the [WHO Biomanufacturing Workforce Training Initiative](#). This initiative is coordinated by the [Local Production and Assistance \(LPA\) Unit](#), on behalf of the Access to Medicines and Health Products (MHP) Division at WHO, in close collaboration with the WHO Academy and WHO Science Division.

The [WHO Biomanufacturing Workforce Training Initiative](#) aims to enhance bioproduction capabilities in LMICs by providing accessible and tailored training programs, aligned with WHO and international standards, and adapted to the evolving needs of the bioproduction sector...

15 February 2024 Departmental news

[Updated WHO guidance for controlling vector-borne diseases through indoor residual spraying](#)

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WHO Regional Offices

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

[WHO African Region](#)

:: **[Preventive Ebola vaccination safeguards health workers in Democratic Republic of the Congo](#)**

20 February 2024

[WHO Region of the Americas PAHO](#)

:: **[Q&A: SARS-CoV-2 in Latin America and the Caribbean 4 years later](#)**

Washington, DC, Feb. 23, 2024 (PAHO) - On February 26, 2020, Brazil recorded the first case of COVID-19 in its territory, marking the beginning of the pandemic in Latin America and the Caribbean. Since its emergence on December 30, 2019, in Wuhan, China, the SARS-CoV-2 virus left a devastating trail globally, with 774 million cases and 7 million...

:: **[PAHO calls for strengthened measures against Aedes aegypti mosquitoes to combat dengue](#)**

Washington, DC, February 20, 2024 (PAHO)- In a new epidemiological alert, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) reiterated its call to countries in the Americas to intensify efforts and actions to control the Aedes aegypti mosquito, the main vector that transmits dengue fever. The call comes in response to a significant increase in number of...

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

:: 23 February 2024 News release

[Enhance field epidemiology workforce in South-East Asia Region: WHO](#)

[WHO European Region EURO](#)

:: 22 February 2024 News release

[Ukraine's health system is a symbol of resilience](#)

:: 22 February 2024 News release

[Rapid measles outbreak response critical to protect millions of vulnerable children](#)

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

:: [Polio outbreak in Yemen: situation update](#)

21 February 2024

WHO Western Pacific Region

No new digest content identified.

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WHO - Emergency situation reports

20 February 2024

[Situation Report: Greater Horn of Africa Food Insecurity and Health - Grade 3 Emergency — 01 November - 31 December 2023](#)

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Disease Outbreak News (DONs)

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

No new digest content identified.

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Weekly Epidemiological Record

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

Vol. 99, No. 08, pp. 83–94 23 February 2024

<https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/376083/WER9908-eng-fre.pdf>

:: Progress towards measles elimination – WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region, 2019–2022

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New WHO Publications

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

Selected

19 December 2024

[Tenth meeting of the working group on monitoring of neglected tropical diseases drug efficacy, Ghent,...](#)

23 February 2024

[Building coalitions for strengthening public health and social measures during health emergencies: meeting...](#)

22 February 2024

[Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework: 18-month progress report, 1 January 2022–30 June 2023](#)

22 February 2024

[Infection prevention and control and water, sanitation and hygiene measures in health-care settings and...](#)

21 February 2024

[WHO Malaria Policy Advisory Group \(MPAG\) meeting report, 30 October–1 November 2023](#)

20 February 2024

[Regional Consultation on Health Research Governance and Management in South-East Asia, 7–10 November...](#)

19 February 2024

[Guide for conducting national and subnational programme reviews for maternal, newborn, child and adolescent...](#)

19 February 2024

[Facilitators' guide for conducting national and subnational programme reviews for maternal, newborn,...](#)

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USA – HHS, FDA, CDC

HHS

News

No new digest content identified.

FDA

Press Announcements

No new digest content identified.

FDA VRBPAC

Advisory Committee Calendar

[Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee March 5, 2024 Meeting Announcement](#) - 03/05/2024

CDC/ACIP [U.S.] [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Latest News Releases

No new digest content identified.

ACIP Meetings

Next ACIP Meeting

February 28-29

- [Draft Agenda](#)
- [Webcast Link](#)

MMWR Weekly

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/index2023.html>

February 22, 2024 / No. 7

[PDF of this issue](#)

- [Progress Toward Measles Elimination — World Health Organization Eastern Mediterranean Region, 2019–2022](#)
- [Notes from the Field: Reemergence of Mycoplasma pneumoniae Infections in Children and Adolescents After the COVID-19 Pandemic, United States, 2018–2024](#)

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Europe

European Medicines Agency [EMA]

<https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/news>

News & Press Releases

[Meeting highlights from the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use \(CHMP\) 19-22 February 2024](#)

EMA's human medicines committee (CHMP) recommended 10 medicines for approval at its February 2024 meeting.

23 February 2024

[Multi-agency report highlights importance of reducing antibiotic use](#)

Countries that have decreased their consumption of antibiotics in both animals and humans have seen a reduction in antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

21 February 2024

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European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

<https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en>

News/Updates/Reports/Publications [Selected]

[Multi-agency report highlights importance of reducing antibiotic use](#)

News - 21 Feb 2024

[Dr Pamela Rendi-Wagner nominated new Director of ECDC](#)

Press release - 21 Feb 2024

[High vaccination coverage key against expected increase of measles cases in the EU/EEA](#)

News story - 16 Feb 2024

Measles cases are expected to continue increasing in the EU/EEA in the coming months due to sub-optimal vaccination coverage for measles-containing vaccines (MCV) in a number of EU/EEA countries, the high probability of importation from areas experiencing high circulation and the fact that the coming months represent the seasonal peak of the virus.

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Africa CDC [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Press Releases, Statements [Selected]

[Africa CDC Spearheads Bold Move to Secure Africa's Health Future by Creating a 50 billion Dollar Medical Market](#)

19 February 2024

Press Releases

[Africa CDC Hosts the 2nd High-Level Ministers of Health Forum to Strengthen Transformative Health Leadership](#)

17 February 2024

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China CDC

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

National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

National Medical Products Administration – PRC [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

News

[China to establish organization for poliovirus containment](#)

2024-02-21

BEIJING -- China will establish an organization to better fulfill its commitment to global polio eradication efforts and reduce biosecurity risks, according to the National Health Commission.

The organization, named the National Authority for Containment (NAC), will ensure the research and use of relevant vaccines, read a circular jointly issued by the National Health Commission, the National Disease Control and Prevention Administration and the National Medical Products Administration...

China CDC

Weekly Reports: Current Volume (6)

2024-02-23 / No. 8 RESPIRATORY DISEASES ISSUE

[View PDF of this issue](#)

- [Perspectives: Experts' Consensus on the Management of Respiratory Disease Syndemic](#)
- [Preplanned Studies: Respiratory Viruses and Mycoplasma Pneumoniae Surveillance Among Hospitalized Children with Acute Respiratory Infections — Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, September–November 2023](#)
- [Preplanned Studies: Trends in Respiratory Infectious Pathogens in Children Under the Age of 14 — Xiamen City, Fujian Province, China, 2017–2023](#)
- [Notes from the Field: A Case of an 86-Year-Old Male Survivor with Human Respiratory Syncytial Virus and SARS-CoV-2 Virus Coinfection](#)

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Organization Announcements

Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://alleninstitute.org/news-press/>

News

No new digest content identified.

