



**Vaccines and Global Health: The Week in Review**  
**05 October 2024 :: Issue 769**  
**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*

*David R. Curry, MS*

*Editor and*

*Executive Director Center for Vaccine Ethics & Policy*

*[david.r.curry@centerforvaccineethicsandpolicy.org](mailto:david.r.curry@centerforvaccineethicsandpolicy.org)*

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## ***Milestones, Perspectives***

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### **Sudan**

#### **UNICEF airlifts more lifesaving vaccines to Sudan to fight concurrent outbreaks**

*Press release*

PORT SUDAN, 5 October 2024 – **A UNICEF-chartered plane carrying 1.4 million doses of oral cholera vaccines arrived in Port Sudan, Sudan**, early this morning, to bolster efforts to protect children from the ongoing cholera outbreak affecting the country.

Since the current outbreak began in July 2024, over 18,000 cases of cholera and approximately 550 deaths have been reported in 10 states across the country.

**The new batch of vaccines adds to the 404,000 doses UNICEF delivered to Sudan last month and will be used in the ongoing immunization campaigns. The campaigns aim to vaccinate 1.81 million people** against cholera in the hardest-hit states: Gedaref, Kassala and River Nile.

Besides cholera, concurrent outbreaks of **other diseases – such as dengue, malaria and measles – are taking hold in at least 12 of Sudan’s 18 states**. Earlier this week, UNICEF delivered nearly 190,000 doses of malaria vaccines to the country to help protect children from malaria.

“Coming on the heels of war, displacement and famine, the impact of these epidemics could be catastrophic for children,” said Sheldon Yett, UNICEF Representative to Sudan. “Delivery of the vaccines to health authorities in Sudan and into the arms of communities most at risk is essential for stopping the spread of these deadly diseases.”...

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### **Palestine**

#### **Gavi, IFRC and UNICEF to collaborate on emergency response in Palestine**

- *Gavi will provide over US\$ 20 million to help immunise children living in Gaza, West Bank and within Palestinian populations in Lebanon*
- *The funding, disbursed through UNICEF and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), will contribute towards maintaining routine and emergency vaccinations plus access to other essential services such as nutrition*
- *The support comes at a critical time, with deteriorating health conditions due to conflict leaving communities unprotected and vulnerable to the spread of disease*
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Geneva / Amman, 4 October 2024 – Thousands of conflict-afflicted people living in the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, and Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon are set to receive essential vaccines, thanks to **US\$ 20 million of new funding from Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Gavi)**.

**The funding, which will be channeled through UNICEF and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), will complement the efforts of the Palestinian Ministry of Health to restore critical health services.**

In addition to the delivery of lifesaving routine vaccines to communities most in need, **Gavi has also approved a waiver to enable Palestine to access vaccines at no-cost through the global Gavi-funded vaccine stockpiles managed by WHO's International Coordinating Group (ICG) mechanism, in the event of cholera and meningitis outbreaks...**

As part of the package of support **US\$ 2 million, channeled through UNICEF, will support the delivery of vaccines, and the rehabilitation of critical infrastructure such as cold chain equipment used to store vaccines.** It will also support the solarization of five health facilities, enhancing their capacity to provide maternal and newborn care, along with a range of other integrated health services. US\$ 11.8 million, approved through Gavi's Fragility, Emergencies and Displaced Populations Policy – will finance the procurement of routine vaccines as well as technical assistance through UNICEF.

"In conflict-affected settings such as the State of Palestine and Lebanon, children are among the most vulnerable, and immunization is often their last line of defense. This funding is not just an investment in vaccines – it's an investment in their lives," said Adele Khodr, UNICEF Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa. **"In Gaza, since the onset of the conflict, UNICEF has managed to procure and deliver more than 1.55 million doses of different vaccines administered through routine vaccination;** and over 1.65 million doses of polio vaccine recently used to respond to the polio outbreak in Gaza. We continue calling for a ceasefire to allow children and women to access essential lifesaving health interventions including vaccination."

**The remaining US\$ 7.3 million, managed by the IFRC, will help the Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) and Lebanese Red Cross (LRC) reach the most vulnerable: 'zero-dose' children** – those who have never received a single routine vaccine – as well as children who have missed out on critical routine immunisations in Gaza due to the crisis.

**Equally, a push will be made to reach Palestinian refugees, living in camps in Lebanon, with critical vaccines.** In parallel, nutrition supplements and food parcels will be distributed by IFRC to families with malnourished children or mothers who have limited access to quality meals, an effort that aims to also address broader health challenges.

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## **WHO – SAGE**

### ***Editor's Note:***

We continue our practice of presenting the full text of the Meeting Highlights.

### **Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE) - September 2024**

23 – 26 September 2024

#### **Agenda**

### **Highlights from the Meeting of the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) on Immunization**

23-26 September 2024

*(The full report will be published in the Weekly Epidemiological Record on 6 December 2024, and only the wording of the full report should be considered final)*

#### **Session 1: Global reports**

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

- In 2023, despite signs of recovery, global immunization coverage still remained below pre-pandemic levels and the number of “zero-dose” children has increased from 2022 reaching 14.5Mn.
- 55 percent of zero-dose children live in 31 countries, and many in fragile, conflict-affected and vulnerable settings (FCV).
- Trends have been uneven across regions and between countries; at the regional level, a decline in zero-dose children was only observed in the African Region and the Region of the Americas.
- Large and disruptive measles outbreaks were reported in 57 countries in 2023-24 notwithstanding efforts to fill immunity gaps through campaigns, highlighting the importance of strengthening routine immunization delivery.
- Despite the setbacks, there are encouraging examples of success in some countries. Global coverage of the human papillomavirus (HPV) has increased substantially in 2023 and malaria vaccines is now in use in 13 African countries, with additional countries to introduce in 2024 and 2025.
- In shaping the future of immunization programmes, the ongoing tension between strengthening the routine delivery of routine immunization through systems strengthening and a primary healthcare (PHC) approach and the imperative to act quickly to address the risk of disease outbreaks in FCV settings that require vertical campaign approaches needs to be comprehensively addressed.

#### ***Update from Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.***

- Gavi funding is supporting countries with catch-up vaccination to get back on track to achieve the target of reducing the number of zero-dose children.
- Though HPV vaccination programmes are being revitalised and coverage improving with the adoption of the WHO recommended 1-dose schedule, the 2025 coverage target of 87 million girls reached may not be achieved because of supply shortages.
- The Gavi 6.0 strategy was approved by the Board in June 2024 and aims to protect 500 million children and avert over 8 million deaths in the 2026-2030 period.
- In partnership with Alliance Partners, Gavi is supporting pandemic and outbreak response to access mpox vaccines to respond to the mpox public health emergency of international concern.
- In 2024, GAVI provides vaccines against 20 infectious diseases. The GAVI Vaccine Investment Strategy 6.0 includes investments in principle for vaccines against tuberculosis, group B streptococcus, hepatitis E and mpox. Support for the introduction of the dengue vaccine is conditional on country-specific burden data. Learning agendas were approved for these five vaccines, as well as for shigella vaccines.

### **Session 2: Immunization Agenda 2030 (IA2030)**

#### ***Regional progress against IA2030 targets***

- At the WHO Regional level, countries are not on track with achieving the regional immunization targets.
- While two Regions have experienced an increase in vaccination coverage and a decrease in zero-dose children, the trends in vaccination coverage and zero-dose children have remained flat or seen a reversal in the remaining Regions.
- Inadequate political will, declining investments in immunization programmes, health system weaknesses and challenges in reaching those in fragile, conflict-affected and vulnerable (FCV) settings are common challenges faced in countries across all regions.
- Despite the challenges, there are exemplary countries that are sustaining high coverage. High political will and strong accountability processes at the subnational levels appear to be common attributes in such countries.

#### ***Global Progress against IA2030 impact goals and strategic priority indicators***

- Progress against the IA2030 targets is not on track to achieve IA2030 impact goals by 2030. A focus on routine immunization programme strengthening, as part of Primary Health Care and

adequate domestic government financial and human resources are key to getting back on track in a sustainable manner.

- Progress can only be achieved with accountability at all levels, which includes local and national levels, and the use of actionable metrics for assessment of progress. This requires establishing an enabling environment and way of working.
- The metrics to measure progress should be more elaborate than the absolute number of zero-dose children. Composite indicators that provide a more comprehensive understanding of causalities are needed.
- Strategies for political engagement at global, regional and national levels should be explored to secure adequate and sustained investments in immunization aligned with country health plans.
- There is concern about the rise in FCV settings, and a recognition of the need for flexible, adaptable and differentiated approaches suited to the local context with a greater risk appetite to ensure timely access to vaccines and other supplies.

### **Session 3: Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)**

- RSV infection causes a substantial burden of severe lower respiratory tract infection (LRTI) in all countries, accounting for approximately 30% of hospitalized LRTIs. However, close to 97% of related mortality is estimated to occur in low- and middle-income countries, with an estimated 101 400 annual deaths in children under 5 years of age. RSV is also a major cause of morbidity and mortality in older adults.
- For children, there are presently two approaches to prevention (both are passive immunization approaches): maternal vaccination and monoclonal antibody administration to infants.
- An RSV pre-fusion protein vaccine administered to pregnant women at 24 to 36 weeks gestation was shown to be efficacious (vaccine efficacy: 70% (95% Confidence Interval (CI): 51-83%)) in preventing severe RSV-associated lower respiratory illness in the first 180 days of life.
- There were no serious adverse events in the vaccinated women. An excess in pre-term births was observed in the vaccine group. This overall non-statistically significant imbalance was observed in trial sites located in two upper-middle-income countries (UMICs) but not in other settings.
- Modelling studies indicate that the benefits of vaccination will outweigh the potential risk posed by excess pre-term births as observed in the clinical trial.
- To mitigate the potential risk of pre-term births, SAGE considered narrowing the gestational age for maternal RSV vaccination.
- SAGE recognized the critical importance of a post-licensure, multi-centre, randomized controlled study of the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine planned in several African countries for clarifying the safety signal related to preterm births. SAGE recommended including a country from South Asia to increase the representatives of the study.
- A long-acting monoclonal antibody targeting the RSV pre-fusion protein when administered to infants starting from birth just before or during the RSV season was shown to be highly efficacious (vaccine efficacy: 79% (95%CI: 69-86%)) in preventing RSV-associated lower respiratory illness in the first 6 months of life. There were no safety signals of concern.
- Given the global burden of RSV disease, SAGE recommended that all countries introduce passive immunization for the prevention of severe RSV disease in young infants.
- For countries deciding to use the maternal vaccine to prevent severe RSV disease in infants, SAGE recommends a single dose of vaccine in the third trimester of pregnancy, as defined in the local context (third trimester starts at 28 weeks gestational age in most settings).
- Decisions to include maternal vaccination and/or the long-acting monoclonal antibody in an immunization programme should consider cost, financing, supply, anticipated coverage and feasibility of implementation within the existing health system.
- SAGE reinforced the importance of manufacturer-led post-marketing surveillance.
- SAGE also noted with concern the limited availability and high cost of the monoclonal antibody which will seriously limit global access and equity.

#### **Session 4: Cholera**

- SAGE noted with concern the ongoing outbreaks and current oral cholera vaccine (OCV) supply constraints and called on the global health community to continue working together to find timely solutions.
- Notwithstanding the persistent supply shortfalls, SAGE commended the significant investments and efforts by a broad range of stakeholders, manufacturers and funders which
- increase in supply and broader supply base with new producers on the horizon.
- SAGE highlighted the importance of preventive immunization programmes as part of a multisectoral response, which should lead to a more predictable vaccine demand, stabilise vaccine supply and enable a timely response to emerging outbreaks.
- SAGE requested periodic updates on cholera control and OCV supply to enable timely and tailored strategic and policy guidance when required.
- SAGE further requested to be informed of the current efforts on harnessing research and evidence for cholera control to ensure that ongoing and planned research provides the evidence to inform future policy and strategic recommendations.

#### **Session 5: Poliomyelitis**

- SAGE expressed concern about the increase in cases and environmental detections of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) in Afghanistan and Pakistan, and the continued transmission of circulating vaccine-derived polioviruses (cVDPV) in Africa and new detections of cVDPV type 2 in Gaza. This highlights the need for further and enhanced efforts to improve routine immunization coverage and outreach services to populations in FCV settings.
- SAGE expressed support for the planning for the eventual global cessation of bivalent oral poliovirus vaccines (bOPV) use and endorsed the evolving policy framework, triggers and principles of risk tiering of countries for bOPV cessation, noting that further work on the plan is ongoing.
- SAGE reiterated that timely OPV remains the primary tool for outbreak response because of its ability to elicit mucosal immunity. However, it was noted that the immunogenicity of OPV in settings where WPV1 or cVDPV outbreaks occur is often suboptimal and recommended that inactivated poliovirus vaccines (IPV) be administered concomitantly with the novel OPV type 2 (nOPV2) or bOPV during outbreak response vaccination campaigns, unless it would impact the timeliness of the response.
- In areas with co-circulation of poliovirus types 1 and 2, SAGE recommended concomitant administration of nOPV2 and bOPV, together with IPV.
- SAGE reiterated the importance of environmental surveillance for polioviruses and encouraged the Global Polio Eradication Initiative to strengthen and expand this type of surveillance where feasible.
- SAGE requested WHO to develop a risk-grading criteria framework to determine eligible countries that could safely transition to an IPV-only schedule ahead of global coordinated bOPV cessation.

#### **Session 6: Rubella and congenital rubella prevention**

- Around 32 000 infants continue to be born annually with congenital rubella syndrome (CRS), mostly in the 19 countries that have yet to introduce rubella containing vaccine (RCV). With 6 countries planning for RCV introduction, 13 countries will remain without planned implementation of RCV unless the present requirements for introduction are changed.
- The current WHO recommendations requiring  $\geq 80\%$  coverage with the first dose of measles-containing vaccines (MCV; a proxy for what the coverage with rubella vaccine would be when introduced) is a barrier to introducing rubella-containing vaccines (RCV). It was established in 2000 to address concerns about potential paradoxical increase in CRS following routine introduction of rubella vaccine in settings with low childhood immunization coverage.
- SAGE was presented with new evidence based on empirical epidemiologic data and mathematical modelling to revisit the 80% threshold.
- Data showed that the  $\geq 80\%$  coverage threshold is overly conservative and no longer warranted.

- Mathematical models predict that the introduction of RCV will lead to a substantial reduction in CRS over 10-15 years and net reductions over 30 years.
- Routine immunization accompanied by a wide age-range campaign at introduction is predicted to be sufficient to prevent the paradoxical increase in CRS in most of the remaining countries and routine immunization plus follow-up supplementary immunization activities (SIAs) such as campaigns, at current coverage levels are sufficient to prevent a paradoxical effect in all countries.
- SAGE recommended that the 80% coverage threshold with MCV as a requirement for the introduction of RCV be lifted. The universal introduction of RCV, accompanied by wide age-range campaigns at introduction, should be initiated in the remaining 13 countries. Regular follow-up campaigns are recommended in countries where routine MCV coverage is below 90%.
- SAGE also recommended ongoing monitoring, evaluation, and targeted interventions to inform timely action in any countries or subnational areas identified to be at risk of an increase in the incidence of rubella or CRS.

