

### The Science of Vaccines

#### **Dr. Manish Sadarangani**

Director, Vaccine Evaluation Center, BC Children's Hospital Research Institute
Associate Professor, Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Pediatrics, UBC
Physician Lead, Family Immunization Clinic, BC Children's Hospital

*30 May, 2023* 







# Land acknowledgement

BC Children's Hospital Research Institute operates on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples — x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əỷəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwəta?/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.



#### Disclosures

- Salary awards
  - BC Children's Hospital Foundation
  - Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research

- Research/Project Funding
  - Merck, Moderna, VBI Vaccines, GlaxoSmithKline, Pfizer, Sanofi-Pasteur, Seqirus,
     Symvivo
- All funds have been paid to my institute
- I have not received any personal payments



# My Brief

- Advances in vaccine technology to improve vaccine delivery and efficacy
  - Reflections from COVID-19 vaccines

- New vaccines on the horizon for chronic and emerging infections
  - Respiratory infections: COVID-19, influenza, RSV
  - Antimicrobial resistance
  - Controlled human infection models (CHIMs)

- Novel strategies for addressing the challenge of vaccine hesitancy
  - The importance of your role





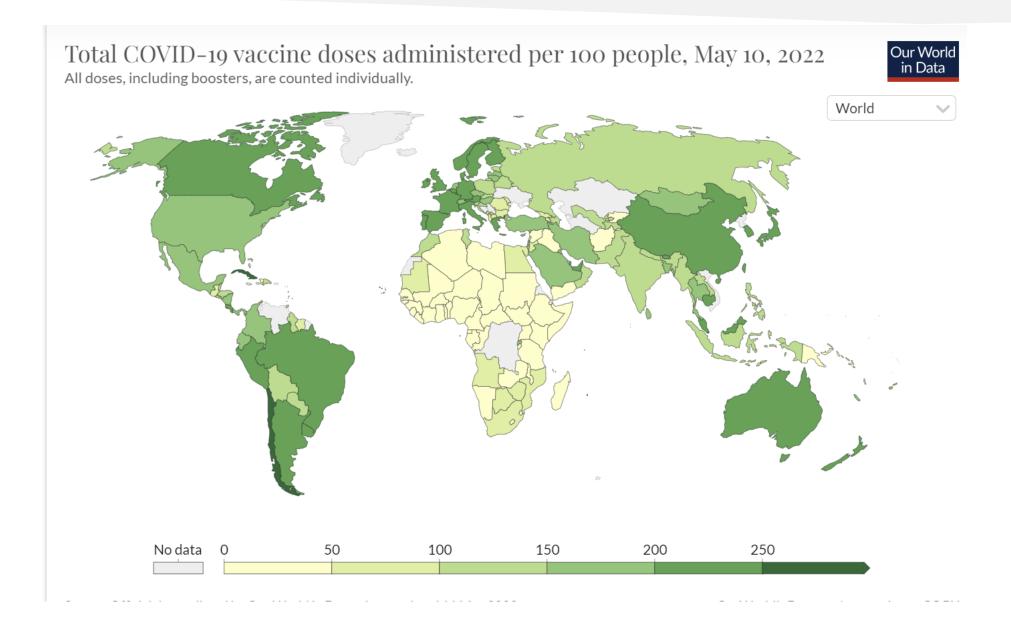






# Vaccine technologies

# The global vaccination system has been stress-tested!









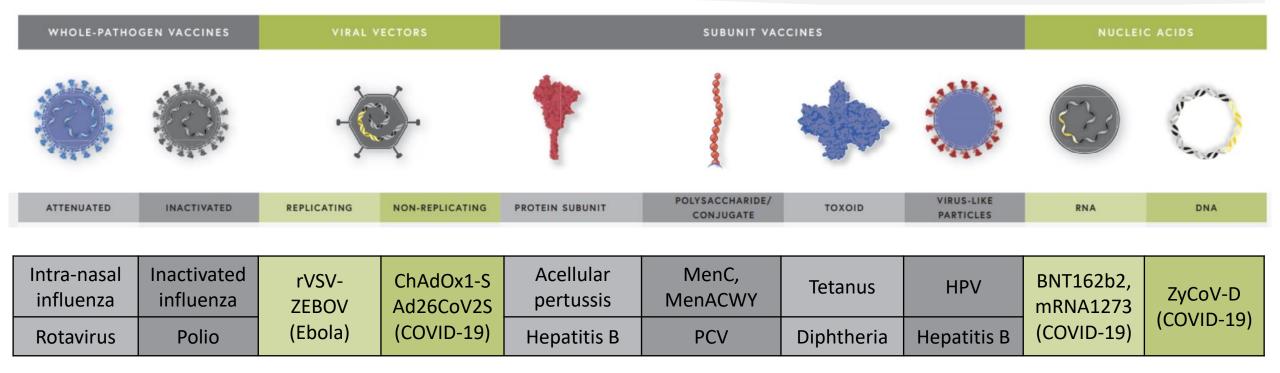
# Some of the major ongoing challenges – game-changers?