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://www.gatesfoundation.org/ideas/media-center>

Press Releases and Statements

No new digest content identified.

Bill & Melinda Gates Medical Research Institute [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://www.gatesmri.org/news>

The Bill & Melinda Gates Medical Research Institute is a non-profit biotech organization. Our mission is to develop products to fight malaria, tuberculosis, and diarrheal diseases—three major causes of mortality, poverty, and inequality in developing countries. The world has unprecedented scientific tools at its disposal; now is the time to use them to save the lives of the world's poorest people

News: Articles and Publications

No new digest content identified.

CARB-X [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

CEPI – Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations [to 24 Feb 2024]

<http://cepi.net/>

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

CIOMS – COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF MEDICAL SCIENCES [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://cioms.ch/>

News; Publications; Events

No new digest content identified.

DARPA – Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency [U.S.] [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://www.darpa.mil/news>

News

No new digest content identified.

Duke Global Health Innovation Center [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://dukeghic.org/>

News

No new digest content identified.

EDCTP [to 24 Feb 2024]

<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

News

No new digest content identified.

Emory Vaccine Center [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Vaccine Center News

No new digest content identified.

European Vaccine Initiative [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Latest News, Events

No new digest content identified.

Evidence Aid [to 24 Feb 2024]

Evidence Aid aims to save lives and livelihoods in disasters by providing decision-makers with the best available evidence and by championing its use.

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

Resources [Selected]

[Interventions to improve childhood immunisation coverage in low- and middle-income countries](#)

Added February 24, 2024

Citation: Oyo-Ita A, Oduwole O, Arikpo D, et al. Interventions for improving coverage of childhood immunisation in low- and middle-income countries. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews. 2023;(12):CD008145.

[Access to health services in Jordan for refugees from Syria](#)

Added February 23, 2024

[Drought and adherence to HIV treatment in Africa](#)

Added February 22, 2024

Fondation Merieux [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

News, Events

No new digest content identified.

Gavi [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

News Releases

No new digest content identified.

GE2P2 Global Foundation [to 24 Feb 2024]

www.ge2p2.org

News/Analysis/Publications-Digests/Statements

:: [Vaccines and Global Health: The Week in Review](#) - Current edition

:: [Informed Consent: A Monthly Review – February 2024](#)

:: [Genomic Medicine – Governance, Ethics, Policy, Practice: A Monthly Digest](#) – Oct 2023

:: [Public Consultations Watch :: Global Calls for Input/Public Comment – 14 February 2024 – Issue 13](#)

GHIT Fund [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://www.ghitfund.org/newsroom/press>

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

Global Fund [to 24 Feb 2024].

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

News & Stories

No new digest content identified.

Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness [GloPID-R] [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Hilleman Laboratories [to 24 Feb 2024]

<http://www.hilleman-labs.org/>

News & Insights

No new digest content identified.

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://www.hhmi.org/news>

Press Room

No new digest content identified.

Human Immunome Project [nee Human Vaccines Project] [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

IAVI [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

News, Features

No new digest content identified.

INSERM [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://www.inserm.fr/en/home/>

Press Releases

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.

ICH - International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://www.ich.org/page/press-releases>

News/Pubs/Press Releases [Selective]

21 February 2024

[The ICH E2D\(R1\) draft Guideline presentation available now on the ICH website](#)

The ICH E2D(R1) draft Guideline on "Post-Approval Safety Data: Definitions and Standards for Management and Reporting of Individual Case Safety Reports (ICSRs)" reached Step 2b of the ICH Process in February 2024 and entered the consultation period.

ICRC [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://www.icrc.org/en/whats-new>

What's New [Selected]

No new digest content identified.

IFFIm

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

Press Releases/Announcements

No new digest content identified.

IFRC [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Press Releases [Selected]

[Innovative partnership between IFRC and The Nature Conservancy equips Caribbean communities to combat climate crisis](#)

21/02/2024 | *Press release*

Institut Pasteur [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Press Documents

No new digest content identified.

ISC / International Science Council [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://council.science/current/>

ISC is a non-governmental organization with a unique global membership that brings together 40 international scientific Unions and Associations and over 140 national and regional scientific organizations including Academies and Research Councils.

Latest Updates

No new digest content identified.

International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS)

<https://iuis.org/>

News/Events [Selected]

No new digest content identified.

IVAC [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Updates; Events

February 22, 2024

[Upcoming Launch of IA2030 Country Profiles to Track Immunization Achievements](#)

IVI [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

IVI News & Announcements

[SK bioscience's typhoid conjugate vaccine achieves WHO prequalification](#)

Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://centerforhealthsecurity.org/newsroom>

Center News [Selected]

[Nearly 300 international scientists call on WHO Member States to adopt vaccine equity mechanism in proposed draft pandemic treaty](#)

February 23, 2024 – Today, 290 international scientists, including Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security Senior Scholar Dr. Alexandra Phelan, published a commentary in *Nature* urging World Health Organization (WHO) Member States to ensure vaccine equity in future pandemics by adopting a proposed Pathogen Access and Benefit-Sharing (PABS) System within the draft global pandemic treaty currently being negotiated.

[Center for Health Security Urges the Inclusion of Pathogen Access and Benefit Sharing \(PABS\) in Pandemic Agreement](#)

February 19, 2024 – Today, Dr. Alexandra Phelan, senior scholar at the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security and associate professor at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, delivered an intervention at the World Health Organization (WHO)'s Intergovernmental Negotiating Body meeting for its eighth session to negotiate a pandemic accord.

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Latest [Selected Announcements]

Democratic Republic of Congo

[Surgical care addresses needs of people amid resurgent violence in Ituri province](#)

Project Update 23 Feb 2024

Gaza-Israel war

[MSF briefing on Gaza to UN Security Council](#)

Speech 22 Feb 2024

South Sudan

[Urgent response at transit sites in South Sudan essential to prevent deadly outbreaks](#)

Press Release 22 Feb 2024

Refugees, IDPs and people on the move

[EU policies promote violence by denying safety and protection to refugees and migrants](#)

Press Release 21 Feb 2024

National Academy of Medicine - USA [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://nam.edu/programs/>

News [Selected]

No new digest content identified.

National Academy of Sciences - USA [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://www.nationalacademies.org/newsroom?>

News

No new digest content identified.

National Vaccine Program Office - U.S. HHS [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Upcoming Meetings/Latest Updates

No new digest content identified.

NIH [to 24 Feb 2024]

<http://www.nih.gov/>

News Releases

[Long-acting HIV treatment demonstrates efficacy in people with challenges taking daily medicine as prescribed](#)

February 21, 2024 — All clinical trial participants will have the opportunity to choose the trial medication.

[NIH study offers new clues into the causes of post-infectious ME/CFS](#)

February 21, 2024 — In-depth study finds brain, immune, and metabolic abnormalities linked to debilitating chronic disease.