### **Session 7: Update on mpox and influenza H5N1**

- SAGE was updated on the current status of the ongoing mpox public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) and outbreaks of influenza A H5N1 and avian influenza viruses with zoonotic potential globally.
- The epidemiology of infection and disease of these two viruses and actions being taken by WHO in response were described.
- SAGE provided recommendations on mpox vaccine use in March 2024, and WHO issued an mpox vaccine position paper in August 2024 based on those recommendations.
- A Global Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan for mpox has been developed to stop outbreaks and interrupt transmission. It complements the Continental Preparedness and Response Plan for Africa jointly developed by Africa CDC and WHO.
- The first mpox vaccine (MVA-BN) has received WHO prequalification and is currently being distributed and rollout beginning soon. Two other mpox vaccines are under WHO Emergency Use Listing (EUL) consideration.
- Continuous monitoring and response for animal influenza viruses with zoonotic potential is in place.

### **Session 8: COVID-19**

- Omicron sub-lineages of the SARS-CoV-2 virus variants continue to circulate globally without any clear seasonality. However, there is a declining trend in reported cases, hospitalisations and deaths due to COVID-19.
- Several COVID-19 vaccines have been updated to target the currently circulating JN.1 and KP.2 subvariants. The mRNA and protein-based vaccines are in highest use, though access to and demand for these vaccines is low, especially in low- and middle-income countries.
- Vaccine effectiveness against severe disease remains high and relatively stable over several months. However, the effectiveness against symptomatic disease is lower and wanes more quickly; the effectiveness of vaccines matched to the currently circulating Omicron variants appears to be higher than mismatched vaccines.
- Noting the limited vaccine access and low demand, SAGE reaffirmed the validity of the existing WHO SAGE Roadmap for prioritising uses of COVID-19 vaccines<sup>1</sup> and the priority-use groups defined and emphasised the importance of revaccination of the priority-use groups as recommended in the Roadmap.
- A WHO COVID-19 vaccine position paper will be developed, and publication is expected in 2025. A list of key knowledge gaps that need to be addressed to develop the position paper has been defined.

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## Dengue, Arboviral Disease

### WHO launches global strategic plan to fight rising dengue and other Aedes-borne arboviral diseases

3 October 2024 News release

Today, the World Health Organization (WHO) launched the ***Global Strategic Preparedness, Readiness and Response Plan (SPRP) to tackle dengue and other Aedes-borne arboviruses***.

The Plan aims at reducing the burden of disease, suffering and deaths from dengue and other Aedes-borne arboviral diseases such as Zika and chikungunya, by fostering a global coordinated response.

**The Plan outlines priority actions to control transmission and offers recommendations to affected countries across various sectors**, including disease surveillance, laboratory activities, vector control, community engagement, clinical management, and research and development, through a whole-of-society and regional approach.

**An estimated four billion people are at risk of infection from arboviruses around the world, and this number is estimated to increase to 5 billion by 2050.** Dengue cases have surged across all six WHO regions, and the number of cases has approximately doubled each year since 2021, with over 12.3 million cases as of the end of August this year – almost double the 6.5 million cases reported in all of 2023...

**In December 2023, WHO graded the current global dengue upsurge as grade 3, the highest level of emergency for WHO**, to support countries to strengthen their surveillance capacities and implement response activities.

"The rapid spread of dengue and other arboviral diseases in recent years is an alarming trend that demands a coordinated response across sectors and across borders," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General. "From maintaining clean environments to supporting vector control and seeking and providing timely medical care, everyone has a role to play in the fight against dengue. This plan is a roadmap to turn the tide against this disease and other Aedes-borne arboviral diseases, protect vulnerable populations and pave the way for a healthier future."

**Factors such as unplanned urbanization and poor water, sanitation and hygiene practices, climate change and international travel, are facilitating the rapid geographical spread of dengue.** The disease is now endemic in more than 130 countries. Similar trends are also observed for other arboviral diseases, such as Zika, chikungunya and more recently the Oropouche virus disease, especially in the Americas. This global escalation underscores the urgent need for a robust strategy to mitigate risks and safeguard populations.

**The SPRP comprises five key components** essential for a successful outbreak response:

1. **Emergency coordination:** Establishing leadership and coordination activities;
2. **Collaborative surveillance:** Developing and using tools for early detection and control of dengue and other Aedes-borne outbreaks, including strengthened indicator and event-based surveillance, epidemiological analysis, laboratory diagnostics, and field investigations;
3. **Community protection:** Engaging communities through active dialogue and local adaptation of prevention and response measures, including mosquito population control;
4. **Safe and scalable care:** Ensuring effective clinical management and resilient health services to ensure patients can receive adequate care and prevent illness and death; and
5. **Access to countermeasures:** Promoting research and innovation for improved treatments and effective vaccines against these diseases.



The Plan will be **implemented over one year until September 2025, and requires US\$ 55 million** to support health preparedness, readiness and response efforts. It is aligned with the Global Vector Control Response 2017-2030, a global strategy to strengthen vector control worldwide, and the Global Arbovirus Initiative, launched in 2022, which focuses on tackling mosquito-borne arboviruses with epidemic potential.

**The SPRP is a call to action for all stakeholders** – from government agencies and health-care providers to communities and individuals – to join forces in the fight against dengue and other Aedes-borne arboviruses, through innovation, new technologies and improved vector control strategies.

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## **Pandemic Preparedness**

### **The International Monetary Fund, the World Bank Group, and the World Health Organization Step Up Cooperation on Pandemic Preparedness**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4, 2024 — The Heads of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank Group (WBG), and the World Health Organization (WHO) have agreed on broad principles for cooperation on pandemic preparedness.

**This cooperation will allow a scaling up of support to countries to prevent, detect and respond to public health threats through the IMF's Resilience and Sustainability Trust (RST), the WBG's financial and technical support, and WHO's technical expertise and in-country capabilities.** The RST allows eligible member countries to access long-term financing at low interest rates to help implement reforms that address structural challenges to the stability of the economy, such as those posed by pandemics, and to enhance countries' health systems resilience.

Operating within their respective mandates and policies, the IMF, the WBG, and WHO will leverage their expertise to enhance pandemic preparedness in their member countries, building on the synergies and complementarity of each institution's in-country analysis and operations. This collaboration will strengthen the design and articulation of effective policy, institutional and public financial management reforms supported by the IMF's Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF), the policy reforms and investments supported by the WBG, and the technical and operational support provided by WHO. **In strengthening the pandemic preparedness framework, member countries will also work to improve the resilience of their health systems and their ability to respond better to all health emergencies.**

#### **Under the Broad Principles of Coordination:**

- **WHO and the WBG will continue to take the lead on health-related development policies and**, with other multilateral development banks and The Pandemic Fund, on specific project investments for pandemic preparedness. RST financing will not be earmarked for specific projects.
- **Pandemic preparedness policy reform measures supported by RSF arrangements will be informed by existing data, analytics and operational engagement of WHO**, the WBG, and country authorities.
- **Pandemic preparedness reforms will build on each institution's area of expertise.** RSF programs will focus on macro-critical policy reforms within the IMF's expertise and complement the work carried out by the WBG and WHO to maximize both the financial resources and technical expertise available to countries. RSF Reform measures can include policy actions aimed at enhancing the readiness of finance and health systems to respond effectively to future health emergencies.

Thanks to this stepped-up cooperation between the IMF, the WBG, and WHO, the three institutions will better serve countries' efforts on pandemic preparedness.

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## **Mpox – PHEIC**

### **Statement of the WHO Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety (GACVS) on the safety of the mpox vaccines for use in high-risk groups**

4 October 2024 *Statement*

### **WHO approves first mpox diagnostic test for emergency use, boosting global access**

3 October 2024 *News release*

The World Health Organization (WHO) has listed the first mpox in vitro diagnostic (IVD) under its Emergency Use Listing (EUL) procedure, an important step in improving global access to mpox testing. The approval for emergency use of the Alinity m MPXV assay, manufactured by Abbott Molecular Inc., will be pivotal in expanding diagnostic capacity in countries facing mpox outbreaks, where the need for quick and accurate testing has risen sharply. Early diagnosis of mpox enables timely treatment and care, and control of the virus.

Limited testing capacity and delays in confirming mpox cases persist in Africa, contributing to the continued spread of the virus. In 2024, over 30 000 suspected cases have been reported across the region, with the highest numbers in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burundi, and Nigeria. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, only 37% of suspected cases have been tested this year. The presence of the monkeypox virus is confirmed by nucleic acid amplification testing (NAAT), such as real-time or conventional polymerase chain reaction (PCR), as stated in the WHO Interim Guidance on Diagnostic testing for the monkeypox virus (MPXV). And the recommended specimen type for diagnostic confirmation of monkeypox virus (MPXV) infection in suspected cases is lesion material.

The Alinity m MPXV assay is a real-time PCR test that enables detection of monkeypox virus (clade I/II) DNA from human skin lesion swabs. It is specifically designed for use by trained clinical laboratory personnel who are proficient in PCR techniques and IVD procedures. By detecting DNA from pustular or vesicular rash samples, laboratory and health workers can confirm suspected mpox cases efficiently and effectively...

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## **Polio – PHEIC**

### **Polio this week as of 25 September 2024 - GPEI**

*Headlines*

:: The Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on immunization (SAGE) met last week at the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland. Among other global immunization topics, SAGE reviewed key aspects of the global polio eradication effort, including the policy framework for planning for bivalent OPV cessation, and use of IPV for outbreak settings. The full report of the group's meeting will be published over the coming weeks. A summary of the meeting is available here.

:: Advance notification of cVDPV isolated from environmental samples in French Guiana (type 3) and Spain (type 2): advance notification was received of a cVDPV3 from French Guiana (France), with virus isolated from environmental samples collected in May, June and August. Additionally, advance

notification was received of a cVDPV2 from Barcelona, Spain, from a single positive environmental sample collected from the Barcelona metropolitan area, without evidence of local transmission; initial analysis suggests it is linked to the cVDPV2 emergence originating in Zamfara, northern Nigeria. The WHO European Regional Office (also supporting French Guiana as an overseas department and region of France) is supporting field investigations and risks assessments of both events. These viruses will be officially reported in next week's global GPEI update.

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

- Afghanistan: three WPV1 cases and three WPV1-positive environmental samples
- Pakistan: three WPV1 cases and one WPV1-positive environmental sample
- Côte d'Ivoire: one cVDPV2-positive environmental sample
- DR Congo: two cVDPV1 cases
- Niger: one cVDPV2-positive environmental sample

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**WHO & Regional Offices** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Selected News/Announcements/Statements*

4 October 2024 *News release*

**[WHO adds an HPV vaccine for single-dose use](#)**

WHO announced that a fourth WHO-prequalified human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine product, Cecolin® has been confirmed for use in a single-dose schedule. The decision is made based on new data on the product that fulfilled the criteria set out in the WHO's 2022 recommendations for alternative, off-label use of HPV vaccines in single-dose schedules. This important milestone will contribute to improving sustainable supply of HPV vaccines—allowing more girls to be reached with the vaccines that prevent cervical cancer...

4 October 2024 *Statement*

**[Statement of the WHO Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety \(GACVS\) on the safety of the mpox vaccines for use in high-risk groups](#)**

3 October 2024 *News release*

**[WHO approves first mpox diagnostic test for emergency use, boosting global access](#)**

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**[WHO launches global strategic plan to fight rising dengue and other Aedes-borne arboviral diseases](#)**

2 October 2024 *Joint News Release*

**[The International Monetary Fund, the World Bank Group, and the World Health Organization step up cooperation on pandemic preparedness](#)**

1 October 2024 *News release*

**Brazil eliminates lymphatic filariasis as a public health problem**

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**WHO Regional Offices**

*Selected Press Releases, Announcements*

**WHO African Region**

*No new digest content identified.*

**WHO Region of the Americas PAHO**

:: 4 Oct 2024

**PAHO concludes 61st Directing Council with strategic agreements**

Washington, D.C., October 4, 2024 (PAHO) – The 61st Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) concluded today, marking a clear path forward for the future of health in the Americas. Over five days, high-level representatives from countries and territories debated, agreed upon, and committed to addressing key challenges...

:: 3 Oct 2024

**Countries of the Americas agree on measures to encourage innovation and regional production of health technologies**

Washington, D.C., October 3, 2024 (PAHO) – High-level health authorities in the Americas today agreed on a resolution to grant greater flexibility to the Pan American Health Organization's (PAHO) Regional Revolving Funds to accelerate access to health technologies. These measures are designed to boost self-sufficiency through the regional...

:: 3 Oct 2024

**PAHO reviews the status of CLP/WR to strengthen maternal and neonatal health in the Americas**

Washington DC, 3 October 2024 (PAHO)- The 61st Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) urged countries to renew focus on women's, maternal, neonatal and reproductive health based on the Primary Health Strategy, and approved the closure of the Latin American Center for Perinatology - Women's and Reproductive Health (CLP...

:: 3 Oct 2024

**PAHO Member States approve new regional strategy to strengthen essential public health functions**

Washington, D.C., 3 October 2024 (PAHO) – During the 61st Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), Member States approved a new strategy aimed at strengthening Essential Public Health Functions (EPHF) to accelerate the transformation of health systems in the Region over the next decade (2024–2034). The strategy highlights...

:: 3 Oct 2024

**PAHO Member States approve strategy to enhance early detection of health threats**

Washington, D.C., October 3, 2024 (PAHO) – A new strategy approved today by the 61st Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) seeks to strengthen epidemiological intelligence in the countries of the Americas to detect public health threats early. "The timely identification of threats is key to rapidly implement measures to...

:: 2 Oct 2024

**Accelerating access to HPV vaccination, screening and ablative treatment of lesions key to addressing cervical cancer in the Americas, PAHO Director says**

Washington, DC, October 2, 2024 – If the Region of the Americas is to become the first to eliminate cervical cancer, countries must step up efforts to implement comprehensive programs to expand HPV vaccination coverage, implement HPV testing, and increase access to treatment for precancerous lesions and invasive cancer, Pan American Health...

:: 30 Sep 2024

### **PAHO Director urges equitable access to innovations to accelerate disease elimination in the Americas**

Washington D.C., 30 September 2024 (PAHO) – The Director of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), Dr. Jarbas Barbosa, has called on countries and partner organizations to ensure equitable access to innovative solutions and advanced technologies to accelerate progress towards disease elimination in the Americas. Speaking today at a briefing...

### **WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO**

*No new digest content identified.*

### **WHO European Region EURO**

*No new digest content identified.*

### **WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO**

*No new digest content identified.*

### **WHO Western Pacific Region**

*No new digest content identified.*

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### **WHO - Emergency situation reports**

*Latest WHO official reports for emergency situations. Latest WHO official reports for emergency situations.*

*No new reports identified.*

.....