- Vaccine platforms
  - Flexible, adaptable
  - Large scale manufacturing
  - Low cost

- Non-injectable administration
- Fewer doses ideally single dose
  - Needs better understanding of how vaccines work
- Thermostable
  - In particular heat-stable



# Current vaccine approaches



- Future vaccine "platforms"
  - RNA
  - Viral vector
  - Others in development

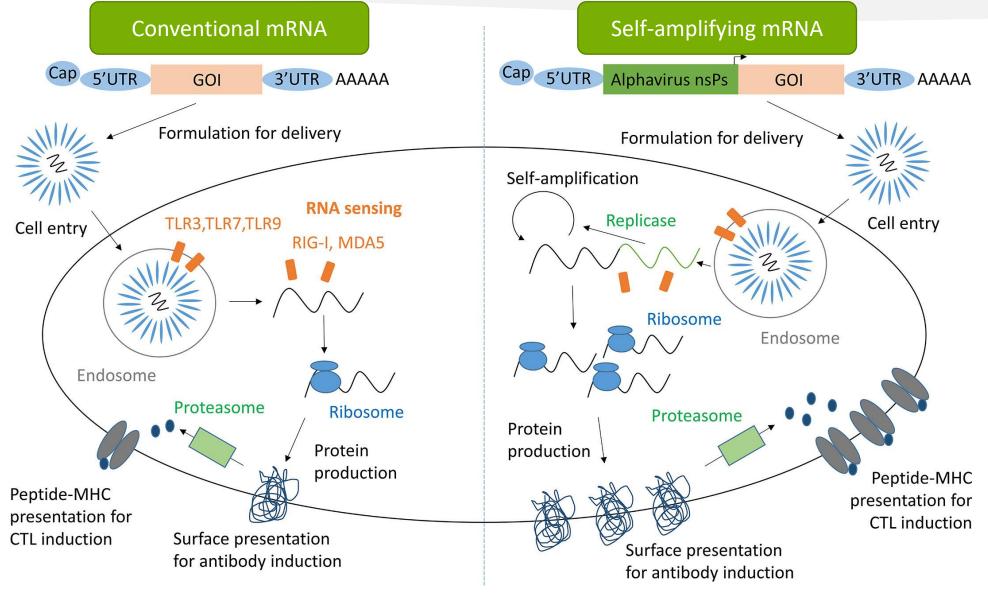
https://asm.org/resource-pages/vaccine-resources