[Researchers optimize genetic tests for diverse populations to tackle health disparities](#)

February 20, 2024 — Improved genetic tests more accurately assess disease risk regardless of genetic ancestry.

[275 million new genetic variants identified in NIH precision medicine data](#)

February 19, 2024 — Study details the unprecedented scale, diversity, and power of the All of Us Research Program.

PATH [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Newsroom

[Remembering Kent Campbell](#)

The creator and first director of PATH MACEPA leaves an indelible mark on PATH and the malaria community.

Sabin Vaccine Institute [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://www.sabin.org/press/>

Latest News & Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

UNAIDS [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Selected Press Releases/Reports/Statements

Feature story

[Two years on: UNAIDS supports Ukraine's commitment to the HIV response](#)

23 February 2024

UNICEF [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Latest press releases, news notes and statements

Press release 22 February 2024

[UNICEF and WFP demand action to protect children and unfettered humanitarian access in eastern DRC](#)

KINSHASA, 23 February 2024 – The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Programme (WFP) are calling for immediate action to protect children and families caught in the escalating violence in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) where an increasing number of people, including children, have been wounded or killed near...

Press release 22 February 2024

[Ukraine two years: Children in frontline areas forced to spend up to 5,000 hours – equivalent to nearly 7 months - sheltering underground](#)

NEW YORK/GENEVA/KYIV, 23 February 2024 – Children in cities in Ukraine's frontline areas have been forced to spend between 3,000 and 5,000 hours – equivalent to between four and almost 7 months – sheltering in basements and underground metro stations over the past two years, as air raid alerts sound above. Since the war escalated in February 2022...

Statement 21 February 2024

[Statement by Principals of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee - Civilians in Gaza in extreme peril while the world watches on](#)

NEW YORK/GENEVA/ROME, 21 February 2024 – "In the less than five months that followed the brutal 7 October attacks and the ensuing escalation, tens of thousands of Palestinians – mostly women and children – have been killed and injured in the Gaza Strip. More than three quarters of the population have been forced from their homes, many multiple...

Press release 19 February 2024

Children's lives threatened by rising malnutrition in the Gaza Strip

GENEVA/NEW YORK/ROME, 19 February 2024 – A steep rise in malnutrition among children and pregnant and breastfeeding women in the Gaza strip poses grave threats to their health, according to a comprehensive new analysis released by the Global Nutrition Cluster. As the ongoing conflict in the Gaza Strip enters its 20 th week, food and safe water...

Unitaid [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://unitaid.org/>

Featured News

Unitaid-backed research underpins WHO recommendation for first-ever multidrug-resistant TB prevention regimen for children

Geneva, 21 February 2024 – There is new hope for both children and adults who have been exposed to multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB), following a World Health Organization (WHO) communication recommending breakthrough preventive treatments for both populations.

Vaccine Equity Cooperative [nee Initiative] [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Vaccination Acceptance & Demand Initiative (Sabin) [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Announcements, Blog

No new digest content identified.

Vaccine Confidence Project [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

News, Research and Reports

No new digest content identified.

Vaccine Education Center – Children's Hospital of Philadelphia [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Wellcome Trust [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://wellcome.org/>

News, Opinion, Reports

No new digest content identified.

The Wistar Institute [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Press Releases

February 14, 2024

[The Wistar Institute Announces New Caspar Wistar Fellow, Dr. Irene Bertolini](#)

Wistar scientist joins faculty to pursue research in breast and brain cancers

PHILADELPHIA—(Feb. 13, 2024)— The Wistar Institute, an international biomedical research leader in cancer, infectious disease, immunology, and vaccine development...

World Bank [to 015 Oct 2022]

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/all>

All News [Selected]

No new digest content identified.

WFPHA: World Federation of Public Health Associations [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Blog

No new digest content identified.

World Medical Association [WMA] [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://www.wma.net/news-press/press-releases/>

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

World Organisation for Animal Health [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://www.oie.int/en/>

Press Releases, Statements

No new digest content identified.

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ARM [Alliance for Regenerative Medicine] [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://alliancerm.org/press-releases/>

Selected Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

BIO [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

DCVMN – Developing Country Vaccine Manufacturers Network [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

News; Upcoming events

No new digest content identified.

ICBA – International Council of Biotechnology Associations [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

IFPMA [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://ifpma.org/>

News

Statement 23 Feb 2024

[WTO Ministerial Conference in Abu Dhabi is an opportunity to strengthen trade and health agenda](#)

On 23 February, ahead of the 13th WTO Ministerial Conference, IFPMA and member associations from 10 countries issued a joint statement calling on trade ministers to commit to a comprehensive trade and health agenda that will strengthen the innovation ecosystem, remove trade barriers, promote trade facilitation, strengthen regulatory systems, and address under-resourced healthcare infrastructure.

Statement 23 Feb 2024

[Joint Plenary Meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body \(INB\) and the Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations \(2005\) \(WGIHR\)](#)

On 23 February 2024, IFPMA submitted a statement at the Joint Plenary Meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) and the Working Group on the Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) (WGIHR) in Geneva, Switzerland.

23 Feb 2024

[Infographic February 2024: Impact of a waiver of intellectual property rights for COVID-19 therapeutics](#)

As discussions on an extension of a waiver of intellectual property (IP) rights on COVID-19 therapeutics continue, latest evidence and data published today explains what the adverse impact of a waiver may be on the entire innovation ecosystem and the consequences it may have on industry's ability to fight future pandemics.

International Alliance of Patients' Organizations – IAPO [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://www.iapo.org.uk/news>

Press and media [Selected]

No new digest announcements identified.

International Generic and Biosimilar Medicines Association [IGBA]

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

News

No new digest announcements identified.

PhRMA [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Press Releases

Neurocrine Biosciences Joins PhRMA

Feb 22, 2024

The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) today announced that Neurocrine Biosciences, Inc., has joined the association as a member.

Daniel O'Day of Gilead Sciences Becomes New Chair of PhRMA Board

Feb 21, 2024

The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) today announced that Gilead Sciences Chairman and CEO Daniel O'Day has assumed the role of chair of the PhRMA Board of Directors.

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Vaccines/Therapeutics/Medicines – Selected Developer/Manufacturer Announcements

AstraZeneca

Press Releases

Acquisition of Gracell completed

PUBLISHED 22 February 2024

AstraZeneca today announced the successful completion of the acquisition of Gracell Biotechnologies Inc. (Gracell, NASDAQ: GRCL), a global clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company developing innovative cell therapies for the treatment of cancer and autoimmune diseases, furthering AstraZeneca's cell therapy ambition.

Acquisition of Icosavax Completed

PUBLISHED 19 February 2024

AstraZeneca announced today the successful completion of the acquisition of Icosavax, Inc., a US-based clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on developing differentiated, high-potential vaccines using an innovative, protein virus-like particle (VLP) platform. As a result of the acquisition, Icosavax has become a subsidiary of AstraZeneca, with operations in Seattle, US.

