



Vaccines and Global Health: The Week in Review
17 May 2025 :: Issue 799
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.

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Contents [click to move among sections]

:: [Milestones, Perspectives](#)

:: [WHO](#)

:: [Organization Announcements](#)

:: [Journal Watch](#)

:: [Pre-Print Servers](#)

:: [Think Tanks](#)

:: [Public Consultations/Call for Inputs/Call for Papers](#)

Milestones, Perspectives

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Seventy-eighth World Health Assembly – #WHA78

19–27 May 2025, Geneva.

The theme of this year's Health Assembly is: One World for Health. Proceedings will be webcast live from this [web page](#). Simultaneous interpretation will be available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

Key documents

[All WHA78 documents](#) [limited documentation posted at 17 May 2025]

:: [A78/1 Rev.1](#) – Provisional agenda

:: [A78/1 Rev.1 Add.1](#) – Proposal for supplementary agenda item

Proposal for the WHO Pandemic Agreement

:: [A78/10](#) - Intergovernmental Negotiating Body to draft and negotiate a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response

Outcome of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body: agreed text on Wednesday, 16 April 2025 at 01:57 CEST NOTE: Consistency review (25 April 2025]

Side events

[WHA78 official side events calendar](#)

[WHA78 side events and convenings](#)

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One World for Health: The Seventy-eighth World Health Assembly convenes from 19 to 27 May 2025

16 May 2025 *WHO News release*

...A defining moment: the Pandemic Agreement

A highly anticipated moment of the WHA78 will be the consideration of the Pandemic Agreement, a landmark proposal developed over three years of intense negotiations by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body, composed of all WHO Member States. **The adoption of the agreement is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to safeguard the world from a repeat of the suffering caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The proposal will be the second ever presented for approval under Article 19 of the WHO Constitution,** which gives Member States the authority to reach agreements on global health.

"This year's World Health Assembly will be truly historic with countries, after 3 years of negotiations, considering for adoption the first global compact to better protect people from pandemics," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General. "The Pandemic Agreement can make the world safer by boosting collaboration among countries fairly in the preparedness, prevention and response to pandemics."

Key priorities

WHO's sustainable financing is a key priority of the Health Assembly. Member States will consider a scheduled 20% increase in assessed contributions (membership fees), towards the next Programme Budget 2026–2027 (PB26–27). The PB26–27, also for approval by the Health Assembly, is the first full biennium under WHO's [Fourteenth General Programme of Work](#) (GPW14), WHO's strategy for global health for 2025–2028. The Programme Budget for 2026–2027 was under consultation by

Member States, to prioritize activities and adjust the budget to the current financial realities, by reducing it by 22%, to US\$ 4.267 billion, from the original proposed budget of US\$ 5.3 billion.

Reprioritization of WHO's work, including cost-saving measures and budget adjustments, will also apply to the current year, 2025. The aim is to focus on WHO's core work and increase efficiency. The reprioritization is a critical step to aligning WHO's resources with the most urgent global health needs and getting health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) back on track.

...Tuesday, 20 May, there will be a high-level pledging moment for the Investment Round, where Member States and philanthropies are expected to announce funding for WHO.

Member States will assess progress made over the past year, including a review of the 2024 Results Report – the final report measuring progress toward WHO's Triple Billion targets under its Thirteenth General Programme of Work.

Other agenda highlights

The Health Assembly will consider approximately 75 items and sub-items and is expected to approve more than 40 resolutions/decisions, many of which are put forward by the Executive Board at its 156th session (EB156), where they have been previously discussed.

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WHO – “Major Structural Realignment”

WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the 42nd meeting of the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board – 14 May 2025

14 May 2025

[Excerpts]

Chair Dr Cathrine Lofthus, Vice-Chair Dr Ibrahima Sy, Members of the PBAC, Dear colleagues and friends...

Every PBAC meeting, every Executive Board meeting and every World Health Assembly is significant, but this year, they feel especially so. **Next week, Member States will consider two major agenda items that are of huge importance both now and for the future of WHO and its work.**

First, the Pandemic Agreement.

I thank Member States for your commitment to negotiating this landmark Agreement over the past three-and-a-half years, and for the spirit of collaboration in which you worked. You have sent a powerful message that multilateralism is alive and kicking, and that in these divided times, countries can still find a way to find common ground. You are making history.

The second major item on next week's agenda – and on yours this week – is of course the Programme Budget, including the next increase in assessed contributions. Once again, I thank Member States for the historic commitment you made in 2022 to progressively increase assessed contributions to 50% of the budget. Already, the first increase has made a huge difference. If it had not happened, our current financial situation would be much worse – US\$ 300 million worse.

It is essential, therefore, that Member States approve this next increase, to make another step towards securing the long-term financial sustainability and independence of WHO.

Still, the loss of U.S. funding, combined with reductions in official development assistance by some other countries, mean we are facing a salary gap for the next biennium of more than US\$ 500 million.

As you know, we have proposed a reduced budget of US\$ 4.2 billion for the 2026-2027 biennium – a 21% reduction on the original proposed budget of US\$ 5.3 billion. You approved US\$ 4.9 billion, but we thought that would still be significantly high for the current reality. That's why we revised it to US 4.2 billion.

Thanks to the Investment Round, and assuming Member States approve the increase in assessed contributions, **we are confident that we have already secured more than US\$ 2.6 billion, or 60 percent of the funding for the next biennium, 2026-2027.** That leaves an anticipated **budget gap of more than US\$ 1.7 billion.**

We know that in the current landscape, mobilizing that sum will be a challenge. But we think it is a challenge we can meet. On that note, I remind you of the Investment Round event on the 20th of May, during the Health Assembly. Some Member States have suggested that the US\$ 4.2 billion budget may be too ambitious, given the current landscape for resource mobilization.

We understand that point, but US\$ 4.2 billion dollars – or US\$ 2.1 billion a year – is not ambitious.

For an organization working on the ground in more than 150 countries, with the mandate and mission that Member States have given us, an annual budget of US\$ 2.1 billion dollars is very modest, to say the least. At current exchange rates, the HUG hospital here in Geneva operates on the same budget – slightly larger than WHO, in fact.

How can WHO be expected to serve the whole world on the same budget as one hospital in a mid-sized European city? Especially at a time when many countries are facing severe disruptions to health services due to a sudden and sharp drop in official development assistance.

We see people missing life-saving treatment, increased out-of-pocket health spending, closures of health facilities and job losses for health workers. These countries – and their people – need a strong WHO now more than ever. I hope you agree with me.

And yet, our reduced budget means we will not be able to support them to the extent they need. Already, a US\$ 4.2 billion budget means some extremely difficult choices for the Secretariat.

As you know, we have been engaging in a major structural realignment, guided by an in-depth analysis of priorities, and trying to use the current crisis as an opportunity for the Organization. **We have also been exploring cost-saving measures** including relocating some functions, offering early retirement to eligible staff, and shrinking our footprint. We expect these measures will produce more than US\$ 165 million in savings by the end of the year.

I also met recently with the heads of 12 of our sister agencies and global health initiatives, to discuss how we can work together better to realize synergies. This includes sharing information on country gaps and priorities, identifying key countries for joint support, and taking steps to refine roles and mechanisms to coordinate support.

And just last week I met with the UN Secretary-General and heads of other UN agencies to discuss how to adapt our multilateral institutions to new realities, by leveraging the strategic shifts envisioned by the UN80 initiative.

In short, we are leaving no stone unturned in our efforts to improve cost efficiency. But even so, the hard truth is that we need to reduce salary expenditures by 25%. That does not mean that we necessarily cut 25% of staff across the Organization.

But make no mistake: we are saying goodbye to a significant number of highly experienced, capable and dedicated members of our workforce. That means careers interrupted and lives disrupted. In order to support staff during this difficult period, we have introduced a range of support mechanisms, and we are committed to supporting the mental health and well-being of all our colleagues.

We anticipate that the most significant staff reductions will be at headquarters, while regional offices will also be affected to varying degrees. The prioritization exercise has informed the development of a new streamlined structure for headquarters, which I announced last month, as you remember.

The new structure reduces senior management from 14 to 7, and the number of departments from 76 to 34. The regional offices are finalizing their structures, which are aligned with headquarters.

This morning, I am pleased to announce the makeup of our new executive management team, which will take effect from the 16th of June.

- **Dr Jeremy Farrar** will become Assistant Director-General for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention and Control;
- **Dr Yukiko Nakatani** will become Assistant Director-General for Health Systems;
- **Dr Chikwe Ihekweazu** will become executive director of the Health Emergencies Programme;
- **Dr Sylvie Briand** will become Chief Scientist;
- **Dr Razia Pendse** will remain Chef de Cabinet;
- And **Mr Raul Thomas** will remain Assistant Director-General for Business Operations and Compliance.

The new team has been chosen after very careful consideration, and to ensure gender balance and geographical representation. This was, as you can imagine, an extremely difficult and painful decision for me, as it is for every manager in our organization who is having to decide who stays, and who goes. I thank the outgoing members of our senior leadership team for their dedication, leadership and service. I wish them every success in the next chapter of their lives and careers.

I am confident that this new team, under the restructured organization, is best positioned to now guide WHO as we face the challenges of the coming years.

Decisions about which directors will lead which departments will be made following the World Health Assembly. That, I know, will also be tough, given the downsizing from 76 to 34 departments. I emphasize that our focus on strengthening our country offices is unchanged, although we do plan to close some offices in high-income countries that no longer need in-country support. But let's be clear: reducing the scale of our workforce means reducing the scale and scope of our work, and where necessary, adjusting the targets of the 14th General Programme of Work.

That, I think, also means difficult choices for you, our Member States, because each of you, and rightly so, have your own needs and priorities. But to be blunt, we cannot do everything. Time and again, Member States have emphasized the importance of maintaining our focus on core functions.

We therefore seek your support in refraining from adding more work at a time when we are scaling down to ensure we deliver on those core functions. Of course, we will continue to seek your input and support as we make this transition over the coming weeks and months.

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Thank you all once again for your engagement in this committee, and your commitment to building a stronger WHO, and as always, for your guidance.

I thank you.

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Expression of gratitude to members of WHO senior leadership team

Statement from the WHO Director-General, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, concerning the members of the WHO senior leadership team who will be leaving their positions in June 2025.

15 May 2025

Statement, Geneva

As we make this transition to the new leadership team, I want to express my sincere appreciation for the remarkable contributions of those colleagues who will be leaving their executive management positions on 16 June 2025.

I am truly grateful to:

Dr Michael J. Ryan, Deputy Director-General and Executive Director for Health Emergencies, Preparedness, and Response. Mike planned to leave over two years ago but stayed on at my request, and I am very thankful for that. His steady presence has been instrumental during our toughest times, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. His dedication to emergency response has changed how we work, helping us face unprecedented challenges with compassion and effectiveness. I also appreciate his leadership during the prioritization process in these difficult times.

Dr Bruce Aylward, Assistant Director-General for UHC/Life Course for his key role in responding to public health emergencies like Ebola and COVID-19. He showed a unique talent for building partnerships through the ACT-A initiative, driving forward WHO's transformation agenda, and leading the development of the Fourteenth General Programme of Work, 2025–2028.

Dr Samira Asma, Assistant Director-General for Data, Analytics, and Delivery for Impact, for her strong commitment to improving the role of data, evidence, and measurable impact at the country level, and for establishing the WHO data hub.

Dr Catharina Cora Boehme, Assistant Director-General for External Relations and Governance, for her leadership in creating and driving the first-ever Investment Round aimed at sustainable financing for WHO and her earlier role as Chef de Cabinet.

Dr Li Ailan, Assistant Director-General for UHC/Healthier Populations, for her incredible leadership in WHO's Healthier Populations initiative. Her experience at both regional and country levels has been invaluable in ensuring our focus remains on prevention and addressing health issues that affect people's lives.

Dr Jérôme Salomon, Assistant Director-General, UHC/Communicable and Noncommunicable Diseases for his contribution in advancing the agenda on communicable diseases, noncommunicable diseases, mental health and neglected tropical diseases across silos to better integrate services and strengthen health systems.

As our colleagues move on to their next chapters, I want to thank them, once again, for their dedication to our mission and for their exceptional leadership and service.