### **Disease Outbreak News (DONs)**

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

### **3 October 2024 | West Nile virus - Barbados**

### **2 October 2024 | Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

### **30 September 2024 | Marburg virus disease - Rwanda**

*Situation at a glance*

On 27 September 2024, the Rwanda Ministry of Health announced the confirmation of Marburg virus disease (MVD). Blood samples taken from people showing symptoms were tested by real-time reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) at the National Reference Laboratory of the Rwanda Biomedical Center and were positive for Marburg virus. As of 29 September 2024, a total of 26 confirmed cases, including eight deaths have been reported. The cases are reported from seven of the 30 districts in the country. Among the confirmed cases, over 70% are healthcare workers from two health facilities in Kigali. The patients are being cared for in hospitals. Contact tracing is underway, with 300 contacts under follow-up. This is the first time MVD has been reported in Rwanda. The Government of Rwanda is coordinating the response with support from WHO and partners. There is currently no available treatment or vaccine for MVD. This is why it is important for people showing Marburg-like symptoms to seek care early for supportive treatment which can improve patient survival. WHO assesses the risk of this outbreak as very high at the national level, high at the regional level, and low at the global level.

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## **Weekly Epidemiological Record**

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

**Vol. 99, No. 40, pp. 565–574 4 October 2024**

PDF: <https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/379118/WER9940-eng-fre.pdf>

:: Global programme to eliminate lymphatic filariasis: progress report, 2023

.....

## **New WHO Publications**

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

*Selected*

4 October 2024

[How to sample surfaces in health-care settings for Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus Protocol,...](#)

4 October 2024

[How to conduct a cohort study to assess the potential risk factors of Middle East respiratory syndrome...](#)

4 October 2024

[How to conduct a case-control study to assess the potential risk factors related to human illness caused...](#)

4 October 2024

[Global programme to eliminate lymphatic filariasis: progress report, 2023](#)

4 October 2024

[How to conduct surveillance and investigations of human infection with Middle East respiratory syndrome...](#)

3 October 2024

[How to investigate the first few X cases and contacts of human infection with Middle East respiratory...](#)

3 October 2024

[Considerations for human papillomavirus \(HPV\) vaccine product choice](#)

1 October 2024

[Optimization of second-line and third-line antiretroviral therapy for people living with HIV](#)

1 October 2024

[Funding landscape for research on health, migration and displacement: report for 2016-2020 period](#)

30 September 2024

[The UNICEF-WHO-World Bank joint child malnutrition estimates \(JME\) standard methodology: tracking progress...](#)

29 September 2024

**Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework: biennial progress report, 1 January 2022–31 December 2023**

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**USA – HHS, FDA, CDC**

**HHS**

*News*

**One Year of Action: HHS's Efforts to Flatten the Curve of the Syphilis Surge**

October 1, 2024 News Release

**FDA**

*Press Announcements*

*News*

*No new digest content identified.*

**FDA VRBPAC**

*Advisory Committee Calendar*

*No new meetings identified.*

**CDC/ACIP [U.S.] [to 05 Oct 2024]**

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

*Latest News*

**CDC Confirms New Human Cases of H5 Bird Flu in California**

Oct 3, 2024

**CDC Statement on Marburg Cases in Rwanda**

CDC is aware of 26 individuals with Marburg virus disease, as confirmed by the Republic of Rwanda  
Sep 30, 2024

**ACIP Meetings**

*Next ACIP Meeting*

October 23-24, 2024

**MMWR Weekly**

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/index2024.html>

**October 3, 2024 / No. 39**

**PDF of this issue**

- Interim Effectiveness Estimates of 2024 Southern Hemisphere Influenza Vaccines in Preventing Influenza-Associated Hospitalization — REVELAC-i Network, Five South American Countries, March–July 2024
- COVID-19–Associated Hospitalizations Among U.S. Adults Aged ≥18 Years — COVID-NET, 12 States, October 2023–April 2024
- Differences in COVID-19 Outpatient Antiviral Treatment Among Adults Aged ≥65 Years by Age Group — National Patient-Centered Clinical Research Network, United States, April 2022–September 2023
- QuickStats: Rates of Emergency Department Visits for Children and Adolescents with Acute Upper Respiratory Infection, by Age Group — United States, 2021–2022

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## Europe

### European Medicines Agency [EMA]

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

*News & Press Releases*

#### **EMA Management Board: highlights of October 2024 meeting**

Board elects new vice-chair and endorses draft network strategy to 2028 for public consultation  
4 October 2024

#### **Improving efficiency of approval process for new medicines in the EU**

Measures to optimise use of the EU's expert resources for faster assessments  
2 October 2024

#### **EMA recommends suspension of sickle cell disease medicine Oxbryta**

Measure taken as precaution while review of emerging data is ongoing  
26 September 2024

### European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

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

*News/Updates/Reports/Publications [Selected]*

#### **ECDC advice on Marburg virus disease**

3 Oct 2024

#### **ECDC report identifies key risk factors for carrying parasite that causes Chagas disease in non-endemic countries**

3 Oct 2024

#### **Assessing the risks of tick-borne encephalitis virus transmission through substances of human origin**

2 Oct 2024

#### **Webinar – Harnessing simulation models to enhance dengue prevention and control**

1 Oct 2024

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### Africa CDC [to 05 Oct 2024]

<https://africacdc.org/>

*Press Releases, Statements [Selected]*

#### **Marburg Virus Disease Outbreak in Rwanda**

Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA, 1 October 2024 – The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Rwanda declared a Marburg virus disease (MVD) outbreak on 27 September 2024. As of 30 September, 27 confirmed cases and 9 deaths have been reported; most of the cases are health care workers. Over 297 contacts have been registered and are under follow-up...

On September 29th, the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) dispatched a team of experts to aid in response efforts in Rwanda. Africa CDC is also collaborating with the Ministry of Health and neighbouring countries of Burundi, Uganda, Tanzania, and DR Congo to assist in



addressing the cross-border aspects of the outbreak and to provide guidance on regional surveillance strategies to contain the outbreak...

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### **China CDC**

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

### **National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News*

*No new digest content identified.*

### **National Medical Products Administration – PRC** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News*

*No new digest content identified.*

### **China CDC**

#### **CCDC Weekly Reports: Current Volume (6)**

**2024-10-04 / No. 40**

[\*\*PDF of this issue\*\*](#)

- Preplanned Studies: Global, Regional, and National Trends Analysis in Incidence of Genital Herpes Among the Population Aged 15–49 Years — Worldwide, 1990–2021

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### ***Contents [click to move among sections]***

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

:: [\*WHO\*](#)

:: [\*Organization Announcements\*](#)

:: [\*Journal Watch\*](#)

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

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### ***Organization Announcements***

#### **Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News*

*Featured*

[\*\*Global effort to map the human brain releases first data\*\*](#)

10.01.2024

The BICAN Rapid Release Inventory provides early access to comprehensive single-cell data, aiming to accelerate brain research.

#### **BMGF - Gates Foundation** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Press Releases & Statements*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Bill & Melinda Gates Medical Research Institute** [to 05 Oct 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 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News*

*No new digest content identified.*

**CEPI – Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations** [to 05 Oct 2024]

<http://cepi.net/>

*CEPI News*

*News*

**[CEPI CEO Dr Richard Hatchett awarded Japanese Order of the Rising Sun](#)**

The award is one of the highest national accolades awarded to individuals who have made notable contributions to society.

*News*

**[Largest-ever Lassa fever study launches in-depth look at disease symptoms](#)**

1 Oct 2024

**CIOMS – COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF MEDICAL SCIENCES** [to 05 Oct 2024]

<https://cioms.ch/>

*News; Publications; Events*

*No new digest content identified.*

**DARPA – Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency [U.S.]** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Duke Global Health Innovation Center** [to 05 Oct 2024]

<https://dukeghic.org/>

*News*

*No new digest content identified.*

**EDCTP** [to 05 Oct 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*

24 September 2024

**Eswatini joins EDCTP Association**

EDCTP is pleased to welcome Eswatini on board as the newest member country of the EDCTP Association, bringing the total number of African countries to 29.

**Emory Vaccine Center** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Vaccine Center News*

*No new digest content identified.*

**European Vaccine Initiative** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Latest News, Events*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Evidence Aid** [to 05 Oct 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]*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Fondation Merieux** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News, Events*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Gavi** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Press Releases*

4 October 2024

**Gavi, IFRC and UNICEF to collaborate on emergency response in Palestine**

- Gavi will provide over US\$ 20 million to help immunise children living in Gaza, West Bank and within Palestinian populations in Lebanon
- The funding, disbursed through UNICEF and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), will contribute towards maintaining routine and emergency vaccinations plus access to other essential services such as nutrition
- The support comes at a critical time, with deteriorating health conditions due to conflict leaving communities unprotected and vulnerable to the spread of disease

1 October 2024

### **1.3 million future deaths prevented by Gavi-supported vaccines in 2023**

- 2023 saw the Vaccine Alliance massively step up its HPV vaccination programme, with more girls protected than in the entire preceding decade
- More than ever, countries are contributing to the cost of their immunisation programmes, as co-financing surpasses US\$ 200m for the first time
- Read Gavi's Annual Progress Report 2023 here

30 September 2024

### **Gavi secures vital support for immunisation at United Nations General Assembly**

- European Commission pledges new funding of €260 million for the years 2026–2027
- A new Gavi and DFC partnership to secure access to funds for routine and emergency vaccinations
- Inclusion of immunisation in historic Political Declaration on antimicrobial resistance through immunisation
- Gavi-hosted side event identified concrete actions on how cutting-edge advancements in technology could support reaching zero-dose children

### **GE2P2 Global Foundation** [to 05 Oct 2024]

[www.ge2p2.org](http://www.ge2p2.org)

*News/Analysis/Publications-Digests/Statements*

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

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

:: [Public Consultations Watch :: Global Calls for Input/Public Comment – 01 Oct 2024 – Issue 23](#)

### **GHIT Fund** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Press Releases*

*No new digest content identified.*

### **Global Fund** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

25 September 2024

### **Global Fund Approves Nearly US\$1 Million for Uganda's Mpox Response**

At the request of the government of Uganda, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (the Global Fund) has approved the reinvestment of US\$850,683 to enhance the country's capacity to prevent, detect and respond to the current mpox out...

### **Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness [GloPID-R]** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News*

*No new digest content identified.*

### **Hilleman Laboratories** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News & Insights*

*No new digest content identified.*

**HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Press Room*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Human Immunome Project [nee Human Vaccines Project]** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News*

*No new digest content identified.*

**IAVI** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News, Features*

*Features*

**[Join IAVI at the 7th Global Forum on TB Vaccines](#)**

October 2, 2024

IAVI leaders to represent the full breadth of TB vaccine research, development, implementation, advocacy, and policy at the 7th Global Forum in Rio.

**INSERM** [to 05 Oct 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 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News/Pubs/Press Releases [Selective]*

*No new digest content identified.*

**ICRC** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*What's New [Selected]*

**[Lebanon: ICRC delivers lifesaving medical supplies to Beirut amid ongoing escalation](#)**

05-10-2024 Geneva (ICRC) – Seventeen metric tons of urgently needed medical supplies have arrived in Beirut via air cargo from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). This shipment ...

News release

05-10-2024

**IFFIm**

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

*Press Releases/Announcements*

**Five ways meningitis vaccines are saving lives**

01 Oct 2024

Vaccines that tackle the causes of meningitis are crucial to the 2030 goal to eliminate the disease – here's how.

**IFRC** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Press Releases [Selected]*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Institut Pasteur** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Press Documents*

*Press Info* 03.09.2024

**First sustained remission of HIV infection following a bone marrow transplant in the absence of protective mutation**

Case of Geneva patient presented in the prestigious scientific journal Nature Medicine.

**ISC / International Science Council** [to 05 Oct 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*

*blog*

03 October 2024

**The 'publish or perish' mentality is fuelling research paper retractions – and undermining science****International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS)**

<https://iuis.org/>

*News/Events [Selected]*

*No new digest content identified.*

**IVAC** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Updates; Events*

*No new digest content identified.*

**IVI** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*IVI News & Announcements*  
*No new digest content identified.*

**Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security** [to 05 Oct 2024]

<https://centerforhealthsecurity.org/newsroom>

*Center News [Selected]*

*No new digest content identified.*

**MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Latest [Selected Announcements]*

*Lebanon*

**[Israeli bombardment in Lebanon is causing mass displacement and urgent humanitarian needs](#)**

Project Update 4 Oct 2024

*Gaza-Israel war*

**[Israel and allies must bring year-long war in Gaza to an end](#)**

Press Release 3 Oct 2024

**National Academy of Medicine** - USA [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News [Selected]*

**[NAM Special Publication on the State of the U.S. Biomedical and Health Research Enterprise](#)**

September 25, 2024

The U.S. biomedical research enterprise has played a vital role in advancing science, human health, and the economy. It has contributed significantly to fields such as agriculture, environmental remediation, job [...]

**National Academies-Sciences-Engineering-Medicine [NASEM]**- USA [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News*

**[Strengthening the U.S. Biomedical Research Enterprise Entails National Strategic Coordination, Focus on Health Equity, Says NAM Special Publication](#)**

News Release | October 1, 2024

WASHINGTON — Although the U.S. is the global leader in biomedical and health research, the research enterprise is currently not achieving all it could be, due to a lack of high-level national coordination and structural issues including a lagging workforce and fragmented funding, says a new special publication from the National Academy of Medicine. These issues, compounded by existing health inequities and rising complex health concerns, threaten the nation's global leadership and the health of the U.S. population.

The publication provides a road map with priorities in five areas to ensure successful longevity of the country's biomedical research and development enterprise:

- creating a strategic national vision
- streamlining and coordinating funding across sectors
- prioritizing health equity
- improving federal coordination and the application of convergence science

- developing a future-ready workforce

**National Vaccine Program Office - U.S. HHS** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Upcoming Meetings/Latest Updates*

*No new digest content identified.*

**NIH** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

**Researchers fully map neural connections of the fruit fly brain**

October 2, 2024 — NIH-supported milestone will advance understanding of brain processes in larger animals.

**PATH** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Newsroom*

**PATH welcomes WHO global recommendation on RSV immunization**

October 3, 2024 by PATH

*RSV immunization is a long-awaited intervention that could improve infant respiratory health around the world.*

PATH applauds the announcement on Tuesday that the World Health Organization's Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (WHO SAGE) recommends that all countries introduce maternal vaccination and/or long-acting monoclonal antibody (mAb) administration for the prevention of severe respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) disease in young infants.