Bharat Biotech

Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified.

BioCubaFarma – Cuba

Últimas Noticias - No new digest announcements identified

Biological E

News - No new digest announcements identified

BioNTech

Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

Boehringer

Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified.

CanSinoBIO

News - Website not responding at inquiry

CIGB

Latest News - No new digest announcements identified.

Cinnagen

Recent News - No new digest announcements identified.

Clover Biopharmaceuticals - China

News - No new digest announcements identified.

Curevac [Bayer Ag – Germany]

News - No new digest announcements identified

Gamaleya National Center/Sputnik

Latest News and Events - No new digest announcements identified

<https://sputnikvaccine.com/> - No new digest announcements identified

GSK

Press releases for media

Press releases

21 February 2024

[**LATITUDE phase III interim trial data indicates ViiV Healthcare's long-acting injectable HIV treatment Cabenuva \(cabotegravir + rilpivirine\) has superior efficacy compared to daily therapy in individuals living with HIV who have adherence challenges**](#)

IMBCAMS, China

Home - Website not responding at inquiry.

Janssen/JNJ

Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

Merck

News releases - No new digest announcements identified

Moderna

Press Releases -

[**Moderna Reports Fourth Quarter and Fiscal Year 2023 Financial Results and Provides Business Updates**](#)

February 22, 2024

Expects regulatory approvals for its investigational RSV vaccine for older adults beginning in first half of 2024, and anticipates additional key milestones from its late-stage pipeline this year

Nanogen

News - No new digest announcements identified

Novartis

News - No new digest announcements identified.

Novavax

Press Releases

[**Novavax and Gavi Reach Settlement on 2021 COVID-19 Vaccine Advance Purchase Agreement**](#)

GAITHERSBURG, Md. and GENEVA, Feb. 22, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- Novavax, Inc. (Nasdaq: NVAX) and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Gavi) today announced they have reached a settlement related to

the 2021 Advance Purchase Agreement (APA) for Novavax's prototype COVID-19 vaccine (NVX-CoV2373). This agreement brings the pending arbitration related to the APA to a close.

"Novavax is pleased to have reached this agreement with Gavi as it gives us the ability to continue to work together toward our shared mission of ensuring equitable access to safe and effective vaccines," said John C. Jacobs, President and Chief Executive Officer, Novavax. "We look forward to a long-term partnership with Gavi to provide continued access to our protein-based non-mRNA COVID-19 vaccine."

"Gavi welcomes this agreement, which allows us to maintain focus on our core programmatic goals, including providing access to COVID-19 vaccines for vulnerable people in lower income countries. It is good for global immunisation, for countries and for healthy manufacturing markets," said David Marlow, Chief Executive Officer (ad int) of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

With the goal of furthering a joint commitment to public health, Novavax and Gavi have agreed to terms that will prioritize Gavi's and Novavax's shared mission to save lives and protect people's health by increasing equitable and sustainable use of vaccines. Under the terms, Novavax has made an initial payment of \$75 million to Gavi and has agreed to make deferred payments of \$80 million annually through December 31, 2028, which are due in quarterly installments and total up to \$400 million. Novavax's annual cash obligation would be offset or reduced pursuant to an \$80 million annual vaccine credit, which may be used for qualifying sales of any of the Company's vaccines funded by Gavi for supply to low-income and lower-middle income countries. Use of the annual vaccine credit for qualifying sales would reduce Novavax's annual cash obligation. In addition to the annual obligation, Novavax will provide an additional vaccine credit of up to \$225 million, should there be additional demand, which can be applied towards qualifying dose purchases of any of the Company's vaccines in such countries throughout the five-year term.

Pfizer

Recent Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

R-Pharm

<https://rpharm-us.com/index.php>

[No news or media page identified]

Sanofi Pasteur

Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

Serum Institute of India

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS - No new digest announcements identified

Sinopharm/WIBPBIBP

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

Sinovac

Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

SK Biosciences

Press Releases

[SK bioscience Receives WHO Prequalification for Typhoid Conjugate Vaccine](#)

-SKYTyphoid is jointly developed with the International Vaccine Institute, supported by the Bill &am...

2024.02.23

Takeda

Newsroom - No new digest announcements identified

Valneva

[Press Releases](#) - No new digest announcements identified.

Vector State Research Centre of Virology and Biotechnology

[Home](#) - Website not responding [404 error]

WestVac Biopharma

[Media](#) - No new digest announcements identified.

Zhifei Longcom, China

[Anhui Zhifei Longcom Biologic Pharmacy Co., Ltd.]

[Website](#) [No News/Announcements page identified]

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Contents [click to move among sections]

:: [Milestones, Perspectives](#)

:: [WHO](#)

:: [Organization Announcements](#)

:: [Journal Watch](#)

:: [Pre-Print Servers](#)

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Journal Watch

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

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

AJOB Empirical Bioethics

Volume 15, 2023 Issue 1

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

[Reviewed earlier]

AMA Journal of Ethics

Volume 26, Number 2: E97-194 Feb 2024

<https://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/issue/critical-pedagogies-health-professions-education>

Health Ecology and Disease Transmission

About 75% of emerging infectious diseases are now zoonotic, with continued climate change expected to exacerbate transmission in environments shared among plants, human animals, and domestic, agricultural, and wild nonhuman animals. One Health is an approach that promotes

national and international collaboration and coordinated responses to human population growth, agricultural encroachment and deforestation, ecosystem disruption, and interactions that intensify human-nonhuman animal transmission risks. Climate change diminishes biodiversity; diminished biodiversity undermines natural ecological balance dynamics between pathogens and hosts and has already influenced health care dramatically. This theme issue investigates the nature and scope of our collective responses to key changes.

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Human Genetics

Feb 01, 2024 Volume 111 Issue 2p211-402

<https://www.cell.com/ajhg/current>

[This Month in The Journal](#)

Alyson B. Barnes, Kylee L. Spencer, Sara B. Cullinan

Human genetic variation influences susceptibility to infectious disease. Antibodies, stable biological markers of the response to infection, can be measured and leveraged to understand disease exposure, chronic infection state, and risk. Measured antibody titers in combination with genome-wide genotyping data can be used to identify common variants that influence both susceptibility and response to infectious disease. In this issue, Chong et al. perform a genome-wide association study of quantitative antibody responses to 45 antigens on the 9,611 individuals in the UK Biobank with both serology and imputed genetic data.

American Journal of Infection Control

February 2024 Volume 52 Issue 2 p141-260

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

February 2024 Volume 66 Issue 2 p195-388

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health

February 2024 114(2)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

Volume 110 (2024): Issue 2 (Feb 2024)

<https://www.ajtmh.org/view/journals/tpmd/110/2/tpmd.110.issue-2.xml>

[Reviewed earlier]

Annals of Internal Medicine

January 2024 Volume 177, Issue 1

<https://www.acpjournals.org/toc/aim/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Artificial Intelligence – An International Journal

Volume 327 February 2024

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/artificial-intelligence/vol/327/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

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

(Accessed 24 Feb 2024)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Health Services Research

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

(Accessed 24 Feb 2024)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Infectious Diseases

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

(Accessed 24 Feb 2024)

[Impact of vaccination status on clinical outcomes of hospitalized COVID-19 patients](#)

It is important to identify the relationship between the COVID-19 vaccination status and the prognosis of this disease in hospitalized patients to gain a more accurate picture of their status and the effect of...

