



Vaccines and Global Health: The Week in Review
18 October 2025 :: Issue 818
Center for Vaccine Ethics & Policy (CVEP)

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

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

Comments and suggestions should be directed to

David R. Curry, MS

Editor and

Executive Director Center for Vaccine Ethics & Policy

david.r.curry@centerforvaccineethicsandpolicy.org

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Milestones, Perspectives

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Gaza

60-day ceasefire plan for Gaza

WHO - Emergency situation report

17 October 2025

Overview

With the initiation of the first phase of the ceasefire in Gaza, humanitarian needs remain dire. In the current situation, it is crucial to scale up humanitarian aid in a coordinated manner while ensuring the start of early recovery and reconstruction. This document summarizes WHO's key planning assumptions, strategic priorities and selected activities. The activities fall within the scope of the overall WHO operational response and early recovery plan for the occupied Palestinian territory: 2025 and the One-UN multi-sectoral Gaza Ceasefire Humanitarian Response Plan Summary: 60 days of 13 October 2025.

[Excerpt]

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND KEY ACTIVITIES

...B. Public health intelligence, early warning, and prevention and control of communicable disease

- Expansion and strengthening of surveillance for communicable diseases through the provision of surveillance equipment, expansion of Early Warning Alert and Response System, introducing linkages with laboratory and WASH data, and capacity building for Rapid Response Teams.
- Re-establish the Gaza Central Public Health Building, including rehabilitation of laboratory infrastructure, provision of essential equipment, and staffing capacity.
- Provide hospital laboratories with essential diagnostic and antimicrobial resistance equipment and testing supplies.

- Support the availability of safe blood, including entry of blood into the Gaza Strip, restarting local donations, and safety testing.

- **Implement the catch-up campaign for immunization to target 40 000 children under the age of 3 that are missing doses or zero-dose for immunizations.**

- Provide infection prevention and control support including establishment of isolation capacity, supplies, and capacity building.

- Continue water quality testing and support to WASH in health facilities.

- Undertake modelling exercises to estimate excess mortality, in collaboration...

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Epidemic Intelligence

WHO upgrades its public health intelligence system to boost global health security

13 October 2025 *News release*

Today, the World Health Organization (WHO), in collaboration with key partners and supporters, **launched version 2.0 of the Epidemic Intelligence from Open Sources (EIOS) system**, used globally for the early detection of public health threats. Since its development in 2017, the initiative has grown steadily and is now being **used by more than 110 Member States and around 30 organizations and networks around the world.**

The update incorporates new data sources and improved functionalities, including the use of artificial intelligence (AI). **Hosted at the WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence in Berlin, EIOS is the world's leading initiative for open-source intelligence for public health decision-making.** It helps public health teams detect and respond to potential threats daily by analyzing large volumes of publicly available information in near real time...

Recent health emergencies, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, and the mpox and avian influenza outbreaks, have demonstrated how critical early detection is to prevent outbreaks from escalating into global crises. **With version 2.0, public health experts around the globe are now better equipped to quickly identify new health threats and monitor ongoing events, whether they are linked to conflict, climate change, or new and re-emerging pathogens.**

Advanced features

Version 2.0 is the most significant upgrade to the custom-built technology and includes several new features:

- **Built for growth:** The system has been rebuilt to process more sources, accommodate more users and allow new features to be added more quickly.
- **AI integration:** Implementation of latest AI-powered tools enhancing automated analysis and signal detection.
- **Variety of sources:** The tool can now process additional sources, such as radio channels, which are automatically transcribed and translated.
- **Simpler and multilingual interface:** The new interface can be translated in multiple languages, making it more accessible for non-English speakers, and a new dashboard view helps users find and share the most relevant reports more quickly.
- **Better collaboration:** Users across countries and organizations can now track and monitor events jointly more easily.

WHO offers the EIOS system as a public good, free of charge to its Member States and eligible organizations and supports them with training and communities of practice. Ministries of Health and public health agencies use the EIOS system to complement information they receive through formal channels, such as laboratories and hospitals. The EIOS system enables them to identify relevant content from websites, social media and other public sources to identify important health events, which authorities can then verify and assess...

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AMR

[WHO warns of widespread resistance to common antibiotics worldwide](#)

13 October 2025 *News release*

One in six laboratory-confirmed bacterial infections causing common infections in people worldwide in 2023 were resistant to antibiotic treatments, according to a new World Health Organization (WHO) report launched today. Between 2018 and 2023, antibiotic resistance rose in over 40% of the pathogen-antibiotic combinations monitored, with an average annual increase of 5–15%.

Data reported to the WHO Global Antimicrobial Resistance and Use Surveillance System (GLASS) from over 100 countries cautions that increasing resistance to essential antibiotics poses a growing threat to global health.

The new [Global antibiotic resistance surveillance report 2025](#) presents, for the first time, resistance prevalence estimates across 22 antibiotics used to treat infections of the urinary and gastrointestinal tracts, the bloodstream and those used to treat gonorrhoea.

The report covers 8 common bacterial pathogens – *Acinetobacter* spp., *Escherichia coli*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, non-typhoidal *Salmonella* spp., *Shigella* spp., *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Streptococcus pneumoniae* – each linked to one or more of these infections.

WHO estimates that antibiotic resistance is highest in the WHO South-East Asian and Eastern Mediterranean Regions, where 1 in 3 reported infections were resistant. In the African Region, 1 in 5 infections was resistant. Resistance is also more common and worsening in places where health systems lack capacity to diagnose or treat bacterial pathogens...

The new report notes that drug-resistant Gram-negative bacteria are becoming more dangerous worldwide, with the greatest burden falling on countries least equipped to respond. Among these, *E. coli* and *K. pneumoniae* are the leading drug-resistant Gram-negative bacteria found in bloodstream infections. These are among the most severe bacterial infections that often result in sepsis, organ failure, and death. Yet more than 40% of *E. coli* and over 55% of *K. pneumoniae* globally are now resistant to third-generation cephalosporins, the first-choice treatment for these infections. In the African Region, resistance even exceeds 70%.

Other essential life-saving antibiotics, including carbapenems and fluoroquinolones, are losing effectiveness against *E. coli*, *K. pneumoniae*, *Salmonella*, and *Acinetobacter*. Carbapenem resistance, once rare, is becoming more frequent, narrowing treatment options and forcing reliance on last-resort antibiotics. And such antibiotics are costly, difficult to access, and often unavailable in low- and middle-income countries...

WHO calls on all countries to report high-quality data on AMR and antimicrobial use to GLASS by 2030.

Achieving this target will require concerted action to strengthen the quality, geographic coverage, and sharing of AMR surveillance data to track progress. Countries should scale up coordinated interventions designed to address antimicrobial resistance across all levels of healthcare and ensure that treatment guidelines and essential medicines lists align with local resistance patterns.

The report is accompanied by expanded digital content available in the WHO's [GLASS dashboard](#), which provides global and regional summaries, country profiles based on unadjusted surveillance coverage and AMR data, and detailed information on antimicrobial use.

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Polio – PHEIC

[Polio this week](#) [16 October 2025]

Headlines ::

:: GPEI Action Plan published

The Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) published its Action Plan – a comprehensive roadmap to streamline operations and sustain momentum toward a polio-free world in light of ongoing global reductions in development assistance. The Action Plan, developed through extensive consultation and grounded in the latest data, sets out how GPEI will focus activities where they will have the greatest

impact, making deliberate, sometimes challenging choices to minimize risk, safeguard hard-won gains, and maintain progress toward a polio-free world. *[see below]*

Summary of new polioviruses this week:

- :: Afghanistan: one WPV1 case
- :: Pakistan: 32 WPV1-positive environmental samples
- :: Algeria: one cVDPV2-positive environmental sample
- :: Angola: one cVDPV2 case
- :: Lao PDR: one cVDPV1 case
- :: Nigeria: two cVDPV2 cases and two cVDPV2-positive environmental samples

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GPEI Releases 2026 Action Plan: A Smarter, Leaner Blueprint to End Polio

13 October 2025 – The Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) today released its [2026 Action Plan](#)—a comprehensive roadmap to streamline operations and sustain momentum toward a polio-free world in light of **a 30% budget reduction next year**.

Since the GPEI was formed in 1988, global efforts have reduced the number of children paralyzed by polio by 99%. Now, **with rising conflict, economic strain, and humanitarian crises in the final phase of eradication, efficiency and coordination across all stakeholders is more critical than ever to maximize resources and end polio everywhere for good.**

The 2026 Action Plan, developed through extensive consultation and grounded in the latest data, sets out how GPEI will focus activities where they will have the greatest impact, making deliberate, sometimes challenging choices to minimize risk, safeguard hard-won gains, and maintain progress toward a polio-free world.

The GPEI will:

- **Target investments** to the highest risk areas of Afghanistan and Pakistan, the last remaining strongholds of wild poliovirus, and outbreak zones in Southern and Central Africa, the Horn of Africa, and Lake Chad Basin.
- **Expand new vaccination strategies**, including delivery of the novel oral polio vaccine type 2 (nOPV2) in between campaign rounds and fractional dose inactivated polio vaccine (fIPV) during campaigns to close immunity gaps in the hardest to reach places.
- **More systematically integrate with health partners**, such as measles and nutrition services, to reach the most vulnerable children and strengthen routine immunization.
- **Enhance national surveillance and lab capacities** to ensure rapid detection and response to outbreaks, even as budgets tighten.

The Action Plan also addresses the risks posed by reduced funding, with measures to:

- Maintain intensive nationwide vaccination campaigns and surveillance in endemic countries.
- Streamline operations and workforce structures for efficient outbreak response and oversight.
- Enhance operational and financial accountability by anchoring strategic planning and monitoring in regularly reviewed, localized subnational plans.

We cannot do this alone. **Even with more efficient operations planned for 2026, a US\$1.7 billion funding gap remains for the GPEI's 2022-2029 Strategy. Full political and financial support is urgently needed** from donors, governments, and partners to help close this gap, reinforce global health security and ensure no child is left behind.

Polio eradication remains one of the best investments in global health. The infrastructure built by the GPEI supports broader disease surveillance, emergency response, and resilient health systems. Completing eradication will unlock billions in economic benefits and protect children from this preventable disease for generations to come.

Related Documents

[Snapshot of the GPEI 2026 Action Plan: Focused Investment, Lasting Impact](#)

[GPEI Action Plan 2026](#)

[Subnational Plans](#)

Annex C. GPEI 2026 budget

The 2026 budget for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) reflects financial resource requirements (FRR) funding for core infrastructure and essential capacities across the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) (Table C1). Some management lines, such as research, are additionally resourced through complementary partner-managed funds referred to as non-financial resource requirements, or non-FRR.

Table C1. GPEI 2026 budget and variance analysis

Management lines		2025 budget	2026 budget	Variance from 2025	% reduction
Endemic countries	Afghanistan	\$ 109,679,000	\$ 90,132,000	\$ -19,547,000	-18%
	Pakistan	\$ 210,516,000	\$ 171,672,000	\$ -38,844,000	-18%
Outbreak response*		\$ 408,000,000	\$ 300,000,000	\$ -108,000,000	-26%
Vaccine supply**		\$ 124,000,000	\$ 70,000,000	\$ -54,000,000	-44%
Non-endemic surveillance		\$ 98,555,000	\$ 64,753,000	\$ -33,802,000	-34%
Non-endemic core functions		\$ 40,245,000	\$ 27,345,000	\$ -12,900,000	-32%
Certification		\$ 900,000	\$ 536,000	\$ -364,000	-40%
Containment		\$ 2,000,000	\$ 1,192,000	\$ -808,000	
Research		\$ 4,225,000	\$ 2,518,000	\$ -1,707,000	
Gender		\$ 4,366,000	\$ 2,620,000	\$ -1,746,000	
Population immunity boosting†		\$ 30,874,000	\$ -	\$ -30,874,000	-100%
Special interventions in targeted geographies		\$	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	
Indirect cost		\$ 76,879,000	\$ 54,188,000	\$ -22,691,000	-30%
TOTAL		\$ 1,110,239,000	\$ 786,456,000	\$ -323,783,000	-29%

Note: The budget analysis in the GPEI Action Plan reflects allocated budget space and not funded budget lines. When the 2025 funded budget is considered, some reductions have a different degree of variance.

* The funded budget for outbreak response was increased in mid-2025 to US\$ 438M, which suggests a slightly larger variance (31%) when compared to the 2026 allocated budget space.

** The allocated budget for vaccine supply reflects the impact of reduced outbreak response campaign planning. While the 2026 budget space looks like a steep reduction, vaccine supply is healthy due to past

investments that supported an nOPV2 buffer of 200 million doses and will fully cover anticipated needs in 2026 and half of 2027.

† In previous budgets (including 2025), the GPEI costed management lines based on the technical requirements for all activities. Consequently, some areas (such as preventative campaigns) were included in the budget but were never funded due to resource-driven prioritizations. For 2026, the GPEI has outlined an operational budget aligned to resources. Due to this change of approach, preventative campaigns under 'population immunity boosting' are no longer listed under a nominal budget space.