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World Health Statistics

[World health statistics 2025: monitoring health for the SDGs, sustainable development goals](#)

Global report | 15 May 2025 :: 88 pages [Download \(5.7 MB\)](#)

Overview

The World health statistics report is the annual compilation of health and health-related indicators, which has been published by the World Health Organization since 2005. The 2025 edition consolidates data for health-related indicators from the Sustainable Development Goals. It assesses progress towards the globally agreed targets, describes key challenges for the years ahead and includes reviews on global health topics such as healthy life expectancy and premature mortality, the Triple Billion targets, and inequalities in immunization.

See: pp.59+

Chapter 4. Inequality in immunization

- 4.1 The importance of vaccine equity
- 4.2 Inequalities in immunization coverage persist within countries
- 4.3 How inequalities have changed over time
- 4.4 Barriers to immunization
- 4.5 Data availability to monitor inequalities in immunization

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[WHO warns of slowing global health gains in new statistics report](#)

News release, 15 May 2025 Geneva

WHO published its World health statistics report 2025, revealing the **deeper health impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic on loss of lives, longevity and overall health and well-being.**

In just two years, **between 2019 and 2021, global life expectancy fell by 1.8 years—the largest drop in recent history— reversing a decade of health gains.** Increased levels of anxiety and depression linked to COVID-19 reduced global healthy life expectancy by 6 weeks—erasing most of the gains made from lower mortality due to noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) during the same period.

The report also summarizes **global data on progress towards WHO's triple billion targets,** revealing impacts of not just the pandemic shock but also a longer trend of slowing progress starting before the pandemic, followed by a slower recovery since. WHO warns that overall progress is under threat and urgent global action is needed to get back on track.

"Behind every data point is a person—a child who didn't reach their fifth birthday, a mother lost in childbirth, a life cut short by a preventable disease," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General. "These are avoidable tragedies. They point to critical gaps in access, protection, and investment—especially for women and girls. Health progress is slowing. Every government has a responsibility to act, with urgency, commitment, and accountability to the people they serve."

Health progress and setbacks

The World health statistics 2025 report presents mixed progress towards WHO's Triple Billion targets. An estimated 1.4 billion more people were living healthier by the end of 2024, surpassing the 1 billion target. The progress in healthier lives was driven by reduction in tobacco use, improved air quality and better access to water, hygiene, and sanitation. But progress towards increased coverage of essential health services and protection from emergencies lagged; only 431 million more people gained access to essential health services without financial hardship, and close to 637 million more people were better protected from health emergencies.

Maternal and child deaths are not falling fast enough to reach global targets. Progress has stalled, putting millions of lives at risk. This slowdown follows two decades of remarkable gains: between 2000 and 2023, maternal deaths dropped by over 40% and child deaths under 5 years of age more than halved. But underinvestment in primary health care, shortages of skilled health workers, and gaps in services like immunization and safe childbirth are now holding countries back.

Without urgent course correction to meet the 2030 targets, the world risks losing the chance to prevent an additional 700 000 maternal deaths and 8 million under-5 deaths between 2024 and 2030...

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Featured Journal Content

Lancet Global Health

May 2025 Volume 13 Number 5 e778-e973

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

Articles

[The impact of aid sanctions on maternal and child mortality, 1990–2019: a panel analysis](#)

Ruth M Gibson, et al.

Summary

Background

Aid sanctions are a type of financial punishment imposed on a country by other countries or international organisations in response to a political coup, armed conflict, or human rights abuses. Humanitarian catastrophes in Burkina Faso, Sudan, and Myanmar have brought aid sanctions to the centre of the foreign affairs strategy debate because of their inadvertent negative effects on human health. Our analysis investigates the effects of aid sanctions from 1990 to 2019 on maternal and child mortality. These questions are particularly relevant in the context of the abrupt shift in US foreign aid policy in 2025, leading to aid prohibitions that might resemble aid sanctions in their effects.

Methods

Data were drawn from a broad set of sources, including population health metrics databases, established sanctions databases, and a novel global dataset on aid sanctions created for this study. We assessed the prevalence of the use of aid sanctions worldwide during 1990–2019 and estimated their impact on official development assistance (ODA) and development assistance for health (DAH). We investigated the effect of aid sanctions on infant (age <1 year), children younger than 5 years (hereafter referred to as under-5), maternal (within 42 days of the end of pregnancy), and all-age mortality rates using panel difference-in-differences ordinary least squares estimation. We applied linear regression methods and included country and year fixed effects, country-specific time trends, and multiple control variables. We also conducted a series of sensitivity analyses, including entropy balancing, to confirm the validity of our results.

Findings

During our study period, 67 low-income or middle-income countries (LMICs) and sovereign territories (hereafter referred to as countries) were targeted by 88 unique aid sanction episodes. Relative to our

control group of 66 never-sanctioned countries, aid sanctions reduced ODA by an estimated US\$213·07 million per year (95% CI 502·28 to –76·12) for the average target country and reduced DAH by \$16·42 million (32·57 to 0·27)—a 17% reduction in DAH. Aid sanctions resulted in an additional 129·3 infant deaths per 100 000 livebirths (11·7 to 246·9), an additional 47·1 under-5 deaths per 100 000 livebirths (–2·8 to 97·0), and an additional 10·9 (2·2–19·6) maternal deaths per 100 000 livebirths, per year. Relative to mean in-sample mortality rates, aid sanctions thus increased infant, under-5, and maternal mortality rates by 3·1%, 3·6%, and 6·4%, respectively, on an annual basis.

Interpretation

Over the period 1990–2019, infant, under-5, and maternal mortality rates among LMICs declined at average annualised rates of 2·6%, 3·2%, and 2·0%, respectively. Aid sanction episodes lasting 5 years—the median duration observed in our sample—would thus negate nearly 30% of the overall improvements in infant and under-5 mortality seen in the average LMIC over this period and approximately 60% of the improvements in maternal mortality. Our findings suggest that aid sanctions are leading to increases in child and maternal mortality via reductions to ODA and DAH and they can inadvertently compound human suffering. This research provides quantitative evidence to support growing legislative awareness of the importance of assessing health impacts while aid sanctions are imposed, and highlights the need to monitor the consequences of foreign aid policies by donor countries, such as foreign aid prohibitions and restrictions.

Funding

Center for Innovation in Global Health and the Maternal and Child Health Research Institute, Stanford University

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Polio – PHEIC

Polio this week – 14 May 2025

Headlines [Selected]

:: World Health Assembly (WHA) convenes in Geneva next week: health ministers and leaders from around the world will convene at WHO Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, next week, to discuss global public health policy. Among a wide range of topics, health leaders will review the global status of the polio eradication effort and evaluate steps that need to be taken to achieving lasting success. A report on the global effort, previously presented to the Executive Board in February, will help inform Member State and delegate discussions.

:: The role of science and global cooperation in winning the fight against polio: Dr Vachagan Harutyunyan, Team Leader for Polio Operations and Data and Information Systems at WHO, offers his views on the role of science, ingenuity and global cooperation in securing success in polio eradication.

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

- Pakistan: eleven WPV1-positive environmental samples
- Algeria: three cVDPV2-positive environmental samples
- Burkina Faso: one cVDPV2 case
- Chad: one cVDPV2-positive environmental sample
- Côte d'Ivoire: one cVDPV2 case
- Ethiopia: five cVDPV2 cases
- Somalia: one cVDPV2-positive environmental sample
- Sudan: two cVDPV2 cases

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mPox – PHEIC

Multi-country outbreak of mpox, External situation report #52 - 14 May 2025

KEY FIGURES				
Reporting period: 1 January 2022 – 31 March 2025				
Area	Number of reported confirmed cases		Number of deaths among confirmed cases	Number of reporting countries
Global	138 029		317	132
Reporting period: 1 January 2024 – 4 May 2025				
Area	Number of reported confirmed cases		Number of deaths among confirmed cases ¹	
	2024	2025	2024	2025
Africa	19 179	14 758	51	67
Democratic Republic of the Congo ²	14 238	7411	27	22
Uganda	1352	4590	13	28
Sierra Leone	0	1387	0	10
Burundi	2946	937	1	0
Reporting period: last six weeks, 10 March – 20 April 2025				
Africa	4517		18	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	1610		2	
Uganda	1307		4	
Sierra Leone	1275		8	
Burundi	185		0	

Highlights

:: Cases of mpox due to clade Ib monkeypox virus (MPXV) continue to be reported primarily in Africa, where ten countries have reported community transmission of this strain in the past six weeks.

:: The Democratic Republic of the Congo continues to report the highest number of cumulative confirmed mpox cases in Africa in 2025, with important reporting and other information gaps emerging due to in part to a reduction in testing and confirmation capacity. Clades Ia and Ib MPXV continue to circulate in the country.

:: A downward trend in confirmed cases has also been reported in Uganda in recent weeks. However, the country continues to observe a large outbreak, reporting about 200 new confirmed cases per week...

...Mpox vaccination in the African Region

As of 5 May 2025, **seven African countries have initiated mpox vaccination, all using MVA-BN vaccine. A total of 668 039 doses have been administered during the current outbreak response.** Notably, 87% of these doses have been administered in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the country reporting the highest number of cases.

Given the supply-constrained context of current outbreaks in Africa, WHO recommends the off-label use of a single dose or intradermal fractional dosing of MVA-BN vaccine. At its March 2025 meeting, the WHO Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE) re-emphasized the importance of dose-sparing strategies during times of vaccine shortages in outbreak

response situations. This approach is also reflected in the recently updated Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan (SPRP) for mpox.

Below is a summary of countries that have started mpox vaccination, the number of doses administered to date, and the target populations:

- **Democratic Republic of the Congo:** Vaccination began on 5 October 2024, with 582 196 doses administered to date. During phase 1 (October 2024 – 21 February 2025) a two-dose regimen was administered to individuals aged 18 years and older targeting healthcare and frontline workers, contacts of mpox cases, and key populations including sex workers, men who have sex with men, hunters, and eco-guards/wildlife-rangers. In phase 2 (from 22 February 2025 onwards), the country shifted to a single-dose strategy for individuals aged 1 year and above; this strategy was deployed in the 15 most affected health areas (of 422) across five of 35 health zones in Kinshasa, while contacts of cases were also vaccinated outside of these areas. In view of the currently limited availability of vaccines in the country, the mpox vaccination strategy is being adapted to the context even further and microplanning is ongoing in several provinces. In April 2025, the Congo National Pharmacovigilance Center (CNPV) conducted training of enrollers who will conduct MVA-BN vaccine safety monitoring studies using a country-tailored WHO cohort event monitoring protocol.
- **Uganda:** Since 2 February 2025, a total of 62 021 vaccine doses have been administered. Vaccination with single-dose MVA-BN focused on individuals aged 12 years or more from the following groups: key populations (sex workers, men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, bisexual, transgender, queer individuals), long-distance drivers, fishermen, health workers, and contacts of cases.
- **Rwanda:** Since 17 September 2024, 11 061 doses have been administered (9921 first doses and 1840 second doses). Target populations included individuals aged 18 years and older among health workers, contacts of cases, and other high-risk groups.
- **Nigeria:** Since 25 November 2024, 7959 doses have been administered (4329 first doses and 3630 second doses) across six states. Vaccination targets individuals 18 years and older, including health workers, contacts of cases, and groups at risk of severe disease such as immunocompromised individuals. Currently, vaccination is on hold, pending availability of funds to continue activities.
- **Sierra Leone:** Since 27 March 2025, 2807 doses have been administered using a single-dose strategy. Target groups include individuals 12 years and older among health and frontline workers, sex workers, contacts of cases, and other high-risk populations (like people living with HIV).
- **Liberia:** Since 16 April 2025, 1 895 doses have been administered. Target groups include individuals 18 years and older, including health workers, contacts of cases, and other high-risk key populations.
- **Central African Republic:** Since 18 January 2025, 100 doses have been administered, primarily to contacts of confirmed cases. Vaccination activities have been paused since no cases have been reported in the last weeks.

Other countries in the African Region are expected to start mpox vaccination in the coming weeks...