Authors: Mohsen Gholinataj Jelodar, Samaneh Mirzaei, Fatemeh Saghafi, Shahab Rafieian, Soheil Rezaei, Alireza Saatchi, Ziba Dehghani Avare and Mahdie Dehghan Niri

Citation: BMC Infectious Diseases 2024 24:254

Content type: Research Published on: 23 February 2024

[Global prevalence and burden of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis from 1990 to 2019](#)

Tuberculosis(TB) remains a pressing public health challenge, with multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) emerging as a major threat. And healthcare authorities require reliable epidemiological evidence as a...

Authors: Hengliang Lv, Xin Zhang, Xueli Zhang, Junzhu Bai, Shumeng You, Xuan Li, Shenlong Li, Yong Wang, Wenyi Zhang and Yuanyong Xu

Citation: BMC Infectious Diseases 2024 24:243

Content type: Research Published on: 22 February 2024

BMC Medical Ethics

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

(Accessed 24 Feb 2024)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Medicine

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

(Accessed 24 Feb 2024)

[Higher-valency pneumococcal conjugate vaccines in older adults, taking into account indirect effects from childhood vaccination: a cost-effectiveness study for the Netherlands](#)

New 15- and 20-valent pneumococcal vaccines (PCV15, PCV20) are available for both children and adults, while PCV21 for adults is in development. However, their cost-effectiveness for older adults, taking into ...

Authors: Pieter T. de Boer, Cornelis H. van Werkhoven, Albert Jan van Hoek, Mirjam J. Knol, Elisabeth A. M. Sanders, Jacco Wallinga, Hester E. de Melker and Anneke Steens

Citation: BMC Medicine 2024 22:69

Content type: Research article Published on: 16 February 2024

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

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

(Accessed 24 Feb 2024)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Public Health

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

(Accessed 24 Feb 2024)

[Higher-valency pneumococcal conjugate vaccines in older adults, taking into account indirect effects from childhood vaccination: a cost-effectiveness study for the Netherlands](#)

New 15- and 20-valent pneumococcal vaccines (PCV15, PCV20) are available for both children and adults, while PCV21 for adults is in development. However, their cost-effectiveness for older adults, taking into ...

Authors: Pieter T. de Boer, Cornelis H. van Werkhoven, Albert Jan van Hoek, Mirjam J. Knol, Elisabeth A. M. Sanders, Jacco Wallinga, Hester E. de Melker and Anneke Steens

Citation: BMC Medicine 2024 22:69

Content type: Research article Published on: 16 February 2024

[High prevalence of zero-dose children in underserved and special setting populations in Ethiopia using a generalize estimating equation and concentration index analysis](#)

Globally, according to the World Health Organization (WHO) 2023 report, more than 14.3 million children in low- and middle-income countries, primarily in Africa and South-East Asia, are not receiving any vacci...

Authors: Gashaw Andargie Biks, Fisseha Shiferie, Dawit Abraham Tsegaye, Wondwossen Asefa, Legese Alemayehu, Tamiru Wondie, Meseret Zelalem, Yohannes Lakew, Kidist Belete and Samson Gebremedhin

Citation: BMC Public Health 2024 24:592

Content type: Research Published on: 23 February 2024

BMC Research Notes

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

(Accessed 24 Feb 2024)

[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Evidence-Based Medicine

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January 2024 Volume 46 Issue 1 p1-84

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Vol 23 (1) 2023

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...a peer-reviewed, international journal for the rapid publication of original research on new and existing drugs and therapies, and post-marketing investigations. Equivalence, safety and efficacy/effectiveness studies are especially encouraged.

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Volume 167 March 2024

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-development-economics/vol/167/suppl/C>

Research article Abstract only

[Health policy, price regulation, and innovation: Evidence from China's vaccine industry](#)

Hao Geng, Ce Matthew Shi

Article 103229

Abstract

This paper investigates the effect of policy-induced market incentives on pharmaceutical innovation in the context of developing countries, where substantial health challenges persist but research and development (R&D) efforts remain limited. We exploit the quasi-experimental setting of a major reform in China's public vaccine system, which involved expanding vaccine coverage while imposing price controls on affected products. Using newly collected data on vaccine clinical trials and revenues, we estimate that China's public vaccine program expansion in 2008–2009 led to an 83% decrease in new vaccine clinical trials for the policy-affected diseases. This decrease can be attributed to the government's price regulation, which greatly reduced the market revenue of the affected vaccines. Our welfare analysis indicates that for some affected diseases, reducing innovation is welfare-enhancing as the reform has curbed potentially wasteful R&D spending. However, for one disease, the policy-induced reduction in innovation is socially harmful because continued innovation can lead to long-run social benefits by generating more effective products.

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Volume 18 Issue 5, December 2023

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[**The Diaspora Human Genomics Institute Launches the Together for Change Initiative: A Transformative, Historic Partnership to Ensure Health Equity in a Time of Unprecedented Technological Advancements**](#)

James E.K. Hildreth Sr., Anil Shanker
pp. ix-xiv

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[**Vaccine Attitudes and Uptake Among Latino Residents of a Former COVID-19 Hotspot**](#)

Carol Cleaveland, Taylor Anderson, Kimberly McNally, Amira A. Roess
pp. 316-340

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Volume 25, issue 6, December 2023
<https://link.springer.com/journal/10903/volumes-and-issues/25-6>

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Volume 36, Issue 1 Pages: 1-772 January 2024

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Volume 17, Issue 1 (2024) Issue 1

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January/February 2024 - Volume 30 - Issue 1

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Volume 44, issue 4, December 2023

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February 2024 Volume 21 Issue 211

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Volume 31, Issue 1, January 2024

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Volume 97 • Number 12 • December 2023

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Feb 24, 2024 Volume 403 Number 10428 p699-780

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

Editorial

[Safeguarding research integrity](#)

The Lancet

Are allegations of research misconduct rising? With several recent high profile cases, it can certainly feel that way. Accusations of image manipulation by scientists at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute have recently led to several retractions. According to a Nature analysis, more than 14 000 papers were retracted in 2023—the highest number ever—with more than 8000 linked to Hindawi, an open access publisher, driven by what its owner Wiley has called “large-scale systematic manipulation” involving paper mills, reviewer mills, and fraudulent special issues. The role of artificial intelligence in misconduct is an additional concern. Research misconduct is nothing new, but the scale and reach of these cases represent a threat to the whole scientific enterprise. Research misconduct can not only contribute to research waste but also cause real harm to patients by distorting the evidence base. These cases have once again emphasised the fragile nature of trust in science. All key players in the research ecosystem—editors and publishers included—need to ask themselves some tough questions about the underlying drivers.