2026 GPEI Budget Reductions: What They Mean & How We're Managing the Risks

Area	Budget Reduction from 2025 (%)	Risk	Mitigation
Endemic Countries (Afghanistan & Pakistan)	18%	Stalled or even reversed progress toward wild polio eradication	Maintain intensive campaign and surveillance efforts nationwide; target most effective innovations in high-risk subnational areas; strengthen political advocacy for national ownership; increase integration with EPI, Gavi and humanitarian partners
Outbreak Response	26%	Failed control of polio outbreaks and increased risk of international spread, even to places long free of the disease	Direct resources to stopping transmission in the Lake Chad Basin, Horn of Africa, Southern and Central Africa; shift to planned subnational campaigns; implement new vaccination strategies in high-risk areas; increase integration with EPI, Gavi and humanitarian partners
Surveillance (non-endemic)	34%	Weakened disease surveillance systems, delaying detection and response to polio and other infectious disease outbreaks	Preserve core surveillance functions in polio-affected countries by limiting support in lower-risk areas and stopping it in polio-free countries; enhance regional and national lab capacities; closely monitor surveillance performance; conduct more frequent reviews in priority countries; reserve limited global funds for unexpected challenges and urgent demands
Core functions (non-endemic)	32%	Inefficient operations and low staff morale contributing to all the above risks	Restructure and localize workforce; streamline and realign workforce with technical needs; better support women at all levels; closely monitor workforce deployment and performance

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

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WHO & Regional Offices [18 Oct 2025]

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

Selected News/Announcements/Statements

17 October 2025 *Departmental update*

[Empowering countries to harness digital health for stronger health systems](#)

17 October 2025 *News release*

[Health Works Leaders Coalition launched to promote health system investments and spur economic growth, job creation](#)

16 October 2025 *Departmental update*

[100 countries committed to climate action for health](#)

16 October 2025 *Departmental update*

[Spotlight on traditional medicine at World Health Summit 2025](#)

15 October 2025 *Departmental update*

[New guidelines on community hand hygiene to help governments reduce the spread of infectious diseases](#)

13 October 2025 *News release*

[WHO upgrades its public health intelligence system to boost global health security](#)

13 October 2025 *News release*

[Maldives becomes the first country to achieve 'triple elimination' of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, syphilis and hepatitis B](#)

13 October 2025 *News release*

[WHO warns of widespread resistance to common antibiotics worldwide](#)

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WHO Vaccines and Immunization [IVB]

https://www.who.int/health-topics/vaccines-and-immunization#tab=tab_1

Updates

No new digest content identified.

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WHO Regional Offices

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

WHO African Region AFRO

:: 16 October 2025

[Cameroon: A beacon of hope for adolescents and young people living with HIV](#)

:: 14 October 2025

[Republic of Congo reinforces measures to curb potential Ebola outbreak](#)

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO

:: 13 Oct 2025

[Protecting health systems by reducing disaster risk: A call to invest in resilience](#)

Washington, D.C., 13 October 2025 (PAHO)— Four out of ten health facilities in Latin America and the Caribbean are exposed to natural hazards. As disasters become more frequent and destructive, public health systems must be ready to respond to and recover from them—ensuring the delivery of essential health services when they are needed most. For...

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO

:: [Maldives becomes the first country to achieve 'triple elimination' of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, syphilis and hepatitis B](#)

:: 15 October 2025 News release

[WHO South-East Asia Regional Committee concludes with landmark decisions and commitments to accelerate health for all](#)

WHO European Region EURO

No new digest content identified.

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

:: [WHO and ECHO provide essential aid for malnourished children in Somalia](#)

12 October 2025

WHO Western Pacific Region

:: 13 October 2025 News release

[Papua New Guinea Rallies for a Polio-Free Future: Round 2 Mass Vaccination Campaign](#)

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WHO - Emergency situation reports

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

17 October 2025

[60-day ceasefire plan for Gaza](#)

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Disease Outbreak News (DONs)

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

No new digest content identified.

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Weekly Epidemiological Record

Vol. 100, No. 42, pp. 469–482 17 October 2025

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

:: Recommended composition of influenza virus vaccines for use in the 2026 southern hemisphere influenza season

::::::

New WHO Publications

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

Selected

17 October 2025

[**WHO strategic approach on air quality, energy access and health**](#)

15 October 2025

[**Technical consultation to review the ACTwatch Lite survey methodology**](#)

15 October 2025

[**Governance for public health across the health and allied sectors: a report to guide country-level institutional capacity for essential public health functions underpinning multisectoral approaches**](#)

The report is intended for national and subnational actors—within and beyond the health sector—who are involved in public health governance and in coordinating and delivering public health functions and services. This includes governments, ministries of health, public health institutes, research and professional bodies, allied ministries with key responsibilities for public health, such as finance, planning, local administration, environment, education, agriculture, and commerce, and subnational authorities.

14 October 2025

[**Ending tuberculosis in the WHO South-East Asia Region: reflections and the road ahead in the milestone...**](#)

14 October 2025

[**WHO South-East Asia Regional Health Emergency Workforce Strategy 2025–2030**](#)

14 October 2025

[**Regional Roadmap to accelerate actions on antimicrobial resistance in the human health sector in the...**](#)

14 October 2025

[**Monitoring progress on universal health coverage and the health-related Sustainable Development Goals...**](#)

13 October 2025

[**Subnational tailoring of malaria strategies and interventions**](#)

13 October 2025

[**Global antibiotic resistance surveillance report 2025: summary**](#)

13 October 2025

[**Global antibiotic resistance surveillance report 2025**](#)

13 October 2025

[Global scientific panel on chronic respiratory diseases: background paper](#)

13 October 2025

[Key advocacy messages for chronic respiratory diseases](#)

12 October 2025

[Global status report on neurology](#)

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Africa

Africa CDC [18 Oct 2025]

<https://africacdc.org/>

Press Releases, Statements [Selected]

Press Releases

[Africa CDC and Partners Open High-Level Regional Forum on Immunisation in West Africa](#)

Dakar, Senegal, 17 October 2025 — The Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), in collaboration with the Government of Senegal and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, has today opened the High-Level Regional Forum on Immunisation in West Africa, taking place in Dakar from 17–19 October 2025...

This landmark gathering aims to accelerate progress towards reaching zero-dose children, strengthening vaccine sovereignty, and positioning immunisation as a cornerstone of universal health coverage and health security in the region...

"This is not just a forum, it is a turning point for our region," said H.E. Dr Jean Kaseya, Director General of Africa CDC. "We are bringing together ministers and partners to affirm one simple truth: vaccines are a right, not a privilege. If we are serious about universal health coverage, then we must prioritise immunisation, strengthen local manufacturing, and invest in our primary health care systems. This is the essence of the New Public Health Order."...

Over three days, participants are engaging in a structured programme comprising a technical expert forum (17–18 October) and a ministerial session (19 October), aligning with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Heads of State Summit. The Forum is expected to result in the adoption of the Dakar Communiqué on Immunisation in West Africa, alongside a regional roadmap to guide country-level implementation over the next five years...

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China – CDC+

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

National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China [18 Oct 2025]

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

News

[NHC minister meets with heads of Abbott Laboratories, Roche Group](#)

Updated: 2025-10-11

On Oct 9, Lei Haichao, minister of China's National Health Commission (NHC), held meetings in Beijing with Robert B. Ford, global chairman and CEO of US-based Abbott Laboratories, and Severin Schwan, chairman of the board of directors of Swiss Roche Group, respectively...

He expressed the hope that Abbott and Roche would actively participate in China's health initiatives, increase investment and R&D innovation in China and work together to develop new technologies and quality products, so as to achieve development in the country, provide health promotion solutions for the world and promote the building of a global community of health for all.

Ford and Schwan spoke highly of the progress China has made in the health sector and respectively outlined their companies' recent development plans. They both emphasized the great importance attached to the Chinese market and development opportunities in China, expressing their willingness to actively participate in the Healthy China initiative and contribute to health promotion in the country and globally.

National Medical Products Administration – PRC [18 Oct 2025]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

China CDC

CCDC Weekly Reports: Current Volume (7)

2025-10-17 / No. 42

[PDF of this issue](#)

- [Preplanned Studies: Antibody Levels Against Mumps Virus in Children After Implementation of the Two-Dose MMR Vaccine Policy — Fujian Province, China, 2023](#)
- [Preplanned Studies: Impact of PCV13 Vaccination on Pharyngeal Detection of Streptococcus pneumoniae Among Children — Suqian City, Jiangsu Province, China, February 2023–February 2025](#)
- [Preplanned Studies: Protective Effect and Immune Mechanism of EPCP009 Booster Immunization after BCG Prime Immunization Against Tuberculosis in Mice — China, 2024](#)
- [Methods and Applications: Evaluation of Measles Vaccine Immunogenicity and Durability Using A Pseudotyped Virus Neutralization Assay](#)

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Europe

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

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

News/Updates/Reports/Publications [Selected]

[New guidance from ECDC and EACS aims to raise standards of HIV care, focusing on lifelong health](#)

17 Oct 2025

Operational support

[European standards of HIV prevention and care: Module on Commencement of antiretroviral therapy](#)

17 Oct 2025

Early initiation of antiretroviral therapy (ART) is a cornerstone of HIV care, conferring individual health benefits and reducing onward transmission.

Operational support

European standards of HIV prevention and care: Module on HIV and co-morbidities

17 Oct 2025

An estimated 2 334 662 people are living with HIV in Europe and Central Asia, of whom 1 944 695 have been diagnosed with the infection. As the population with HIV is aging, 18.7% of new HIV diagnoses occur in people aged over 50 years.

Assessment

Final report from the audit of the HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis standards of care

17 Oct 2025

The current report presents findings from a clinical audit conducted on the PrEP Standards of Care module developed by ECDC in collaboration with EACS, which also serves as a model for future audits on other care standards.

European Medicines Agency [EMA]

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

News & Press Releases

Meeting highlights from the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) 13-16 October 2025

Two new medicines recommended for approval; another eight medicines recommended for extension of their therapeutic indications

17 October 2025

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India

National Centre for Disease Control

Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Announcements

No new digest content identified.

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U.S. Immunization and Public Health Governance/Policy/Funding

Given the continuing extraordinary situation in the U.S., we have established a separate section of the digest to capture and organize key content. Please note that we will selectively include external analysis and comment, indenting this content under the relevant organization/action. We recognize that despite the volume of content in this section, this summary is indicative and not exhaustive.

White House, HHS, FDA, CDC+

White House

Presidential Actions – Executive Orders; Memoranda; Proclamations

No new digest content identified.

Department of State

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

HHS

Press Room

No new digest content identified.

NIH

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

News Releases

No new digest content identified.

FDA

Press Announcements

No new digest content identified.

FDA CBER

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

FDA VRBPAC [Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee]

Advisory Committee Calendar

Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee October 9, 2025 Meeting Announcement - 10/09/2025

Event Materials

FDA Pediatric Advisory Committee Meeting

Advisory Committee Calendar

Pediatric Advisory Committee (PAC); Notice of Meeting; Establishment of a Public Docket; Request for Comments

A Notice by the Food and Drug Administration on 10/02/2025

DATES: The meeting will be held on virtually on **November 13, 2025**, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET). Comments: November 5, 2025

CDC

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

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

CDC – Immunization Safety Office (ISO)

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccine-safety-systems/about/cdc-monitoring-program.html>

No new digest content identified.

ACIP

Meeting - September 18-19, 2025

- Final ACIP September 18-19, 2025 Meeting Agenda (posted 9-19-2025)
- Anticipated Votes
- ACIP Presentation Slides: September 18-19, 2025 Meeting
- YouTube Live Stream Link 9-18-2025
- YouTube Live Stream Link 9-19-2025
- Written Public Comments

MMWR Weekly

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

September 25, 2025 / No. 36

No new edition identified.

National Vaccine Program Committee (NVAC)

<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 [To be re-scheduled from original date January 29, 2025]

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NSF

News

No new digest content identified.

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U.S. Congress

House of Representatives

No new digest content identified.

U.S. Senate

Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee

No new digest content identified.

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Supreme Court, Federal & Appellate Courts

No new digest content identified.

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U.S. States

[US state governors launch alliance to bolster coordination on public health](#)

Reuters, October 15, 2025

By Siddhi Mahatole

Oct 15 (Reuters) - A coalition of 15 U.S. state governors representing more than a third of the country's population has launched a new bipartisan alliance on Wednesday, aimed at improving public health coordination and emergency preparedness.

The Governors Public Health Alliance will serve as a hub for governors and public health officials to share best practices, exchange data and collaborate on emergency response, vaccine policy and other technical issues, according to a joint statement from the coalition.

The alliance of mostly Democratic states and territories comprises **Colorado, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, Washington and Guam.**

"While Donald Trump and RFK Jr. turn their backs on public health, Governors are stepping up to make sure our residents have the health care they need and deserve," Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey said...

The alliance is supported by GovAct, a nonpartisan nonprofit initiative that supports coordinated governor action, and advised by national health experts, including Dr. Mandy Cohen, a former director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention...

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States Are Forming "Health Alliances." Can They Make a Difference for Public Health Policy?

Kaiser Family Foundation/KFF *Policy Watch*

Oct 16, 2025

The recent emergence of several state health alliances marks a new phase for public health in the U.S. These alliances include two that formed last month: the "West Coast Health Alliance" announced September 3 and the "Northeast Public Health Collaborative" announced September 18, and another just this week announced by fifteen governors called the "Governors Public Health Alliance", which has some overlapping membership with the regional alliances. To date, these alliances have included Democratic-led states only, and a common thread across all three is a broad rejection of the Trump administration's approach to public health and the policies of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under its current Secretary, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr...

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U.S. Medical Societies, Health Organizations

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

<https://www.aap.org/en/news-room/news-releases-from-the-aap/>

(Accessed 04 Sep 2025)

News

No new digest content identified.

American College of Physicians (ACP)

<https://www.acponline.org/more-acp-news>

(Accessed 04 Sep 2025)

ACP News

Two-dose recombinant shingles vaccine is effective even accounting for prior receipt of live shingles vaccine

10/15/25

Annals of Internal Medicine

Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA)

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

(Accessed 04 Sep 2025)

News

IDSA releases COVID-19 vaccine guidelines for people who are immunocompromised

October 17, 2025

The Infectious Diseases Society of America released new COVID-19 vaccination guidelines for adults and children who are immunocompromised. Experts in infectious

diseases recommend that all adults and children who are immunocompromised receive an age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine for the 2025-2026 season. Patients should talk with their health care providers about the timing and other clinical considerations specific to their individual situations.