**Sabin Vaccine Institute** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Latest News & Press Releases*

*No new digest content identified.*

**UNAIDS** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News, Stories, Updates*

*Press statement*

**UNAIDS response to Gilead's announcement on signing voluntary licensing agreements on lenacapavir with six generic manufacturers**

2 October 2024

*Press statement*

**UNAIDS statement on anti-LGBTQ+ legislation in Georgia**

1 October 2024

**UNICEF** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Latest press releases, news notes and statements*

*Press release 05 October 2024*



### **UNICEF airlifts more lifesaving vaccines to Sudan to fight concurrent outbreaks**

PORT SUDAN, 5 October 2024 A UNICEF-chartered plane carrying 1.4 million doses of oral cholera vaccines arrived in Port Sudan, Sudan, early this morning, to bolster efforts to protect children from the ongoing cholera outbreak affecting the country. Since the current outbreak began in July 2024, over 1...

*Press release* 04 October 2024

### **"Bloodied, bruised and broken" – more than 690 children reportedly injured in Lebanon in last six weeks**

AMMAN, 4 October 2024 – More than 690 children have reportedly been injured in Lebanon as the conflict has dramatically escalated in recent weeks. Since 20 August, the number of children injured in the conflict has increased drastically, bringing the total number injured in the last year to 890 as of 2 October, ac...

*Press release* 01 October 2024

### **35 children die in Nepal after devastating rainfall and landslides**

KATHMANDU, 1 October 2024 – Heavy rainfall in the past days has caused widespread flooding in Nepal, affecting thousands of children and their families, UNICEF said today. According to early estimates by authorities, around 217 people, including 35 children, have lost their lives, with many others i...

*Statement* 30 September 2024

### **Statement by UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell on the situation in Lebanon**

NEW YORK, 30 September 2024 – "I am deeply concerned by the rapidly deteriorating humanitarian situation in Lebanon. Over the last week, at least 80 children have reportedly been killed in attacks, while hundreds more have been injured. According to Government reports, the number of people internally displaced by the violence has spiked to more...

**Unitaid** [to 05 Oct 2024]

<https://unitaid.org/>

*Featured News*

2 October 2024

### **Unitaid ready to invest immediately to support accelerated global access to lenacapavir**

Geneva – Unitaid welcomes Gilead's announcement that six generic manufacturers have been awarded voluntary licenses for the production of lenacapavir, a groundbreaking, twice-yearly injectable for HIV prevention and potentially for treatment in low- and middle-income countries...

02 October 2024

### **Marking World Oxygen Day: Expanding access to lifesaving oxygen for newborns**

**Vaccine Equity Cooperative [nee Initiative]** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News*

*Website not responding at inquiry.*

**Vaccination Acceptance & Demand Initiative [Sabin]** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Announcements, Blog*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Vaccine Confidence Project** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News, Research and Reports*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Vaccine Education Center – Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Wellcome Trust** [to 05 Oct 2024]

<https://wellcome.org/news/all>

*News. Opinion, Reports*

*No new digest content identified.*

**The Wistar Institute** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Press Releases*

October 3, 2024

**[The Wistar Institute and University of Pennsylvania Scientists Identify Potential Target Gene within Certain HIV Reservoir Cells](#)**

Drs. Lieberman, Collman, and Co-Authors Link RSAD2/Viperin Gene with Certain Chronically HIV-Infected Cells

**World Bank** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*All News [Selected]*

*Selected Press Releases*

**[The International Monetary Fund, the World Bank Group, and the World Health Organization Step Up Cooperation on Pandemic Preparedness](#)**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4, 2024 — The Heads of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank Group (WBG), and the World Health Organization (WHO) have agreed on broad principles for cooperation on pandemic...

Date: October 04, 2024 Type: Press Release

**WFPHA: World Federation of Public Health Associations** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Blog, Events*

*No new digest content identified.*

**World Medical Association [WMA]** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Press Releases*

**[WMA ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2024 – HELSINKI](#)**

The World Medical Association's annual General Assembly will be held at the Scandic Marina Congress Center, Helsinki from 16-19 October 2024.

**World Organisation for Animal Health [OIE]** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Press Releases, Statements*

*No new digest content identified.*

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**ARM [Alliance for Regenerative Medicine]** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Selected Press Releases*

*No new digest content identified.*

**BIO** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Press Releases*

*No new digest announcements identified.*

**DCVMN – Developing Country Vaccine Manufacturers Network** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News; Upcoming events*

**[ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024](#)**

October 16 - 18, 2024 São Paulo, Brazil

**ICBA – International Council of Biotechnology Associations** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*News*

*No new digest announcements identified.*

**IFPMA** [to 05 Oct 2024]

<https://ifpma.org/>

*News, Statements [Selected]*

*Statement 3 Oct 2024*

**[61st PAHO Directing Council: Access and rational use of strategic and high-cost medicines and other health technologies](#)**

On 3 October 2024 in Washington, D.C., IFPMA and FIFARMA delivered a statement at the 61st PAHO Directing Council on a report focused on access and rational use of strategic and high-cost medicines and other health technologies.

*Statement 3 Oct 2024*

**[61st Directing Council of PAHO: Strategy on epidemic intelligence for strengthening early warning of health emergencies 2024-2029](#)**

On 3 October 2024, IFPMA and FIFARMA delivered a statement at the 61st Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO): Strategy on epidemic intelligence for strengthening early warning of health emergencies 2024-2029.

**International Alliance of Patients' Organizations – IAPO** [to 05 Oct 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 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Press Releases*

*No new digest announcements identified.*

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

**AstraZeneca**

*Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified*

**Bavarian Nordic**

*Latest News - No new digest announcements identified*

**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*

1 October 2024

**BioNTech Highlights AI Capabilities and R&D Use Cases at Inaugural AI Day**

- *Provides updates on BioNTech's strategy to scale and deploy AI-capabilities across the immunotherapy pipeline*
- *Highlights InstaDeep's new near exascale supercomputer, Kyber, with the aim of enabling BioNTech to compute at scale*
- *Unveils novel AI Bayesian Flow Network ("BFN") models for protein sequence generation*

- *Highlights progress in deploying AI across BioNTech's immunotherapy pipeline, including in immunohistochemistry, DNA/RNA sequencing, proteomics, protein design, and lab functional validation*

## **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**

News - No new digest announcements identified.

## **Gamaleya National Center/Sputnik**

Latest News and Events - No new digest announcements identified [Last: 09 Nov 2020]

<https://sputnikvaccine.com/> - No new digest announcements identified [Last: 31 Aug 2022]

## **GSK**

Press releases for media - No new digest announcements identified.

## **EuBiologics, S Korea**

News - No new digest announcements identified.

## **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

October 2, 2024

### **Abbas Hussain Joins Moderna's Board of Directors**

- *Hussain brings more than 35 years of commercial leadership and operating experience in healthcare, most recently serving as CEO of Vifor Pharma*
- *As former Global President of GSK, Pharmaceuticals and Vaccines, Hussain brings significant global vaccine commercialization experience in emerging and mature markets, along with significant Board of Directors expertise*

September 30, 2024

## **Moderna and Cenra Healthcare Enter Joint Agreement to Promote Moderna's mRNA Respiratory Vaccine Portfolio in Taiwan, Including COVID-19 Vaccines**

September 30, 2024

## **Moderna Announces First Participant Dosed in Pivotal Phase 3 Trial of Investigational mRNA Norovirus Vaccine, mRNA-1403**

### **Nanogen**

News - No new digest announcements identified

### **Novartis**

News - No new digest announcements identified.

### **Novavax**

Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

### **Pfizer**

Recent Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

### **R-Pharm**

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

[No news or media page identified]

### **Sanofi Pasteur**

Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

### **Serum Institute of India**

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS - No new digest announcements identified

### **Sinopharm/WIBPBIBP**

News - No new digest announcements identified

### **Sinovac**

Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified.

### **SK Biosciences**

Press Releases

#### **SK bioscience Completes Acquisition of IDT Biologika**

- The company will invest in high-growth businesses such as stage cell and gene therapy (CGT) and recombinant vaccine.
- SK bioscience will accelerate its global push based on the complementary capabilities of both companies.

2024.10.02

### **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](mailto:david.r.curry@centerforvaccineethicsandpolicy.org)

## **AJOB Empirical Bioethics**

Volume 15, 2023 Issue 3

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

[Reviewed earlier]

## **AMA Journal of Ethics**

Volume 26, Number 10: E745-821

<https://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/issue/sleep-stewardship>

### ***Sleep Stewardship***

Sleep hygiene, causes of sleep disruption, and sleep disorder interventions are recent, important topics of health and cultural awareness. The better one's sleep quality over their lifespan, the better their health status and health outcomes, so who has reliable access to quality sleep is not just a clinical matter, but one for ethics and justice. This theme issue's focus is broader than poor sleep pathologies and investigates how sleep is, perhaps, best conceived as a communal, natural resource. We all need clean air and water, shelter, nutritionally dense food, and sleep. Of course, we sleep as individuals, but our common human interest in quality sleep of sufficient duration generates collective obligations to respond equitably to chronic health conditions that exacerbate poor sleep patterns; to support conditions for feeling safe, peaceful, and calm enough to rest; and to mitigate noise and light pollution that compromise our and our neighbors' sleep environments.

## **American Journal of Human Genetics**

Oct 03, 2024 Volume 111 Issue 10 p2071-2306

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

### **This month in *The Journal***

Alyson B. Barnes, Kylee L. Spencer

Genome-wide association studies have shown that the effect sizes of many causal variants are strongly correlated across ancestries, but this is not true for all variants. Some differences could be explained by variation in gene regulation, but it has been challenging to determine whether ancestry-specific levels of gene expression are due to differences in allele frequencies, environmental effects, interplay between the two, or simply false positives. In this issue, Wang et al. identify genes differentially expressed across ancestries (ancDE) by leveraging single-cell RNA-sequencing data for individuals with either East Asian or European ancestries.

### *Commentary*

#### **Toward building a comprehensive human pan-genome: The SEN-GENOME project**

Amadou Gaye, Andrea Regina G. Sene, Macoura Gadj, Alioune Deme, Aynina Cisse, Rokhaya Ndiaye

The Senegalese Genome project (SEN-GENOME) aims to map the genomes of underrepresented Senegalese populations, enhancing local genomic research and precision medicine. By focusing on local governance and community-driven research, SEN-GENOME contributes to a comprehensive and inclusive human pan-genome, addressing genetic diversity and promoting health equity.

### *Review*

#### **International policies guiding the selection, analysis, and clinical management of secondary findings from genomic sequencing: A systematic review**

Safa Majeed, et al.

Policies for interrogating genomic “secondary findings” (SFs) vary across jurisdictions. Our systematic review synthesizes global policies directing SFs selection, analysis, and clinical management. Our findings guide providers through critical SFs decision points but highlight gaps in analysis, clinical validation, and follow-up processes. Further work is needed to support evidence-based practice.

### *Perspectives*

#### **The methodological and ethical concerns of genetic studies of same-sex sexual behavior**

Christa Ventresca, et al.

As genomic research on same-sex sexual behavior grows, so does the need to critically review its findings and implications. Here, we provide a targeted overview of existing genetics studies on same-sex sexual behavior, highlight the ethical and scientific considerations, and provide recommendations to enhance social and ethical responsibility.

## **American Journal of Infection Control**

October 2024 Volume 52 Issue 10 p1105-1226

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

### *Major Articles*

#### **Two decades of influenza and pneumonia mortality trends: Demographics, regional shifts and disparities in the United States: 1999 to 2020**

Hamza Ashraf, et al.

Published online: May 20, 2024

p1152-1159

#### **Predictors on parent's attitudes toward the measles-rubella (MR) vaccine in Jordan: An education program**



Dua'a Al-Maghaireh, et al.  
Published online: May 17, 2024  
p1170-1175

### **American Journal of Preventive Medicine**

October 2024 Volume 67 Issue 4 p477-640

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **American Journal of Public Health**

November 2024 114(11)

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

*EDITORIALS*

#### **[Equitable Uptake of Life-Saving COVID-19 Primary Vaccine Series in Community Health Centers](#)**

Rulin C. Hechter MD, PhD

*NOTES FROM THE FIELD*

#### **[The Influence of a COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate on Vaccination Rates in a University Setting](#)**

Elisabeth Brandstetter Figueroa MPH, Bruno Bohn PhD, MPH, J. Michael Oakes PhD and Ryan T. Demmer PhD, MPH

*OPEN-THEMED RESEARCH*

#### **[Health Care Delivery Site– and Patient-Level Factors Associated With COVID-19 Primary Vaccine Series Completion in a National Network of Community Health Centers](#)**

Rachel Gold PhD, MPH, Anna Steeves-Reece PhD, MPH, MA, Aileen Ochoa MPH, Jee Oakley MPH, Rose Gunn MA, Shuling Liu PhD, Brigit A. Hatch MD, Sean T. O’Leary MD, Christine I. Spina MSPH, Treasure Allen MPH and Erika K. Cottrell PhD, MPP

### **American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene**

Volume 111 (2024): Issue 4 (Oct 2024)

<https://www.ajtmh.org/view/journals/tpmd/111/4/tpmd.111.issue-3.xml>

*Perspectives*

#### **[Urgent Response Needed: Addressing the Dengue Crisis in the Andean and Southern Cone Latin American Regions](#)**

Esteban Ortiz-Prado, et al.

#### **[Intestinal Parasitic Infections May Be Overlooked Drivers of the Tuberculosis Pandemic](#)**

Lili B. Steel, et al.

*Articles*

#### **[Field Effectiveness of a Typhoid Conjugate Vaccine: The 2018 Navi Mumbai Pediatric TCV Campaign](#)**

Kashmira Date, et al.