### **RNA** vaccines





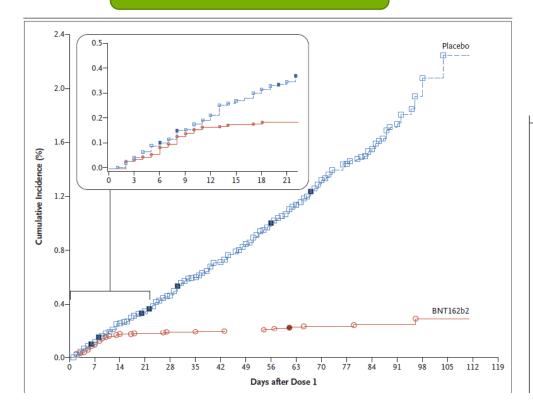




# COVID-19 mRNA vaccines: THE GOOD

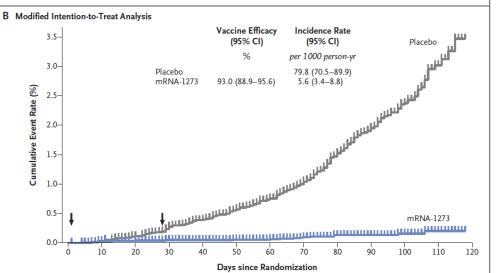
High vaccine efficacy

#### BNT162b2



Polack et al. NEJM 2020; Baden et al. NEJM 2020

#### mRNA-1273





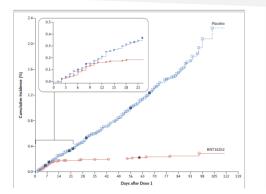


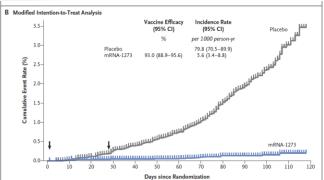


# COVID-19 mRNA vaccines: THE GOOD

High vaccine efficacy

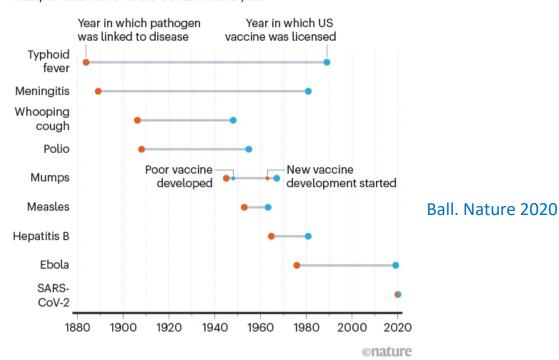
Rapid development





#### **VACCINE INNOVATION**

Most vaccines take years to develop, but scientists created multiple vaccines for SARS-CoV-2 within a year.



Polack et al. NEJM 2020; Baden et al. NEJM 2020





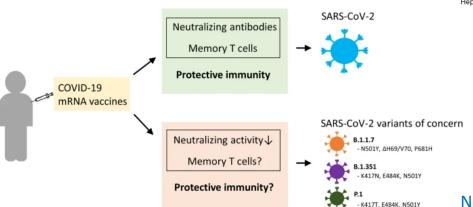


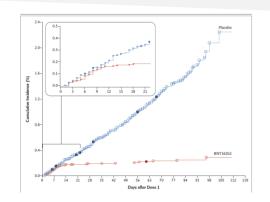
# COVID-19 mRNA vaccines: THE GOOD

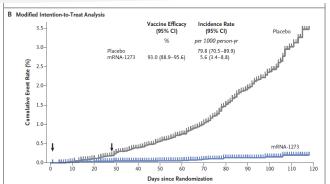
High vaccine efficacy

Rapid development

Adapt to variants



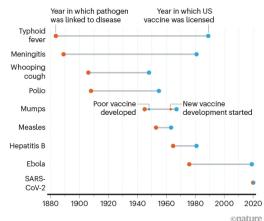




#### Polack et al. NEJM 2020; Baden et al. NEJM 2020

#### **VACCINE INNOVATION**

Most vaccines take years to develop, but scientists created multiple vaccines for SARS-CoV-2 within a year.



Ball. Nature 2020







### COVID-19 mRNA vaccines: THE BAD

#### Adverse events

- Very frequent local and systemic reactions
- Rare, severe events
  - Myocarditis, pericarditis
    - Young adults, adolescents
    - Males > Females
  - Bell's palsy (facial paralysis)

#### • Cold chain

- BNT162b2: -90°C to -50°C
- mRNA-1273: -50°C to -15°C

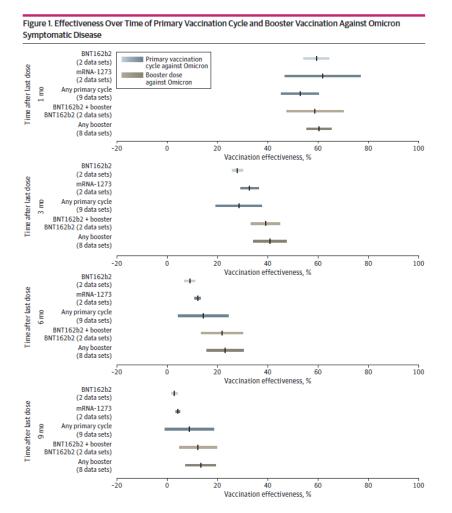




# COVID-19 mRNA vaccines: THE BAD

- Adverse events
  - Very frequent local and systemic reactions
  - Rare, severe events
    - Myocarditis, pericarditis
      - Young adults, adolescents
      - Males > Females
    - Bell's palsy (facial paralysis)
- Cold chain
  - BNT162b2: -90°C to -50°C
  - mRNA-1273: -50°C to -15°C