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Contents [click to move among sections]

- :: [*Milestones, Perspectives*](#)
- :: [*WHO*](#)
- :: [*Organization Announcements*](#)
- :: [*Journal Watch*](#)
- :: [*Pre-Print Servers*](#)

.....
.....

WHO & Regional Offices [to 17 May 2025]

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

Selected News/Announcements/Statements

16 May 2025 *News release*

[One World for Health: The Seventy-eighth World Health Assembly convenes from 19 to 27 May 2025](#)

15 May 2025 *News release*

[WHO warns of slowing global health gains in new statistics report](#)

15 May 2025 *Statement*

[Statement on the antigen composition of COVID-19 vaccines](#)

15 May 2025 *Statement*

[Expression of gratitude to members of WHO senior leadership team](#)

12 May 2025 *News release*

[People in Gaza starving, sick and dying as aid blockade continues](#)

12 May 2025 *News release*

[WHO Results Report 2024 shows health progress across regions overcoming critical challenges](#)

12 May 2025 *News release*

[Nursing workforce grows, but inequities threaten global health goals](#)

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WHO Regional Offices

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

WHO African Region AFRO

:: 16 May 2025

[Fighting cholera in the front lines of Angola's hardest hit provinces](#)

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO

:: 16 May 2025

[Health leaders from the Americas and around the world gather at the 78th World Health Assembly with a call for unity in health](#)

May 16, 2025 – The 78th World Health Assembly (WHA78) will take place from May 19 to 27 in Geneva, Switzerland, bringing together global health authorities, including health ministers from the Americas, to discuss a key agenda for global health. Under the theme “One World for Health”, delegates meeting at the Palais des Nations are expected to...

:: 15 May 2025

[Experts meet to discuss advances in wastewater and environmental surveillance in Latin American and the Caribbean](#)

Panama City, Panama, 12 May 2025 – The promotion of wastewater and environmental surveillance (WES) as essential tools for public health preparedness and response was top of the agenda at the GLOWACON Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean, which concluded last Friday in Panama City. The two-day conference, co-organised by the...

:: 15 May 2025

[PAHO's 2024 annual report details health security achievements in the Americas](#)

Washington, D.C., 15 May 2025 (PAHO) – The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) released its 2024 annual report documenting its work to strengthen health security across the Americas amid infectious disease outbreaks, the Region's heavy reliance on imported vaccines and pharmaceuticals, and persistent systemic inequities. Throughout the year,...

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

:: 14 May 2025

[Strengthening WASH and IPC as major cornerstones of public health](#)

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WHO - Emergency situation reports

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

[Multi-country outbreak of mpox, External situation report #52 - 14 May 2025](#)

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Disease Outbreak News (DONs)

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

[16 May 2025 | Yellow fever - Region of the Americas](#)

[13 May 2025 | Measles - Morocco](#)

[12 May 2025 | Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia](#)

[12 May 2025 | Chikungunya - La Réunion and Mayotte](#)

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Weekly Epidemiological Record

Vol. 100, Nos. 20/21, pp. 165–192 16 May 2025

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

:: Dracunculiasis eradication: global surveillance summary, 2024

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New WHO Publications

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

Selected

16 May 2025

[**Dracunculiasis eradication: global surveillance summary, 2024**](#)

15 May 2025

[**World health statistics 2025: monitoring health for the SDGs, sustainable development goals**](#)

14 May 2025

[**WHO guideline on balanced national controlled medicines policies to ensure medical access and safety:...**](#)

13 May 2025

[**WHO Technical Advisory Group on the responsible use of the life sciences and dual-use research: report...**](#)

13 May 2025

[**WHO Global Network of National Quality Control Laboratories for Pharmaceuticals: first meeting report,...**](#)

12 May 2025

[**Report of the tenth meeting of the WHO Strategic and Technical Advisory Group of Experts for Maternal,...**](#)

12 May 2025

[**Guidance for countries to assess adolescent health and well-being**](#)

12 May 2025

[**Measuring the progress and impact of the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing \(2021-2030\): framework and indicators...**](#)

12 May 2025

[**State of the world's nursing report 2025**](#)

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USA – HHS, FDA, CDC+

Editor's Note:

We employ bolded red text below to identify observations we assess might be useful to readers. Please see expanded treatment at [Milestones](#), [Perspectives](#) above.

HHS

News

[**HHS, FDA Issue RFI on Deregulatory Plan to Lower Costs and Empower Providers**](#)

May 13, 2025 Press Release

WASHINGTON, DC—MAY 13, 2025— The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) today announced, links to an external website, opens in a new tab the launch of a public Request for Information (RFI) to identify and eliminate outdated or unnecessary regulations. The initiative is part of a broader federal effort to reduce regulatory burdens

and increase transparency, in alignment with President Trump's [Executive Order 14192](#), [links to an external website](#), "Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation."...

NIH [to 17 May 2025]

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

News Releases

[Infant with rare, incurable disease is first to successfully receive personalized gene therapy treatment](#)

May 15, 2025 — NIH-supported gene-editing platform lays groundwork to rapidly develop treatments for other rare genetic diseases.

FDA

Press Announcements

[May 13, 2025 - HHS, FDA Issue RFI on Deregulatory Plan to Lower Costs and Empower Providers](#)

CDC/ACIP [U.S.] [to 17 May 2025]

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

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

[ACIP Meetings](#) [to 17 May 2025]

Next ACIP Meetings

:: June 25-26

:: October 22-23

MMWR Weekly

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/index2025.html>

May 15, 2025 / No. 17

[PDF of this issue](#)

No new digest content identified.

FDA VRBPAC

Advisory Committee Calendar

[Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee May 22, 2025 Meeting Announcement - 05/22/2025](#)

Agenda

On May 22, 2025, the committee will meet in open session to discuss and make recommendations on the selection of the 2025-2026 Formula for COVID-19 vaccines for use in the United States. The meeting presentations will be heard, viewed, captioned, and recorded through an online teleconferencing and/or video conferencing platform.

National Vaccine Program

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

Upcoming Meetings/Latest Updates

No 2025 meeting dates posted.

Advisory Commission on Childhood Vaccines (ACCV)

<https://www.hrsa.gov/advisory-committees/vaccines/meetings>

Next ACCV Meeting - TBD

We are rescheduling the ACCV Meetings originally planned for Wednesday, January 29, 2025, and Thursday, January 30, 2025. Once the new dates are confirmed, information will be available here on the ACCV website and announced in the Federal Register.

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Europe

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

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

News/Updates/Reports/Publications [Selected]

Surveillance and monitoring

Communicable disease threats report, 10-16 May 2025, week 20

16 May 2025

This issue of the ECDC Communicable Disease Threats Report (CDTR) covers the period 10-16 May 2025 and includes updates on respiratory virus epidemiology in the EU/EEA, Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV), avian influenza A(H10N3 and H9N2) and diphtheria, chikungunya virus disease, measles, and Nipah virus disease.

European Medicines Agency [EMA]

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

News & Press Releases

ETF recommends updating COVID-19 vaccines to target new LP.8.1 variant

Updated vaccines will help maintain protection against disease as virus continues to evolve

16 May 2025

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Africa CDC [to 17 May 2025]

<https://africacdc.org/>

Press Releases, Statements [Selected]

Africa CDC Weekly Brief | 5 – 11 May 2025

12 May 2025

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China CDC+

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

National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China [to 17 May 2025]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

National Medical Products Administration – PRC [to 17 May 2025]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

China CDC

CCDC Weekly Reports: Current Volume (7)

2025-05-16 / No. 20

[View PDF of this issue](#)

No new digest content 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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Organization Announcements

Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group [to 17 May 2025]

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

[Allen Institute launches CellScapes initiative to transform our understanding of how human cells build tissues and organs](#)

May 15, 2025

The Allen Institute today announced the launch of CellScapes, a bold new research initiative aimed at revolutionizing how scientists understand and predict the behavior of human cells as they work together to build tissues and organs. The goal: to uncover the rules and principles of how cells cooperate to make decisions in the body and provide scientists with the tools to predict—and even design—how cells behave together in health and disease.

CellScapes introduces a groundbreaking approach that will combine cutting-edge imaging and powerful computer models to track how cells change, communicate, and organize.

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 17 May 2025]

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

Press Releases & Statements

No new digest content identified.

Bill & Melinda Gates Medical Research Institute [to 17 May 2025]

<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 17 May 2025]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Chan Zuckerberg Initiative [to 17 May 2025]

<https://chanzuckerberg.com/newsroom/>

Newsroom

May 14, 2025 · 3 min read

[Somite AI Announces Series A to Revolutionize Cell Therapy with AI-driven Foundation Models](#)

CIDRAP – Vaccine Inventory Project

<https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/vaccine-integrity-project>

News brief

No new digest content identified.

CEPI – Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations [to 17 May 2025]

<http://cepi.net/>

CEPI News, Blog

News

[Leading health partners join coalition set up to combat deadly Lassa fever](#)

The organisations will work with CEPI and WAHO to advance the fight against Lassa fever.

14 May 2025

Three leading West African health partners— Corona Management Systems, Nigeria Health Watch, and Bloom Public Health —have officially joined the Lassa fever Coalition, an instrumental WAHO-led initiative supported by CEPI, to advance the fight against the deadly haemorrhagic Lassa fever and accelerate the development and future equitable introduction of Lassa fever vaccines across the affected region...

CIOMS – COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF MEDICAL SCIENCES [to 17 May 2025]

<https://cioms.ch/>

News; Publications; Events

[Public Consultation - Artificial Intelligence in Pharmacovigilance](#)

CIOMS Working Group XIV

You are invited to participate in the Public Consultation during 1 May – 6 June 2025. All comments on the [draft report](#) of the CIOMS Working Group XIV on Artificial intelligence in pharmacovigilance must be provided using this [comment form](#) in Word format.

DARPA – Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency [U.S.] [to 17 May 2025]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

DNDI – Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative [to 17 May 2025]

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

Press Releases

Press releases 13 May 2025

First all-oral treatment for a rare but deadly strain of sleeping sickness now available and being used to treat patients in endemic countries in Africa

Duke Global Health Innovation Center [to 17 May 2025]

<https://dukeghic.org/>

News

Mpox Transparency and Accountability for the Global Response

May 15, 2025

Welcome to the fourteenth issue of our report, "Mpox: Transparency and Accountability for the Global Response." In the wake of the U.S. health agencies' communications and foreign aid fre...

EDCTP [to 17 May 2025]

<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

15 May 2025

New antiretroviral combinations show promise for children living with HIV

Emory Vaccine Center [to 17 May 2025]

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

Vaccine Center News

No new digest content identified.

European Vaccine Initiative [to 17 May 2025]

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

Latest News, Events

No new digest content identified.

Fondation Mérieux [to 17 May 2025]

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

News, Events

Événement co-organisé par la Fondation Mérieux

3ème édition du cours avancé sur l'épidémiologie dans les situations d'urgence complexes

7-11 juillet 2025 - Centre des Pensières, Veyrier-du-Lac (France)

Gavi [to 17 May 2025]

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

Press Releases

13 May 2025

AIIB and Gavi Partner to Advance Sustainable Health and Immunization Financing

:: Providing up to USD 1 billion in financing to support AIIB members that are also eligible for Gavi support.

:: Jointly developing innovative financing mechanisms to support health and immunization efforts for Gavi implementing countries.

Geneva, 13 May 2025 –The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance have signed a landmark partnership agreement to scale and improve sustainable financing for health and immunization systems across low-income and lower middle-income countries. The letter of intent, signed by AIIB President Jin Liqun and Gavi CEO Dr. Sania Nishtar, outlines concrete ways in which the organizations will collaborate on strategic investments in AIIB members that are eligible for Gavi support...

GE2P2 Global Foundation [to 17 May 2025]

www.ge2p2.org

News/Analysis/Publications-Digests/Statements

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

:: [Informed Consent: A Monthly Review – May 2025](#)

:: [Public Consultations Watch :: Global Calls for Input/Public Comment – 25 April 2025](#)

:: [Genomics :: Governance, Ethics, Policy, Practice – A Monthly Digest – April 2025](#)

GHIT Fund [to 17 May 2025]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

Global Fund [to 17 May 2025]

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

News Releases

14 May 2025

Global Fund Board Backs Prioritization of Lifesaving Interventions amid Crisis, Urges Strong Eighth Replenishment to Protect Progress

GENEVA – The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (the Global Fund) held its 53rd Board meeting last week in Geneva.