### **Annals of Internal Medicine**

September 2024 Volume 177, Issue 9

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Artificial Intelligence – An International Journal**

Volume 335 October 2024

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/artificial-intelligence/vol/335/suppl/C>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation**

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

(Accessed 05 Oct 2024)

[No new digest content identified]

### **BMC Health Services Research**

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

(Accessed 05 Oct 2024)

[No new digest content identified]

### **BMC Infectious Diseases**

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

(Accessed 05 Oct 2024)

#### **[Assessing measles risk transmission in Iran: a utilization of the World Health Organization's programmatic risk assessment tool, 2022](#)**

*Despite successful efforts to eliminate measles in Iran, imported measles cases continue to be reported. Because measles is endemic in neighboring countries. This research aims to evaluate the risk of measles ...*

Authors: Elham Dashti, Manoochehr Karami, Seyed Mohsen Zahraei, Hassan Gharibnavaz, Azam Sabouri, Fatemeh Azimian Zavareh and Ali Delpisheh

Citation: *BMC Infectious Diseases* 2024 24:1108

Content type: Research Published on: 5 October 2024

#### **[Assessing vaccine strategies for mpox outbreak in New York City using an age-structure model](#)**

*Since May 7 2022, mpox has been endemic in many countries which has attracted the attention of health authorities in various countries and made control decisions, in which vaccination is the mainstream strateg...*

Authors: Zixiao Xiong, Ling Xue, Xuezhi Li and Yanfen Zhang

Citation: *BMC Infectious Diseases* 2024 24:1078

Content type: Research Published on: 30 September 2024

### **BMC Medical Ethics**

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

(Accessed 05 Oct 2024)

[No new digest content identified]

### **BMC Medicine**

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

(Accessed 05 Oct 2024)  
[No new digest content identified]

### **BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth**

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

(Accessed 05 Oct 2024)

[No new digest content identified]

### **BMC Public Health**

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

(Accessed 05 Oct 2024)

#### **Vaccines and vaccination in prison settings: availability and model of service delivery in 20 European countries**

*Prisons, due to various risk factors, are environments that are conducive to infectious disease transmission, with significantly higher prevalence of infectious diseases within prisons compared to the general ...*

Authors: Babak Moazen, Maria Tramonti Fantozzi, Erica De Vita, Davide Petri, Irina Barbîroş, Vlad Busmachiu, Roberto Ranieri, Nicola Cocco, Aurélie Mieuset, Fadi Meroueh, Laura Baglietto, Heino Stöver and Lara Tavoschi

Citation: BMC Public Health 2024 24:2716

Content type: Research Published on: 5 October 2024

#### **Access to healthcare services during the COVID-19 pandemic: a cross-sectional analysis of income and user-access across 16 economically diverse countries**

*National health systems have different strengths and resilience levels. During the COVID-19 pandemic, resources often had to be reallocated and this impacted the availability of healthcare services in many countries...*

Authors: Zachary D. V. Abel, Laurence S. J. Roope, Raymond Duch and Philip M. Clarke

Citation: BMC Public Health 2024 24:2678

Content type: Research Published on: 1 October 2024

#### **Acceptance of COVID-19 vaccine booster doses among the Adult Population in Ghana: a cross-sectional study using the Health Belief Model**

*The Health Belief Model (HBM) is a widely utilised framework for understanding vaccination behaviour against COVID-19. This study assessed the acceptance of COVID-19 vaccine booster doses in Ghana and identified...*

Authors: Gilbert Eshun, Frank Kyei-Arthur, Marwa Shawky Abdou, Martin Wiredu Agyekum, Michael Sarfo, John Kwame Agbenyeavu, Sylvia Agyeman Addai, Jeremiah Akuffo Adjei, Nelson Obeng, Justice Kwadwo Turzin and Ramy Mohamed Ghazy

Citation: BMC Public Health 2024 24:2673

Content type: Research Published on: 30 September 2024

### **BMC Research Notes**

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

(Accessed 05 Oct 2024)

[No new digest content identified]

### **BMJ Evidence-Based Medicine**

October 2024 - Volume 29 - 5  
<https://ebm.bmj.com/content/29/5>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **BMJ Global Health**

September 2024 - Volume 9 - 9  
<https://gh.bmj.com/content/9/9>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists**

September 2024  
<https://thebulletin.org/magazine/2024-09/>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Bulletin of the World Health Organization**

Volume 102(10); 2024 Oct 1  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/issues/471305/>  
*Editorials*

#### **[A continuous improvement agenda for WHO's normative and standard-setting functions](#)**

Lisa Askie, Kidist Bartolomeos, Jeremy Farrar, Mubashar Sheikh  
Bull World Health Organ. 2024 Oct 1; 102(10): 682–682A. Published online 2024 Oct 1.  
doi: 10.2471/BLT.24.292540  
PMCID: PMC11418852  
[Excerpt]

... Global changes will continue in the economic, demographic, environmental, technological, cultural and scientific landscape. With nearly all sustainable development goals off track halfway to 2030, progress has eroded or stagnated across many areas, including health. WHO must become more efficient, relevant and responsive to emerging global and national public health challenges. More specifically, WHO seeks to bring science further to the forefront of all its work to achieve a higher impact on people's health. To do so, WHO could develop new ways of producing, disseminating, updating and embedding the Organization's normative guidance into point-of-care systems, thereby putting evidence at the centre of everyday life.<sup>19,20</sup> The papers in this issue demonstrate that WHO's normative leadership role in achieving health for all remains important and a core organizational mandate. We need better and more sustainable ways to support, streamline and measure the impact of WHO's normative guidance to ensure it remains trusted and timely, useful and used, and accessible and equitable for all.

#### **[Challenges for impact evaluation of WHO's normative output](#)**

Catherine Regis, Gaelle Foucault, Jean-Louis Denis, Pierre Larouche, Miriam Cohen  
Bull World Health Organ. 2024 Oct 1; 102(10): 683–683A. Published online 2024 Oct 1.  
doi: 10.2471/BLT.24.292518  
PMCID: PMC11418845

A clearer picture of the impact of the World Health Organization (WHO) normative work including guidelines, codes and regulations is needed.<sup>1,2</sup> Member States and donors want their contribution to make an impact and WHO is committed to increased accountability.<sup>3,4</sup> Yet, WHO acknowledges that normative work is often complex and assessing its impact may be more costly and challenging than conducting other types of evaluation.<sup>5</sup> Therefore, developing stronger normative evaluation capacities that build on rich data and diverse methods within WHO and among Member States is needed.

### *Policy & Practice*

#### **Adaptation of WHO COVID-19 guidelines by Caribbean countries and territories**

Tracy Evans-Gilbert, Edmund Blades, Ronela Boodoosingh, Michael H Campbell, Celia DC Christie, Marvin Manzanero, Janice Mullings-George, Earl Ottley, Cil-Maria Outerbridge, Natasha P Sobers, Tamu Davidson, Rian M Extavour, Joy St John, Ludovic Reveiz, Begona Sagastuy, Ignacio Neumann  
Bull World Health Organ. 2024 Oct 1; 102(10): 699–706. Published online 2024 May 23.

doi: 10.2471/BLT.23.290796

PMCID: PMC11418840

#### **A WHO remit to improve global standards for medical products of human origin**

Eoin McGrath, Marisa R Herson, Matthew J Kuehnert, Karen Moniz, Zbigniew M Szczepiorkowski, Timothy L Pruett

Bull World Health Organ. 2024 Oct 1; 102(10): 707–714. Published online 2024 Sep 2.

doi: 10.2471/BLT.24.291569

PMCID: PMC11418839

### *Lessons from the Field*

#### **Increasing immunization coverage, Solomon Islands, 2022**

Reta Angessa, Rockson Siliota, Jenniffer Anga, Tracy Kofela, Sonja Tanevska, Nemia Bainvalu, Pauline McNeil, Howard L Sobel

Bull World Health Organ. 2024 Oct 1; 102(10): 736–741. Published online 2024 Sep 2.

doi: 10.2471/BLT.24.291084

PMCID: PMC11418846

#### **Using the WHO-INTEGRATE framework to develop a COVID-19 guideline for schools, Germany**

Eva A Rehfuess, Lisa Pfadenhauer, Monika Nothacker, Brigitte Strahwald

Bull World Health Organ. 2024 Oct 1; 102(10): 742–748. Published online 2024 Aug 27.

doi: 10.2471/BLT.24.291550

PMCID: PMC11418849

#### **Building sustainable capacity to adopt, adapt or develop child health guidelines, Malawi, Nigeria and South Africa**

Tamara Kredo, Solange Durão, Emmanuel Effa, Celeste Naude, Michael McCaul, Amanda Brand, Simon Lewin, Claire Glenton, Susan Munabi-Babigumira, Elodie Besnier, Trudy D Leong, Bey-Marie Schmidt, Nyanyiwe Mbeye, Ameer Hohlfeld, Anke Rohwer, Tandekile Lubelwana Hafver, Nicolas Delvaux, Lungiswa Nkonki, Funeka Bango, Emma Thompson, Sara Cooper

Bull World Health Organ. 2024 Oct 1; 102(10): 749–756. Published online 2024 Sep 2.

doi: 10.2471/BLT.24.291564

PMCID: PMC11418851

### *Perspectives*

#### **Implications of living evidence syntheses in health policy**

Samantha Chakraborty, Tanja Kuchenmüller, John Lavis, Fadi El-Jardali, Laurenz Mahlanza-Langer, Sally Green, Ludovic Reveiz, Victoria Carter, Emma McFarlane, Cheryl Pace, Lisa Askie, Fiona Glen, Tari Turner

Bull World Health Organ. 2024 Oct 1; 102(10): 757–759. Published online 2024 Sep 2.

doi: 10.2471/BLT.23.290540

PMCID: PMC11418854

#### **Community engagement in WHO guideline development**

Manjulaa Narasimhan, Patricia Mahecha Gutiérrez, Zoë Osborne, Muluba Habanyama, Karrie Worster, Carrie Martin, Angela Kaida  
Bull World Health Organ. 2024 Oct 1; 102(10): 760–764. Published online 2024 Sep 10.  
doi: 10.2471/BLT.24.291579  
PMCID: PMC11418848

## **Cell**

Oct 03, 2024 Volume 187 Issue 20 p5483-5796

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

### *Commentaries*

#### **Nothing about us without us: Sharing results with communities that provide genomic data**

Sarah LeBaron von Baeyer, et al.

Sharing genetic and other study results with the communities who participate in research falls under benefit-sharing and capacity-building initiatives that underpin a more equitable biomedical research relationship. Yet, which results to return and how remain fundamental challenges that persist in the absence of practical guidance and institutional policies. Here, we discuss how the return of results can be implemented across different geographies, study designs, and project budgets.

#### **A call from patient-researchers to advance research on long COVID**

Megan L. Fitzgerald, et al.

Long COVID is a chronic and often disabling illness with long-term consequences. Although progress has been made in the clinical characterization of long COVID, no approved treatments exist and disconnects between patients and researchers threaten to hinder future progress. Incorporating patients as active collaborators in long COVID research can bridge the gap and accelerate progress toward treatments and cures.

### *Featured Article*

#### **Mechanisms of long COVID and the path toward therapeutics**

Michael J. Peluso, Steven G. Deeks

### *Open Access*

Known under competing terms and definitions such as post-COVID-19 condition, post-COVID-19 conditions, post-acute sequelae of SARS-CoV-2 (PASC), post-COVID-19 syndrome, post-COVID-19, or long COVID, this review provides a framework for interpreting the literature and discusses how mechanistic studies are influencing the development of biomarkers, functional tests, and, ultimately, clinical interventions.

## **Child Care, Health and Development**

Volume 50, Issue 6 November 2024

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

## **Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics**

Volume 116, Issue 4 Pages: 875-1142 October 2024

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

### ***Issue Focus: Pharmacogenomics and Precision Medicine***

*White Paper* Open Access

#### **Role of Clinical Pharmacology in Diversity and Inclusion in Global Drug Development: Current Practices and Industry Perspectives: White Paper**

Aarti Sawant-Basak, Shweta Urva, Jatinder Kaur Mukker, Sebastian Haertter, Dean Mariano, Dolly A. Parasrampur, Kosalaram Goteti, Ravi Shankar Prasad Singh, Manoj Chiney, Michael Z.

Liao, Sandy S. Chang, Rashmi Mehta

Pages: 902-913

First Published: 07 July 2024

#### *Abstract*

The 2022 United States Food and Drug Administration (US FDA) draft guidance on diversity plan (DP), which will be implemented through the Diversity Action Plans by December 2025, under the 21st Century Cures Act, marks a pivotal effort by the FDA to ensure that registrational studies adequately reflect the target patient populations based on diversity in demographics and baseline characteristics. This white paper represents the culminated efforts of the International Consortium of Quality and Innovation (IQ) Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) Working Group (WG) to assess the implementation of the draft FDA guidance by members of the IQ consortium in the discipline of clinical pharmacology (CP). This article describes current practices in the industry and emphasizes the tools and techniques of quantitative pharmacology that can be applied to support the inclusion of a diverse population during global drug development, to support diversity and inclusion of underrepresented patient populations, in multiregional clinical trials (MRCTs). It outlines strategic and technical recommendations to integrate demographics, including age, sex/gender, race/ethnicity, and comorbidities, in multiregional phase III registrational studies, through the application of quantitative pharmacology. Finally, this article discusses the challenges faced during global drug development, which may otherwise limit the enrollment of a broader, potentially diverse population in registrational trials. Based on the outcomes of the IQ survey that provided the current awareness of diversity planning, it is envisioned that in the future, industry efforts in the inclusion of previously underrepresented populations during global drug development will culminate in drug labels that apply to the intended patient populations at the time of new drug application or biologics license application rather than through post-marketing requirements.

### **Clinical Therapeutics**

September 2024 Volume 46 Issue 9 p661-726

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Clinical Trials**

Volume 21 Issue 4, August 2024

<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/ctja/21/4>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Conflict and Health**

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

[Accessed 05 Oct 2024]

[No new digest content identified]

### **Contemporary Clinical Trials**

Volume 145 October 2024

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/contemporary-clinical-trials/vol/145/suppl/C>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **The CRISPR Journal**

Volume 7, Issue 4 / August 2024  
<https://www.liebertpub.com/toc/crispr/7/4>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Current Genetic Medicine Reports**

Volume 11, Issue 3-4 December 2023  
<https://link.springer.com/journal/40142/volumes-and-issues/11-3>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Current Medical Research and Opinion**

Volume 40, Issue 8 2024  
<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/icmo20/current>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases**

October 2024 - Volume 37 - Issue 5  
<https://journals.lww.com/co-infectiousdiseases/pages/currenttoc.aspx>  
[No new digest content identified]

### **Current Protocols in Human Genetics**

<https://currentprotocols.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/19348258>  
[Accessed 05 Oct 2024]  
[No new digest content identified]

### **Developing World Bioethics**

Volume 24, Issue 3 Pages: 135-261 September 2024  
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14718847/current>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Development in Practice**

Volume 34, Issue 6, 2024  
<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cdip20/34/6>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Development Policy Review**

Volume 42, Issue 5 September 2024  
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14677679/current>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness**

Volume 18 - 2024  
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/disaster-medicine-and-public-health-preparedness/latest-issue>  
[Reviewed earlier]



## **Disasters**

Volume 48, Issue 4 October 2024

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14677717/2024/48/4>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

## **EMBO Reports**

Volume 25 Issue 9 10 September 2024

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

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Emerging Infectious Diseases**

Volume 30, Number 9—September 2024

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

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Epidemics**

Volume 48 September 2024

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/epidemics/vol/48/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Epidemiology and Infection**

Volume 152 - 2024

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/epidemiology-and-infection/latest-issue>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Ethics & Human Research**

Volume 46, Issue 5 Pages: 1-42 September–October 2024

***Enrolling invested parties in research :: Research on social networking sites***

*Articles*

**[Ethical Considerations for Enrolling “Invested Parties” in Large-Scale Clinical Studies: Insights from the RECOVER Initiative](#)**

Kellie Owens, Emily E. Anderson, Shari Esquenazi-Karonika, Keith Hanson, Maika Mitchell, Janelle Linton, Jasmine Briscoe, Leah Castro Baucom, Liza Fisher, Rebecca Letts, Kian Nguyen, Brendan Parent

Pages: 2-12

First Published: 15 September 2024 Open Access

Research institutions often lack policies addressing the risks and benefits of enrolling “invested parties” such as investigators, research staff, and patient, caregiver, and community representatives (groups most affected by a disease or intervention) in studies where they have direct involvement. Invested parties may have both strong motivations to study the condition or intervention and to participate as study subjects. More guidance is needed to promote appropriate access to research participation and mitigate potential risks. This article addresses the gap in guidance by presenting an ethical framework and practical guidelines for the enrollment of invested parties...