"Vaccines are one of the most powerful tools to prevent respiratory viral illnesses, and this protection is especially important for individuals in our communities who have impaired immune systems," said Lindsey Robert Baden, MD, FIDSA, vice president of clinical research at Mass General Brigham, and chair of the guideline panel. **"IDSA's guideline for COVID vaccination for individuals who are immunocompromised helps protect people who often suffer the most severe associated illnesses."**

People who are immunocompromised include individuals with impaired immune systems due to disease (e.g., cancer or HIV) or medications they must take to treat a health condition (e.g., for organ transplantation). The guidelines also advise that household members and those in close contact with individuals who are immunocompromised be up to date with COVID-19 vaccination to provide further protection.

The recommendations are based on a systematic literature review conducted by the Vaccine Integrity Project and supplementary searches and evidence reviews conducted by the IDSA guideline panel of experts. The panel included scientists with specific expertise in adult and pediatric infectious diseases, including treating patients who are immunocompromised; vaccines and vaccine research; and transplant medicine.

IDSA will be releasing recommendations on vaccination for influenza and respiratory syncytial virus in the coming weeks...

American Public Health Association (APHA)

<https://www.apha.org/news-and-media/news-releases?sortFieldName=ItemDate&sortDisplayName=Newest&sortMode=desc>

(Accessed 04 Sep 2025)

News Releases

No new digest content identified.

Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM)

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

(Accessed 04 Sep 2025)

News

No new digest content identified.

Massachusetts Public Health Alliance (MPHA)

<https://mapublichealth.org/press-room/>

(Accessed 04 Sep 2025)

Press Room

No new digest content identified.

American Medical Association (AMA)

<https://www.ama-assn.org/press-center>

(Accessed 04 Sep 2025)

Press Center

No new digest content identified.

American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)

<https://www.aafp.org/news/media-center.html>

(Accessed 04 Sep 2025)

Statements, Releases

No new digest content identified.

American Geriatrics Society (AGS)

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

(Accessed 04 Sep 2025)

Recent Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

American Osteopathic Association (AOA)

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

(Accessed 04 Sep 2025)

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

National Medical Association (NMA)

<https://nmanet.org/blog/>

(Accessed 04 Sep 2025)

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID)

<https://www.nfid.org/news-updates/>

(Accessed 04 Sep 2025)

News and Updates

No new digest content identified.

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Civil Society – Individuals, Organizations, Institutions

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Kaiser Family Foundation/KFF [18 Oct 2025]

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

Newsroom

[The Trump Administration's Foreign Aid Review: Reorganization of U.S. Global Health Programs](#)

Oct 16, 2025

Fact Sheet

... *What to Watch*

- Reorganization: While the reorganization of U.S. global health programs is well underway, there are still many questions about what programs will be maintained and how they will be managed, implemented and monitored, particularly given the significant reductions in federal staff as well as of health care workers more broadly who have been affected by U.S. cuts.
- Leadership: Several leadership positions have yet to be announced, including the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator (which requires Senate confirmation), the U.S. Malaria Coordinator, and others. Whether the administration will choose to nominate or appoint people to these positions is not yet known.
- Funding/President's budget request: The administration's FY 2026 budget request includes a \$6.2 billion reduction in funding for global health through foreign assistance, reductions at HHS, and proposes to eliminate several funding lines (final appropriation amounts will be determined by Congress). The administration also submitted its first rescission package to Congress, including

proposed rescissions of \$400 million for PEPFAR and \$500 million for other global health programs. Congress voted to amend the package, exempting PEPFAR funding as well as funding for maternal and child health, TB, malaria, and nutrition from the rescission, although \$500 million in family planning and other programs was rescinded.

- New Global Health Strategy: Over the next few months, it is expected that the administration will develop bilateral agreements with countries regarding remaining global health programming including plans to scale down funding, the details of which will significantly shape the future of the global health response.
- Congressional oversight: As budget and reorganization proposals continue to circulate, members of Congress could choose to exert their own authority, including seeking further clarification and information about the potential impacts of proposed changes.

The Trump Administration's Foreign Aid Review: Status of Global Health Security/Pandemic Preparedness

Oct 16, 2025

Fact Sheet

... *What to Watch*

- Reorganization: The dissolution of USAID and integration of remaining USAID global health activities, including GHS, into GHSD raises questions about how activities will be integrated with existing GHSD functions and whether new capacities will be needed. GHSD has historically focused on coordination and diplomatic roles rather than the in-country implementation roles that USAID and CDC led on.
- Funding/Budget Request: The administration's FY 2026 budget request includes significant reductions in funding for global health, including a \$500 million reduction for GHS (final appropriation amounts will be determined by Congress). The administration also submitted its first rescission package to Congress, including proposed rescissions of more than \$1 billion in FY 2025 funding for global health. Congress voted to amend the package, reducing that amount to \$500 million and exempting some program areas from the rescission, although global health security was not listed among those program areas.
- New Global Health Strategy: Over the next few months, it is expected that the administration will develop more specific plans for its GHS work at the State Department, including with countries, which will provide more details on the future of this work.

The Trump Administration's Foreign Aid Review: Status of PEPFAR

Oct 16, 2025

Fact Sheet

... *What to Watch*

- Leadership: The President has not yet nominated a Global AIDS Coordinator, and it is unclear when this might occur
- Reauthorization: It is unknown if Congress will seek to reauthorize PEPFAR, which could afford it an opportunity to propose changes to the program and extend certain time-bound provisions.
- Reorganization: The dissolution of USAID, integration of remaining USAID global health activities into GHSD, and other proposed changes at the State Department raise questions about the potential impact on PEPFAR's operations.
- Funding/Budget Request: The administration's FY 2026 budget request includes significant reductions in funding for global health, including a \$1.9 billion reduction for PEPFAR (final appropriation amounts will be determined by Congress). The administration also submitted its first rescission package to Congress in June, including proposed rescissions of \$400 million in FY 2025 funding for PEPFAR. Congress voted to amend the package, exempting PEPFAR from the rescission.
- New Global Health Strategy: Over the next few months, it is expected that the administration will develop bilateral agreements with countries regarding PEPFAR programming and plans to scale down funding, the details of which will significantly shape the future of the global HIV response.

The Trump Administration's Foreign Aid Review: Status of U.S. Global Tuberculosis Efforts

Oct 16, 2025

Fact Sheet

... *What to Watch*

- Reorganization: The dissolution of USAID and integration of any remaining USAID global health activities, including for TB, into GHSD raises several questions, including whether additional capacities will be provided to allow for the management and implementation of TB and these other health programs at the State Department.
- Funding/Budget Request: The administration's FY 2026 budget request includes significant reductions in funding for global health, including a \$228 million reduction for TB (final appropriation amounts will be determined by Congress). The administration also submitted its first rescission package to Congress in June, including proposed rescissions of more than \$1 billion in FY 2025 funding for global health. Congress voted to amend the package, reducing that amount to \$500 million and exempting some program areas, including TB, from the rescission.
- New Global Health Strategy: Over the next few months, it is expected that the administration will develop bilateral agreements with countries and plans to scale down funding, including for TB-related activities, the details of which will significantly shape the future of the global TB response.

The Trump Administration's Foreign Aid Review: Status of the President's Malaria Initiative (PMI)

Oct 16, 2025

Fact Sheet

... *What to Watch*

- Leadership: A U.S. Malaria Coordinator has not yet been appointed, and it is unclear, given the dissolution of USAID, what the leadership structure will be going forward.
- Reorganization: The dissolution of USAID and integration of any remaining USAID global health activities, including for malaria, into GHSD raises several questions, including whether additional capacities will be provided to allow for the management and implementation of PMI at the State Department.
- Funding/Budget Request: The administration's FY 2026 budget request includes significant reductions in funding for global health, including a \$381 million reduction for malaria (final appropriation amounts will be determined by Congress). The administration also submitted its first rescission package to Congress in June, including proposed rescissions of more than \$1 billion in funding for global health. Congress reduced that amount to \$500 million and exempted some program areas, including malaria, from the rescission.
- New Global Health Strategy: Over the next few months, it is expected that the administration will develop bilateral agreements with countries and plans to scale down funding, including for malaria-related activities, the details of which will significantly shape the future of the global malaria response.

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Vaccine Integrity Project – CIDRAP

Viewpoint

We owe parents real data before we mess with kids' vaccination schedule (October 15, 2025)







Vaccine Integrity Project Staff and Advisers

October 15, 2025

2025-26 Respiratory Virus Immunization Guidelines



See PDF here for active page active links: https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/sites/default/files/searchable-download/CIDRAP%20Fall%20Immunization%20Infographic_10_3.pdf

	COVID-19	RSV	Influenza
 Pregnancy	ACOG recommendation AAP recommendation VIP reviewed evidence	ACOG recommendation AAP recommendation VIP reviewed evidence	ACOG recommendation AAP recommendation VIP reviewed evidence
 Infants	AAP recommendation AAP recommendation VIP reviewed evidence	AAP recommendation AAP recommendation VIP reviewed evidence	AAP recommendation AAP recommendation VIP reviewed evidence
 Children	AAP recommendation AAP recommendation VIP reviewed evidence	AAP recommendation AAP recommendation VIP reviewed evidence	AAP recommendation AAP recommendation VIP reviewed evidence
 Adults	AAP recommendation VIP reviewed evidence	AAP recommendation VIP reviewed evidence	AAP recommendation VIP reviewed evidence
 Elderly	AAP recommendation VIP reviewed evidence	AAP recommendation VIP reviewed evidence	AAP recommendation VIP reviewed evidence
 Immuno-compromised	Pending IDSA recommendation VIP reviewed evidence	Pending IDSA recommendation VIP reviewed evidence	Pending IDSA recommendation VIP reviewed evidence

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:: [WHO](#)

:: [Organization Announcements](#)

:: [Journal Watch](#)

:: [Pre-Print Servers](#)

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Organization Announcements

Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group [18 Oct 2025]

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

Recent News

No new digest content identified.

BMGF - Gates Foundation [18 Oct 2025]

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

Press Releases & Statements

No new digest content identified.

CARB-X [18 Oct 2025]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Chan Zuckerberg Initiative [18 Oct 2025]

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

Newsroom

No new digest content identified.

CEPI – Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations [18 Oct 2025]

<http://cepi.net/>

CEPI News, Blog

News

[Serum Institute of India and CEPI supercharge pandemic response preparedness targeting H5N1](#)

Project will contribute to global preparedness for pandemic influenza and support faster responses against other emerging viral threats.

13 Oct 2025

News

[BMFTR boosts international vaccine initiative CEPI](#)

11 Oct 2025

CIOMS – COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF MEDICAL SCIENCES [to 18 Oct 2025]

<https://cioms.ch/>

News; Publications; Events

[CIOMS Benefit-risk balance webinar 2](#)

Online October 23, 2025

This webinar introduces and explains the main concepts of the CIOMS report on Benefit-risk balance for medicinal products.

DARPA – Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency [U.S.] [18 Oct 2025]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

DNDI – Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative [18 Oct 2025]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

Duke Global Health Innovation Center [18 Oct 2025]

<https://dukeghic.org/>

News

No new digest content identified.

EDCTP [18 Oct 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

No new digest content identified.

Emory Vaccine Center [18 Oct 2025]

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

Vaccine Center News

No new digest content identified.

European Vaccine Initiative [18 Oct 2025]

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

News

[From protection to prosperity: the power of vaccines to end poverty](#)

As the world marks 80 years since the creation of the United Nations, we reflect on the shared global mission to end poverty in all its forms. On 17 October, the International Day for the Eradication

of Poverty reminds us that health and prosperity are deeply connected, and that vaccines play a crucial role in breaking the cycle of poverty.

17 October 2025

Fondation Merieux [18 Oct 2025]

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

Actualités

No new digest content identified.

Gates Medical Research Institute [18 Oct 2025]

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

The Gates Medical Research Institute is a non-profit organization dedicated to the discovery, development and effective use of novel biomedical interventions addressing substantial global health concerns, for which investment incentives are limited.

News: Articles and Publications

No new digest content identified.

Gavi [to 18 Oct 2025]

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

News Releases

12 October 2025

Bangladesh launches nationwide typhoid conjugate vaccine campaign to protect 50 million children

Dhaka, 12 October 2025 – The Government of Bangladesh, with support from UNICEF, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and WHO, today officially launched the nationwide Typhoid Conjugate Vaccine (TCV) campaign. Bangladesh is the eighth country in the world to introduce TCV. The campaign aims to vaccinate approximately 50 million children aged 9 months to under 15 years with a single, life-saving dose of the TCV vaccine, protecting them from deadly typhoid fever...

GE2P2 Global Foundation [18 Oct 2025]

www.ge2p2.org

News/Analysis/Publications-Digests/Statements

Digests

:: [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 – 03 Oct 2025](#)

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

GHIT Fund [18 Oct 2025]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

Global Fund [to 18 Oct 2025]

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

News Releases

12 October 2025

Germany's Commitment to the Global Fund Replenishment: A Timely Investment in Health, Equity, and Resilience

The Global Fund warmly welcomes Germany's commitment of €1 billion to the Eighth Replenishment, announced at the World Health Summit in Berlin - a powerful signal of its enduring leadership in global health and its deep commitment to equity, resilience...

Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness [GloPID-R] [18 Oct 2025]

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

News & Events

No new digest content identified.

Hilleman Laboratories [18 Oct 2025]

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

News & Insights

No new digest content identified.

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [18 Oct 2025]

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

Press Room

No new digest content identified.

Human Immunome Project [nee Human Vaccines Project] [18 Oct 2025]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

IAVI [18 Oct 2025]

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

Press Releases, Features

No new digest content identified.

INSERM [18 Oct 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

17 October 2025

Real-World Evidence for Public Health Emergencies

The ICMRA Working Group on Real-World Evidence for Public Health Emergencies was established to provide a collaborative forum for international regulatory agencies to proactively enhance the efficiency

and coordination of critical responses to emerging public health emergencies through joint studies and evidence generation.