Amid severe disruptions to health services across countries and growing global health funding uncertainty, discussions on grant reprioritization for the current cycle – and preparations for the next cycle beginning in 2026 – carried through each segment of the meeting.

Opening the meeting, Board Vice-Chair Bience Gawanas recognized that **the world is confronting a convergence of threats – including conflict, shrinking civic space, overstretched health systems and increasingly constrained financing.**

“It’s a moment of reckoning and recommitment,” said Gawanas. “As we chart our way forward, we must do so with courage, clarity and unwavering focus on the people and communities we serve. In the face of adversity, we are reminded that the Global Fund is not simply a funder of programs; we are a partnership rooted in solidarity, shared responsibility, science and hope. We are here to keep the promise of a world where preventable diseases, or the place of birth, no longer decide one’s fate.”

“What is at stake is potentially millions of lives and many of the gains we have collectively fought so hard to achieve, including improvement in life expectancy and progress towards universal health coverage,” said Peter Sands, Executive Director of the Global Fund. “How we rise to this crisis will be a test for us as a partnership. We must stay focused on our mission and true to our values.”...

Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness [GloPID-R] [to 17 May 2025]

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

No new digest content identified.

Hilleman Laboratories [to 17 May 2025]

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

News & Insights

No new digest content identified.

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 17 May 2025]

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

Press Room

No new digest content identified.

Human Immunome Project [nee Human Vaccines Project] [to 17 May 2025]

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

News

Press Releases

[Human Immunome Project Congratulates Immunis on XPRIZE Healthspan Award, Announces Leadership Transition](#)

New York — May 12, 2025 — The Human Immunome Project (HIP) congratulates Dr. Hans Keirstead and Immunis, Inc. for receiving a prestigious XPRIZE Healthspan Semi-finalist award and announces a strategic leadership transition at the conclusion of his two-year term as HIP CEO. Existing HIP Board Chair Jane Metcalfe takes on an Executive Chair role for the next stage of HIP's operational launch. Keirstead remains an active Board member, continuing to contribute his vision and expertise to HIP....

A global non-profit, HIP is creating a publicly available dataset of human immune variation of populations around the globe to empower AI models of the human immune system and transform human health. As HIP enters its operational phase, HIP's Co-Chief Scientific Officers, Dr. Shai Shen-Orr and Dr. John Tsang, both renowned world leaders in systems human immunology, are convening a global scientific partner network to develop common clinical study and data generation protocols to advance the HIP mission. ...

IAVI [to 17 May 2025]

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

Press Releases, Features

Press Releases

[Two HIV vaccine trials show proof of concept for pathway to broadly neutralizing antibodies](#)

May 15, 2025

North American and African clinical trials led by Scripps Research, IAVI and additional collaborators across the U.S. and Africa mark progress toward an effective HIV vaccine.

Features

[Pair of IAVI publications demonstrate the potential value of bnAbs for HIV prevention](#)

May 13, 2025

Cost-effectiveness and acceptability in vulnerable populations assessed for HIV bnAbs.

INSERM [to 17 May 2025]
<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 17 May 2025]

<https://www.ich.org/>
News/Pubs/Press Releases [Selective]

ICH Meeting in Madrid, Spain

Madrid, Spain 13 - 14 May 2025

The Assembly of the International Council for Harmonisation (ICH) will convene in person from 13 - 14 May 2025, in Madrid, Spain and will be preceded by meetings of the ICH Management Committee and the MedDRA Management Committee. For more information, please click [here](#).

ICRC [to 17 May 2025]
<https://www.icrc.org/en/whats-new>
Latest press releases and statements [Selected]
Preserving human control over the use of force: A call to regulate lethal autonomous weapon systems under international law
Statement 12-05-2025

Israel and the occupied territories: ICRC facilitates hostage release, calls for renewed and sustainable ceasefire agreement

ICRC Director-General Highlights Humanitarian Imperatives at Global Security Forum

News release 12-05-2025

Doha, 28-30 April 2025: The Director-General of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Pierre Krähenbühl, visited Doha to participate in the 2025 Global Security Forum (GSF), where he delivered opening remarks immediately following the address by the Prime Minister of Qatar. This prominent placement underscored the ICRC's key role in global security dialogue and humanitarian diplomacy.

IFFIm [to 17 May 2025]
<http://www.iffim.org/>
Press Releases/Announcements
No new digest content identified.

IFRC [to 17 May 2025]
<http://media.ifrc.org/ifrc/news/press-releases/>
Press releases

Joint Statement from ICRC President and IFRC President to mark World Red Cross Red Crescent Day: "Every attack on a humanitarian is an attack on the community they served"

07/05/2025 | *Press release*

Geneva, 7 May 2025 – This World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (8 May), we mourn our colleagues who were appallingly killed while trying to save lives. Their deaths demand far more than empty words of outrage—they demand action.

The international community cannot continue to look away as the rules of war are ignored, and humanitarian workers are deliberately targeted. Every attack on a humanitarian is an attack on the community they served, and a betrayal to the laws designed to protect civilians and alleviate suffering in conflict...

IPPS - International Pandemic Preparedness Secretariat [to 17 May 2025]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Institut Pasteur [to 17 May 2025]

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

Press Documents

No new digest content identified.

ISC / International Science Council [to 17 May 2025]

<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

The right to participate in and benefit from science

June 11, 2025

In this context, the ISC's Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science is organizing a webinar for the ISC network to reflect on how the right to participate in and benefit from science can be upheld to benefit all, and on its practical significance for the scientific, human rights, and policy communities and beyond.

Michael Faraday Prize Lecture – Science under threat: the politics of institutionalised disinformation

Join the Royal Society on 29 May 2025 for the Michael Faraday Prize Lecture given by 2024 winner Professor Salim Abdool Karim.

The role of science in its relentless search for the truth is a key pillar in society that protects and promotes democracy, transparency and rationality as the basis of actions of the state. In his Michael Faraday Prize Lecture, Professor Abdool Karim will analyse the threats to science globally, with a focus on the USA, where he argues disinformation has become institutionalised in the corridors of power. As those in power use the levers of the state to accumulate wealth and yet more power, truth becomes a major obstacle and science, as the rational approach to seeking the truth, becomes the casualty and as custodians of science universities come under attack. In this situation, effective science communication is more important than ever.

Attending live online

The lecture will also be livestreamed here and on the Royal Society YouTube channel

You can take part in the live Q&A (details to follow)

This event will be recorded (including the live Q&A) and the recording will be available on YouTube soon after the event

InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) – International Science Council (ISC) webinar: Safeguarding scientific data in times of crisis

Date: May 21, 2025

Time: 12:00 - 13:30 UTC

In times of crisis – be it health emergencies, wars, natural disasters or cyber incidents – the integrity, availability and security of scientific data are at heightened risk. Despite growing digital infrastructure, many research institutions lack comprehensive strategies for secure data storage and loss prevention.

A single disruption can wipe out years of research or restrict access when it's most needed. As digital transformation accelerates, so too must our approaches to data resilience.

While these issues are increasingly urgent for the global research community, many science institutions may not have fully assessed their vulnerabilities or preparedness. This webinar seeks to address core questions around data storage models and proactive safeguarding strategies to ensure that scientific data remains intact, accessible and trustworthy in any crisis...

International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS)

<https://iuis.org/>

News/Events [Selected]

19th International Congress of Immunology

Vienna, August 17-22, 2025.

IVAC [to 17 May 2025]

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

Updates; Events

No new digest content identified.

IVI [to 17 May 2025]

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

IVI News & Announcements

IVI receives CEPI grant to establish standard materials for SFTS vaccine clinical trials

IVI and KDCA/KNIH partner to collect and test plasma from SFTS patients, collaborating with MHRA to produce international standard materials of high-titer plasma

May 15, 2025,

Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security [to 17 May 2025]

<https://centerforhealthsecurity.org/newsroom>

Center News [Selected]

No new digest content identified.

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 17 May 2025]

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

Latest [Selected Announcements]

Access to medicines

Deadly Gaps: Don't turn away from saving lives

Report 15 May 2025

Gaza-Israel war

MSF denounces deliberate humanitarian catastrophe caused by siege on Gaza

Statement 14 May 2025

National Academy of Medicine - USA [to 17 May 2025]

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

News [Selected]

No new digest content identified

National Academies-Sciences-Engineering-Medicine [NASEM]- USA [to 17 May 2025]

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

News

NAS President Marcia McNutt to Deliver Second State of the Science Address on June 3

National Academy of Sciences President Marcia McNutt will explore the current status of the U.S. research enterprise and strategies for navigating a rapidly changing scientific landscape in her the second annual State of the Science address, to be delivered on June 3 in Washington, D.C.

Date 2025-05-05

Type News Release

PATH [to 17 May 2025]

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

Newsroom [Selected]

No new digest content identified.

Sabin Vaccine Institute [to 17 May 2025]

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

Latest News & Press Releases

Press Releases

Noted Vaccine Researcher and Leader Kate O'Brien Awarded Sabin's Gold Medal; Physician Livancliff Mbianke of Cameroon Receives Rising Star Award

May 13, 2025

UNAIDS [to 17 May 2025]

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

News, Stories, Updates

Press Releases & Statements

16 May 2025

UNAIDS stands in solidarity with LGBTQI+ communities

16 May 2025

Cambodia showcases huge progress towards ending AIDS, announces a financial contribution to UNAIDS

UNICEF [to 17 May 2025]

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

Latest press releases, news notes and statements [Selected]

Remarks 16 May 2025

UNICEF Director of Child Nutrition and Development Joan Matji's remarks at the launch of the Global Report on Food Crises

NEW YORK, 16 May 2025, - "Good afternoon. This year, for the first time, the Global Report on Food Crises devotes an entire chapter to acute malnutrition. This marks a turning point in how we understand the true scope of food crises. This goes far beyond just focusing on food insecurity but indeed – it is about the survival of the world's most vulnerable children, their...

Press release 16 May 2025

Acute food insecurity and malnutrition rise for sixth consecutive year in world's most fragile regions

GENEVA/NEW YORK/ROME/WASHINGTON D.C. 16 May 2025 –, Acute food insecurity and child malnutrition rose for the sixth consecutive year in 2024, pushing millions of people to the brink, in some of the world's most vulnerable regions, according to the Global Report on Food Crises (GRFC) , released today. The report...

Statement 16 May 2025

Statement by UNICEF Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa, Edouard Beigbeder, on the killing of at least 45 children in the Gaza Strip

AMMAN, 16 May 2025, - "The reported killing of at least 45 children in the Gaza Strip in the last two days is yet another devastating reminder that children in Gaza are suffering first and foremost, having to starve day after day only to be victims of indiscriminate attacks. "These past 19 months, Gaza has been deadly for children and there are no safe spaces. From...

Press release 13 May 2025

Children's wellbeing in world's wealthiest countries took sharp turn for the worse in wake of COVID-19 pandemic - UNICEF

FLORENCE/NEW YORK, 14 May 2025, – Children in many of the world's wealthiest countries saw marked declines in their academic performance, mental wellbeing, and physical health in the period since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to analysis published today by UNICEF Innocenti

Press release 12 May 2025

Risk of famine for children across Gaza, new report says

ROME/NEW YORK, 12 May 2025 –, Populations across the Gaza Strip are at risk of famine as fighting has surged again, border crossings are still closed, and food is dangerously scarce. Hunger and malnutrition have intensified sharply since all aid was blocked from entering on 2 March, reversing the clear humanitarian...

Unitaid [to 17 May 2025]

<https://unitaid.org/>

Featured News

No new digest content identified.

Vaccine Equity Cooperative [nee Initiative] [to 17 May 2025]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Vaccine Confidence Project [to 17 May 2025]

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

News, Research and Reports

Seminar Vaccine Centre

Vaccine Centre Annual Lecture: How to engage with vaccine hesitancy

Monday 19 May 2025

Time 17:30 - 18:30 *Streaming link*

Join us for the LSHTM Vaccine Centre's annual lecture.