## **The First- and Second-Order Ethical Reasons Approach: The Case of Human Challenge Trials**

Davide Battisti, Emma Capulli, Mario Picozzi

Pages: 26-36

First Published: 15 September 2024 Open Access

### **Ethics & International Affairs**

Volume 38 - Issue 1 - Spring 2024

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/ethics-and-international-affairs/latest-issue>

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14677717/2024/48/4>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **Ethics, Medicine and Public Health**

Volume 31 (December 2023)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/ethics-medicine-and-public-health/vol/31/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **The European Journal of Public Health**

Volume 34, Issue 4, August 2024

<https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/issue/34/4>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Expert Review of Vaccines**

Vol 23 (1) 2023

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Foreign Affairs**

September/October 2024 Volume 103, Number 5

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/issues/2023/103/5>

*Essay*

#### **The New Bioweapons**

*How Synthetic Biology Could Destabilize the World*

Roger Brent, T. Greg McKelvey, Jr., and Jason Matheny

### **Forum for Development Studies**

Volume 51, 2024 - Issue 2

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/sfds20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Frontiers in Medicine**

<https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/medicine/volumes?volume-id=1237>

[Accessed 05 Oct 2024]

*ORIGINAL RESEARCH article*

**An assessment of the European Patient Summary for clinical research: A case study in cardiology**

*Provisionally accepted*

Gokce Banu Laleci Erturkmen <sup>1\*</sup>

*Review*

Published on 03 Oct 2024

**A narrative review on problems in product quality, regulatory system constraints, and the concept of quality by design as a solution for quality assurance of African medicines**

Hassen Kebede Hassen, et al.

**Genetics in Medicines**

Volume 26, Issue 10 October 2024

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/genetics-in-medicine/vol/26/issue/10>

*Research article* Open access

**A national education program for rapid genomics in pediatric acute care: Building workforce confidence, competence, and capability**

Giulia McCorkell, Amy Nisselle, Donna Halton, Sophie E. Bouffler, ... Clara L. Gaff

Article 101224

**Genome Medicine**

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

[Accessed 05 Oct 2024]

[No new digest content identified]

**Global Health Action**

Volume 17, Issue 1 (2024)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

**Global Health: Science and Practice (GHSP)**

Vol. 12, No. 4 August 27, 2024

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

[Reviewed earlier]

**Global Legal Monitor & Legal Reports – Library of Congress/USA**

<https://www.loc.gov/collections/global-legal-monitor/>

[https://www.loc.gov/books/?q=legal+reports&fa=partof%3Alegal+reports+%28publications+of+the+law+library+of+congress%29&sb=date\\_desc](https://www.loc.gov/books/?q=legal+reports&fa=partof%3Alegal+reports+%28publications+of+the+law+library+of+congress%29&sb=date_desc)

[Accessed 05 Oct 2024]

[No new digest content identified]

**Global Public Health**

Volume 19, Issue 1 (2024)

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rqph20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Globalization and Health**

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

[Accessed 05 Oct 2024]

[No new digest content identified]

### **Health and Human Rights**

Volume 26, Issue 1, June 2024

<https://www.hhrjournal.org/volume-26-issue-1-june-2024/>

***SPECIAL SECTION – COMMEMORATING 30 YEARS***

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Health Economics, Policy and Law**

Volume 19 - Issue 2 - April 2024

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Health Policy and Planning**

Volume 39, Issue 8, October 2024

<https://academic.oup.com/heapol/issue/39/8>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Health Research Policy and Systems**

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

[Accessed 05 Oct 2024]

[No new digest content identified]

### **Human Gene Therapy**

Volume 35, Issue 17-18 / September 2024

<https://www.liebertpub.com/toc/hum/35/17-18>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Humanitarian Practice Network**

<https://odihpn.org/>

*Featured Publications*

[No new digest content identified]

### **Human Vaccines & Immunotherapeutics** (formerly Human Vaccines)

Volume 20 Issue 1, 2024

<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/khvi20/20/1?nav=tocList>

*Selected Content*

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Immunity**

Sep 10, 2024 Volume 57 Issue 9 p1995-2250

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

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Infectious Agents and Cancer**

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

[Accessed 05 Oct 2024]

[No new digest content identified]

## **Infectious Diseases of Poverty**

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

[Accessed 05 Oct 2024]

[No new digest content identified]

## **International Health**

Volume 16, Issue 5, September 2024

<https://academic.oup.com/inthealth/issue/16/5>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **International Human Rights Law Review**

Volume 13 (2024): Issue 1 (Jun 2024):

<https://brill.com/view/journals/hrlr/13/1/hrlr.13.issue-1.xml>

***Special Issue on Inter-State Communications***

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[Reviewed earlier]

## **International Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health**

Vol. 11 No. 9 (2024): September 2024

<https://www.ijcmph.com/index.php/ijcmph/issue/view/116>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **International Journal of Epidemiology**

Volume 53, Issue 4, August 2024

<https://academic.oup.com/ije/issue/53/4>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare**

Volume 17 Issue 3 2024

<https://www.emerald.com/insight/publication/issn/2056-4902/vol/17/iss/3>

*Table of contents*

[Reviewed earlier]

## **JAMA**

October 1, 2024, Vol 332, No. 13, Pages 1033-1120  
<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/currentissue>  
*Research Letter*

**RSV Vaccine Effectiveness Against Hospitalization Among US Adults 60 Years and Older**

Diya Surie, MD; Wesley H. Self, MD, MPH; Yuwei Zhu, MD; et al.  
*JAMA*. 2024;332(13):1105-1107. doi:10.1001/jama.2024.15775

This study evaluates the effectiveness of the respiratory syncytial virus vaccine against hospitalization for acute respiratory illness among US adults aged 60 years and older.

*Viewpoint*

**The Resurgence of Mpox in Africa**

Caitlin Rivers, PhD, MPH; Crystal Watson, DrPH, MPH; Alexandra L. Phelan, SJD, LL.M, LL.B  
*JAMA*. 2024;332(13):1045-1046. doi:10.1001/jama.2024.17829

This Viewpoint discusses the current mpox outbreak in Africa and why countries worldwide must urgently act to address it after the World Health Organization declared the event a Public Health Emergency of International Concern.

**JAMA Health Forum**

September 2024, Vol 5, No. 9  
<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama-health-forum/issue>  
[Reviewed earlier]

**JAMA Pediatrics**

September 2024, Vol 178, No. 9, Pages 847-956  
<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamapediatrics/currentissue>  
[Reviewed earlier]

**JBIR Evidence Synthesis**

September 2024 - Volume 22 - Issue 9  
<https://journals.lww.com/jbisrir/Pages/currenttoc.aspx>  
[New issue; No digest content identified]

**Journal of Adolescent Health**

October 2024 Volume 75 Issue 4 p525-690  
<https://www.jahonline.org/current>  
*Commentaries*

**Potential Changes to the Adolescent Immunization Schedule: Implications for the Stability of Adolescent Immunization Platform Visits**

Amy B. Middleman, Gregory D. Zimet  
Published in issue: October 2024  
p538-542

**Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research**

Vol. 81 (2024)  
<https://www.jair.org/index.php/jair>  
*Contents*  
[New issue; No digest content identified]

**Journal of Community Health**

Volume 49, Issue 5 October 2024

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10900/volumes-and-issues/49-5>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Current Medical Research and Opinion**

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

Vol. 7 No. 01 (2024), January 2, 2024 , Page 1988-1996

<https://www.cmro.in/index.php/jcmro/issue/view/75>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Development Economics**

Volume 170 September 2024

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-development-economics/vol/170/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics**

Volume 19 Issue 3, July 2024

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

***Special Issues in Research and IRB/REC Functioning, Including the use of AI***

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health**

August 2024 - Volume 78 - 8

<https://jech.bmj.com/content/78/8>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine**

Volume 17, Issue 3 Pages: 469-687 September 2024

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

**Journal of Global Ethics**

Volume 20, Issue 2 (2024)

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

***Special Issue: Climate Justice and the Global Development Crisis. Guest Editors: Anna Malavisi, Tom Hilde, and Krushil Watene***

[New issue; No digest content identified]

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

Volume 35, Number 3, August 2024

<https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/52935>

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[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health**

Volume 26, Issue 4 August 2024

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10903/volumes-and-issues/26-4>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies**

Volume 22, 2024 \_ Issue 3

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

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of International Development**

Volume 36, Issue 6 Pages: 3-2669 August 2024

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/10991328/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Medical Ethics**

September 2024 - Volume 50 - 9

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

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews**

Volume 11, Issue 1 (2024)

<https://institutionalrepository.aah.org/jpcrr/>

[Reviewed earlier]

**The Journal of Pediatrics**

Volume 272 September 2024

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/the-journal-of-pediatrics/vol/272/suppl/C>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

**Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice**

Volume 17, Issue 1 (2024)

<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/jppp20/17/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Public Health Management & Practice**

September/October 2024 - Volume 30 - Issue 5

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

[Reviewed earlier]



### **Journal of Public Health Policy**

Volume 45, issue 3, September 2024

<https://link.springer.com/journal/41271/volumes-and-issues/45-3>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Journal of the Royal Society – Interface**

October 2024 Volume 21 Issue 219

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **Journal of Travel Medicine**

Volume 31, Issue 6, August 2024

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Journal of Virology**

Volume 98 Number 9 September 2024

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

*Commentary*

*Editor's Pick Public Health Commentary 01 August 2024*

**[The harms of promoting the lab leak hypothesis for SARS-CoV-2 origins without evidence](#)**

James Alwine, et al.

### **The Lancet**

Oct 05, 2024 Volume 404 Number 10460 p1279-1374

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

*Comment*

**[Mpox global emergency: strengthening African leadership](#)**

Ibrahim Abubakar, Julius Lutwama, Catherine Kyobutungi, Osman Sankoh

*Health Policy*

**[WHO shapes priorities for medicines? An analysis of the applicants and decision makers within the historical evolution of the WHO Model Lists of Essential Medicines](#)**

Kristina Jenei, Camille E G Glaus, Kerstin N Vokinger

### **The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health**

Sep 2024 Volume 8 Number 9 p611-706, e7-e11

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Lancet Digital Health**

Sep 2024 Volume 6 Number 9 e601-e672

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Lancet Global Health**

Sep 2024 Volume 12 Number 9 e1370-e1559

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Lancet Infectious Diseases**

Sep 2024 Volume 24 Number 9 p935-1058, e540-e601

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Lancet Public Health**

Sep 2024 Volume 9 Number 9 e635-e708

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Lancet Respiratory Medicine**

Sep 2024 Volume 12 Number 9 p655-742, e52-e56

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Maternal and Child Health Journal**

Volume 28, Issue 9 September 2024

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10995/volumes-and-issues/28-9>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Medical Decision Making (MDM)**

Volume 44 Issue 6, August 2024

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **The Milbank Quarterly**

*A Multidisciplinary Journal of Population Health and Health Policy*

Volume 102, Issue 3 Pages: 517-821 September 2024

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Molecular Therapy**

Oct 02, 2024 Volume 32 Issue 10 p3195-3746

<https://www.cell.com/molecular-therapy/current>

*Commentaries*

#### **Toward life without sickle cell disease**

Utpal P. Davé, Jörg Bungert

In this issue of Molecular Therapy, Katta et al. report on the development of a new and efficient Cas9-mediated therapy for sickle cell disease (SCD).<sup>1</sup> SCD is a devastating genetically inherited disease

that affects millions of individuals worldwide.<sup>2</sup> SCD is caused by a homozygous single-nucleotide missense mutation in the adult  $\beta$ -globin gene substituting a valine for a glutamic acid residue, which induces polymerization of hemoglobin tetramers at low oxygen concentrations. The consequences of sickle hemoglobin (HBS) polymerization are manifold: HBS polymerization induces rigid sickle-like cells, which cause vaso-occlusion and, as a result, tissue hypoxia, leading to inflammation, hemolytic anemia, and chronic pain.

## **Nature**

Volume 634 Issue 8032, 3 October 2024

<https://www.nature.com/nature/volumes/633/issues/8032>

*Editorial* 02 Oct 2024

### **[Use citizen science to turbocharge big-data projects](#)**

Volunteers played a key part in validating a gigantic neuroscience study mapping the fruit-fly brain. It shows what can be achieved through crowdsourcing research.

*Editorial* 01 Oct 2024

### **[Support the Pact for the Future](#)**

The final text from the UN Summit of the Future offers a glimmer of hope for a world beset by multiple crises.

*Article* Open Access 25 Sept 2024

### **[Larger and more instructable language models become less reliable](#)**

Scaling up and shaping up large language models increased their tendency to provide sensible yet incorrect answers at difficulty levels humans cannot supervise, highlighting the need for a fundamental shift in artificial intelligence design towards reliability.

Lexin Zhou, Wout Schellaert, José Hernández-Orallo

## **Nature Biotechnology**

Volume 42 Issue 9, September 2024

<https://www.nature.com/nbt/volumes/42/issues/9>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Nature Communications**

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

(Accessed 05 Oct 2024)

[No new digest content identified]

## **Nature Genetics**

Volume 56 Issue 9, September 2024

<https://www.nature.com/ng/volumes/56/issues/9>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Nature Human Behaviour**

Volume 8 Issue 9, September 2024

<https://www.nature.com/nathumbehav/volumes/8/issues/9>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Nature Medicine**

Volume 30 Issue 9, September 2024

<https://www.nature.com/nm/volumes/30/issues/9>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Nature Reviews Drug Discovery**

Volume 23 Issue 9, September 2024

<https://www.nature.com/nrd/volumes/23/issues/9>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Nature Reviews Genetics**

Volume 25 Issue 9, September 2024

<https://www.nature.com/nrg/volumes/25/issues/9>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Nature Reviews Immunology**

Volume 24 Issue 9, September 2024

<https://www.nature.com/nri/volumes/24/issues/9>

[Reviewed earlier]

**New England Journal of Medicine**

Volume 391 No. 13 October 3, 2024

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

**NEJM Evidence**

Volume 3 No. 9 September 2024

<https://evidence.nejm.org/toc/evid/current>

*NEJM Evidence, a new monthly digital journal from NEJM Group, presents innovative original research and fresh, bold ideas in clinical trial design and clinical decision-making.*

[Reviewed earlier]

**njp Vaccines**

<https://www.nature.com/npjvaccines/>

[Accessed 05 Oct 2024]

[Reviewed earlier]

**Pediatrics**

Volume 154, Issue 4 October 2024

<https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/issue/154/4>

*Articles*

**[Rotavirus Vaccine Effectiveness Against Severe Acute Gastroenteritis: 2009-2022](#)**

Alpha Oumar Diallo, PhD, MPH; Mary E. Wikswow, MPH; Iddrisu Sulemana, MPH, MBA; Leila C. Sahni, PhD, MPH; Julie A. Boom, MD ...