[Read Mandate](#)

ICH [International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use] [to 18 Oct 2025]

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

News/Pubs/Press Releases [Selected]

ICH: E20 EWG Adaptive Designs for Clinical Trials

ICH Public consultation dates:

ANMAT, Argentina - Deadline for comments by 8 October 2025

EC, Europe - Deadline for comments by 30 November 2025

Health Canada, Canada - Deadline for comments by 25 September 2025

MHRA, UK - Deadline for comments by 30 November 2025

Swissmedic, Switzerland - Deadline for comments by 30 November 2025

TFDA, Chinese Taipei - Deadline for comments by 13 October 2025

[USA, FDA, Deadline 12/01 2025](#) **Docket No. FDA-2025-D-3023**

The E20 EWG is working on the development of a new E20 Guideline on “Adaptive Clinical Trials” on the design, conduct, analysis, and interpretation of adaptive clinical trials that provides a transparent and harmonized set of principles for the regulatory review of these studies in a global drug development program. These principles should also provide the flexibility to evaluate / discuss innovative approaches to clinical trial design throughout the development process.

Rapporteur: Dr. Gregory Levin (FDA, United States)

Regulatory Chair: Dr. Christian Roes (EC, Europe)

Date of Step 2b: 25 June 2025 Status: Step 3

Ongoing Public Consultations		^
>	M13B EWG Bioequivalence for Immediate-Release Solid Oral Dosage Forms	
>	Q1 EWG Stability Testing of Drug Substances and Drug Products	
>	M4Q(R2) EWG Revision of M4Q(R1)	
>	Q3E EWG Guideline for Extractables and Leachables	
>	E20 EWG Adaptive Designs for Clinical Trials	

<https://www.ich.org/page/public-consultations>

ICRC [to 18 Oct 2025]

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

News

States call for good faith interpretation of international humanitarian law in new report

News release 16-10-2025

IFFIm [18 Oct 2025]

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

Press Releases/Announcements

No new digest content identified.

IFRC [to 18 Oct 2025]

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

Press releases

Press release 17/10/2025

Pacific Red Cross Leaders Unite in Fiji to Strengthen Regional Humanitarian Response

IPPS - International Pandemic Preparedness Secretariat [18 Oct 2025]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Institut Pasteur [18 Oct 2025]

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

Press Documents

No new digest content identified.

ISC / International Science Council [to 18 Oct 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.

news

New primers examine AI use, environmental impacts and data in science

October 13, 2025

As artificial intelligence (AI) rapidly reshapes the scientific landscape, the International Science Council (ISC) is releasing a series of three technical primers to support informed engagement across global science systems. These primers explore the practical applications, environmental implications, and data governance challenges of AI in science - helping policy-makers, researchers, and institutions navigate complex and fast-evolving terrain.

International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS)

<https://iuis.org/>

News, Resources

IUIS 2025 Congress Recordings Now Available on ImmunoHub

September 30, 2025

IVAC [18 Oct 2025]

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

Updates; Events

No new digest content identified.

IVI [18 Oct 2025]

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

IVI News & Announcements

IVI joins WHO's new Global Clinical Trials Forum

13 October 2025 — The International Vaccine Institute (IVI) has joined the World Health Organization's Global Clinical Trials Forum, a new global, multi-stakeholder network established to

strengthen clinical trial environments and infrastructure worldwide. This forum supports the implementation of WHO's Guidance for Best Practices for Clinical Trials and the Global Action Plan for Clinical Trial Ecosystem Strengthening, promoting collaboration among governments, regulators, research institutions, and communities to advance high-quality, ethical, and equitable clinical trials...

Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security [18 Oct 2025]

<https://centerforhealthsecurity.org/newsroom>

Center News [Selected]

No new digest content identified.

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 18 Oct 2025]

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

Latest [Selected Announcements]

Haiti

[**MSF announces permanent closure of our Turgeau emergency centre in Port-au-Prince**](#)

Press Release 15 Oct 2025

National Academy of Medicine - USA [to 18 Oct 2025]

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

News, Stories, Insights

Oct 18, 2025 *Member Achievement*

[**Richard D. Krugman Receives 2025 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellows Program Lifetime Achievement Award**](#)

National Academies-Sciences-Engineering-Medicine [NASEM]- USA [to 18 Oct 2025]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

PATH [18 Oct 2025]

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

Newsroom [Selected]

No new digest content identified.

Sabin Vaccine Institute [18 Oct 2025]

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

Latest News & Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

UNAIDS [18 Oct 2025]

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

News, Stories, Updates

Press Release

[**At the World Health Summit, global parliamentarians meet with partners to strengthen political leadership in ending AIDS**](#)

BERLIN/GENEVA, 13 October 2025

UNICEF [to 18 Oct 2025]

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

Latest press releases, news notes and statements [Selected]

Press release 15 October 2025

More than 212,000 children at risk of acute watery diarrhoea and other deadly waterborne diseases in earthquake-hit eastern Afghanistan

KABUL, 16 October 2025, – One month after a devastating 6.3-magnitude earthquake and multiple aftershocks struck eastern Afghanistan, over 212,000 surviving children remain at severe risk of deadly disease outbreaks due to widespread destruction of water, sanitation and hygiene infrastructure, UNICEF warned today...

Remarks 14 October 2025

Geneva Palais briefing on the situation of children in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

GENEVA, 14 October 2025 –, "Good morning and thank you for your time. "Right now, in the refugee camps of Cox's Bazar, in Bangladesh, a funding crisis is threatening to erase years of progress for Rohingya children. Classrooms are closing, services are shrinking, and the futures of hundreds of thousands of childr...

Unitaid [18 Oct 2025]

<https://unitaid.org/>

Press Releases

Ambassador Anne Claire Amprou appointed new Chair of Unitaid's Executive Board

17 October 2025

Vaccine Equity Cooperative [nee Initiative] [18 Oct 2025]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Vaccine Confidence Project [18 Oct 2025]

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

News, Research and Reports

No new digest content identified.

Vaccine Education Center – Children's Hospital of Philadelphia [18 Oct 2025]

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

News

October 2025 – Hepatitis B Vaccine Birth Dose and Separating MMR

Check out two videos in which Dr. Paul Offit discusses vaccines in the news: hepatitis B vaccine birth dose and separating MMR vaccine into individual components.

Wellcome Trust [18 Oct 2025]

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

News. Opinion, Reports

Expert perspective

Rachael Hore

Turning cholera evidence into impact means breaking out of the research bubble

16 October 2025

The Wistar Institute [to 18 Oct 2025]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

World Bank [18 Oct 2025]

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

All News [Selected]

No new digest content identified.

WFPHA: World Federation of Public Health Associations [18 Oct 2025]

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

Blog, Events

No new digest content identified.

World Medical Association [WMA] [to 06 Sep 2025]

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

Press Releases

World Physician Leaders Call for Ethical, Physician-Led Integration of Artificial and Augmented Intelligence in Healthcare

14.10.2025

The World Medical Association (WMA) has adopted a landmark Statement on Artificial and Augmented Intelligence in Medical Care, outlining global ethical principles to guide the safe and responsible use of artificial intelligence in healthcare....

World Medical Association Urges Israeli Government to Uphold Humanitarian Law and Protect Healthcare in Gaza

13.10.2025

The World Medical Association (WMA) has adopted a new resolution calling on the Government of Israel to immediately cease attacks on healthcare personnel, patients, and medical facilities in Gaza in accordance with the Geneva Conventions and applicable international humanitarian law.

World Organisation for Animal Health [OIE] [18 Oct 2025]

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

Press Releases, Statements

Statements

Statement on Rift Valley fever in West Africa

16 October 2025

The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) acknowledges the recent increase in human and animal cases of Rift Valley fever (RVF) in Senegal and Mauritania, which has resulted in several human deaths. These outbreaks appear to be linked to heavy rainfall and flooding in preceding months which have created favourable conditions for disease transmission. As RVF is a transboundary animal

disease, regional cooperation will be essential to assess and manage the risk posed by these outbreaks...

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ARM [Alliance for Regenerative Medicine] [18 Oct 2025]

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

Selected Press Releases

No new digest announcements identified.

BIO [18 Oct 2025]

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

Press Releases

No new digest announcements identified.

DCVMN – Developing Country Vaccine Manufacturers Network [18 Oct 2025]

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

News; Upcoming events

[DCVMN Annual General Meeting 2025](#)

October 29 - 31, 2025

Bali, Indonesia

ICBA – International Council of Biotechnology Associations [18 Oct 2025]

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

News

No new digest announcements identified.

IFPMA [18 Oct 2025]

<https://ifpma.org/>

Statement 14 Oct 2025

[78th Session of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia on primary health care and universal health coverage](#)

On 14 October 2025 in Colombo, Sri Lanka, IFPMA delivered a statement on primary health care (PHC) and universal health coverage (UHC) at the 78th Session of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia. IFPMA welcomes the agenda items on PHC and UHC. Unlocking investment in primary care is critical if we are to build...

International Alliance of Patients' Organizations – IAPO [18 Oct 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 [18 Oct 2025]

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

Press Releases

No new digest announcements identified.

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Vaccines/Therapeutics/Medicines – Selected Developer/Manufacturer Announcements

We recognize that this listing is indicative but certainly not exhaustive. We invite nomination of other vaccine developers for potential addition to those monitored below.

AstraZeneca

Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified.

Bavarian Nordic

Latest News - 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

Oct 14, 2025

[Clover Announces Positive Phase I Clinical Data for RSV-hMPV-PIV3 Combination Vaccines and for RSV Re-Vaccination in Older Adults](#)

-- Results indicate potential best-in-class RSV+hMPV±PIV3 combination vaccines, with the potential ability to re-vaccinate individuals previously receiving approved RSV vaccines to restore and broaden protection --

-- Increases in neutralizing antibodies of approximately 6-8 fold for RSV, 6-9 fold for hMPV and 4 fold for PIV3 (≥10 fold increases in PIV3 PreF-specific antibodies) were observed --

-- Interim analysis from RSV re-vaccination trial demonstrates $\geq 60\%$ higher trend in RSV neutralizing antibodies for Clover's RSV vaccine compared head-to-head versus AREXVY (GSK) in older adults previously receiving an initial dose of AREXVY --
-- Potential first-in-class RSV+hMPV \pm PIV3 combination vaccine candidates to advance to Phase II clinical trials in the first half of 2026 --

CSL Sequirus

News Releases - No new digest announcements identified.

Curevac

News - No new digest announcements identified.

Dailchi Sankyo

Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified.

Gamaleya National Center/Sputnik

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

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

GSK

Press releases for media

GSK's Shingrix approved in China for prevention of shingles in adults aged 18 and over who are at increased risk due to immunodeficiency or immunosuppression

:: Shingrix (GSK's Recombinant Zoster Vaccine or RZV) is the first and only vaccine approved in this population in China

:: Approval adds to existing indication in adults aged 50 and over

:: Approximately six million cases of shingles occur in China annually,¹ with immunodeficient or immunosuppressed patients at a higher risk than the general population²

14 October 2025

EuBiologics, S Korea

News - Website not responding at inquiry.

HIPRA

Press releases - 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. October 09, 2025

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

News

[Serum Institute of India and CEPI supercharge pandemic response preparedness targeting H5N1](#)

:: Collaboration to use SII's baculovirus platform to target H5N1 bird flu as a prototype for a potential Disease X.

:: Project will contribute to global preparedness for pandemic influenza and support faster responses against other emerging viral threats.

October 14, 2025 -

Sinopharm/WIBPBIBP

News - No new digest announcements identified.

Sinovac

Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified.

SK Biosciences

Press Releases

[SK bioscience Files for First-in-Human Trial of Universal Coronavirus Vaccine \(Pan-sarbecovirus Vaccine\) GBP511 Phase 1/2 study in Australia](#)

Candidate designed to protect against COVID-19 variants and broader SarbecovirusesPhase 1/2 study to...

2025.10.15

Takeda

Newsroom - No new digest announcements identified.

Valneva

Press Releases - No new digest announcements identified.

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

[*:: WHO*](#)

[*:: Organization Announcements*](#)

[*:: Journal Watch*](#)

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

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Journal Watch

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

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

AJOB Empirical Bioethics

Volume 16, 2025 Issue 3

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

[Reviewed earlier]

AMA Journal of Ethics

Volume 27, Number 10: E713-767 Oct 2025

<https://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/issue/diagnostic-research>

Diagnostic Research

What exactly is a medical mystery? Any one condition of illness could be diagnosed, misdiagnosed, a missed diagnosis, undiagnosed, or perhaps something else. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) defines undiagnosed diseases as "long-standing symptoms or elusive medical conditions that have not been diagnosed despite extensive clinical evaluation." What is now known as the Undiagnosed Diseases Network (UDN) was a research study first established by the NIH in 2008 and is now funded by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. Its charge is to convene experts, conduct research on human subjects at 14 US clinic locations, forge new knowledge, and "solve the most challenging medical mysteries." UDN research subjects must apply with supporting documentation from their clinicians and health records. Fewer than half of UDN applicants are enrolled in a protocol, and, among subjects evaluated by clinician-investigators, some receive a diagnosis. This theme issue considers a range of neglected diagnostic research ethics questions and investigates ethics questions about UDN policies, practices, and public support.

American Journal of Human Genetics

Oct 02, 2025 Volume 112 Issue 10 p2251-2562

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

This month in The Journal

Paul W. Hook, Alyson B. Barnes

Obesity and obesity-related traits have a major impact on global health. While a myriad of genes and variants have been associated with these traits, substantial functional work still needs to be

performed to understand the underlying molecular mechanisms. In this issue, Baya et al. identify genes associated with obesity and fat distribution using exome sequencing from the UK Biobank and test their function in a human adipocyte cell line. Using rare variant gene burden tests, the authors find 69 genes associated with traits, including body mass index (BMI), waist-to-hip ratio adjusted for BMI, and body fat percentage.

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Infection Control

October 2025 Volume 53 Issue 10 p1023-1130

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

Special Issue: Hand Hygiene

[Vaccination coverage outcomes and health care organization program implementers' experiences after introduction of a health care worker influenza vaccination mandate in Victoria, Australia, 2022-2023](#)

Lyn-Li Lim, et al.