Stephan Lewandowsky is Professor of Cognitive Science at the University of Bristol. His research explores three major streams including:

- People's responses to misinformation and propaganda, and how corrections affect our memory.
- Why people reject well-established scientific facts, such as climate change or the effectiveness of vaccinations.
- The potential conflict between the architecture of our online information ecosystem and democracy.

Vaccine Education Center – Children's Hospital of Philadelphia [to 17 May 2025]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Wellcome Trust [to 17 May 2025]

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

News. Opinion, Reports

No new digest content identified.

The Wistar Institute [to 17 May 2025]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

World Bank [to 17 May 2025]

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

West African Governments Adopt Sal Commitments to Advance Childcare for Human Capital and Growth

SAL, May 14, 2025 - Government representatives from across West Africa concluded a high-level regional conference today by adopting the Sal Commitments on Advancing Childcare for Human Capital and...

Date: May 14, 2025 Type: Press Release

Frontier Technologies for Education: Artificial Intelligence (AI), Blockchain, Open Architecture, and more

AI in Education Global Community of Interest (CoI) The AI in Education Global Community of Interest brings together practitioners on emerging uses of artificial intelligence to support teaching and learning...

Date: May 13, 2025 Type: Brief

Accelerating Digital Transformation in Fragile and Conflict Affected Situations

Key Highlights In Niger, the Smart Villages for Rural Growth and Digital Inclusion project, launched in 2020, has provided new or enhanced broadband access to 7.4 million users in over 2,000 mostly conflict-affected...

Date: May 13, 2025 Type: Result Brief

WFPHA: World Federation of Public Health Associations [to 17 May 2025]

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

Blog, Events

Life Course Immunization

May 12, 2025

Life Course Immunization: Why Lifelong Vaccination is Essential for Public Health Immunization isn't just for children. It's a lifelong necessity. While pediatric vaccination programs have seen tremendous success globally, adult immunization...

World Medical Association [WMA] [to 17 May 2025]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

World Organisation for Animal Health [OIE] [to 17 May 2025]

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

Press Releases, Statements

News

2025 edition of global survey to track antimicrobial resistance launches

Published on 15 May 2025

On 15 April 2025, the ninth round of the Tracking Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Country Self-assessment Survey (TrACSS) began, for completion by June 2025. TrACSS is a key component of the global AMR monitoring and evaluation framework. Since its first iteration in 2017, TrACSS has enabled countries to assess their progress in implementing multisectoral AMR national action plans (NAPs) annually...

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ARM [Alliance for Regenerative Medicine] [to 17 May 2025]

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

Selected Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

BIO [to 17 May 2025]

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

Press Releases

John F. Crowley, President and CEO of the Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO), released the following statement regarding today's Executive Order on most favored nation:

May 12, 2025

"Most favored nation is a deeply flawed proposal that would devastate our nation's small- and mid-size biotech companies – the very companies that are the leading drivers of medical innovation in the United States and the cornerstone of America's...

DCVMN – Developing Country Vaccine Manufacturers Network [to 17 May 2025]

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

News; Upcoming events

No new digest announcements identified.

ICBA – International Council of Biotechnology Associations [to 17 May 2025]

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

News

No new digest announcements identified.

IFPMA [to 17 May 2025]

<https://ifpma.org/>

News, Statements [Selected]

No new digest announcements identified.

International Alliance of Patients' Organizations – IAPO [to 17 May 2025]

<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 17 May 2025]

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

Press Releases

PhRMA Statement on Most Favored Nation Executive Order

WASHINGTON, D.C. (May 12, 2025) – Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) president and CEO Stephen J. Uhl issued the following statement on today's White House announcement:

"To lower costs for Americans, we need to address the real reasons U.S. prices are higher: foreign countries not paying their fair share and middlemen driving up prices for U.S. patients.

"The Administration is right to use trade negotiations to force foreign governments to pay their fair share for medicines. U.S. patients should not foot the bill for global innovation.

"The U.S. is the only country in the world that lets PBMs, insurers and hospitals take 50% of every dollar spent on medicines. The amount going to middlemen often exceeds the price in Europe. Giving this money directly to patients will lower their medicine costs and significantly reduce the gap with European prices.

"Importing foreign prices from socialist countries would be a bad deal for American patients and workers. It would mean less treatments and cures and would jeopardize the hundreds of billions our

member companies are planning to invest in America – threatening jobs, hurting our economy and making us more reliant on China for innovative medicines.”

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.....

Vaccines/Therapeutics/Medicines – Selected Developer/Manufacturer Announcements

AstraZeneca

Press Releases

[**AstraZeneca to showcase latest research on comprehensive portfolio and pipeline aimed at transforming respiratory diseases at ATS 2025**](#)

13 May 2025

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 - No new digest announcements identified.

Boehringer

Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified.

CanSinoBIO

News - Website not responding at inquiry

CIGB

Latest News - No new digest announcements identified.

CinnaGen

Recent News - No new digest announcements identified.

Clover Biopharmaceuticals – China

News - No new digest announcements identified.

Curevac

News

May 15, 2025

[**CureVac Receives Additional Positive Validity Decision from European Patent Office in Ongoing Litigation Against BioNTech SE**](#)

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.

JNJ Innovative Medicine [Janssen]

Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified

Merck

News releases - No new digest announcements identified.

Moderna

Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified.

Nanogen

News - No new digest announcements identified.

Novartis

News - No new digest announcements identified.

Novavax

Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified.

Pfizer

Recent Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified.

R-Pharm

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

[No news or media page identified]

Sanofi Pasteur

Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified.

Serum Institute

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 - No new digest announcements identified.

Takeda

Newsroom - No new digest announcements identified.

Valneva

Press Releases

Valneva Provides Update on Recommended Use of IXCHIQ® by Elderly Individuals in the United States

May 12, 2025

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

.....
.....

Journal Watch

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

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

AJOB Empirical Bioethics

Volume 16, 2025 Issue 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

AMA Journal of Ethics

Volume 27, Number 5: E303-391 May 2025

<https://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/issue/private-equity-health-care>

Issue Theme: Private Equity in Health Care

One way private equity differs from other for-profit investments is by aiming to maximize profitability while minimizing long-term holdings in such investments. Valuation for private equity acquisitions in health care has grown to over 150 billion dollars since 2020, and expansion continues. One reason private equity investment in the health sector deserves close ethical attention is that private equity firms are, generally, not interested in managing patient panels, clinician personnel, or making service delivery streams work for patients. Another reason is that influx of private equity investment in health care tends to consolidate markets for health services, undermining competition and driving up costs for patients. This theme issue considers which criteria should be used to determine whether, when, and for whom buying and selling of private equity in health care stands up to ethical, clinical, and legal scrutiny and considers how to better guide and regulate private equity transactions in health care. [Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Human Genetics

May 01, 2025 Volume 112 Issue 5 p965-1248

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

This month in The Journal

Alyson B. Barnes, Sara B. Cullinan

More than 90% of individuals have at least one actionable pharmacogenomic (PGx) variant and associated drug contraindication. Most individuals, however, are unaware of their PGx status at first prescription, increasing the odds of adverse reactions or poor drug metabolism. In this issue, Lanting et al. leverage existing biobank data to develop individualized PGx passports containing comprehensive PGx information for variants in 12 genes. These PGx passports were shared with 1,227 biobank participants through a smartphone application.

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Infection Control

May 2025 Volume 53 Issue 5 p537-668

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

May 2025 Volume 68 Issue 5 p859-1050

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health

May 2025 115(5)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

Volume 112 (2025): Issue 5 (May 2025)

<https://www.ajtmh.org/view/journals/tpmd/112/5/tpmd.112.issue-5.xml>

[Reviewed earlier]

Annals of Internal Medicine

April 2025 Volume 178, Issue 4
<https://www.acpjournals.org/toc/aim/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Artificial Intelligence – An International Journal

Volume 344 July 2025
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/artificial-intelligence/vol/344/suppl/C>
[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

<http://resource-allocation.biomedcentral.com/>
(Accessed 17 May 2025)
[No new digest content identified]

BMC Health Services Research

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmchealthservres/content>
(Accessed 17 May 2025)
[No new digest content identified]

BMC Infectious Diseases

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcinfectdis/content>
(Accessed 17 May 2025)

[Mapping the role of vaccines in combating AMR in the WHO African region: a scoping review and implications for research and policy](#)

There is substantive evidence that vaccines play a crucial role in curbing antimicrobial resistance (AMR). This has a potentially high impact in the WHO African Region. However, there is a need for a viable st...

Authors: Chinwe Iwu-Jaja, Laetitia Gahimbare, Akhona V. Mazingisa, Walter Fuller, Degefaw Y. Mazengiye, Joseph Okeibunor, Olushayo O. Olu, Patrick de Marie C. Katoto, Ali A. Yahaya, Kwasi Nyarko and Charles S. Wiysonge

Citation: BMC Infectious Diseases 2025 25:702

Content type: Systematic Review Published on: 15 May 2025

BMC Medical Ethics

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcmedethics/content>
(Accessed 17 May 2025)

[Risks and benefits of engaging youth living with HIV in research: perspectives from Kenyan Youth, caregivers, and subject matter experts](#)

Involving children and adolescents (youth) living with HIV (YLWH) in research is critical for developing appropriate HIV care services and interventions. However, this vulnerable population may not adequately ...

Authors: Emma Gillette, Winstone Nyandiko, Ashley Chory, Michael Scanlon, Josephine Aluoch, Hillary Koros, Celestine Ashimosi, Whitney Biegon, Dennis Munyoro, Janet Lidweye, Jack Nyagaya, Allison DeLong, Rami Kantor, Rachel Vreeman and Violet Naanyu

Citation: BMC Medical Ethics 2025 26:63

Content type: Research Published on: 16 May 2025

BMC Medicine

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

(Accessed 17 May 2025)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

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

(Accessed 17 May 2025)

No new digest content identified]

BMC Public Health

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

(Accessed 17 May 2025)

[Cross-sectional study of vaccine coverage among children aged 1 to 24 months in Opuwo District, Kunene region, Namibia](#)

Vaccination has been shown to be one of the most cost-effective health interventions worldwide, successfully preventing a number of serious childhood diseases. A retrospective analysis of vaccine coverage amon...

Authors: Ligola S. M. Akwenye, Junxian Ou, Chengsong Wan, Wei Zhao, Zhixin Fang and Qiwei Zhang

Citation: BMC Public Health 2025 25:1775

Content type: Research Published on: 14 May 2025

BMC Research Notes

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

(Accessed 17 May 2025)

[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Evidence-Based Medicine

April 2025 - Volume 30 - 2

<https://ebm.bmj.com/content/30/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

BMJ Global Health

May 2025 - Volume 10 - 5

<https://gh.bmj.com/content/10/5>

[Reviewed earlier]

Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists

DIGITAL MAGAZINE - May 2025

<https://thebulletin.org/magazine/2025-03/>

[Introduction: How to stop the next pandemic](#)

By [Dan Drollette Jr](#)

"The operation was a success but the patient died" is an old trope in medicine. Similarly, pandemics can be fought successfully—but the trick is to do it without alienating the public so much that they

become distrustful of all health policymaking and scientific research in the future. So, what lessons can be drawn from the recent experience with COVID?

The impact of DOGE's funding cuts on biomedical research, from the point of view of former NIH director Monica Bertagnolli

By Dan Drollette Jr

The NIH faces cuts of 35 percent, requested by billionaire Elon Musk's so-called Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). Consequently, researchers have had to struggle with getting reimbursed for routine expenses such as lab mice—especially after DOGE put a one-dollar spending limit on the use of government credit cards. Years of work are being put at risk, says former NIH director Monica Bertagnolli, who explains what the cuts mean, for science and the public

How AI can slow the rise of antibiotic-resistant "superbugs"

By Cesar de la Fuente-Nunez, Henry Skinner, Christina Yen

Antimicrobial-resistant (AMR) "superbugs" contribute to more than 4.5 million deaths globally per year and threaten to make common medical procedures such as surgery and chemotherapy less safe. At the same time, very few innovative antibiotics, antifungals, and other antimicrobial therapies are in development and private investment is insufficient. But AI, machine learning, and related tech could accelerate antimicrobial drug discovery and development—and improve clinical care for patients suffering with AMR infections.