Need for boosters



Menegale. JAMA Network Open 2023







# COVID-19 mRNA vaccines: THE UGLY

Poor global coverage

### High cost

Potential Total Cost Scenarios for One Dose of a COVID-19 Vaccine/Booster per Adult

Type of Purchase	Price/Dose (\$)
Federal (Bivalent)	\$29
Commercial (Low)	\$96
Commercial (High)	\$115

https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/press-release/covid-19-vaccines-could-cost-billions-of-dollars-more-each-year-if-the-federal-government-ends-its-bulk-purchasing-program/







# COVID-19 self-amplifying RNA vaccine

Safety and immunogenicity of a self-amplifying RNA vaccine against COVID-19: COVAC1, a phase I, dose-ranging trial

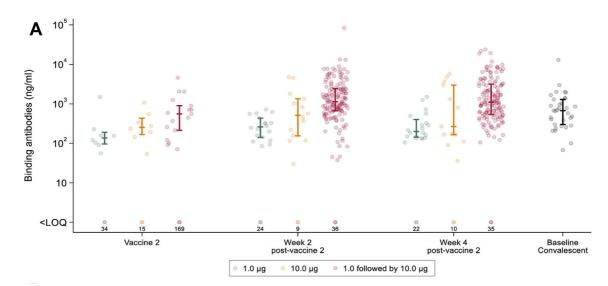
COVAC1 phase 2a expanded safety and immunogenicity study of a self-amplifying RNA vaccine against SARS-CoV-2

#### Seroconversion rate (%)

Vaccine dose	Week 2	Week 4	Week 6	Week 8
0.1 mcg	5	3	8	8
0.3 mcg	0	13	26	26
1.0 mcg	7	19	43	48
2.5 mcg	0	17	39	43
5.0 mcg	4	26	39	35
10.0 mcg	0	35	61	57

Note: conventional mRNA vaccine dose 30-100 mcg (adult)

Vaccine dose	Week 2	Week 4
1.0 mcg + 10 mcg	80	80









# mRNA vaccines for other pathogens?

Influenza

# Moderna announces mixed results for influenza mRNA vaccine candidate

By Rachel Arthur 20-Feb-2023 - Last updated on 20-Feb-2023

Phase 3 interim data showed the mRNA vaccine candidate generated a strong immune response against Influenza A; but failed to demonstrate it was at least as effective as an existing vaccine against Influenza B.

The Phase 3 study looked at the safety and immunogenicity of a single dose of mRNA-1010 during the Southern Hemisphere influenza season: enrolling 6,102 adults across Argentina, Australia, Colombia, Panama and the Philippines.

RSV

NEWS | 15 February 2023

# mRNA vaccine effective against RSV respiratory disease

Nature Medicine explores the latest translational and clinical research news, with Moderna's clinical trial of a vaccine against respiratory syncytial virus in older adults.

Moderna has announced topline results for its mRNA-based vaccine against respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) infection in adults 60 years of age and older. mRNA-1345 targets the RSV fusion (F) glycoprotein and, <u>according to the press release</u>, is 83.7% effective at preventing lower-respiratory-tract disease. It is the latest in a string of positive results from

### Viral vector vaccines

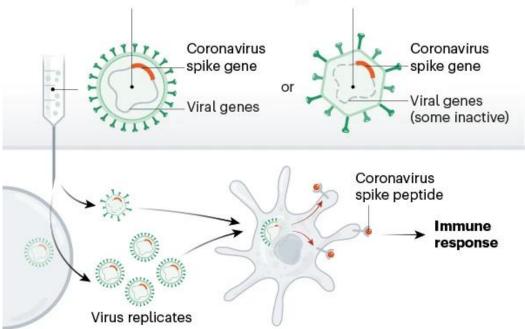
#### **VIRAL-VECTOR VACCINES**

# Replicating viral vector (such as weakened measles)

The newly approved Ebola vaccine is an example of a viral-vector vaccine that replicates within cells. Such vaccines tend to be safe and provoke a strong immune response. Existing immunity to the vector could blunt the vaccine's effectiveness, however.

# Non-replicating viral vector (such as adenovirus)

No licensed vaccines use this method, but they have a long history in gene therapy. Booster shots can be needed to induce long-lasting immunity. US-based drug giant Johnson & Johnson is working on this approach.