Published online: June 26, 2025 p1091-1099

Open Access

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

October 2025 Volume 69 Issue 4

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

American Journal of Public Health

October 2025 115(10)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

Volume 113 (2025): Issue 3 (Sep 2025)

<https://www.ajtmh.org/view/journals/tpmd/113/3/tpmd.113.issue-3.xml>

[Reviewed earlier]

Annals of Internal Medicine

September 2025 Volume 178, Issue 9

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Artificial Intelligence – An International Journal

Volume 347 October 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/artificial-intelligence/vol/346/suppl/C>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

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

(Accessed 18 Oct 2025)
[No new digest content identified]

BMC Health Services Research

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

(Accessed 18 Oct 2025)
[No new digest content identified]

BMC Infectious Diseases

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

(Accessed 18 Oct 2025)

[Physicians' knowledge of, and willingness to encourage caregivers to partake in the RTS S/AS01 and R21 matrix M malaria vaccines roll out – a national survey in Nigeria](#)

The malaria parasite, caused by Plasmodium falciparum, continues to pose serious public health threats in tropical and sub-tropical regions of the world, despite the availability of malaria vaccine. Since Octo...

Authors: Mary Aigbiremo Oboh, Olumide Thomas Adeleke, Oludamola Victoria Adeleke and Titilope Abisola Awotunde

Citation: BMC Infectious Diseases 2025 25:1345

Content type: Research Published on: 17 October 2025

BMC Medical Ethics

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

(Accessed 18 Oct 2025)
[No new digest content identified]

BMC Medicine

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

(Accessed 18 Oct 2025)
No new digest content identified]

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

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

(Accessed 18 Oct 2025)
No new digest content identified]

BMC Public Health

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

(Accessed 18 Oct 2025)
[No new digest content identified]

BMC Research Notes

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

(Accessed 18 Oct 2025)
[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Evidence-Based Medicine

October 2025 - Volume 30 - 5

<https://ebm.bmj.com/content/30/5>

[Reviewed earlier]

BMJ Global Health

October 2025 - Volume 10 - 10

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists

DIGITAL MAGAZINE - September 2025

<https://thebulletin.org/magazine/2025-09/#post-heading>

[Reviewed earlier]

Bulletin of the World Health Organization

Volume 103, Number 10, October 2025, 577-640

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Cell

Oct 02, 2025 Volume 188 Issue 20 p5433-5784

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Cell and Gene Therapy Insights

May 2025 Issue Volume 11 Issue 4

<https://www.insights.bio/cell-and-gene-therapy-insights/journal/250/volume-11-issue-4>

[Reviewed earlier]

Child Care, Health and Development

Volume 51, Issue 6 November 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics

Volume 118, Issue 4 Pages: 749-966 October 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Clinical Therapeutics

October 2025 Volume 47 Issue 10 p827-956

<http://www.clinicaltherapeutics.com/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Clinical Trials

Volume 22 Issue 5, October 2025
<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/ctja/22/5>
[Reviewed earlier]

Conflict and Health

<http://www.conflictandhealth.com/>
[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]

[The impact of armed conflict on vaccination coverage: a systematic review of empirical evidence from 1985 to 2025](#)

Armed conflict disrupts health systems and undermines routine immunization, contributing to excess morbidity and mortality. This systematic review examines empirical evidence on the impact of armed conflict on...

Authors: Tyler Y. Headley, Christopher Wiley Shay and Yesim Tozan

Citation: Conflict and Health 2025 19:71

Content type: Review Published on: 14 October 2025

Contemporary Clinical Trials

Volume 157 October 2025
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/contemporary-clinical-trials/vol/157/suppl/C>
[Reviewed earlier]

The CRISPR Journal

Volume 8, Issue 5 / October 2025
<https://www.liebertpub.com/toc/crispr/8/5>
[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

October 2025 - Volume 38 - Issue 5
<https://journals.lww.com/co-infectiousdiseases/pages/currenttoc.aspx>
PAEDIATRIC AND NEONATAL INFECTIONS
[Reviewed earlier]

Current Protocols in Human Genetics

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

[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]

[No new digest content identified]

Cytotherapy

October 2025 Volume 27 Issue 10 p1151-1270

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Developing World Bioethics

Volume 25, Issue 3 Pages: 165-252 September 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Development in Practice

Volume 35, Issue 5, 2025

<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cdip20/35/5?nav=tocList>

[Reviewed earlier]

Development Policy Review

Volume 43, Issue 5 September 2025

<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cdip20/35/5?nav=tocList>

[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 4 October 2025

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

Future of humanitarian and development aid

[Reviewed earlier]

eBioMedicine

Volume 119 September 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/ebiomedicine/vol/119/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

EMBO Reports

Volume 26 Issue 198 October 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Emerging Infectious Diseases

Volume 31, Number 9—September 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemics

Volume 52 September 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/epidemics/vol/52/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 5 Pages: 1-43 September–October 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Ethics & International Affairs

Volume 39 - Issue 2 - Summer 2025

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

Roundtable: Global Governance in Hard Times

[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 4, August 2025

<https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/issue/35/4>

[Reviewed earlier]

Expert Review of Vaccines

Volume 24, 2025 Issue 1

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Foreign Affairs

July/August 2025 Volume 104, Number 4

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/issues/2025/104/4>

[Reviewed earlier]

Forum for Development Studies

Volume 52, 2025 - Issue 2

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

The Rebirth of the Global South: Geopolitics, Imageries, and Developmental Realities

[Reviewed earlier]

Frontiers in Genetics

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

[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]

[No new digest content identified]

Frontiers in Genome Editing

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

[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]

[No new digest content identified]

Frontiers in Medicine

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

[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]

[No new digest content identified]

Gene Therapy – Nature

Volume 32 Issue 5, October 2025

<https://www.nature.com/qt/volumes/32/issues/5>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Genetics in Medicines

Volume 27, Issue 6 June 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/genetics-in-medicine/vol/27/issue/65>

[Reviewed earlier]

Genome Medicine

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

[Accessed 18 Oct 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)

August 2025 | Volume 13 | Number 1

<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 18 Oct 2025]

[No new digest content identified]

Global Public Health

Volume 20, Issue 1 (2025)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Globalization and Health

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

[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]

[No new digest content identified]

Health and Human Rights

Volume 27, Issue 1, June 2025

<https://www.hhrjournal.org/volume-27-issue-1-june-2025/>

SPECIAL SECTION - FIGHT FOR RIGHTS VIEWPOINT SERIES

Health Economics, Policy and Law

Volume 20 - Issue 3 - July 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Policy and Planning

Volume 40, Issue 8, September 2025

<https://academic.oup.com/heapol/issue/40/8>

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Research Policy and Systems

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

[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]
[No new digest content identified]

Human Gene Therapy

Volume 36, Issue 17-18 / September 2025
<https://www.liebertpub.com/toc/hum/36/17-18>
[Reviewed earlier]

Humanitarian Practice Network

<https://odihpn.org/>
[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]
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

Sep 09, 2025 Volume 58 Issue 9 p2139-2354
<https://www.cell.com/immunity/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Infectious Agents and Cancer

<http://www.infectagentscancer.com/>
[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]
[No new digest content identified]

Infectious Diseases of Poverty

<http://www.idpjournals.com/content/>
[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]
[No new digest content identified]

International Health

Volume 17, Issue 5, September 2025
<https://academic.oup.com/inthealth/issue/17/5>
[Reviewed earlier]

International Human Rights Law Review

Volume 14 (2025): Issue 1 (Jun 2025)
<https://brill.com/view/journals/hrlr/14/1/hrlr.14.issue-1.xml>
[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health

Vol. 12 No. 9 (2025): September 2025

<https://www.ijcmph.com/index.php/ijcmph/issue/view/128>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Epidemiology

Volume 54, Issue 3, June 2025

<https://academic.oup.com/ije/issue/54/3>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare

Volume 18, Issue 3 4 September 2025

<https://www.emerald.com/ijhrh/issue/18/3>

Table of contents

[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA

October 14, 2025, Vol 334, No. 14, Pages 1213-1308

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

Research Letter

Conflicts of Interest in Federal Vaccine Advisory Committees

Genevieve P. Kanter, PhD; Toni Mankowitz, BS; Peter Lurie, MD, MPH

JAMA. 2025;334(14):1295-1297. doi:10.1001/jama.2025.13245

This study analyzes the prevalence of reported conflicts of interest (COIs) among attendees at 2000-2024 meetings of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the US Food and Drug Administration's Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC).

Medical News

CDC Chaos Spurs Demands for HHS Secretary Kennedy to Step Down

Rita Rubin, MA

JAMA. 2025;334(14):1221-1222. doi:10.1001/jama.2025.17831

This JAMA Medical News article discusses the growing demand for the resignation or firing of US Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr because of what critics view as an agenda unsupported by science.

JAMA Health Forum

October 2025, Vol 6, No. 10

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

[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA Pediatrics

October 2025, Vol 179, No. 10, Pages 1051-1136

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

[Reviewed earlier]

JBİ Evidence Synthesis

October 2025 - Volume 23 - Issue 10

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Adolescent Health

October 2025 Volume 77 Issue 4 p587-796

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research

Vol. 83 (2025)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Bioethical Inquiry

Volume 22, Issue 1 March 2025

<https://link.springer.com/journal/11673/volumes-and-issues/22-1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Community Health

Volume 50, Issue 5 October 2025

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10900/volumes-and-issues/50-5>

Articles

[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 176 September 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-development-economics/vol/176/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics

Volume 20 Issue 4, October 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

September 2025 - Volume 79 - 9

<https://jech.bmj.com/content/79/9>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine

Volume 18, Issue 3 September 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Global Ethics

Volume 21, Issue 2 (2025)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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

Volume 36, Number 3, August 2025

<https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/55342>

Table of Contents

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health

Volume 27, Issue 4 August 2025

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10903/volumes-and-issues/27-4>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies

Volume 23, Issue 3 (2025)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of International Development

Volume 37, Issue 7 Pages: 1-1567 October 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics

Volume 53 - Issue 3 - Fall 2025

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/journal-of-law-medicine-and-ethics/latest-issue>

Public Health, Markets, and Law

Article

**Intellectual Property Rights and Global Access to Health Technologies During Pandemics:
Reflecting on Vaccine Nationalism, COVID-19 & the WHO Pandemic Agreement
Negotiations — The Need for Collective Action and Institutional Change**

Aisling M. McMahon

Published online by Cambridge University Press: 29 August 2025, pp. 398-414

Abstract

Focusing on intellectual property rights (IPRs) and their role in global access to vaccines during the COVID-19 pandemic, this article argues that key aspects of the current institutional system align towards delivering individualistic state/regional/rightsholders priorities in the use of IPRs over pandemic health technologies. This played a key role in the vaccine nationalism and global vaccine inequity that emerged during the pandemic. It critically analyzes the IPR provisions within the World Health Organisation's Pandemic Agreement and negotiation process. It argues that nationalistic/individualistic approaches toward the use of IPRs over health technologies also permeate such contexts. The final text of the Agreement leaves considerable discretion to states around IPRs, and much will depend on how it is implemented in practice. For effective future pandemic preparedness around how IPRs are used over health technologies, this article argues that a deeper bottom-up institutional change is needed — one which offers nuanced strategies to balance the potential incentivization role of IPRs with the implications certain uses of IPRs can have on access to downstream health technologies. A key element of this change is embedding a greater recognition of the range of resources provided by entities (e.g. funders, biobanks, and universities) necessary in the successful development of health technologies, including in pandemic contexts. Such entities should leverage these resources, including by attaching contractual conditions to access these, which mandate avenues for downstream access to pandemic health technologies. In the longer term such approaches could be part of a broader institutional change, which prioritises global collective health needs in pandemics.

Journal of Medical Ethics

October 2025 - Volume 51 - 10

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews

Volume 12, Issue 3 (2025)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

The Journal of Pediatrics

Volume 284 September 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/the-journal-of-pediatrics/vol/284/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice

Volume 18, 2025 Issue 1

<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/jppp20/18/1?nav=tocList>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Public Health Management & Practice

September/October 2025 - Volume 31 - Issue 5

<https://journals.lww.com/jphmp/pages/currenttoc.aspx>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Public Health Policy

Volume 46, Issue 3 September 2025

<https://link.springer.com/journal/41271/volumes-and-issues/46-3>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Royal Society – Interface

October 2025 Volume 22 Issue 231

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Travel Medicine

Volume 32, Issue 6, August 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Virology

Volume 99 • Number 6 • June 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

The Lancet

Oct 18, 2025 Volume 406 Number 10513 p1701-1922

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

Editorial

Health progress in a post-COVID-19 world

The Lancet

[Excerpts]

The COVID-19 pandemic upended global mortality and morbidity. COVID-19 was ranked as the number one age-standardised cause of death globally in 2021 but by 2023 had dropped to the 20th cause of death among all leading global causes, replaced by ischaemic heart disease and stroke as the two leading causes of death. During the COVID-19 pandemic, disability-adjusted life-years (DALYs) due to infectious, maternal, neonatal, and nutritional diseases all increased, but have since returned to pre-pandemic levels. These findings and others are presented in the 2023 Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors Study (GBD) in three papers in The Lancet. Together, these papers lay out for the first time a comprehensive description of health in the post-pandemic world. With less than 5 years left to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), these metrics are a starting point for reshaping health policy and financing for the post-SDG health agenda...

39 countries in 2024 were considered fragile and conflict-affected by the World Bank and require complex diplomatic solutions, innovative funding, governance oversight and policy reforms, and access to a basic package of health services that includes violence prevention and mental health interventions. 19 of these countries are in Africa, including Nigeria, Ethiopia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which together account for almost a third of the continent's population. The current isolationist-driven health landscape is incompatible with a successful global health agenda.

The truth laid bare by these papers is that policies to address global health challenges do not accurately reflect the reality of the global burden of disease and disability today. Countries will have to radically adapt their health systems to meet these new priorities, but the challenges are not insurmountable. Universal health coverage can still improve population health. Service integration is promising, although the people who are most at risk and hardest to reach still face important barriers to access to care. Civil society organisations remain essential for health services to reach vulnerable and stigmatised people.