Individual researchers accountable for the planning, conduct, and reporting of studies need to take responsibility for misconduct. However, systemic factors and perverse incentives play an important part. Most institutions still use the numbers of papers published and journal impact factors as a proxy for quality in making decisions on hiring, promotion, or giving tenure. Allegations of misconduct are all too often not adequately investigated by institutions for fear of loss of reputation. Meanwhile, publishers are increasingly using growth in the number of publications, with insufficient attention to quality control, as the basis for their overarching business models, an unintended but deeply concerning consequence of the otherwise welcome move to open science. Special issues, featuring invited papers overseen by guest editors, were seen as a way to attract open access papers quickly. However, Hindawi and other publishers have suffered serious reputational loss with these initiatives, prompting the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) to discuss guidance on special issues.

There have been efforts to deal with these systemic problems. The Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) initiative and the [Hong Kong Principles](#), an output of the 7th World Conference on Research Integrity (WCRI), have attempted to make institutional research assessments a more comprehensive and quality-driven exercise. DORA has recently launched Reformscape, an online resource for sharing examples of good institutional practices around research assessment. Such changes are desirable but difficult to implement and time consuming for institutional leaders. How research excellence is defined will change only slowly, if at all.

Individual research misconduct sleuths have exposed several high-profile cases, but cannot be relied on to police the entire scientific record alone, just as the problem is not down to a few bad actors. COPE continues to hold editors accountable for correction of the scientific record by issuing retractions when needed. However, editors rely on institutions to conduct fair, timely, and thorough investigations. Comprehensive editorial and peer review assessments cannot always identify serious misconduct. The Chinese Government gave a deadline of Feb 15 to all universities to report all cases

of retractions with reasons from January, 2021, to February, 2024, although it is unclear what the Government will do with this information. [United2Act](#), a group of international stakeholders working to address paper mills, has produced a consensus statement outlining five key areas of action: education and awareness; improvement of post-publication corrections; research into paper mills; development of markers of trust; and dialogue between stakeholders. The [8th WCRI](#) (Athens, Greece, June 2–5, 2024) will discuss paper mills and the intersection of artificial intelligence and research integrity. At The Lancet, we are discussing how we can best strengthen trustworthiness screening of the research submitted to us.

These efforts are all worthy initiatives in reaction to new developments threatening research integrity. But more needs to be done. All involved need to look honestly and deeply at their role in creating perverse incentives, at their motives of driving quantity over quality, and at their way of profiting from a system that is no longer rewarding and supporting researchers in the right way. In short, we need to think collectively and collaboratively about sustainable solutions for making research an environment where scientists do not just survive, but thrive.

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Mar 2024 Volume 8 Number 3 p175-244, e2-e5
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Feb 2024 Volume 6 Number 2 e87-e144
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Mar 2024 Volume 12 Number 3 e341-e529
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Feb 2024 Volume 9 Number 2 e68-e146
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Volume 101, Issue 4 Pages: 999-1374 December 2023

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Volume 626 Issue 8000, 22 February 2024

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Editorial 20 Feb 2024

[**Science can drive development and unity in Africa – as it does in the US and Europe**](#)

A plan to establish Africa's first continent-wide science fund should not be delayed any longer.

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Volume 42 Issue 2, February 2024

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Nature Reviews Genetics

Volume 25 Issue 2, February 2024

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Volume 24 Issue 2, February 2024

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February 22, 2024 Vol. 390 No. 8

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Volume 153, Issue 2 February 2024

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(Accessed 24 Feb 2024)

[The role of global health partnerships in vaccine equity: A scoping review](#)

Charnele Nunes, Martin McKee, Natasha Howard

Research Article | published 22 Feb 2024 PLOS Global Public Health

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0002834>

Abstract

The emergence of global health partnerships (GHPs) towards the end of the twentieth century reflected concerns about slow progress in access to essential medicines, including vaccines. These partnerships bring together governments, private philanthropic foundations, NGOs, and international agencies. Those in the vaccine field seek to incentivise the development and manufacture of new vaccines, raise funds to pay for them and develop and support systems to deliver them to those in need. These activities became more critical during the COVID-19 pandemic, with the COVAX Facility Initiative promoting global vaccine equity. This review identifies lessons from previous experiences with GHPs. Findings contribute to understanding the emergence of GHPs, the mechanisms they leverage to support global access to vaccines, and the inherent challenges associated with their implementation. Using Arksey and O'Malley's method, we conducted a scoping review to identify and synthesise relevant articles. We analysed data thematically to identify barriers and opportunities for success. We included 68 eligible articles of 3,215 screened. Most (65 [95%]) were discussion or review articles describing partnerships or programmes they supported, and three (5%) were commentaries. Emerging themes included policy responses (e.g., immunisation mandates), different forms of partnerships arising in vaccine innovation (e.g., product development partnerships, public-private partnerships for access), and influence on global governance decision-making processes (e.g., the rising influence of foundations, diminishing authority of WHO, lack of accountability and transparency, creation of disease silos). If global health partnerships are to maximise their contributions, they should: (1) increase transparency, especially regarding their impacts; (2) address the need for health systems strengthening; and (3) address disincentives for cooperative vaccine research and development partnerships and encourage expansion of manufacturing capacity in low and middle-income countries.

PLoS Medicine

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[COVID-19 diagnostic testing and vaccinations among First Nations in Manitoba: A nations-based retrospective cohort study using linked administrative data, 2020–2021](#)

Nathan C. Nickel, Wanda Phillips-Beck, Jennifer E. Enns, Okechukwu Ekuma, Carole Taylor, Sarah Fileatreault, Nkiru Eze, Leona Star, Josée Lavoie, Alan Katz, Marni Brownell, Alyson Mahar, Marcelo Urquia, Dan Chateau, Lisa Lix, Mariette Chartier, Emily Brownell, Miyosha Tso Deh, Anita Durksen, Razvan Romanescu

Research Article | published 16 Feb 2024 PLOS Medicine
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[Strengthening laboratories in response to outbreaks in humanitarian emergencies and conflict settings: Results, challenges and lessons from expanding PCR diagnostic capacities for COVID-19 testing in Yemen](#)

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[The effect of mHealth on childhood vaccination in Africa: A systematic review and meta-analysis](#)

Girma Gilano, Sewunet Sako, Berihun Molla, Andre Dekker, Rianne Fijten

Research Article | published 21 Feb 2024 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0294442>

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PNAS - Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States

February 20, 2024 vol. 121 no. 8

<https://www.pnas.org/toc/pnas/121/8>

Brief Report February 15, 2024 Coronavirus (COVID-19)

[US state vaccine mandates did not influence COVID-19 vaccination rates but reduced uptake of COVID-19 boosters and flu vaccines compared to bans on vaccine restrictions](#)

During the COVID-19 pandemic, some US states mandated vaccination for certain citizens. We used state-level data from the CDC to test whether vaccine mandates predicted changes in COVID-19 vaccine uptake, as well as related voluntary behaviors involving ...