Sonia Shah on pandemics and pushback: Lessons from the COVID experience

By Dan Drollette Jr

What went wrong, what went right, and what have we learned (or not learned) from the COVID experience? Investigative reporter, book author, and 2024 Guggenheim recipient Sonia Shah—who has been covering epidemiology for years—gives her take.

Pandemic risks: Are there some genetic experiments that simply should not be done?

By Filippa Lentzos

What does responsible science mean when it comes to genetic experiments? Are some experiments so risky they simply should not be done? Researchers, policy makers, and the public have been debating these issues for the past 50 years, ever since the first tools of genetic engineering enabled scientists to rewrite the genetic code and create organisms that had never before existed.

Pandemics, public health, and popular support: What history can tell us

By J. Alexander Navarro

Closing businesses and schools, isolating and quarantining people, banning public gatherings, and requiring masks are effective public health measures in times of pandemics—but also highly disruptive. As a result, they have a long history of public pushback. For public health measures to be most effective, rates of compliance must be high. This requires accurate and consistent public health messaging, equitable implementation of health orders and recommendations, and an understanding of the ancillary burdens these measures can cause.

Interview: The 'holy grail' of pandemic preparedness—the search for a universal vaccine

By Matt Field

Scientists have been pursuing a universal vaccine against influenza for decades, both to protect against seasonal influenza and potential flu pandemics. Whereas season flu vaccines target a constantly shape-shifting protein on influenza viruses and therefore must be updated each year to match currently circulating strains, a universal vaccine might target an unchanging part of the virus. Government investment has been crucial in this area of pandemic preparedness research but may be uncertain going forward, given an anti-vaccine bent to the new presidential administration.

The future of global health, without the United States

By Scott L. Greer, Rachel Kulikoff

The changes wrought by Donald Trump's second administration have already been momentous, and the changes in global health are among the biggest: The US has withdrawn from the WHO, and global health policy is being destroyed—as seen in the closure of USAID. Global health will be gravely harmed. The WHO will suffer and will likely become a less effective institution. The world will face greater health risks, have less resilience, and be less able to mount an effective response to health threats.

Bulletin of the World Health Organization

Volume 103, Number 5, May 2025, 285-348

<https://www.who.int/publications/journals/bulletin/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Cell

May 01, 2025 Volume 188 Issue 9 p2307-2560

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Child Care, Health and Development

Volume 51, Issue 3 May 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics

Volume 117, Issue 5 Pages: 1149-1470 May 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Clinical Therapeutics

May 2025 Volume 47 Issue 5 p337-402

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Clinical Trials

Volume 22 Issue 2, April 2025

<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/ctja/22/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

Conflict and Health

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

[Accessed 17 May 2025]

[No new digest content identified]

Contemporary Clinical Trials

Volume 152 May 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/contemporary-clinical-trials/vol/152/suppl/C>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

The CRISPR Journal

Volume 8, Issue 2 / April 2025

<https://www.liebertpub.com/toc/crispr/8/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

Current Genetic Medicine Reports

Volume 13, Issue 1 December 2025

<https://link.springer.com/journal/40142/volumes-and-issues/13-1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Current Medical Research and Opinion

Volume 41, Issue 3 2025

<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/icmo20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases

June 2025 - Volume 38 - Issue 3

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Current Protocols in Human Genetics

<https://currentprotocols.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/19348258>

[Accessed 17 May 2025]

[No new digest content identified]

Cytotherapy

April 2025 Volume 27 Issue 4 p413-562

<https://www.isct-cytotherapy.org/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Developing World Bioethics

Volume 25, Issue 1 Pages: 1-79 March 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Development in Practice

Volume 35, Issue 3, 2025

<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cdip20/35/3?nav=tocList>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Development Policy Review

Volume 43, Issue 3 May 2025

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14677679/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness

Volume 19 - 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Disasters

Volume 49, Issue 3 July 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

eBioMedicine

Volume 114 In progress (April 2025)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/ebiomedicine/vol/113/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

EMBO Reports

Volume 26 Issue 823 April 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Emerging Infectious Diseases

Volume 31, Number 5—May 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemics

Volume 50 March 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/epidemics/vol/50/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemiology and Infection

Volume 153 - 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Ethics & Human Research

Volume 47, Issue 2, Pages: 1-47, March–April 2025

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

Community engagement in South Africa :: Research ethics training for youth researchers

[Reviewed earlier]

Ethics & International Affairs

Volume 38 - Issue 4 - Winter 2024

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Ethics, Medicine and Public Health

Volume 32 2024

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/ethics-medicine-and-public-health/vol/32/suppl/Cc>

[Reviewed earlier]

The European Journal of Public Health

Volume 35, Issue 1, February 2025

<https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/issue/35/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Expert Review of Vaccines

Volume 24, 2025 Issue 1

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Foreign Affairs

May/June 2025 Volume 104, Number 3

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/issues/2025/104/3>

[Reviewed earlier]

Forum for Development Studies

Volume 52, 2025 - Issue 1

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

Co-creating knowledge in development studies

[Reviewed earlier]

Frontiers in Genetics

<https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/genetics>

[Accessed 17 May 2025]

Original Research

Accepted on 16 May 2025

[Religious Factors Predict Support for Genomic Medicine More Strongly than Politics, Education, or Trust: A Survey of 4,939 Adults in the United States](#)

James M DuBois, et al.

Original Research

Published on 14 May 2025

[An ethical framework for human genomic enhancement in China](#)

Fanhong Chen, Hongjiao Zhang, *Frontiers in Genetics*

Human genomic enhancement, or HGE, which improves human traits by introducing genetic and epigenetic changes, has garnered a lot of attention in light of the astounding advancement in genome editing techniques, such as CRISPR-Cas9, in recent years. This study combines doctrinal and empirical analysis methods to examine bioethical issues of HGE in China. The literature currently in publication on these issues indicates that the majority of Chinese academics and the general public are enthusiastic about the present and potential future applications of genome editing techniques within the parameters of appropriate ethical guidelines; regrettably, no workable ethical governance framework has been put forth so far. Considering this, this study offers a more comprehensive discussion of ethical policy on HGE and develops a robust ethical framework that addresses three related issues about HGE: (1) approaching the precautionary principle as an overarching benchmark; (2) producing a multi-stakeholder collaborative governance model to promote stakeholder engagement and dialogue; and (3) establishing regional ethics review centers to have an independent review process. This is done in an effort to address ethical concerns and further inform policymaking on HGE in China.

Editorial

Accepted on 13 May 2025

[Editorial: A Year in Review: Discussions in Human and Medical Genomics 2024](#)

Maxim B Freidin, Jared C Roach

Frontiers in Genome Editing

<https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/genome-editing>

[Accessed 17 May 2025]

[No new digest content identified]

Frontiers in Medicine

<https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/medicine/volumes?volume-id=1463>

[Accessed 17 May 2025]

Editorial

Published on 12 May 2025

[Editorial: The art of reducing futile biomedical research](#)

Ivan Sisa, Ricardo Izurieta, Adrián Llerena, Enrique Teran

Gene Therapy – Nature

Volume 32 Issue 2, March 2025

<https://www.nature.com/qt/volumes/32/issues/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

Genetics in Medicines

Volume 27, Issue 4 April 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/genetics-in-medicine/vol/27/issue/4>

[Reviewed earlier]

Genome Medicine

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

[Accessed 17 May 2025]

[No new digest content identified]

Global Health Action

Volume 18, Issue 1 (2025)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Health: Science and Practice (GHSP)

Vol. 12, No. 6 December 20, 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

[Accessed 17 May 2025]

[No new digest content identified]

Global Public Health

Volume 20, Issue 1 (2025)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Globalization and Health

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

[Accessed 17 May 2025]

[No new digest content identified]

Health and Human Rights

Volume 26, Issue 2, December 2024

<https://www.hhrjournal.org/volume-26-issue-2-december-2024/>

Special Section: Distress Migration and the Right to Health

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Economics, Policy and Law

Volume 20 - Issue 1 - January 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Policy and Planning

Volume 40, Issue 4, May 2025

<https://academic.oup.com/heapol/issue/40/4>
[Reviewed earlier]

Health Research Policy and Systems

<http://www.health-policy-systems.com/content>
[Accessed 17 May 2025]
[No new digest content identified]

Human Gene Therapy

Volume 36, Issue 9-10 / May 2025
<https://www.liebertpub.com/toc/hum/36/9-10>
[Reviewed earlier]

Humanitarian Practice Network

<https://odihpn.org/>
Featured Publications
[No new digest content identified]

Human Vaccines & Immunotherapeutics (formerly Human Vaccines)

Volume 21 Issue 1, 2025
<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/khvi20/21/1?nav=tocList>
Selected Content
[Reviewed earlier]

Immunity

Apr 08, 2025 Volume 58 Issue 4 p767-1032
<https://www.cell.com/immunity/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Infectious Agents and Cancer

<http://www.infectagentscancer.com/>
[Accessed 17 May 2025]
[No new digest content identified]

Infectious Diseases of Poverty

<http://www.idpjournals.com/content>
[Accessed 17 May 2025]
[No new digest content identified]

International Health

Volume 17, Issue 3, May 2025
<https://academic.oup.com/inthealth/issue/17/3>
[Reviewed earlier]

International Human Rights Law Review

Volume 13 (2024): Issue 2 (Dec 2024)

<https://brill.com/view/journals/hrlr/13/2/hrlr.13.issue-2.xml>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health

Vol. 12 No. 5 (2025): May 2025

<https://www.ijcmph.com/index.php/ijcmph/issue/view/124>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Epidemiology

Volume 54, Issue 2, April 2025

<https://academic.oup.com/ije/issue/54/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare

Volume 18 Issue 1 2025

<https://www.emerald.com/insight/publication/issn/2056-4902/vol/18/iss/1>

Table of contents

[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA

May 13, 2025, Vol 333, No. 18, Pages 1561-1648

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

Viewpoint

Approaches for MMR Vaccination During a Measles Outbreak and Evolving Domestic Attitudes

Kathryn M. Edwards, MD

JAMA. 2025;333(18):1573-1574. doi:10.1001/jama.2025.5679

This Viewpoint discusses the need to approach the measles outbreak in the US with scientifically based recommendations for immunization and infection control.

JAMA Health Forum

April 2025, Vol 6, No. 4

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama-health-forum/issue>

[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA Pediatrics

April 2025, Vol 179, No. 4, Pages 359-482

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

[Reviewed earlier]

JBİ Evidence Synthesis

April 2025 - Volume 23 - Issue 4

<https://journals.lww.com/jbisrir/Pages/currenttoc.aspx>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Adolescent Health

May 2025 Volume 76 Issue 5 p749-960
<https://www.jahonline.org/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research

Vol. 82 (2025)
<https://www.jair.org/index.php/jair>
Contents
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Community Health

Volume 50, Issue 2 April 2025
<https://link.springer.com/journal/10900/volumes-and-issues/50-2>
[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. 8 No. 01 (2025)
<https://www.cmro.in/index.php/jcmro/issue/view/91>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Development Economics

Volume 174 May 2025
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-development-economics/vol/174/suppl/C>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics

Volume 20 Issue 1-2, February-April 2025
<http://journals.sagepub.com/toc/jre/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

April 2025 - Volume 79 - 4
<https://jech.bmj.com/content/79/4>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine

Volume 18, Issue 2 June 2025

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/17565391/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Global Ethics

Volume 20, Issue 3 (2024)

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

Special Issue: 20th Anniversary Forum

[Reviewed earlier]

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

Volume 36, Number 2, May 2025

<https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/54734>

Table of Contents

[Reviewed earlier]

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Volume 27, Issue 2 April 2025

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10903/volumes-and-issues/27-2>

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Volume 23, Issue 2 (2025)

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

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Volume 37, Issue 4 pages: 1-1053 May 2025

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[New issue; No digest content identified]

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May 2025 - Volume 51 - 5

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Volume 12, Issue 1 (2025)

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[New issue; No digest content identified]

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Volume 277 February 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/the-journal-of-pediatrics/vol/277/suppl/C>

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Volume 18, 2025 Issue 1

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March/April 2025 - Volume 31 - Issue 2

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Volume 46, Issue 1 March 2025

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May 2025 Volume 22 Issue 226

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Volume 32, Issue 3, April 2025

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Journal of Virology

Volume 99 • Number 4 • April 2025

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

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The Lancet

May 17, 2025 Volume 405 Number 10491 p1717-1790, e19-e27

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

Editorial

[Trump vs higher education: stifling American innovation](#)

The Lancet

Comment

[Accelerating vaccine development in Africa: lessons from HIV research](#)

Nicaise Ndembu, Shelly Karuna, Jessica Cowden, Alberto Cagigi, Anthony Pilorget, Amber Moodley, Julie Ake, Sandhya Vasan, Nelson Michael, Jerome H Kim

Statement

[SPIRIT 2025 statement: updated guideline for protocols of randomised trials](#)

An-Wen Chan, et al.