Comment

Good governance essential to expanding vaccine capacity and strengthening public trust

Kelley Lee, Jillian Kohler

The unprecedented dismissal of the entire US Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices in June, 2025, was justified by US Secretary of Health and Human Services, and long-time vaccine critic, Robert F Kennedy Jr, as a move to “restore public trust in vaccines”.¹ He claimed the Committee was “plagued with persistent conflicts of interest” which included receiving “substantial funding from pharmaceutical companies”.¹ Yet amid the global spread of vaccine misinformation to which Kennedy has contributed,² this politically motivated action, alongside his attacks on vaccine science including defunding of mRNA vaccine research,³ is further damaging public confidence in vaccines.⁴

Waning vaccine confidence is a growing concern globally, resulting in a resurgence of vaccine-preventable diseases such as measles.⁵ Although vaccine confidence is affected by a wide range of factors across different locales and populations, public confidence in the role of the private sector is one factor to consider. Despite the essential roles of scientist-led biotechnology companies, working alongside pharmaceutical firms, in conducting clinical trials, manufacturing, and distributing life-saving vaccines, public trust in the pharmaceutical sector as a whole has declined in some settings.^{6,7} Past actions by some parts of the pharmaceutical industry, such as contributing to the opioid crisis⁸ and perceived profiteering from COVID-19 vaccines,⁹ have fostered public suspicion and fuelled misinformation narratives.¹⁰ Accumulating evidence on the commercial determinants of health, illuminating how profit-seeking industries can harm health, has also eroded public trust in the private sector.¹¹

Equity concerns are another consideration. Historically, vaccine production has been dominated by manufacturers in high-income countries. During the COVID-19 pandemic, many governments found themselves dependent on vaccine imports procured by negotiating individual contracts, some under unfavourable terms, with manufacturers; the resulting advanced purchase agreements particularly disadvantaged low-income and middle-income countries.¹² The WHO Pandemic Agreement signed in May, 2025, has done little to allay equity concerns. The unresolved issue of pathogen access and benefit sharing,¹³ and the US withdrawal from WHO membership, underscore the uncertain road ahead.

In this context, many countries and regions recognise the importance of investing in local vaccine capacity to bolster their health security ahead of a future pandemic. For example, agreements in Africa to build an end-to-end mRNA vaccine production platform and accelerate vaccine manufacturing seek to make the continent a producer of vaccines.¹⁴ In southeast Asia, the ASEAN Vaccine Security and Self-Reliance initiative aims “to bolster regional capabilities in vaccine development and enhance regional vaccine accessibility”.¹⁵ Meanwhile, the Pan American Health Organization promotes enhanced local manufacturing and expanded mRNA vaccine production in Latin America.¹⁶ The Canadian Government is making similar investments pursuant to its Biomanufacturing and Life Sciences Strategy.¹⁷ In all of these efforts, the public and private sectors are working together closely.

Given this context, it is timely to reflect on the governance of public–private partnerships (PPPs) in new vaccine development. The rationale for PPPs is well grounded. Public funding of discovery science remains essential. Private-sector involvement in vaccine development is also crucial. Advancing promising breakthroughs through expensive and logistically challenging clinical

trials requires industry partners that bring manufacturing and distribution know-how. Regulatory approvals and post-market surveillance have been shared responsibilities between the public and private sectors.

Advancing good governance practices for PPPs across this therapeutic pipeline is essential to strengthening public trust in the vaccines produced.¹⁸ By engaging the public sector, PPPs are intended to prioritise public health over profit. Although there are good governance models to ensure this, such as the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe guidebook¹⁹ and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's recommendations,²⁰ implementation has been uneven between countries and regions.²¹

To help promote public trust, we propose the following actions.

First, governments should adopt and apply clear rules about when PPPs are appropriate and then commit to providing transparent information regarding these partnerships to their citizens. For example, the public should know the contribution of each partner, how much public financing is being invested and for what purpose, and how public interests are being served. This includes publicly disclosing the rationale for government and private-sector policy decisions and the terms of purchasing agreements.

Second, agreed standards and practices for the declaration of interests by all parties involved in new vaccines are needed. There is currently much variation in practice. Public trust in the expertise and deliberations of advisory committees, which are central to the approval process, requires mandatory, transparent disclosures to enable scrutiny. Importantly, given the benefits from legitimate private-sector involvement, not all declared interests may be problematic. The criteria to determine when a conflict of interest precludes an individual from participation, and who is responsible for applying these criteria in a non-partisan way, should be made clear by governments.²² A public online repository of declarations and how they are managed could be created by WHO, building on member state commitments under the Open Government Partnership,²³ given the global nature of many PPPs.

Third, pharmacovigilance and post-market surveillance systems of vaccines must be effectively in place to reassure the public that profit is not prioritised over public health safety. Vaccines are safe and effective and severe adverse events are rare.²⁴ Robust pharmacovigilance and post-market surveillance systems exist in most high-income countries, but low-income and middle-income countries typically face resource constraints.²⁵ Globally, these systems are not well integrated.²⁶ Crucially, they are not well understood by the public, underscoring the need for investments in public education about pharmacovigilance systems. To support vaccine confidence, coordinated tracking and reporting of adverse reactions worldwide, through a publicly accessible online digital platform, is needed alongside a fair compensation system.

Finally, misinformation has worsened because of social media algorithms, curtailed fact checking, and the politicisation of vaccines.² For instance, the impressive speed at which COVID-19 vaccines were produced and emergency approvals given were major advances in the response to COVID-19 that saved many lives, but also generated widely shared but unfounded speculation that clinical testing was compromised.²⁷ Demystifying each stage of the therapeutic pipeline, from scientific discovery to post-market surveillance, is a starting point. Public understanding of risk and benefit along this pipeline must then be better explained. What is meant scientifically by a safe vaccine, and what the public understands as safe, can differ. The relative risks of serious illness and death from a novel or evolving pathogen versus an adverse reaction from a vaccine must be better communicated. Population-level versus individual risks require distinction. Disseminating information about comparable risks associated with proven medications can also help put personal choices into perspective.

Immunology and vaccine innovations are advancing new vaccines and immunotherapies at an historic pace. Good governance of PPPs is one essential approach for strengthening and protecting public confidence in these remarkable breakthroughs. For this to happen, governments and the private sector must both ensure that they are accountable and transparent to the public.

Global burden of 292 causes of death in 204 countries and territories and 660 subnational locations, 1990–2023: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2023

GBD 2023 Causes of Death Collaborators

We examined global mortality patterns over the past three decades, highlighting—with enhanced estimation methods—the impacts of major events such as the COVID-19 pandemic, in addition to broader trends such as increasing NCDs in low-income regions that reflect ongoing shifts in the global epidemiological transition. This study also delves into premature mortality patterns, exploring the interplay between age and causes of death and deepening our understanding of where targeted resources could be applied to further reduce preventable sources of mortality. We provide essential insights into global and regional health disparities, identifying locations in need of targeted interventions to address both communicable and non-communicable diseases. There is an ever-present need for strengthened health-care systems that are resilient to future pandemics and the shifting burden of disease, particularly among ageing populations in regions with high mortality rates. Robust estimates of causes of death are increasingly essential to inform health priorities and guide efforts toward achieving global health equity. The need for global collaboration to reduce preventable mortality is more important than ever, as shifting burdens of disease are affecting all nations, albeit at different paces and scales.

The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health

Oct 2025 Volume 9 Number 10 p685-752

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Digital Health

Aug 2025 Volume 7 Number 8

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Global Health

Oct 2025 Volume 13 Number 10 e1654-e1780

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Infectious Diseases

Sep 2025 Volume 25 Number 9 p947-1054, e491-e541

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

Articles

Comparative assessment of immunogenicity and safety of recombinant influenza vaccine in children, adolescents, and adults: results from a phase 3, immunobridging, open-label, non-randomised study

Pedro M Folegatti, et al.

Effect of JYNNEOS vaccination on mpox clinical progression: a case–control study

Lauren Granskog, et al.

Safety and immunogenicity of a reduced-dose inactivated poliovirus vaccine versus a full-dose inactivated poliovirus vaccine in infants in Bangladesh: a double-blind, non-inferiority, randomised, controlled, phase 3 trial

Prasad S Kulkarni, et al.

Safety and immunogenicity of a booster dose of a novel hexavalent group B streptococcus conjugate vaccine in healthy, non-pregnant adults: a phase 2, open-label extension of a phase 1/2 randomised controlled trial

Babalwa Jongihlati, et al.

Lancet Public Health

Oct 2025 Volume 10 Number 10 e804-e88

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

Oct 2025 Volume 13 Number 10 p857-950, e53-e55

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Maternal and Child Health Journal

Volume 29, Issue 10 October 2025

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10995/volumes-and-issues/29-10>

[Reviewed earlier]

Medical Decision Making (MDM)

Volume 45 Issue 7, October 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

The Milbank Quarterly

A Multidisciplinary Journal of Population Health and Health Policy

Volume 103, Issue 3 Pages: 639-939 September 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Molecular Therapy

Oct 01, 2025 Volume 33 Issue 10 p4657-5282

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

In this issue

The advent of mRNA vaccines has revolutionized vaccine development, offering a swift and versatile development platform. One advantage possessed by mRNA vaccines is the ability to express antigens in soluble/secreted forms or transmembrane (TM) forms, which can better mimic the native viral envelope (Env) protein. Previous research has indicated some improvements in immune responses with the use of a TM Env trimer immunogen over the use of a secreted antigen, but the picture of the impact of TM antigens on the full immune response has remained incomplete.

Nature

Volume 646 Issue 8085, 16 October 2025
<https://www.nature.com/nature/volumes/646/issues/8085>
Articles

[The Virtual Lab of AI agents designs new SARS-CoV-2 nanobodies](#)

Human collaboration with a team of artificial intelligence (AI) agents powered by large language models was used to efficiently design a complex interdisciplinary research project leading to the design of novel nanobodies against SARS-CoV-2 spike protein.

Kyle Swanson, Wesley Wu, James Zou

Nature Biotechnology

Volume 43 Issue 10, October 2025
<https://www.nature.com/nbt/volumes/43/issues/10>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Nature Communications

<https://www.nature.com/subjects/health-sciences/ncomms>
(Accessed 18 Oct 2025)
[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Genetics

Volume 57 Issue 10, October 2025
<https://www.nature.com/ng/volumes/57/issues/10>
[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Human Behaviour

Volume 9 Issue 8, August 2025
<https://www.nature.com/nathumbehav/volumes/9/issues/8>
[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Medicine

Volume 31 Issue 10, October 2025
<https://www.nature.com/nm/volumes/31/issues/10>
Review Article 06 Oct 2025

[Generative artificial intelligence in medicine](#)

This Review summarizes recent technical advancements in generative AI, outlines how new models might improve healthcare and discusses validation approaches—using lessons from recent successes and failures in the field.

Zhen Ling Teo, Arun James Thirunavukarasu, Daniel Shu Wei Ting

Consensus Statement 15 Sept 2025

[The STARD-AI reporting guideline for diagnostic accuracy studies using artificial intelligence](#)

The STARD-AI statement, which was developed through a multistage process involving over 240 international stakeholders, provides a minimum set of criteria that allows for comprehensive reporting of AI-centered diagnostic test accuracy studies.

Viknesh Sounderajah, Ahmad Guni, Suchi Saria

Abstract

The Standards for Reporting Diagnostic Accuracy (STARD) 2015 statement facilitates transparent and complete reporting of diagnostic test accuracy studies. However, there are unique considerations associated with artificial intelligence (AI)-centered diagnostic test studies. The STARD-AI statement, which was developed through a multistage, multistakeholder process, provides a minimum set of criteria that allows for comprehensive reporting of AI-centered diagnostic test accuracy studies. The process involved a literature review, a scoping survey of international experts, and a patient and public involvement and engagement initiative, culminating in a modified Delphi consensus process involving over 240 international stakeholders and a consensus meeting. The checklist was subsequently finalized by the Steering Committee and includes 18 new or modified items in addition to the STARD 2015 checklist items. Authors are encouraged to provide descriptions of dataset practices, the AI index test and how it was evaluated, as well as considerations of algorithmic bias and fairness. The STARD-AI statement supports comprehensive and transparent reporting in all AI-centered diagnostic accuracy studies, and it can help key stakeholders to evaluate the biases, applicability and generalizability of study findings.

Article Open Access 07 Aug 2025

[Geographical shifting of cholera burden in Africa and its implications for disease control](#)

High-resolution geospatial mapping found that the annual incidence of cholera shifted from western to central and eastern Africa between 2011 and 2020, with the latter regions more likely to report cholera in 2022–2023, reflecting instability in cholera burden patterns that can impact progress in disease control.

Javier Perez-Saez, Qulu Zheng, Elizabeth C. Lee

Nature Reviews Drug Discovery

Volume 24 Issue 10, October 2025

<https://www.nature.com/nrd/volumes/24/issues/10>

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Reviews Genetics

Volume 26 Issue 10, October 2025

<https://www.nature.com/nrg/volumes/26/issues/10>

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Reviews Immunology

Volume 25 Issue 10, October 2025

<https://www.nature.com/nri/volumes/25/issues/1>

Review Article 07 Aug 2025

[Fifty years of monoclonals: the past, present and future of antibody therapeutics](#)

Fifty years ago, Köhler and Milstein introduced the world to hybridoma technology for the generation of monoclonal antibodies. Scientists have subsequently built upon this seminal discovery to develop antibody-based therapies for numerous diseases, with millions of patients benefiting from such drugs. To mark 50 years of monoclonal antibodies, this Review from Chan, Martyn and Carter provides an overview of how antibody engineering strategies have continued to improve antibody-based therapeutics, chiefly focusing on antibody-mediated targeting of B cells and also human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)⁺ cancers. The authors also highlight the promise of emerging tools, including artificial intelligence, for development of the next generation of antibody-based therapeutics. Andrew C. Chan, Greg D. Martyn, Paul J. Carter

New England Journal of Medicine Volume

Volume 393 No. 15 October 16, 2025
<https://www.nejm.org/toc/nejm/medical-journal>
Perspective

The AI Frontier in Humanitarian Aid — Embracing Possibilities and Addressing Risks

M. Barry , J. Hansen , and G.L. Darmstadt

AI has the potential to expand the reach of humanitarian aid during crises. Yet there are substantial challenges and risks associated with deploying new technologies in complex health care settings.