Stephen A. Rains and Adam S. Richards

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Volume 3, Issue 1, January 2024

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Volume 39 - Issue 1 - February 2024

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Original Research

[Chickenpox Outbreaks in Three Refugee Camps on Mainland Greece, 2016-2017: A Retrospective Study](#)

Sarah Elizabeth Scales, Jee Won Park, Rebecca Nixon, Debarati Guha-Sapir, Jennifer A. Horney

Published online by Cambridge University Press:

18 December 2023, pp. 3-12

Preventive Medicine

Volume 180 March 2024

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/preventive-medicine/vol/180/suppl/C>

Research article Abstract only

[Trends in primary, booster, and updated COVID-19 vaccine readiness in the United States, January 2021–April 2023: Implications for 2023–2024 updated COVID-19 vaccines](#)

Timothy O. Ihongbe, Jae-Eun C. Kim, Heather Dahlen, Elissa C. Kranzler, ... Leah Hoffman

Article 107887

Proceedings of the Royal Society B

14 February 2024 Volume 291 Issue 2016

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Public Health

Volume 227 Pages e1-e4, 1-298 (February 2024)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/public-health/vol/227/suppl/C>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Public Health Ethics

Volume 16, Issue 3, November 2023

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Genomics

2023, Vol. 26, No. 1

<https://karger.com/phg/issue/26/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Reports

Volume 139 Issue 1, January/February 2024
<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/phrg/139/1>
[Reviewed earlier]

Qualitative Health Research

Volume 34 Issue 3, February 2024
<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/QHR/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Research Ethics

Volume 20 Issue 1, January 2024
<http://journals.sagepub.com/toc/reab/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Reproductive Health

<http://www.reproductive-health-journal.com/content>
[Accessed 24 Feb 2024]
[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 44, Issue 2 Pages: 281-507 February 2024
<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 24 Feb 2024]
[Reviewed earlier]

Science

Volume 383| Issue 6685| 23 Feb 2024
<https://www.science.org/toc/science/current>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Science and Engineering Ethics

Volume 30, Issue 1 February 2024
<https://link.springer.com/journal/11948/volumes-and-issues/30-1>
[Reviewed earlier]

Science Translational Medicine

Volume 16| Issue 735| 21 Feb 2024

<https://www.science.org/toc/stm/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Scientific Reports

<https://www.nature.com/srep/articles?type=article>

[Accessed 24 Feb 2024]

[No new digest content identified]

Social Science & Medicine

Volume 343 February 2024

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/social-science-and-medicine/vol/343/suppl/C>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Systematic Reviews

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

[Accessed 24 Feb 2024]

[No new digest content identified]

Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics

Volume 44, Issue 6 December 2023

<https://link.springer.com/journal/11017/volumes-and-issues/44-6>

[Reviewed earlier]

Travel Medicine and Infectious Diseases

Volume 57 January–February 2024

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/travel-medicine-and-infectious-disease/vol/57/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Tropical Medicine & International Health

Volume 29, Issue 2 Pages: i-iv, 73-160 February 2024

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Vaccine

Volume 42, Issue 5 Pages 995-1194 (15 February 2024)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/vaccine/vol/42/issue/5>

Review article Open access

[**How manufacturing won or lost the COVID-19 vaccine race**](#)

Michael L. King

Pages 1004-1012

Review article Abstract only

[Implications of vaccine non-specific effects on licensure of new vaccines](#)

Grant Munkwase

Pages 1013-1021

Review article Open access

[Are COVID-19 vaccination mandates for healthcare workers effective? A systematic review of the impact of mandates on increasing vaccination, alleviating staff shortages and decreasing staff illness](#)

Arnold I. Okpani, Prince Adu, Tyler Paetkau, Karen Lockhart, Annalee Yassi

Pages 1022-1033

Review article Open access

[Are COVID-19 vaccination mandates for healthcare workers effective? A systematic review of the impact of mandates on increasing vaccination, alleviating staff shortages and decreasing staff illness](#)

Arnold I. Okpani, Prince Adu, Tyler Paetkau, Karen Lockhart, Annalee Yassi

Pages 1022-1033

Vaccines

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

[Accessed 24 Feb 2024]

Latest Articles [Selected]

[No new digest content identified]

Value in Health

February 2024 Volume 27 Issue 2 p133-270

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

[Reviewed earlier]

World Development

Volume 175 March 2024

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/world-development/vol/175/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

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Contents [click to move among sections]

:: [*Milestones, Perspectives*](#)

:: [*WHO*](#)

:: [*Organization Announcements*](#)

:: [*Journal Watch*](#)

:: [*Pre-Print Servers*](#)

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Pre-Print Servers

Gates Open Research

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

[Accessed 24 Feb 2024]

Selected Research

Open Letter

[Taking stock: Is gene drive research delivering on its principles?](#)

[version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]

Aaron J. Roberts, et al.

Abstract

Gene drive technology has been recognized for its potential to provide durable and cost-effective solutions for previously intractable problems in public health, conservation, and agriculture. In recognition of the rapid advances in this field, in 2016 the U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine issued a report making several recommendations aimed at researchers, funders, and policymakers for the safe and responsible research and development of gene drive technology. Subsequently, in 2017 sixteen global organizations self-identifying as sponsors and supporters of gene drive research became public signatories committed to the 'Principles for Gene Drive Research' which were inspired by the report's recommendations.

Herein we reflect on the progress of gene drive research in relation to the ethical principles laid out and committed to by the signatories to the Principles. Our analysis indicates high levels of alignment with the Principles in the field of gene drive research. The manuscript also discusses the Gene Drive Research Forum, which had its genesis in the publication of the Principles. Discussions between participants at the latest meeting of the Forum point to the work that lies ahead for gene drive research in line with the Principles. Going forward the gene drive research community can productively focus on: i) safety and efficacy criteria for open release, ii) risk assessment frameworks and methods, iii) more downstream technical, regulatory and policy considerations for field evaluations and implementation, iv) continued transparency and developing mechanisms of accountability, and v) strengthening capacity in locales of potential release and expected drive spread.

medRxiv

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

[Accessed 24 Feb 2024]

[Filter: All articles]

[Evaluating the Financial Factors Influencing Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health in Africa](#)

Youssef Er-Rays, Meriem M'dioud

medRxiv 2024.02.22.24303217; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.02.22.24303217>

[Anticipating the risk and spatial spread of measles in populations with high MMR uptake: using school-household networks to understand the 2013 - 2014 outbreak in the Netherlands](#)

James D Munday, Katherine E Atkins, Don Klinkenberg, Marc Meurs, Erik Fleur, Susan Hahne, Jacco Wallinga, Albert Jan van Hoek

medRxiv 2024.02.20.24302866; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.02.20.24302866>

[Seroprevalence of measles and varicella in healthcare workers in Chonburi province, Thailand between October 2022 and January 2023](#)

Apirat Katanyutanon, Wichai Thanasopon, Chaninan Sonthichai, Piyada Angsuwatcharakorn, Jira Chansaenroj, Ratchathorn Nakabut, Sarandhorn Naritpavalun, Yanathep Prasitsomsakul, Paranyu Surakhot, Phuvich Pompim, Nasamon Wanlapakorn, Yong Poovorawan

medRxiv 2024.02.18.24303008; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.02.18.24303008>