The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health

Jun 2025 Volume 9 Number 6 p361-438, e14

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

Reflections

Essay

[Empowering young voices in clinical research: co-creation of an educational video to support informed assent](#)

Anne E M Kamphuis, Lungile P Jafta, Tom G Jacobs on behalf of the Penta Youth Trials Board

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Apr 2025 Volume 7 Number 4 e232-e294

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Comment

[Africa's defining moment: the time to lead the HIV response is now](#)

Mumbi Chola, et al; on behalf of the African-led HIV Control Working Group

Articles

[The impact of aid sanctions on maternal and child mortality, 1990–2019: a panel analysis](#)

Ruth M Gibson, et al.

[Infant-level and child-level predictors of mortality in low-resource settings: the WHO Child Mortality Risk Stratification Multi-Country Pooled Cohort](#)

The WHO Risk Stratification Working Group (WHO-RSWG)

[Incidence rates of malaria, meningitis, and mortality in children younger than 5 years: a prospective cohort study in Ghana and Kenya before the roll-out of the RTS,S/AS01E malaria vaccine from 2016 to 2022](#)

Kwaku Poku Asante, et al.

Series

Primary Care in LMIC Cities

[Policy and service delivery proposals to improve primary care services in low-income and middle-income country cities](#)

Richard J Lilford, et al.

Lancet Infectious Diseases

May 2025 Volume 25 Number 5 p471-594, e255-e315

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

Comment

[Hecolin vaccination strategies for hepatitis E outbreak control in resource-constrained settings](#)

Chunlan Zhuang, et al.

Will a new pentavalent meningococcal ABCWY vaccine mark a milestone in protecting all those at risk from invasive meningococcal disease?

Claudia Nieto-Sánchez, et al.

Measles in Texas: waning vaccination and a stark warning for public health

Krutika Kuppalli, Trish M Perl

Articles

Safety and efficacy of the blood-stage malaria vaccine RH5.1/Matrix-M in Burkina Faso: interim results of a double-blind, randomised, controlled, phase 2b trial in children

Hamtandi M Natama, et al.

The effectiveness of two doses of recombinant hepatitis E vaccine in response to an outbreak in Bentiu, South Sudan: a case-control and bias indicator study

Robin C Nesbitt, et al.;

Breadth of immune response, immunogenicity, reactogenicity, and safety for a pentavalent meningococcal ABCWY vaccine in healthy adolescents and young adults: results from a phase 3, randomised, controlled observer-blinded trial

Terry Nolan, et al. on behalf of the QUINTET study group

Review

Approaches to increase access to community-based infectious disease control for ethnically, racially, and religiously marginalised populations: a scoping review

Seth W M Epling, Annika M Bjork, Lucia Martinez Cruz, Margaret C Baker

Lancet Public Health

May 2025 Volume 10 Number 5 e347-e432

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

Viewpoint

Artificial intelligence in public health: promises, challenges, and an agenda for policy makers and public health institutions

Dimitra Panteli, et al.

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

Apr 2025 Volume 13 Number 4 p289-370, e20-e23

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

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Maternal and Child Health Journal

Volume 29, Issue 4 April 2025

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10995/volumes-and-issues/29-4>

[Reviewed earlier]

Medical Decision Making (MDM)

Volume 45 Issue 4, May 2025

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

Review

[Methodological Approaches for Incorporating Marginalized Populations into HPV Vaccine Modeling: A Systematic Review](#)

Jennifer C. Spencer, et al.

Open

The Milbank Quarterly

A Multidisciplinary Journal of Population Health and Health Policy

Volume 103, Issue 1 Pages: 1-241 March 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Molecular Therapy

May 07, 2025 Volume 33 Issue 5 p1861-2310

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

[In this issue](#)

Gene therapy has great potential for the treatment of genetic brain diseases. In particular, adeno-associated virus (AAV) gene therapy has been refined for three purposes: gene replacement, gene knockdown, and gene editing. This review covers the current state of gene therapies for inherited brain disorders, from basic research to clinical trials. AAV delivery, gene editing, and other topics are explored in the context of in vitro, in vivo, and clinical research on inherited brain diseases. Present limitations in the field and remaining questions are also discussed.

Opinions

[The past, present, and future of RNA vaccines](#)

John S. Tregoning, Niek N. Sanders

COVID-19 represented an inflection point for RNA vaccines. The approval of the first two mRNA vaccines in 2020 was followed by an immense wave of investment in mRNA technology. As of 2025, there are 7 mRNA and 3 self-amplifying RNA (saRNA) vaccines licensed (Table 1). It is expected that many more mRNA and saRNA vaccines against infectious diseases and cancer will be approved in the coming years. In this commentary, we describe the history of RNA vaccines before looking at possible challenges for wider implementation.

[GMP manufacturing of cell and gene therapy products: Challenges, opportunities, and pathways forward](#)

Brian Fury, Gerhard Bauer

Cell and gene therapy (CGT) products have been emerging as life-saving and life-changing therapies over the last 20 years. The United States has been a forerider in the development of these therapeutic products and has also developed the pertinent manufacturing methods for these complicated "living medicines." California has emerged as a prominent hub for CGT manufacturing, hosting a variety of good manufacturing practice (GMP) facilities. These facilities are pivotal in advancing CGT products from phase 1 to phase 3 clinical trials and, eventually, to commercialization.

Reviews

[Gene therapy then and now: A look back at changes in the field over the past 25 years](#)

Dan Wang, Gregg Stevens, Terence R. Flotte

Open Access

Flotte and colleagues attempt to broadly summarize the changes in the gene therapy field that have occurred since *Molecular Therapy*, the official journal of the American Society of Gene and Cell Therapy, published its first issue on January 1, 2000.

Nature

Volume 641 Issue 8063, 15 May 2025

<https://www.nature.com/nature/volumes/641/issues/8063>

Comment 12 May 2025

[US researchers must stand up to protect freedoms, not just funding](#)

Curtailment of freedoms and disregard for the rule of law in the United States is destroying the ability of science to serve the nation's, and the world's, interests. Researchers can take action.

Andrew M. Leifer, Andrea J. Liu, Sidney R. Nagel

Nature Biotechnology

Volume 43 Issue 5, May 2025

<https://www.nature.com/nbt/volumes/43/issues/5>

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Nature Communications

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

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Volume 57 Issue 5, May 2025

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Volume 9 Issue 4, April 2025

<https://www.nature.com/nathumbehav/volumes/9/issues/4>

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Nature Medicine

Volume 31 Issue 4, April 2025

<https://www.nature.com/nm/volumes/31/issues/4>

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Nature Reviews Drug Discovery

Volume 24 Issue 5, May 2025

<https://www.nature.com/nrd/volumes/24/issues/5>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Nature Reviews Genetics

Volume 26 Issue 5, May 2025

<https://www.nature.com/nrg/volumes/26/issues/5>

Comment

Genomic data sharing: you don't know what you've got (till it's gone)

Reflecting on the core values of early data sharing agreements, the Bermuda Principles and the Fort Lauderdale Agreement, Kathryn E. Holt and Michael Inouye emphasize the need to reaffirm our commitment to genomic data sharing to shape the future of science.

Kathryn E. Holt, Michael Inouye

Review Article 06 Nov 2024

The design and engineering of synthetic genomes

In this Review, James et al. provide an overview of approaches for planning, constructing, and fine-tuning synthetic genomes and describe their potential applications.

Joshua S. James, Junbiao Dai, Yizhi Cai

Nature Reviews Immunology

Volume 25 Issue 4, April 2025

<https://www.nature.com/nri/volumes/25/issues/4>

[Reviewed earlier]

New England Journal of Medicine

Volume 392 No. 19 May 15/22, 2025

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

Perspective

The Power of Physicians in Dangerous Times

Authors: Alice T. Chen, M.D., and Vivek H. Murthy, M.D., M.B.A.

Abstract

The current crisis in the United States is bigger than politics, and it deeply affects the health and lives of our patients and communities. Now is the time for physicians to harness their power and act

NEJM Evidence

Volume 4 No. 4 April 2025

<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 17 May 2025]

[No new digest content identified]

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Volume 155, Issue 5 May 2025

<https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/issue/155/5>

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Volume 43, Issue 5 May 2025

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[COVID-19 vaccine coverage among adults in Sarlahi District of Nepal in 2022](#)

Porcia Manandhar, Joanne Katz, Tsering Pema Lama, Subarna K. Khatry, William J. Moss, Daniel J. Erchick

Research Article | published 15 May 2025 PLOS Global Public Health

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0003916>

[Is global health security worth 0.01% of our gross domestic product?](#)

Gorik Ooms, Yibeltal Assefa, Salome Charalambous, Ter Tiero Elias Dah, Kristof Decoster, Bouke de Jong, Bernadette Hensen, Ryuichi Komatsu, Natama Hamtandi Magloire, Ellen M.H. Mitchell, Thijs Reyniers, Anna Rosanas-Urgell, Maria-Belen Tarrafeta-Sayas, Halidou Tinto, Alan Whiteside, Raffaella Ravinetto

Opinion | published 14 May 2025 PLOS Global Public Health

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0004491>

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[Accessed 17 May 2025]
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PNAS - Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States

May 13, 2025 | vol. 122 | no. 19

<https://www.pnas.org/toc/pnas/122/19>

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Volume 4, Issue 3, March 2025

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Prehospital & Disaster Medicine

Volume 40 - Issue 2 - April 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Preventive Medicine

Volume 193 April 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/preventive-medicine/vol/193/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

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May 2025 Volume 292 Issue 2046

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Volume 241 Pages 1-186 (April 2025)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/public-health/vol/241/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

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Volume 18, Issue 1, April 2025

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[Reviewed earlier]

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2025, Vol. 28, No. 1

<https://karger.com/phg/issue/28/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

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Volume 140 Issue 1, January/February 2025

<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/phrg/140/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

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Volume 35 Issue 4-5, April 2025

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[Reviewed earlier]

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Volume 21 Issue 2, April 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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[Accessed 17 May 2025]

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

Latest Articles

[No new digest content identified]

Risk Analysis

Volume 45, Issue 4 Pages: 723-967 April 2025

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

Special Issue: Artificial Intelligence for Risk Analysis and the Risks of AI

[Reviewed earlier]

Risk Management and Healthcare Policy

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

[Accessed 17 May 2025]

[No new digest content identified]

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May 2025 Volume 12 Issue 5

<https://royalsocietypublishing.org/toc/rsos/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Science

Volume 388| Issue 6748| 15 May 2025

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

Editorial

Institutionalizing politicized science

BY Donald Moynihan, Pamela Herd

08 May 2025: 68

The opening months of the Trump administration represent a historic disruption to America's scientific agencies. Staff have been fired or reassigned in the name of efficiency, resulting in chaos. Grants have been canceled mid-project for featuring the wrong words. "Pauses" and "reviews" are designed to block spending, in the hope that Congress will make the current impoundment of funds a baseline for permanent disinvestment. While the scientific community waits to see what the new normal will be, the Trump administration has a plan to institutionalize a much more politicized structure of control over government broadly, including both public scientific investments and the use of scientific knowledge in policy actions.