## **Vaccine Completion and Timeliness Among Children in the Military Health System: 2010–2019**

Celeste J. Romano, MS; Monica Burrell, MPH; Anna T. Bukowinski, MPH; Clinton Hall, PhD; Gia R. Gumbs, MPH ...

## **Perceived Effects of COVID-19 on Vaccine Hesitancy and Clinician Discussion: A Qualitative Study**

Dennis Gurfinkel, MPH; Caroline Tietbohl, PhD; Emma Clark, MSc; Alison Saville, MSPH, MSW; Christina Albertin, MPH, BSN ...

### *Policy Statements*

## **Recommendations for Prevention and Control of Influenza in Children, 2024–2025: Policy Statement**

Committee on Infectious Diseases

### *Technical Reports*

## **Recommendations for Prevention and Control of Influenza in Children, 2024–2025: Technical Report**

Committee on Infectious Diseases

## **PharmacoEconomics**

Volume 42, Issue 9 September 2024

<https://link.springer.com/journal/40273/volumes-and-issues/42-9>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **PLoS Biology**

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

(Accessed 05 Oct 2024)

[No new digest content identified]

## **PLoS Genetics**

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

(Accessed 05 Oct 2024)

[No new digest content identified]

## **PLoS Global Public Health**

[https://journals.plos.org/globalpublichealth/search?sortOrder=DATE\\_NEWEST\\_FIRST&filterStartDate=2021-10-01&filterJournals=PLOSGlobalPublicHealth&q=&resultsPerPage=60](https://journals.plos.org/globalpublichealth/search?sortOrder=DATE_NEWEST_FIRST&filterStartDate=2021-10-01&filterJournals=PLOSGlobalPublicHealth&q=&resultsPerPage=60)

(Accessed 05 Oct 2024)

## **Sexual and reproductive health research capacity strengthening programs in low- and middle-income countries: A scoping review**

Julie M. Buser, Anna Grace Auma, Ella August, Gurpreet K. Rana, Rachel Gray, Faelan E. Jacobson-Davies, Tesfaye H. Tufa, Tamrat Endale, Madeleine Mukeshimana, Yolanda R. Smith

Research Article | published 03 Oct 2024 PLOS Global Public Health

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0003789>

### **Burden of tuberculosis in underserved populations in South Africa: A systematic review and meta-analysis**

Lydia M. L. Holtgrewe, Ann Johnson, Kate Nyhan, Jody Boffa, Sheela V. Shenoi, Aaron S. Karat, J. Lucian Davis, Salome Charalambous  
Research Article | published 03 Oct 2024 PLOS Global Public Health  
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0003753>

### **Decolonising humanitarian health: A scoping review of practical guidance**

Amber Clarke, Katharina Richter, Michelle Lokot, Althea-Maria Rivas, Sali Hafez, Neha S. Singh  
Research Article | published 02 Oct 2024 PLOS Global Public Health  
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0003566>

### **PLoS Medicine**

<https://journals.plos.org/plosmedicine/>  
(Accessed 05 Oct 2024)  
[No new digest content identified]

### **PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases**

<http://www.plosntds.org/>  
(Accessed 05 Oct 2024)  
[No new digest content identified]

### **PLoS One**

<http://www.plosone.org/>  
[Accessed 05 Oct 2024]  
[No new digest content identified]

### **PLoS Pathogens**

<http://journals.plos.org/plospathogens/>  
[Accessed 05 Oct 2024]  
[No new digest content identified]

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

October 1, 2024 vol. 121 no. 40  
<https://www.pnas.org/toc/pnas/121/40>  
[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **PNAS Nexus**

Volume 3, Issue 8, August 2024  
<https://academic.oup.com/pnasnexus/issue/3/8>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Prehospital & Disaster Medicine**

Volume 39 - Issue 2 - April 2024  
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/prehospital-and-disaster-medicine/latest-issue>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Preventive Medicine**

Volume 187 October 2024

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/preventive-medicine/vol/187/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Proceedings of the Royal Society B**

October 2024 Volume 291 Issue 2032

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **Public Health**

Volume 235 Pages 1-218 (October 2024)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/public-health/vol/235/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Public Health Ethics**

Volume 17, Issue 1-2, April/July 2024

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Public Health Genomics**

2024, Vol. 27, No. 1

<https://karger.com/phg/issue/27/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Public Health Reports**

Volume 139 Issue 5, September/October 2024

<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/phrg/139/5>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Qualitative Health Research**

Volume 34 Issue 10, August 2024

<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/QHR/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Research Ethics**

Volume 20 Issue 3, July 2024

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

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Reproductive Health**

<http://www.reproductive-health-journal.com/content>  
[Accessed 05 Oct 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>  
*Latest Articles*  
[No new digest content identified]

## **Risk Analysis**

Volume 44, Issue 9 Pages: 1977-2311 September 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 05 Oct 2024]  
[Reviewed earlier]

## **Science**

Volume 386| Issue 6717| 4 Oct 2024  
<https://www.science.org/toc/science/current>  
*Editorial*

### **[Africa aims to avert an mpox pandemic](#)**

BY Nicaise Ndembi, Salim S. Abdool Karim  
03 Oct 2024

Last month, when the world's most populous country, India, reported its first case of the new, highly transmissible clade Ib mpox variant, the challenge of containing the virus was once again evident. Only a few weeks before that in August, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) declared mpox a public health emergency in response to its spread in Africa. Since then, cases of clade Ib mpox have been reported in Sweden, Thailand, and Pakistan. Although mpox is not yet a global pandemic, the new variant may tip the scales in that direction if the world does not act quickly to mitigate its spread in Africa.

Notably, transmission of the new variant is moving beyond the same-sex transmission pathways seen with a different variant (clade II) during 2022 to 2023, when the WHO declared mpox a public health emergency of international concern. Heterosexual transmission and close contact are spreading clade Ib mpox, and cases are being reported in both adults and children. Genetic evidence indicates that the new mpox variant arose in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in September 2023 and is now spreading alongside other variants.

Mpox is not new in Africa. It was first described in humans in 1970 in the DRC. Since then, isolated cases or occasional small outbreaks have arisen mainly from animal-to-human transmission. Infection can lead to conditions that are life threatening, such as pneumonia and encephalitis, especially in those who are already immunocompromised. In 2022, a variant called clade IIb spread to the United States, Europe, and other regions, mostly in men who have sex with men. After almost 1 year and 100,000 people getting infected, cases and deaths declined because of vaccines and behavioral changes in high-risk groups. But mpox cases have started to increase rapidly this year in Africa; as of last month, there have been 32,010 reported mpox cases in 15 African nations during 2024.



Vaccines against smallpox (a related virus) protect against mpox, but vaccination was stopped in the late 1970s. As a result, almost everyone younger than 40 years is susceptible to the virus. In Africa, more than 70% of the population is younger than 40 years, making the continent particularly vulnerable to mpox outbreaks. Since 2022, more than 50 countries outside of Africa have turned to vaccines to limit mpox spread. But Africa, where mpox was first detected, did not receive any vaccines until donations arrived last month. The Africa CDC has set a 10 million dose target for the continent at this stage.

What is the main obstacle to mpox vaccine availability in Africa? The barriers include high cost, intellectual property protection that precludes local manufacture in Africa, and lack of global solidarity mechanisms such as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, which enabled Africa to obtain AIDS treatment through funding from wealthy nations. The World Bank's Pandemic Fund has disappointingly provided too little, too late for mpox.

There is also a lack of available stocks of vaccines from current suppliers and, thus far, no commitment by manufacturers to produce sufficient doses and to sell them at low-cost "access" prices in Africa. Low-cost commitments will enable African countries to place advance orders, which companies require before increasing production. In the meantime, Africa needs vaccine donations. Last week, President Biden told the United Nations that the United States will donate 1 million vaccine doses and \$500 million to Africa immediately. Canada, Japan, and the European Union also have announced donations of vaccines to Africa. And Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (a public-private global health partnership) will buy 500,000 doses for Africa. Within Africa, the DRC government and the African Union have allotted funding for mpox programs that include transportation, storage, dissemination, and administration of doses. But all of this is still not enough.

As the world has seen with COVID-19, vaccines are only part of the strategy. Scaling up public health measures in affected communities to test, trace contacts, and educate is essential. Indeed, more than 10,000 health workers will provide community education on mpox in the DRC. More research and collaboration are needed to understand mpox biology to develop better diagnostics, vaccines, and treatments.

The world cannot afford to neglect the opportunity to prevent the outbreak in the DRC from becoming a pandemic. Mpox is not just an African problem—it is a global problem.

#### *Research Articles*

##### **[A multivalent mRNA-LNP vaccine protects against Clostridioides difficile infection](#)**

BY Mohamad-Gabriel Alameh, et al.

03 Oct 2024: 69-75

#### **Science and Engineering Ethics**

Volume 30, Issue 5 October 2024

<https://link.springer.com/journal/11948/volumes-and-issues/30-5>

[Reviewed earlier]

#### **Science Translational Medicine**

Volume 16| Issue 767| 2 Oct 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 05 Oct 2024]

[No new digest content identified]

## **Social Science & Medicine**

Volume 358 October 2024

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/social-science-and-medicine/vol/358/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Systematic Reviews**

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

[Accessed 05 Oct 2024]

[No new digest content identified]

## **Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics**

Volume 45, Issue 5 October 2024

<https://link.springer.com/journal/11017/volumes-and-issues/45-5>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Travel Medicine and Infectious Diseases**

Volume 61 September–October 2024

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/travel-medicine-and-infectious-disease/vol/61/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Tropical Medicine & International Health**

Volume 29, Issue 10 Pages: i-iv, 849-921 October 2024

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

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Vaccine**

Volume 42, Issue 25 14 November 2024

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/vaccine/vol/42/issue/25>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Vaccines**

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

[Accessed 05 Oct 2024]

*Open Access Article*

### **[The Peculiar Emergence of Mpox \(Monkeypox\): Directions for the Search for the Natural Reservoir and Vaccination Strategies](#)**

by Romulus Breban

Vaccines 2024, 12(10), 1142; <https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines12101142> - 4 Oct 2024

*Abstract*

Background/Objectives: Mpox (monkeypox) is a zoonosis with origins in a currently unknown African reservoir. The first epidemiological accounts of mpox date back to the early 1980s, yet mpox only emerged as a pandemic threat in 2022–2023, more than 40 years later. This scenario [...]

*Open Access Article*

## **Understanding Vaccine Hesitancy: A Comparison of Sociodemographic and Socioeconomic Predictors with Health Literacy Dimensions**

by Monika Lamot and Andrej Kirbiš

Vaccines 2024, 12(10), 1141; <https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines12101141> - 4 Oct 2024

### *Abstract*

Vaccine hesitancy represents a global public health challenge that can diminish the effectiveness of vaccination programs. Research indicates that various sociodemographic and socioeconomic factors, along with health literacy, predict vaccine hesitancy. In this study, we analyzed data from a Slovenian health literacy survey [...]

### *Open Access Article*

## **Drivers of COVID-19 Vaccination among Eligible Adults in Abuja, Nigeria: A Mixed-Methods Study Using the WHO Behavioral and Social Drivers of Vaccination Framework**

by Chizoba B. Wonodi, Ikechukwu A. Okpe, Pius U. Angioha, Affiong S. Ebong, Janet B. Adegbola, Abdulrasheed A. Abdulraheem, Nwamaka Ezeanya, Adewumi A. Adetola, Oluwatosin I. Arogundade, Goodness I. Hadley and Joseph A. Olisa

Vaccines 2024, 12(10), 1128; <https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines12101128> - 1 Oct 2024

### *Abstract*

Despite the availability of COVID-19 vaccines, Nigeria still faces significant COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy, with only 60.7% of the eligible population fully vaccinated as of 20 March 2023. Our study, part of a community-based effort to improve knowledge and uptake of the COVID-19 vaccine [...]

### *Open Access Editorial*

## **Vaccines Hesitancy and Public Health**

by Francisco Javier Pérez-Rivas and María Julia Ajejas Bazán

Vaccines 2024, 12(10), 1122; <https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines12101122> - 30 Sep 2024

### *Abstract*

We are delighted to present this editorial to close the Special Issue, 'Vaccines Hesitancy and Public Health', which we have had the honour of coordinating [...]

### *Open Access Article*

## **HPV Vaccination Coverage in Brazil's State of Paraná: Spatial Distribution and Advances in Public Health**

by Fernando Castilho Pelloso, Daiane Cristina Pazin, Lincoln Luís Silva, Maria Dalva de Barros Carvalho, Deise Helena Pelloso Borghesan, Marcia Edilaine Lopes Consolaro, Lander dos Santos, Helena Fiats Ribeiro, Kely Paviani Stevanato, Vladimir Dias Marques, Camila Wohlenberg Camparoto, Constanza Pujals, Raissa Bocchi Pedroso and Sandra Marisa Pelloso

Vaccines 2024, 12(10), 1118; <https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines12101118> - 29 Sep 2024

### *Abstract*

Background/Objectives: To analyze the spatial distribution of HPV vaccination coverage in relation to sociodemographic variables in a state of Southern Brazil. Methods: This was an ecological, retrospective study with secondary data from the Department of Information Technology of the Unified Health System/Ministry of [...]

## **Value in Health**

October 2024 Volume 27 Issue 10 p1311-1468

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

[Reviewed earlier]

## **World Development**

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:: [\*WHO\*](#)

:: [\*Organization Announcements\*](#)

:: [\*Journal Watch\*](#)

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

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***Pre-Print Servers***

**arxiv**

<https://arxiv.org/>

[Accessed 05 Oct 2024]

[Filter: *Genomics; Neurons and Cognition; Populations and Evolution; Other Quantitative Biology; General Economics*]

**[Knowledge-Driven Feature Selection and Engineering for Genotype Data with Large Language Models](#)**

[Joseph Lee](#), [Shu Yang](#), [Jae Young Baik](#), [Xiaoxi Liu](#), [Zhen Tan](#), [Dawei Li](#), [Zixuan Wen](#), [Bojian Hou](#), [Duy Duong-Tran](#), [Tianlong Chen](#), [Li Shen](#)

[Submitted on 2 Oct 2024]

Predicting phenotypes with complex genetic bases based on a small, interpretable set of variant features remains a challenging task. Conventionally, data-driven approaches are utilized for this task, yet the high dimensional nature of genotype data makes the analysis and prediction difficult. Motivated by the extensive knowledge encoded in pre-trained LLMs and their success in processing complex biomedical concepts, we set to examine the ability of LLMs in feature selection and engineering for tabular genotype data, with a novel knowledge-driven framework. We develop FREEFORM, Free-flow Reasoning and Ensembling for Enhanced Feature Output and Robust Modeling, designed with chain-of-thought and ensembling principles, to select and engineer features with the intrinsic knowledge of LLMs. Evaluated on two distinct genotype-phenotype datasets, genetic ancestry and hereditary hearing loss, we find this framework outperforms several data-driven methods, particularly on low-shot regimes. FREEFORM is available as open-source framework at GitHub: [this https URL](#).