NEJM Evidence

Volume 4 No. 9 September 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 18 Oct 2025]
[No new digest content identified]

Pediatrics

Volume 156, Issue 4 October 2025
<https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/issue/156/3>
[Reviewed earlier]

PharmacoEconomics

Volume 43, Issue 10 October 2025
<https://link.springer.com/journal/40273/volumes-and-issues/43-10>
[Reviewed earlier]

PLoS Biology

<https://journals.plos.org/plosbiology/>
(Accessed 18 Oct 2025)
[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Genetics

<https://journals.plos.org/plosgenetics/>
(Accessed 18 Oct 2025)
[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Global Public Health

https://journals.plos.org/globalpublichealth/search?sortOrder=DATE_NEWEST_FIRST&filterStartDate=2021-10-01&filterJournals=PLOSGlobalPublicHealth&q=&resultsPerPage=60
(Accessed 18 Oct 2025)

Impact of Covid-19 control strategies on health and GDP growth outcomes in 193 sovereign jurisdictions

Matt Boyd, Michael G. Baker, Amanda Kvalsvig, Nick Wilson

Research Article | published 16 Oct 2025 PLOS Global Public Health

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0004554>

Abstract

The Covid-19 pandemic caused approximately 27.3 million excess deaths globally as of June 2024. Despite growing research on pandemic response factors, the effectiveness of different strategic approaches to Covid-19 control remains insufficiently investigated. We aimed to examine associations between Covid-19 pandemic control strategies (including stringent border restrictions) with age-standardized excess mortality and GDP per capita growth outcomes during 2020–2021. We analyzed 193 sovereign jurisdictions with existing Global Burden of Disease Study data. Jurisdictions were classified by implementation of exclusion/elimination strategies reported in published literature, and the level of border restriction measures based on the Oxford Stringency Index. Multivariable analyses adjusted for island status, GDP per capita, and an index of government corruption. Excess mortality was cube root transformed and GDP per capita log transformed for regression analysis. Jurisdictions implementing explicit exclusion/elimination strategies showed the lowest cumulative age-standardized excess mortality (-2.1/100,000) compared to others (166.5/100,000). Island jurisdictions experienced lower mortality (64.8/100,000) than non-islands (194.3/100,000). Duration of border restrictions correlated with reduced excess mortality in islands (Pearson's $r = -0.624$, $p < 0.001$; $\beta -0.004$, island interaction -0.005 , $p < 0.001$), but not in non-islands. However, this effect weakened when controlling for government corruption in a subsample (lower corruption was associated with lowered mortality). No consistent significant relationships emerged between border measures and GDP growth, suggesting that stringent border restrictions in a pandemic may not significantly harm economies. We concluded that exclusion/elimination strategies and related stringent border restrictions were associated with better health outcomes, particularly for islands. Effectiveness was likely partially mediated by governance quality. Future pandemic planning should consider both control strategy selection and implementation context, both of which are modifiable.

PLoS Medicine

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

(Accessed 18 Oct 2025)

[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases

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

(Accessed 18 Oct 2025)

[No new digest content identified]

PLoS One

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

[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]

Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the routine immunization system in Bangladesh

Md. Tanvir Hossen, Md Sayik Bin Alam, Md. Sahidul Islam, Emanuele Montomoli, Ralf Clemens, Sue Ann Costa Clemens, Mohammad Delwer Hossain Hawlader, Md Foyjul Islam

Research Article | published 14 Oct 2025 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0334503>

PLoS Pathogens

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

[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]

[No new digest content identified]

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

October 14, 2025 vol. 122 no. 41

<https://www.pnas.org/toc/pnas/122/41>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

PNAS Nexus

Volume 4, Issue 9, September 2025

<https://academic.oup.com/pnasnexus/issue/4/9>

[Reviewed earlier]

Prehospital & Disaster Medicine

Volume 40 - Issue 3 - June 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Preventive Medicine

Volume 198 September 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/preventive-medicine/vol/198/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Proceedings of the Royal Society B

October 2025 Volume 292 Issue 2056

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Public Health

Volume 246 September 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/public-health/vol/246/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Ethics

Volume 18, Issue 2, July 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Genomics

2025, Vol. 28, No. 1

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Reports

Volume 140 Issue 4, July/August 2025

<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/phrg/140/4>

[Reviewed earlier]

Qualitative Health Research

Volume 35 Issue 12, October 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Research Ethics

Volume 21 Issue 4, October 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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

[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]

[No new digest content identified]

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

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

Latest Articles

[No new digest content identified]

Risk Analysis

Volume 45, Issue 9 Pages: 2467-2925 September 2025

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Risk Management and Healthcare Policy

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

[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]

[No new digest content identified]

Royal Society Open Science

October 2025 Volume 12 Issue 10

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Science

Volume 390| Issue 6770| 16 Oct 2025
<https://www.science.org/toc/science/current>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Science and Engineering Ethics

Volume 31, Issue 5 October 2025
<https://link.springer.com/journal/11948/volumes-and-issues/31-5>
[Reviewed earlier]

Science Translational Medicine

Volume 17| Issue 820| 15 Oct 2025
<https://www.science.org/toc/stm/current>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Scientific Reports

<https://www.nature.com/srep/articles?type=article>
[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]
[No new digest content identified]

Social Science & Medicine

Volume 380 September 2025
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/social-science-and-medicine/vol/380/suppl/C>
[Reviewed earlier]

Systematic Reviews

<https://systematicreviewsjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles>
[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]
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Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics

Volume 46, Issue 5 October 2025
<https://link.springer.com/journal/11017/volumes-and-issues/46-5>
[Reviewed earlier]

Travel Medicine and Infectious Diseases

Volume 67 September–October 2025
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/travel-medicine-and-infectious-disease/vol/67/suppl/C>
[Reviewed earlier]

Tropical Medicine & International Health

Volume 30, Issue 10 Pages: 1025-1143 October 2025
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/13653156/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Vaccine

Volume 65 24 October 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/vaccine/vol/65/suppl/C>

Review article Open access

[Rationalizing recommendations for influenza and COVID-19 vaccines](#)

Jessica A. Breznik, Matthew S. Miller, Dawn M.E. Bowdish

Article 127775

Review article Open access

[Facilitators to strengthening vaccine uptake post-pandemic amongst underserved populations considering social norms and health beliefs: a global systematic review](#)

T. Chaudhry, P. Tum, F. Morrow, S. Hargreaves, ... D. Zenner

Article 127769

Review article Open access

[Vaccine-preventable diseases in migrants in Europe: a systematic review](#)

Rae Halliday, Beatriz Morais, Oumnia Bouaddi, Anna Deal, ... Sally Hargreaves

Article 127788

Research article Open access

[Health economics and vaccine financing in the eastern Mediterranean region: A needs assessment](#)

Palwasha Anwari, Gerald Sume, Wedyan Meshreky, Nathalie Vande Maele, ... Quamrul Hasan

Article 127780

Research article Abstract only

[Beyond the post: The impact of politized anti-vaccine misinformation comments and challenges of correction on social media](#)

Xiaohui Cao, Porismita Borah, Danielle Ka Lai Lee, Anastasia Vishnevskaya, ... Kyle Lorenzano

Article 127760

Research article Open access

[Clinical immunization safety assessment \(CISA\) project: COVID-19 vaccine consultations and case reviews](#)

Paula M. Campbell, Gabriella J. Ess, Allison Lale, Kawsar R. Talaat, ... Kathryn M. Edwards

Article 127781

Research article Open access

[Vaccine acceptance and refusal in Western and Central and Eastern European countries: An analysis based on the European Social Survey data from 23 countries, using a classification and regression tree](#)

Michał Wróblewski, Andrzej Meler

Article 127807

Research article Open access

[Preferences and willingness-to-pay for human papillomavirus vaccination among men who have sex with men in China: a discrete choice experiment](#)

Zhuoru Zou, Yawu Hu, Hailin Yang, Min Zhao, ... Lei Zhang

Article 127806

Vaccines

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

[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]

Open Access Systematic Review

Health System Determinants of Delivery and Uptake of HPV Vaccination Services Among Involuntary Migrant Populations: A Qualitative Systematic Review

by Jennifer Nyawira Githaiga, Jill Olivier, Susanne Noll and Edina Amponsah-Dacosta

Vaccines 2025, 13(10), 1064; <https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines13101064> (registering DOI) - 18 Oct 2025

Abstract

Background: Migrant populations are commonly under-immunised relative to general populations in host countries. The evidence base on routine vaccination among migrant children suggests that higher priority is given to infants and younger children compared to adolescents. Though migrants are often classified as a ,,,

Open Access Review

Impediments to Progress Toward Polio Eradication During 2014–2024: Effectively Addressing the Current Challenges

by Steven G. F. Wassilak, Abdinoor Mohamed and John Paul Bigouette

Vaccines 2025, 13(10), 1060; <https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines13101060> - 17 Oct 2025

Abstract

When the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) began in 1988, the year 2000 target was clearly ambitious. Nonetheless, among 20 countries with endemic wild poliovirus transmission in 2000, only Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan remained endemic in 2014; successful global eradication was anticipated within

Open Access Review

Gender Barriers to Immunization: A Synthesis of UNICEF's Analyses to Advance Equity and Coverage

by Cristián Mansilla, Alinane Kamlongera and Ibrahim Dadari

Vaccines 2025, 13(10), 1059; <https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines13101059> - 16 Oct 2025

Abstract

Background/objectives: Despite global efforts to improve childhood immunization rates, gender-related barriers continue to hinder equitable access to vaccines worldwide. This study synthesizes gender barrier analyses conducted in various countries to better understand these challenges. This evidence synthesis aims to (1) identify the main [...]

Value in Health

October 2025 Volume 28 Issue 10 p1461-1600

[Reviewed earlier]

World Development

Volume 194 October 2025

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/world-development/vol/194/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

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Pre-Print Servers

arxiv

<https://arxiv.org/>

[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]

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Gates Open Research

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medRxiv

<https://www.medrxiv.org/content/early/recent>

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Collective Health Decision-Making: Exploring Examples from Chinese Families in Australia

Bingyi Han, Shanton Chang, Dana McKay, Carlene Wilson, Joyce Jiang, Jennifer McIntosh, Mark Jenkins
medRxiv 2025.10.14.25338024; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.10.14.25338024>

Australia's patient-centred healthcare system emphasises individual autonomy, but this approach may not align with families that have culturally collectivist values. One example is Chinese culture, where collectivist values are rooted in Confucian principles of responsibility. Chinese people are the largest non-English-speaking migrant group in Australia, so understanding how Chinese families make health decisions is important for improving communication, access, and participation in preventive care. This study examined how Chinese immigrant families in Australia make health-related decisions, focusing on vaccination and bowel cancer screening, and how cultural and intergenerational factors shape these processes...

Knowledge, perceptions and acceptance of COVID-19 Vaccine in Plateau States, Nigeria: A Qualitative Study

Sophia Osawe, Sussan Israel-Isah, Timothy Adejoh, Tunde A Alabi, Felicia Okolo, Sikiratu Babamale, Adam Abdullahi, Alash'le Abimiku

medRxiv 2025.10.16.25338166; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.10.16.25338166>

Qualifying the benefits of improved operations for polio outbreak response: A model-based analysis

Yuming Sun, Pinar Keskinocak, Stephanie D. Kovacs, Lauren N. Steimle

medRxiv 2025.10.15.25338096; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.10.15.25338096>

Novel type 2-containing oral poliovirus vaccine (nOPV2) was introduced in 2021. Since then, over 1 billion doses of nOPV2 have been used in outbreak response globally. Despite the reduced risk of virus reversion with nOPV2, stopping ongoing circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) outbreaks in some countries and achieving global cVDPV2 elimination have proved challenging, which highlights the potential needs to update outbreak response operations. In this study, we adapted and extended an existing poliovirus transmission model to evaluate the impact of two operational changes in outbreak response: prioritizing under-vaccinated individuals to receive nOPV2 in each vaccination round and increasing the number of vaccination rounds in each response...

Factors Associated with Human Papillomavirus Vaccine Uptake Among Undergraduate Students in a Nigerian University: A Cross-Sectional Study.