[The WHO Disease Outbreak News during the Covid-19 pandemic](#)

Ciara M. Weets, Colin J. Carlson, Hailey Robertson, Kate Toole, Lauren McGivern, Ellie Graeden, Rebecca Katz

medRxiv 2024.02.19.24303038; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.02.19.24303038>

OSF Pre-prints

<https://osf.io/preprints/discover?provider=OSF&subject=bepress%7CLife%20Sciences>

[Provider Filter: OSF Pre-prints Subject filters: Medicine and Health Sciences]

[No new digest content identified]

Wellcome Open Research

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

[Accessed 24 Feb 2024]

Selected Research

Open Letter Open Access

[Ethical considerations in adaptive platform trial design in public health emergencies: a WHO initiative](#)

[version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]

Katharine Wright, Katherine Littler

Abstract

Platform trials, using adaptive methodologies, have played an important role in the research response to Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), and offer prospect of being widely used in future pandemic preparedness and response. As these relatively new methodologies raise a number of ethical and governance challenges, in early 2022 the Health Ethics and Governance Unit of the World Health Organization commissioned five rapid reviews, with the aim of learning from, and building on, experiences during the pandemic. These five reviews have been published separately: this short paper provides an introduction to them, sets out the context in which they were produced, and draws together some cross-cutting themes and future directions.

Research Article Open Access

[Evaluation of a Seed Award scheme to promote the involvement of global health researchers in public and community engagement: approaches, challenges and lessons learned](#)

[version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]

Huong Van Thuy Quy, Jaom Fisher, Mary Chambers

Abstract

Background

Public and community engagement (PCE) in health research is becoming more common and many research organizations are committed to fostering PCE to strengthen their research culture. However, barriers that may make researchers hesitate to undertake PCE activities may be heightened in Global South research settings. To address these challenges, we set up a PCE Seed Award scheme at the Oxford University Clinical Research Unit (OUCRU) across four research sites in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi -Vietnam, Indonesia, and Nepal to enable researchers to incorporate public engagement activities in their research.

Methods

The Seed Award scheme followed three steps: 1. A call for applications and funding decisions: Researchers were invited to submit grant applications twice per year. Applications were reviewed and funding decisions made by a committee including external reviewers. 2. Supporting and

monitoring: Successful awardees were supported to further develop their proposals, strengthen engagement capacity and to plan evaluation. 3. Reporting and evaluation: Awardees were asked to conduct evaluation throughout the activities and to submit an end-of-project report. The scheme itself was evaluated using mixed methods.

Results

Over a six-year period from 2016-2022, 41 small grants were awarded. The PCE team supporting the scheme delivered 19 training sessions to help strengthen awardees PCE capacity.

Conclusions

We conclude that the scheme has made a profound impact in encouraging researchers at the OUCRU research units to lead and be involved with PCE activities. During this period, many more researchers, of all grades, were active in engagement projects. The scheme was improved by adding mentoring and training, and one-on-one mentoring helped attract more applicants. In this paper, we describe the process of development and implementation of this award programme, which aims to support and promote researcher-led public engagement and reflect on the challenges and lessons learned.

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Think Tanks

Brookings [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Research

The Gaza Strip's deepening humanitarian crisis

The Palestinian Territories

Tania Hary, Kevin Huggard

February 22, 2024

Center for Global Development [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

All Research [Selected]

WORKING PAPERS

The Economics of Antibiotic Resistance

Anthony McDonnell et al.

February 22, 2024

Antibiotic resistance (ABR) already contributes to almost five million deaths per year. Without action, this number will likely rise substantially. We provide the first comprehensive assessment of the economic drivers of ABR, arguing that ABR in large part arises from extensive unresolved market (an...

Chatham House [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Selected Analysis, Comment, Events

No new digest content identified.

Council on Foreign Relations [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://www.cfr.org/media/news-releases>

New Releases [Selected]
No new digest content identified.

CSIS [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Reports [Selected]

[U.S.-China Collaboration on HIV/AIDS](#)

Epidemiologist and policy researcher Dr. Jennifer Bouey explores the dynamics of U.S.-China cooperation on combating HIV/AIDS from 2002 to 2018 to distill lessons for bilateral collaboration on public health today.

Report by Jennifer Bouey — February 23, 2024

Kaiser Family Foundation [to24 Feb 2024]

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

Newsroom

No new digest content identified.

McKinsey Global Institute [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://www.mckinsey.com/mgi/overview>

Latest Research

No new digest content identified.

ODI [Overseas Development Institute] [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://odi.org/en/publications/>

Publications [Selected]

No new digest content identified.

Pew Research Center [to 24 Feb 2024]

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

Latest Publications [Selected]

short reads | Feb 23, 2024

[Majorities in most countries surveyed say social media is good for democracy](#)

Across 27 countries surveyed, people generally see social media as more of a good thing than a bad thing for democracy.

Rand [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://www.rand.org/pubs.html>

Published Research [Selected]

No new digest content identified.

Urban Institute [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://www.urban.org/publications>

[New Research Publications - Selected](#)

World Economic Forum [to 24 Feb 2024]

<https://agenda.weforum.org/press/>

Media [Selected]

[AI Governance Alliance Calls for Inclusive Access to Advanced Artificial Intelligence](#)

News 18 Jan 2024

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Public Consultations/Call for Inputs/Call for Papers

Call for Papers: Establishing the impact of WHO's normative and standard-setting functions: a call for papers

WHO - Bull World Health Organ. 2023 Oct 1; 101(10): 618–618A. Published online 2023 Oct 1.

The deadline for submissions is 1 March 2024

Editorial

Lisa M Askie^a, Rebekah AL Thomas^a, Rok Ho Kim^a, Mubashar Sheikh^a, Jeremy Farrar^b

doi: 10.2471/BLT.23.290829 PMID: PMC10523809

Normative leadership is a core function of the World Health Organization's (WHO) mandate, as outlined in its founding principles.¹ This leadership role is realized by developing evidence-based and ethically sound guidelines as well as other normative products that guide Member States in their public health decisions and actions, and by ensuring their recommendations are implemented.² WHO exercises its capacity for normative leadership to influence the development of legal norms and health policy and practice within its Member States...

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

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

Considering the spotlight on WHO's global normative leadership role during the pandemic,⁷ and looking to prepare for future threats such as the health effects of climate change and ongoing conflict situations, the Bulletin of the World Health Organization calls for papers to help shape and inform WHO's mandate going forward. Topics of interest include: where has WHO succeeded in its normative leadership role? In what specific areas has it successfully shaped global health, and why were these initiatives successful? Where has WHO normative guidance been less impactful? If so, why was this the case, and what lessons can be learnt to improve impact in the future? What does the future of WHO's normative function look like, particularly in the context of digital technology and artificial intelligence? What aspects of the Organization's mandate, structure, function and administration need to be further strengthened or changed?

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

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

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

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