**[The Gradient of Health Data Privacy](#)**

[Baihan Lin](#)

[Submitted on 1 Oct 2024]

In the era of digital health and artificial intelligence, the management of patient data privacy has become increasingly complex, with significant implications for global health equity and patient trust. This paper introduces a novel "privacy gradient" approach to health data governance, offering a more nuanced and adaptive framework than traditional binary privacy models. Our multidimensional concept considers factors such as data sensitivity, stakeholder relationships, purpose of use, and temporal aspects, allowing for context-sensitive privacy protections. Through policy analyses, ethical considerations, and case studies spanning adolescent health, integrated care, and genomic research, we demonstrate how this approach can address critical privacy challenges in diverse healthcare settings worldwide. The privacy gradient model has the potential to enhance patient engagement,

improve care coordination, and accelerate medical research while safeguarding individual privacy rights. We provide policy recommendations for implementing this approach, considering its impact on healthcare systems, research infrastructures, and global health initiatives. This work aims to inform policymakers, healthcare leaders, and digital health innovators, contributing to a more equitable, trustworthy, and effective global health data ecosystem in the digital age.

### **[PREPARE: PREdicting PANdemic's REcurring Waves Amidst Mutations, Vaccination, and Lockdowns](#)**

Narges M. Shahtori, S. Farokh Atashzar

*[Submitted on 30 Sep 2024]*

This study releases an adaptable framework that can provide insights to policymakers to predict the complex recurring waves of the pandemic in the medium postemergence of the virus spread, a phase marked by rapidly changing factors like virus mutations, lockdowns, and vaccinations, offering a way to forecast infection trends and stay ahead of future outbreaks even amidst uncertainty. The proposed model is validated on data from COVID-19 spread in Germany.

### **Gates Open Research**

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

[Accessed 05 Oct 2024]

*Study Protocol* metrics AWAITING PEER REVIEW

### **[Effects of a single oral dose of azithromycin in laboring women on antimicrobial resistance \(AMR\) and the microbiome: a protocol for the Antimicrobial Resistance Sub-Study of the A-PLUS trial](#)**

[version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]

Jean H. Kim, Denise Babineau, Janet L. Moore, Akila Subramaniam, Alan Tita, Elwyn Chomba, Musaku Mwenchanya, Adrien Lokangaka, Antoinette Tshefu, Archana Patel, Prabir Das, Shivaprasad S. Goudar, Shiyam Sunder Tikmani, Imran Ahmed, Sarah Saleem, Fabian Esamai, Manolo Mazariegos, Sk Masum Billah, Rashidul Haque, Robert L. Goldenberg, Melissa Bauserman, Sherri Bucher, Nancy F. Krebs, Richard J. Derman, William A. Petri Jr, Marion Koso-Thomas, Jennifer J. Hemingway-Foday, Anna Aceituno, Elizabeth M. McClure, Doyle V. Ward, Sixto Leal, Waldemar A. Carlo, Patricia L. Hibberd, A-PLUS AMR Study Group

Peer Reviewers Invited

- Funders
- Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
- Foundation for the National Institutes of Health

PUBLISHED 24 Sep 2024

### **medRxiv**

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

[Accessed 05 Oct 2024]

*[Filter: All articles]*

### **[Factors affecting the impact of COVID-19 vaccination on post COVID-19 conditions among adults: A Systematic Literature Review](#)**

Abby E Rudolph, Nadine Al Akoury, Nataliga Bogdanenko, Kristen Markus, Isabelle Whittle, Olivia Wright, Hammam Haridy, Julia R Spinardi, John M McLaughlin, Moe H Kyaw

medRxiv 2024.10.02.24314603; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.10.02.24314603>

### **[Estimation of Rotavirus Vaccine Effectiveness Based on Whole Genome Sequences](#)**

Jiye Kwon, Jose Jaimes, Mary E. Wikswo, Eileen J. Klein, Mary Allen Staat, James D. Chappell, Geoffrey A. Weinberg, Christopher J. Harrison, Rangaraj Selvarangan, Coreen Johnson, Daniel M. Weinberger, Joshua L. Warren, Mathew D. Esona, Michael D. Bowen, Virginia E. Pitzer  
medRxiv 2024.10.03.24314836; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.10.03.24314836>

### **Reimagining COVID Vaccine Distribution: Reflecting on Waste and Equity**

Scott Greenhalgh, Maria Alva  
medRxiv 2024.10.04.24314854; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.10.04.24314854>

### **Economic Analysis of 15-valent and 20-valent Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccines among Older Adults in Ontario, Canada**

Gebremedhin B Gebretekle, Ryan O'Reilly, Stephen Mac, Shaza Fadel, Natasha S Crowcroft, Beate Sander  
medRxiv 2024.10.04.24314906; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.10.04.24314906>

### **Understanding the political economy of reforming global health initiatives – insights from global and country levels**

Sophie Witter, Natasha Palmer, Rosemary James, Shehla Zaidi, Severine Carillon, Rene English, Giulia Loffreda, Emilie Venables, Shifa Salman Habib, Jeff Tan, Fatouma Hane, Maria Paola Bertone, Seyed-Moeen Hosseinalipour, Valery Ridde, Asad Shoaib, Adama Faye, Lilian Dudley, Karen Daniels, Karl Blanchet  
medRxiv 2024.10.04.24314895; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.10.04.24314895>

Introduction Since 2000, the number and role of global health initiatives has been growing, with these platforms playing an increasingly important role in pooling and disbursing funds dedicated to specific global health priorities. While recognising their important contribution, there has also been a growth in concerns about distortions and inefficiencies linked to the GHIs and attempts to improve their alignment with country health systems. There is a growing momentum to adjust GHIs to the current broader range of global health threats, such as non-communicable diseases, humanitarian crises and climate change. However, these reform attempts hit up against political economy realities of the current structures...

### **A systematic review to identify research gaps in studies modeling vaccination strategies against *Neisseria* infections**

S Metelmann, A Thompson, A Donten, S Oke, S Sun, R Borrow, X Feng, R Vivancos, V Decraene, L Pellis, I Hall  
medRxiv 2024.09.28.24314414; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.09.28.24314414>

### **Systematic Characterization of the Effectiveness of Alignment in Large Language Models for Categorical Decisions**

Isaac Kohane  
medRxiv 2024.09.27.24314486; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.09.27.24314486>

#### ***Abstract***

As large language models (LLMs) are increasingly deployed in high-stakes domains like healthcare, understanding how well their decision-making aligns with human preferences and values becomes crucial, especially when we recognize that there is no single gold standard for these preferences. This paper applies a systematic methodology for evaluating preference alignment in LLMs on categorical decision-making with medical triage as a domain-specific use case. It also measures how effectively an alignment procedure will change the alignment of a specific model. Key to this methodology is a novel simple measure, the Alignment Compliance Index (ACI), that quantifies how effectively a LLM can be aligned to a given preference function or gold standard. Since the ACI measures the effect rather than the process of alignment, it is applicable to alignment methods beyond the in-context learning used in this study.

Using a dataset of simulated patient pairs, three frontier LLMs (GPT4o, Claude 3.5 Sonnet, and Gemini Advanced) were assessed on their ability to make triage decisions consistent with an expert clinician's preferences. The models' performance before and after alignment attempts was evaluated using various prompting strategies. The results reveal significant variability in alignment effectiveness across models and alignment approaches. Notably, models that performed well, as measured by ACI, pre-alignment sometimes degraded post-alignment, and small changes in the target preference function led to large shifts in model rankings.

The implicit ethical principles, as understood by humans, underlying the LLMs' decisions were also explored through targeted questioning. These findings highlight the complex, multifaceted nature of decision-making and the challenges of robustly aligning AI systems with human values. They also motivate the use of a practical set of methods and the ACI, in the near term, to understand the correspondence between the variety of human and LLM decision-making values in specific scenarios.

### **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 Format Filter: Pre-  
[No new digest content identified]

### **Wellcome Open Research**

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

[Accessed 05 Oct 2024]

*Selected Research*

*Research Article* Open Access

#### **REVISED - Investigating the feasibility and potential of combining industry AMR monitoring systems: a comparison with WHO GLASS**

[version 2; peer review: 2 approved]

Eve Rahbé \*, Aleksandra Kovacic \*, Lulla Opatowski, Quentin J. Leclerc

*Abstract*

*Background*

Efforts to estimate the global burden of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) have highlighted gaps in existing surveillance systems. Data gathered from hospital networks globally by pharmaceutical industries to monitor antibiotic efficacy in different bacteria represent an underused source of information to complete our knowledge of AMR burden.. We analysed available industry monitoring systems to assess to which extent combining them could help fill the gaps in our current understanding of AMR levels and trends.

*Study Protocol* Open Access

#### **REVISED - A protocol for a living mapping review of global research funding for infectious diseases with a pandemic potential – Pandemic PACT**

[version 2; peer review: 2 approved with reservations]

*Previous title: A protocol for a living mapping review of global research funding for infectious diseases with a pandemic potential – PANDEMIC PACT*

Olena Seminog, et al.

*Abstract*

The COVID CIRCLE initiative Research Project Tracker by UKCDR and GloPID-R and associated living mapping review (LMR) showed the importance of sharing and analysing data on research at the point of funding to improve coordination during a pandemic. This approach can also help with research preparedness for outbreaks and hence our new programme the Pandemic Preparedness: Analytical Capacity and Funding Tracking Programme (Pandemic PACT) has been established. The LMR described in this protocol builds on the previous UKCDR and GloPID-R COVID-19 Research Project database with



addition of the priority diseases from the WHO Blueprint list plus initial additions of pandemic influenza, mpox and plague. We capture data on new funding commitments directly from funders and map these against a core ontology (aligned to existing research roadmaps). We will analyse regularly collated new research funding commitments to provide an open, accessible, near-real-time overview of the funding landscape for a wide range of infectious disease and pandemic preparedness research and assess gaps. The periodicity of updates will be increased in the event of a major outbreak. We anticipate that this LMR and the associated online tool will be a useful resource for funders, policy makers and researchers. In the future, our work will inform a more coordinated approach to research funding by providing evidence and data, including identification of gaps in funding allocation with a particular focus on low- and middle-income countries.

*Research Article* Open Access

**REVISED - "Kuteteza": A community-engaged COVID-19 Prevention and Protection Initiative in Southern Malawi**

[version 2; peer review: 2 approved with reservations]

Donnie Mategula \*, et al., Kuteteza study group

*Abstract*

*Background*

The COVID-19 epidemic in Malawi involved almost 90,000 recorded cases and 2,638 deaths. In response to early concerns about vulnerable older people in rural areas, we developed 'Kuteteza' (meaning 'to protect' in the Chichewa language): a COVID-19 mitigation response project. Clinicians, public health professionals, and researchers collaborated with government and district-level staff in two Southern Malawi districts. Interventions included supported 'shielding' of older people – minimising social mixing whilst having their daily needs supported. Additional mitigation strategies included provision of masks, handwashing stations, and soap. Government partnerships allowed additional support for vulnerable groups. We present the findings of a realist project evaluation, assessing the feasibility of this approach.

\* \* \* \*

**Think Tanks**

**Brookings** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Research*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Center for Global Development** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*All Research*

*POLICY PAPERS*

**Conditioned Domestic "Co-financing" Policies in Global Health: A Landscape Analysis**

Susan Sparkes et al.

September 30, 2024

Conditioned domestic financing policy, referring to the domestic financing of health projects, programs, and national responses conditioned by global health funding agencies and recipient country governments, is one mechanism to promote sustainability and country ownership. We aim to understand how ...

*POLICY PAPERS*



## **A Liquidity Line for MDBs: SDR Rechanneling Revisited**

Andrew Powell

September 30, 2024

World leaders are calling on the multilateral development banks (MDBs) to greatly increase development and climate finance for developing countries using their capital more efficiently. MDBs hold large amounts of liquidity on their balance sheets as well as capital. The International Bank for Recons...

*BRIEFS*

## **Stopping Drug Resistance in Its Tracks: Ideas for the EU**

Katherine Klemperer et al.

September 30, 2024

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is responsible for a large and growing burden of mortality, morbidity, and economic impacts. This is due to three underlying problems: lack of access to essential antimicrobials, insufficient stewardship of these drugs to prevent overuse and misuse, and a dearth of inn...

**Chatham House** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Selected Analysis, Comment, Events*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Council on Foreign Relations** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*New Releases [Selected]*

*No new digest content identified.*

**CSIS** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Reports [Selected]*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Kaiser Family Foundation** [to 05 Oct 2024]

[https://www.kff.org/search/?post\\_type=press-release](https://www.kff.org/search/?post_type=press-release)

*Newsroom*

*No new digest content identified.*

**McKinsey Global Institute** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Latest Research*

*No new digest content identified.*

**ODI [Overseas Development Institute]** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Publications [Selected]*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Pew Research Center** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Latest Publications [Selected]*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Rand** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Published Research [Selected]*

**Impact of Climate Change on Health and Drug Demand**

The authors describe a model for estimating the effects of climate change on the prevalence of four common chronic conditions and the resulting effects on demand for the drugs to treat them.

Oct 4, 2024

**Forecasting the Fallout from AMR: Averting the Health and Economic Impacts Through One Health Policy and Investment**

This brief presents policy recommendations on how to mitigate the potential economic impacts of antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

Oct 3, 2024

**Forecasting the Fallout from AMR: Economic Impacts of Antimicrobial Resistance in Food-Producing Animals**

This study aims to understand the economic burden of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and antimicrobial use (AMU) in livestock, and to present recommendations on how to mitigate the potential economic impacts of AMR.

Oct 3, 2024

**Urban Institute** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

**New Research Publications – Selected**

*Research Report*

**Strategies to Support Young People's Access to Public Benefits: Findings from a Literature Scan**

September 30, 2024

**World Economic Forum** [to 05 Oct 2024]

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

*Media [Selected]*

*No new digest content identified.*

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**Public Consultations/Call for Inputs/Call for Papers**

## **Call for Public Comment: General Principles on Plan, Design, and Analysis of Pharmacoepidemiological Studies that Utilize Real-World Data for Safety Assessment of Medicines.**

ICH [International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use]

The guideline will focus on non-interventional pharmacoepidemiological studies using Real-World Data (RWD) and will include basic principles that may apply to these studies when real-world data elements are included.

*Public consultation dates [announced to date]:*

ANVISA, Brazil - Deadline for comments by 24 August 2024

FDA, United States - Deadline for comments by 3 September 2024

MFDS, Republic of Korea - Deadline for comments by 15 July 2024

MHLW/PMDA, Japan - Deadline for comments by 28 July 2024

NMPA, China - Deadline for comments by 12 October 2024

TFDA, Chinese Taipei - Deadline for comments by 30 September 2024

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

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

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

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