Aisha Funmi Lawal, Amudalat Issa, Ibrahim Rasheed Olayinka, Adedapo M Adesokan, Mohammed J Saka, Gordon K Osagbemi

medRxiv 2025.10.15.25338122; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.10.15.25338122>

Evidence for off-target effects of live Shingles vaccination against all-cause death and infection-associated hospitalisation in older adults in England: a population-based cohort study

Klara Doherty, Natalie Beveridge, Laura Bonnett, Valerie Decraene, Caroline Jeffery, Marc Henrion, Daniel Hungerford, Neil French

medRxiv 2025.10.16.25338145; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.10.16.25338145>

Immunogenicity of an adjuvanted, combination inactivated rabies-vectored, Lassa fever vaccine in healthy adults: interim results of a first-in-human Phase 1 trial

Justin R Ortiz, Drishya Kurup, Adam C Kaufman, Sabrine Ben Hamed, Allison LaRocco, Kirsten E Lyke, Sarah Litts, Shrimati Datta, Yuanyuan Liang, Megan F McGilvray, Jeannie Losignor, Jennifer J Oshinsky, Kari V Palmer, Ifayet PL Mayo-Johnson, Gabrielle Scher, Uthra Balakumar, Anisha Chandwani, Rekha R Rapaka, Meagan E Deming, Joel V Chua, Christoph Wirblich, Wilbur H. Chen, Kathleen M Neuzil, Marcela Pasetti, Matthias Schnell

medRxiv 2025.10.16.25338178; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.10.16.25338178>

Operational Strategies among Infectious Disease Clinical Trial Sites During Pandemics: A Scoping Review

Kate Trigg, Allen Zhang, Albert W Wu

medRxiv 2025.10.15.25338123; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.10.15.25338123>

Genomic epidemiology uncovers the origin of the mpox epidemic in Sierra Leone

Allan K.O. Campbell, John Demby Sandi, Ifeanyi F Omah, Martin Faye, Edyth Parker, Taylor Brock-Fisher, Crystal M Gigante, Vidalyn Folorunso, Mohamed Saio Kamara, Anu Jegede Williams, Mouhamed Kane, Tiangay Mariama Patience Sallay Kallon, Julian S.O. Campbell, Kadiatu Salmata Sesay, Sia Y Mani, Choe Miller, Naomi Daniel-Sesay, Francis Baimba, Mignane Ndiaye, Roberta Lansana, Ibrahim Umaru Fofanah, Simon Ruhweza, Zein Souma, Amanda Kargbo, Komba Koninga, Alie Tia, Jone Ngobeh, Foday Thoronka, Alusine Fofanah, Al Ozonoff, Colby Wilkason, Daniel J. Park, Christopher H. Tomkins-Tinch, Marietou F Paye, Christopher Shin, Ian Baudi, Brendan Blumenstiel, Patrick Varilly, Ivan Specht, Ben Fry, Karlie Zhao, Paul Cronan, Ellory Laning, Oludayo Oluwaseyi Ope-ewe, Ayotunde Elijah Sijuwola, Femi Saibu, Harouna Soumare, Ebenezer Kehinde Ogundana, Jolly Amoché Adole, Imonikhe Kennedy Kio, Folefac Agnes Njeandoh, Alexandra Tuttle, Walter Oguta, Jonathan Greene, Aminata Koroma, Joseph Sam Kanu, Mamadou Aliou Barry, Aboubacry Gaye, Andy Mahine Diouf, Christine Hughes, Joshua I. Levy, Alhaji Njai, Moussa Moise DIAGNE, Dolo Nosamiefan, George Ameh, John D. Klena, Monique A. Foster, Abebaw Kebede, Collins Tanui, Boubacar Diallo, Anise Happi, Sofonias Tessema, Abdourahmane Sow, Yenew Kebede, Isatta Wurie, James Squire, Doris Harding, Zikan

Koroma, Mohamed Boie Jalloh, Amadou Alpha Sall, Kristian G Andersen, Andrew Rambaut, Mohamed Alex Vandi, Ibrahima Soce Fall, Pardis Sabeti, Christian Happi, Foday Sahr, Donald S. Grant
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Early response model for containing newly emerging infectious diseases

Marcus P.S. Dekens, Tobias Neumann, Thomas Micheler, Vinika Gandhi, Max J. Kellner, Marianne Rocha-Hasler, Martina Weißenböck, Michaela Fellner, Mariam Al-Rawi, Nikolaus Beer, Sarah Rieser, Christian Umkehrer, David Hoffmann, Martin Mátl, Katrin Künstner, Vienna COVID-19 Detection Initiative, Zlatka Cular, Sabine Walch, Johanna Trupke, Peter Steinlein, Harald Scheuch, Thomas Wochele-Thoma, Robert Heinen, Johannes Zuber
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medRxiv 2025.10.07.25337102; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.10.07.25337102>

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Wellcome Open Research

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[Accessed 18 Oct 2025]

Study Protocol Open Access

Living mapping review of global research funding for infectious diseases with a pandemic potential – Pandemic PACT Grant Tracker

[version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]

Rodrigo Furst, et al.

The COVID-19 pandemic spurred an unprecedented global research response, highlighting the need for better coordination amid limited resources and the ongoing threat of emerging diseases. The Pandemic PACT Programme has developed a live database tracking funded research on pandemic-prone diseases and broader preparedness efforts to facilitate improved pandemic preparedness.

Systematic Review Open Access

Identifying plausible ranges for differential vaccine efficacy across high- and low-income settings: A Systematic Review, Descriptive Meta-Analysis, and illustrative evidence analysis.

[version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]

Esther Nyadzua Katama, Katherine E. Gallagher, Anoop Shah, D. James Nokes, David A McAllister

Abstract

Background

Randomized clinical trials provide the highest standard of evidence about vaccine efficacy. Modelling exercises such as in evidence synthesis and health economic models where efficacy estimates are combined with other data to obtain effectiveness and cost-effectiveness estimates help inform policy decisions. The main challenge with such sensitivity analyses is in deciding on which assumptions to model.

Methods

Multiple electronic databases were searched for multi-site randomized human clinical trials of bacterial and viral vaccines for the period of 01/01/1990 to 31/12/2020. A Bayesian random-effects meta-analysis was used to estimate the difference in vaccine efficacy in high- (high or upper middle) and low- (low or lower middle) income settings. A single hierarchical model that included all trials was used so that the degree to which estimates of vaccine efficacy against different diseases influenced one another was estimated from the observed data.

Results

Across 65 eligible trials covering 7 pathogens, only one trial reported efficacy estimates stratified by setting. Trials were similar in terms of design across settings. Across all pathogens, the point estimate for the vaccine efficacy was higher in high-income countries than low-income countries (pooled vaccine efficacy (VE) in HICs was 77% (95% CI 39% to 92%) compared to 65% (95% CI -9% to 89%) in LICs). There was evidence of heterogeneity by vaccine target, typhoid vaccine demonstrated higher vaccine efficacy in low-income settings than in high-income settings but for all other vaccines, the point estimates indicated efficacy was lower in low-income settings; however, all credible intervals crossed the null.

Conclusions

The percentage of trials in low-income settings poorly reflects the burden of disease experienced in low-income settings. While there is evidence of lower vaccine efficacy in low-income settings relative to high-income settings, the credible intervals were very wide. Vaccine efficacy trials should report treatment effects stratified by settings.

Review Open Access

Why common values across the United Nations system should underpin the global response to climate change

[version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]

Jerome Amir Singh, Julian Sheather, Katharine Wright, Katherine Littler

Abstract

Climate change raises not only scientific and economic challenges but also profound ethics questions, particularly where health and human well-being are at stake. The United Nations (UN) system has issued a wide range of instruments in response, yet the values embedded in these texts have not been systematically mapped. This article examines how ethics values are articulated across UN climate, health, bioethics, and humanitarian instruments, highlighting their role in shaping legitimacy and guiding global action. Drawing on a purposive sample of treaties, resolutions, frameworks, and declarations related to climate change, the study brings together dispersed references to ethics into a coherent picture. The resulting map shows how normative commitments underpin UN climate governance and reveal linkages across domains. Recognising these values can align efforts across UN bodies and identify areas requiring further action, offering decision-makers both a shared language and a practical roadmap for fairer and more effective climate responses.

Plain Language Summary

Climate change is often described in scientific or economic terms, but also raises important ethics questions. These include who is responsible for acting, how harms and burdens should be shared, and how the needs of vulnerable populations and future generations are considered. The United Nations (UN) system has created many agreements, declarations, and policies to guide climate and health action, but the values expressed in these documents had never been systematically brought together and compared.

This article reviews forty-four UN instruments, including treaties, resolutions, bioethics declarations, health frameworks, and humanitarian policies. It identifies the ethical language they use and brings together references to values that are often dispersed across different parts of the UN system. By mapping these values in one place, the study shows that ethical commitments already form part of how the UN frames its response to the climate crisis. This makes it easier for decision-makers, researchers, and the public to see where there is shared ground, where gaps appear, and how future policies can be more coherent, fair, and effective.

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Think Tanks

Brookings [to 18 Oct 2025]

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

Research, Events

No new digest content identified.

Center for Global Development [18 Oct 2025]

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

All Research

No new digest content identified.

Chatham House [to 18 Oct 2025]

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

Selected Analysis, Comment, Events

Expert comment

[Africa after USAID: who will pay the health bill?](#)

The US retreat from global health funding has disproportionately affected African countries. Will African governments allow the cycle of dependency to continue, or reassert sovereignty over their health systems?

16 October 2025 4 minute READ

Council on Foreign Relations [18 Oct 2025]

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

New Releases [Selected]

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CSIS [18 Oct 2025]

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

Reports [Selected]

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McKinsey Global Institute [18 Oct 2025]

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

Featured Research

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ODI [Overseas Development Institute] [to 18 Oct 2025]

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Pew Research Center [18 Oct 2025]

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

Latest Publications [Selected]

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Rand [to 18 Oct 2025]

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

Published Research [Selected]

Research Oct 13, 2025

The Relationship Between State Vaccination Exemption Policies and MMR Vaccination Trends in the U.S.

In this study, we present results from a two-phase analysis that further elucidates the relationship between state-level non-medical exemption policies and MMR vaccination trends in the post pandemic era.

MMR vaccination rates have been declining in the U.S. since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, coinciding with an increase in the number of reported measles cases. However, vaccination trends are not uniform across states. Vaccination policies also differ across states, specifically their allowance of non-medical exemptions (NMEs). NMEs are classified as religious or personal/philosophical exemptions from vaccination requirements and allow parents to opt their children out of required (school-entry) vaccinations while still enrolling them in school. Previous studies have raised concerns about the impact of NMEs on declining MMR vaccination coverage, which has been identified as a contributing factor to measles outbreaks in the U.S. Despite these concerns, most states in the U.S. allow for at least one type of NME, with only five states prohibiting NMEs (as of June 20, 2025). Furthermore, in 2024 at least 15 states proposed new legislation to increase access to vaccination exemptions, indicating a worrisome trend in the U.S. vaccination policy landscape.

Urban Institute [to 18 Oct 2025]

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

New Research Publications - Selected

World Economic Forum [to 18 Oct 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

ICH: E20 EWG Adaptive Designs for Clinical Trials

ICH Public consultation dates:

ANMAT, Argentina - Deadline for comments by 8 October 2025

EC, Europe - Deadline for comments by 30 November 2025

Health Canada, Canada - Deadline for comments by 25 September 2025

MHRA, UK - Deadline for comments by 30 November 2025

Swissmedic, Switzerland - Deadline for comments by 30 November 2025

TFDA, Chinese Taipei - Deadline for comments by 13 October 2025

USA, FDA, Deadline 12/01/2025 Docket No. FDA-2025-D-3023

The E20 EWG is working on the development of a new E20 Guideline on “Adaptive Clinical Trials” on the design, conduct, analysis, and interpretation of adaptive clinical trials that provides a transparent and harmonized set of principles for the regulatory review of these studies in a global drug development program. These principles should also provide the flexibility to evaluate / discuss innovative approaches to clinical trial design throughout the development process.

Rapporteur: Dr. Gregory Levin (FDA, United States)

Regulatory Chair: Dr. Christian Roes (EC, Europe)

Date of Step 2b: 25 June 2025 Status: Step 3

Pediatric Advisory Committee (PAC); Notice of Meeting; Establishment of a Public Docket; Request for Comments

A Notice by the Food and Drug Administration on 10/02/2025 **Comments: November 5, 2025**

DATES: The meeting will be held on virtually on November 13, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET).

SUMMARY:

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announces a forthcoming public advisory committee meeting of the Pediatric Advisory Committee (PAC). The general function of the Committee is to provide advice and recommendations to FDA on pediatric regulatory issues. The meeting will be open to the public. FDA is establishing a docket for public comment on this document.

Comments received on or before November 5, 2025, will be provided to the Committee.

Comments received after that date will be taken into consideration by FDA. In the event that the meeting is cancelled, FDA will continue to evaluate any relevant applications or information, and consider any comments submitted to the docket, as appropriate.

The docket number is FDA-2025-N-1246. The docket will close on November 12, 2025.

National Institute of Mental Health, Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee Call for Committee Membership Nominations

A Notice by the National Institutes of Health on 09/24/2025 **Nominations due November 10, 2025.**

SUMMARY:

The Office of the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is seeking nominations of individuals to serve as non-federal public members on the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC).

The Office of National Autism Coordination (ONAC) of the National Institute of Mental Health, National Institutes of Health is assisting the Department in conducting an open nomination process. Appointments of non-federal public members to the committee shall be made by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Expedited Programs for Regenerative Medicine Therapies for Serious Conditions; Draft Guidance for Industry; Availability

A Notice by the Food and Drug Administration on 09/25/2025 **Comment period ends 11/24/2025.**

Docket No. FDA-2017-D-6159 :: 21 pages

SUMMARY:

This guidance provides sponsors engaged in the development of regenerative medicine therapies for serious or life-threatening diseases or conditions with our recommendations on the expedited development and review of these therapies, including as provided under section 506(g) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act), as added by section 3033 of the 21st Century Cures Act (Cures Act). Under section 506(g) of the FD&C Act, a regenerative medicine therapy can be designated as a regenerative advanced therapy if it meets certain criteria. FDA refers to such designation as “regenerative medicine advanced therapy” (RMAT) designation (see section III.C of this document). This guidance describes the expedited programs available to sponsors of regenerative medicine therapies for serious conditions, including those products designated as RMATs. To that end, the guidance provides information about the provisions in the Cures Act regarding the use of the accelerated approval pathway for regenerative medicine therapies that have been granted designation as an RMAT. Finally, the guidance describes considerations in the clinical development of regenerative medicine therapies and opportunities for sponsors of such products to interact with the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER) review staff. As a general matter, this guidance addresses regenerative medicine therapies regulated by CBER as biological products under the FD&C Act, section 351 of the Public Health Service Act (PHS Act) (42 U.S.C. 262), and applicable regulations.

Innovative Designs for Clinical Trials of Cellular and Gene Therapy Products in Small Populations; Draft Guidance for Industry; Availability

A Notice by the Food and Drug Administration on 09/25/2025 **Comment period ends (11/24/2025).**

Malaria: Developing Drugs for Treatment; Draft Guidance for Industry; Availability

A Notice by the Food and Drug Administration on 09/23/2025. **Comment period ends 12/22/2025.**
Docket No. FDA-2025-D-0918

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

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

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