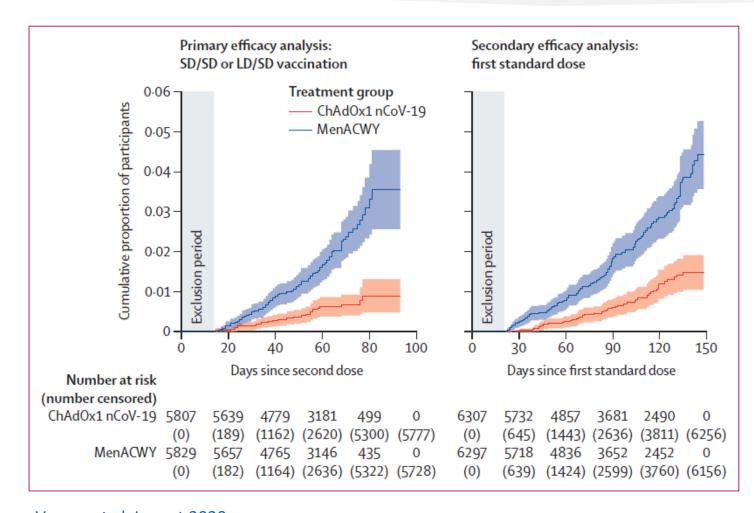




### COVID-19 Viral vector vaccines: THE GOOD

- High efficacy
- Rapid development

Adapt to variants



Voysey et al. Lancet 2020







## COVID-19 Viral vector vaccines: THE BAD

- Adverse events
  - Very frequent local and systemic reactions
  - Rare, severe events
    - Thrombosis with thrombocytopenia (TTS)
    - Vaccine-induced immune thrombotic thrombocytopenia (VITT)
    - Capillary leak syndrome
    - Guillain-Barré syndrome
- Cold chain

Need for boosters





# COVID-19 Viral vector vaccines: THE UGLY

Anti-viral immunity

• High cost

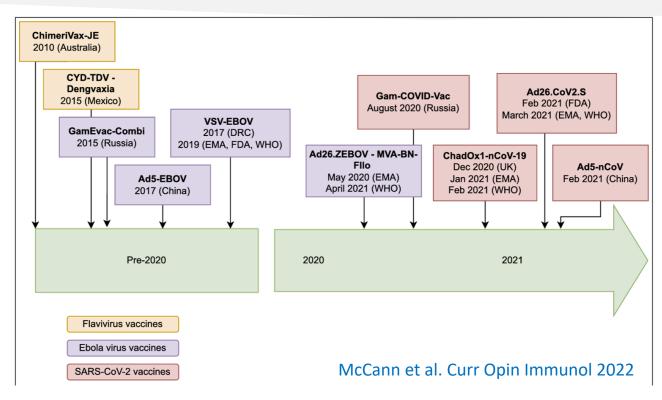








### Future of viral vector vaccines



- Avoiding anti-viral immunity
- Use of different vectors/platforms for priming and booster doses?
  - 'Heterologous prime-boost'
- Adjuvants
- Mucosal administration







# Non-injectable administration

Mucosal immunity

#### Current

- Oral rotavirus vaccine
- Oral polio vaccine (plan to phase out as part of global eradication plan)
- Live attenuated influenza vaccine

#### Future

- Epicutaneous (e.g., microneedles, microinjectors, patches)
- Other mucosally administered
  - Intranasal, inhaled, oral



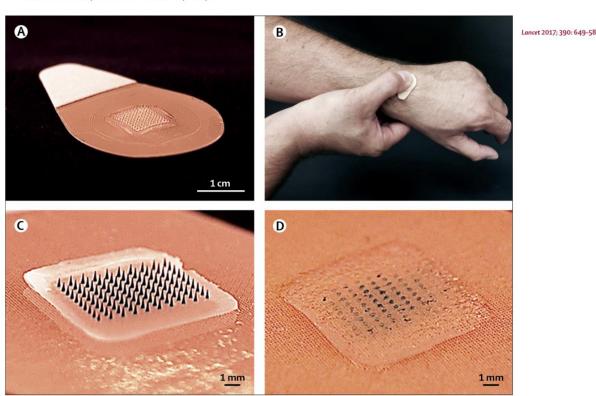


# Epicutaneous vaccine administration

The safety, immunogenicity, and acceptability of inactivated influenza vaccine delivered by microneedle patch (TIV-MNP 2015): a randomised, partly blinded, placebo-controlled, phase 1 trial