"Schedule F" (now renamed Schedule Policy/Career) is shorthand for an executive order that is a sharp break with civil service merit principles, which assume that career employees should be retained on the basis of performance and protected against political coercion. The US is already unusual in the degree to which it reserves the top layers of organizational leadership for short-term political appointees. Schedule F will vastly expand the number of appointees, adding a proposed 50,000 from the current 4000. It does so by involuntarily reclassifying career civil servants as appointees, removing job protections, the basic constraint against political interference.

The administration says that the purpose of Schedule F is to increase accountability for civil servants involved in policy-making. Set aside the fact that civil servants are accountable in multiple ways, Trump's own justifications strike a more conspiratorial tone, including "the deep state can and must be brought to heel." But what better way to actually institutionalize a deep state than by expanding political influence over what constitutes good science?

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Studies show that politicization of public services generally worsens public-sector outcomes. Public employees invest less in developing their expertise and become more likely to exit. Instability and lack of experience reduce organizational performance. Politicization increases the influence of more ideologically radical appointees relative to more moderate civil servants. Politicization also reduces accountability. Bureaucrats worried about being fired fail to share uncongenial information with their political bosses and become less likely to respond to congressional oversight. As politicization begets lower transparency and administrative capacity, it increases waste and inefficiency.

What might this mean for scientific agencies? Agencies like the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes for Health (NIH) cannot meet their statutorily mandated scientific missions if politics, rather than scientific expertise, drive decision-making. Federally supported science has been so successful, in no small part, because agency staff are typically expert scientists beholden to ensuring that the agencies deliver world-class science. Now, many could be turned into political appointees. The proposed policy defines grantmaking positions as "policy-making," which includes "drafting of funding opportunity announcements, evaluation of grant applications, or recommending or selecting grant recipients." This definition, which neatly matches agencies' own definitions for certain career staff, would include most NIH program officers and NSF program directors.

The past few months at NIH and NSF preview how politicized scientific agencies would operate. Funding choices that reflected the consensus of some of the best scientists in the world were reversed by nonscientists. Program officers have, at points, been told not to communicate with the scientific community or have had their engagement limited. Scientific agencies have been directed to effectively reduce the flow of funds to a trickle by adding new layers of redundant review and red tape and even violating court orders to reinstate cancelled grants.

Other agencies, including regulatory agencies, apply rather than fund basic science, but the risks of politicization are no less. How confident can Americans be that federal employees will not have to choose between their job and scientific values in areas such as climate change, food safety, extreme weather forecasting, or public health?

Career officials in scientific agencies are unwilling hostages in Trump's politicization of science, wondering if they will lose their jobs for trying to defend the congressionally mandated missions of their organizations. Although the current era of layoffs will hopefully soon be over, the purpose of Schedule F is to permanently instill the degree of political control over science fueling the sense of fear that pervades those agencies now.

The federal rulemaking process allows public comment on the proposed policy until 23 May. Those with first-hand experience and knowledge of the scientific process will have particular credibility to weigh in. Such comments matter: They must be read and responded to by federal officials and can provide the basis for courts overturning new rules from the executive branch. Vannevar Bush's 1945 blueprint for America's scientific infrastructure emphasized the centrality of protecting scientific organizations from politicization. That vision has been extraordinarily successful. Schedule F assumes the opposite: It treats scientific independence as a threat to be minimized.

Policy Forum

[Deliberate extinction by genome modification: An ethical challenge](#)

BY Gregory E. Kaebnick, et al.

15 May 2025: 707-709

What circumstances might justify deliberate, full extinction of a species?

Science and Engineering Ethics

Volume 31, Issue 2 April 2025

<https://link.springer.com/journal/11948/volumes-and-issues/31-2>

[Reviewed earlier]

Science Translational Medicine

Volume 17| Issue 798| 14 May 2025

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

Research Articles

[**An oral norovirus vaccine generates mucosal immunity and reduces viral shedding in a phase 2 placebo-controlled challenge study**](#)

BY Becca A. Flitter, et al.

14 May 2025

An oral norovirus vaccine stimulates systemic and mucosal immune responses that predict protection against infection in a phase 2 challenge study.

Scientific Reports

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

[Accessed 17 May 2025]

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Social Science & Medicine

Volume 370 April 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/social-science-and-medicine/vol/370/suppl/C>

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Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics

Volume 46, Issue 2 April 2025

<https://link.springer.com/journal/11017/volumes-and-issues/46-2>

[Reviewed earlier]

Travel Medicine and Infectious Diseases

Volume 64 March–April 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/travel-medicine-and-infectious-disease/vol/64/suppl/C>

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Tropical Medicine & International Health

Volume 30, Issue 4 Pages: i-iv, 231-321 April 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Vaccine

Volume 53 19 April 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/vaccine/vol/53/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Vaccines

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

[Accessed 17 May 2025]

Open Access Communication

[Vaccine Confidence During Public Health Challenges and Prior to HPV Vaccine Introduction in Mali](#)

by Tiffani Crippin, Karamoko Tounkara, Ibrahima Diarra, Pierre Kamate, Sarah Beseme, Matthew Murphy, Hayley Munir, Amalle Keita Daou, Garan Dabo, Ibrahima Tégouété, Ousmane Koita and Anne S. De Groot

Vaccines 2025, 13(5), 535; <https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines13050535> (registering DOI) - 17 May 2025

Abstract

Background/Objectives: Public health activities and the roll-out of new vaccines such as the HPV vaccine in Mali have been disrupted by both the COVID-19 pandemic and by political unrest from March 2020 until recently. The HPV vaccine was introduced into the childhood [...]

Open Access Article

[Evaluating the Impact of Needle-Free Delivery of Inactivated Polio Vaccine on Nigeria's Routine Immunization Program: An Implementation Hybrid Trial](#)

by Diwakar Mohan, Mercy Mvundura, Sidney Sampson, Victor Abiola Adepoju, Garba Bello Bakunawa, Chidinma Umebido, Adachi Ekeh, Joe Little, Catherine Daly, Christopher Morgan, Sunday Atobatele, Paul LaBarre and Elizabeth Oliveras

Vaccines 2025, 13(5), 533; <https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines13050533> - 16 May 2025

Abstract

Background/Objectives: The Tropis® ID device (PharmaJet®), a needle-free injection system, is a World Health Organization prequalified, hand-held device, which delivers intradermal injections without the use of needles and has previously been used for the delivery of fractional doses of [..]

Open Access Article

[Is Brazil Reversing the Decline in Childhood Immunization Coverage in the Post-COVID-19 Era? An Interrupted Time Series Analysis](#)

by Ramon Costa Saavedra, Rita Carvalho-Sauer, Enny S. Paixao, Maria Yury Travassos Ichihara, Maria da Conceição Nascimento Costa and Maria da Glória Teixeira

Vaccines 2025, 13(5), 527; <https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines13050527> - 15 May 2025

Abstract

Background: The COVID-19 pandemic had significant impacts on healthcare systems, including the disruption of essential services such as childhood immunization. Containment measures, such as social distancing, contributed to reduced adherence to vaccination programs, increasing the risk of re-emerging vaccine-preventable diseases. We ai

Open Access Article

Allocation of Oral Cholera Vaccines in Africa

by Elisa M. Maffioli and Yutong Lu

Vaccines 2025, 13(5), 519; <https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines13050519> - 14 May 2025

Viewed by 126

Abstract

Objectives: In this study, we examine the allocation of oral cholera vaccines (OCVs) across 25 African countries between 2013 and 2019. Methods: We constructed a dataset combining cholera outbreaks and requests, decisions, and deliveries of OCVs from the Global Task Force on Cholera [...]

Value in Health

May 2025 Volume 28 Issue 5 p671-812

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

Themed Section: Rare Diseases: Economic Evaluation and Policy Considerations

Evolving Concept of Value in Health Economics and Outcomes Research: Emerging Tools for Innovation and Access to Cell and Gene Therapies for Rare Diseases

Walter Toro, et al.

Published online: December 30, 2024

p686-691

World Development

Volume 191 July 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/world-development/vol/191/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

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.....

Contents [click to move among sections]

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

:: [*WHO*](#)

:: [*Organization Announcements*](#)

:: [*Journal Watch*](#)

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

.....
.....

Pre-Print Servers

arxiv

<https://arxiv.org/>

[Accessed 17 May 2025]

[Filters: *Emerging Technologies; Neural and Evolutionary Computing; Computers and Society; Genomics; Neurons and Cognition; Populations and Evolution; Other Quantitative Biology; General Economics*]

[No new digest content identified]

Gates Open Research

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

[Accessed 17 May 2025]

Research Article metrics

[Mapping the impact, sustainability and pedagogical frameworks of international virtual knowledge exchanges in global health: Protocol for a scoping review](#)

Oisin Brady Bates, Alexandru Nicholas Grecu, Divya Iyer, Diarmuid Stokes, Walter Cullen, Joseph Gallagher

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Virtual exchanges are emerging as innovative educational tools with the potential to foster collaboration between High-Income Countries (HICs) and Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs). These initiatives hold the potential to enhance intercultural competencies, promote equitable partnerships, and address resource disparities. Understanding the pedagogical underpinnings, challenges, and best practices of virtual exchanges is vital for developing scalable and sustainable integration into healthcare education.

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medRxiv 2025.05.14.25327654; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.05.14.25327654>

[Electronic consent for school-age vaccinations: a rapid review](#)

Chukwudi Okolie, Golibe Ezenwugo, Mai Barry, Kerryann Richmond-Russell, Simon Cottrell
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Ensheng Dong, Samee Saiyed, Andreas Nearchou, Yamato Okura, Lauren M. Gardner
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Anticipating HIV Vaccines: A Cross-cultural Behavioral Economic Demand Analysis

Promise Tewogbola, Oluwakamkun Faith Adekunle, Deborah Odaudu, Tolulope Oyewole
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How did Ontario healthcare institutions implement and legitimize Covid-19 vaccine mandates? A mixed-methods study protocol

Claudia Chaufan

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Research Article Open Access

REVISED - Expectations and Vietnam's responses during COVID-19: potential human rights violations and related propositions

[version 4; peer review: 4 approved with reservations]

Hai Doan

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Think Tanks

Brookings [to 17 May 2025]

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

Reports, Events

No new digest content identified.

Center for Global Development [to 17 May 2025]

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

All Research

No new digest content identified.

Chatham House [to 17 May 2025]

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

Selected Analysis, Comment, Events

No new digest content identified.

Council on Foreign Relations [to 17 May 2025]

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

New Releases [Selected]

No new digest content identified.

CSIS [to 17 May 2025]

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

Reports [Selected]

Scenarios That Could Define 2035

This scenario series from the CSIS Brzezinski Chair explores possible futures for 2035—not to predict outcomes, but to prepare for them. With expert comments, the scenarios examine key drivers, second-order effects, and warning signs to inform strategic foresight.

Digital Report by Jon B. Alterman — May 14, 2025

Kaiser Family Foundation [to 17 May 2025]

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

Newsroom

No new digest content identified.

McKinsey Global Institute [to 17 May 2025]

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

Latest Research

No new digest content identified.

ODI [Overseas Development Institute] [to 17 May 2025]

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

Publications [Selected]

Keeping protection paramount amidst a 'humanitarian reset': the need for proactive protection action to reduce civilian harm

14 May 2025 *Briefing/policy paper*

Pew Research Center [to 17 May 2025]

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

Latest Publications [Selected]

No new digest content identified

Rand [to 17 May 2025]

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

Published Research [Selected]

Managing AI's Economic Future: Strategic Automation Policy in an Era of Global Competition

The author examines policy strategies for managing economic growth and inequality across a variety of artificial intelligence futures, paying particular attention to implications for technological competition between major powers.

Research May 13, 2025

Urban Institute [to 17 May 2025]

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

New Research Publications - Selected

World Economic Forum [to 17 May 2025]

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

Media [Selected]

No new digest content identified

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Public Consultations/Call for Inputs/Call for Papers

Public Consultation - Artificial Intelligence in Pharmacovigilance

CIOMS Working Group XIV

You are invited to participate in the Public Consultation during 1 May – 6 June 2025. All comments on the draft report of the CIOMS Working Group XIV on Artificial intelligence in pharmacovigilance must be provided using this comment form in Word format.

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:: Milestones, Perspectives

:: WHO

:: Organization Announcements

:: Journal Watch

:: Pre-Print Servers

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