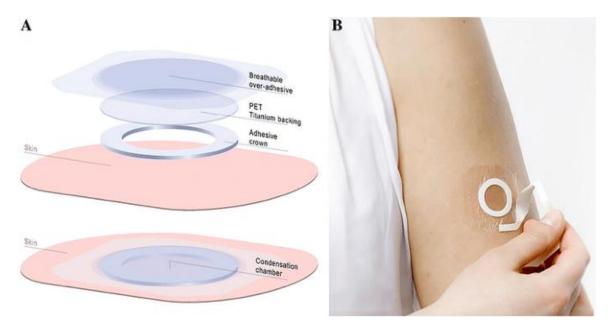


Nadine G Rouphael, Michele Paine, Regina Mosley, Sebastien Henry, Devin V McAllister, Haripriya Kalluri, Winston Pewin, Paula M Frew, Tianwei Yu, Natalie J Thornburg, Sarah Kabbani, Lilin Lai, Elena V Vassilieva, Ioanna Skountzou, Richard W Compans, Mark J Mulligan\*, Mark R Prausnitz\*, for the TIV-MNP 2015 Study Group†



Safety and immunogenicity of the epicutaneous reactivation of pertussis toxin immunity in healthy adults: a phase I, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial Clinical Microbiology and Infection 27 (2021) 878–885

O. Chatzis <sup>1</sup>, G. Blanchard-Rohner <sup>1, 2</sup>, L. Mondoulet <sup>3</sup>, B. Pelletier <sup>3</sup>, A. De Gea-Hominal <sup>1</sup>, M. Roux <sup>3</sup>, A. Huttner <sup>1, 4</sup>, P.L. Hervé <sup>3</sup>, M. Rohr <sup>2</sup>, A. Matthey <sup>5</sup>, G. Gutknecht <sup>5</sup>, B. Lemaître <sup>6</sup>, C. Hayem <sup>3</sup>, H.T. Pham <sup>7</sup>, W. Wijagkanalan <sup>7</sup>, P.H. Lambert <sup>1</sup>, P.H. Benhamou <sup>3</sup>, C.A. Siegrist <sup>1, 2, \*</sup>

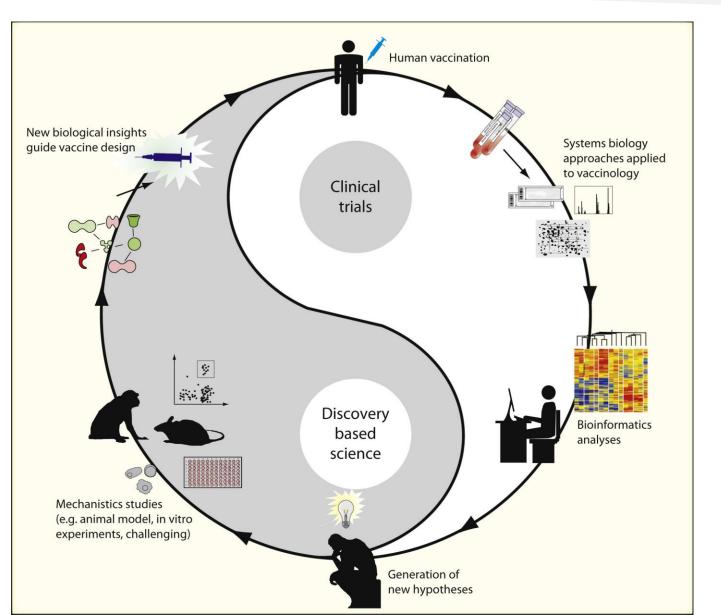


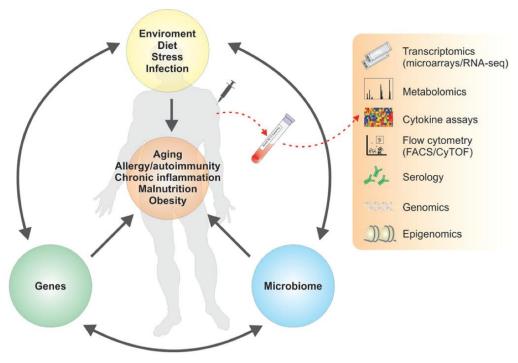






# Understanding how vaccines work -> Rational vaccine design



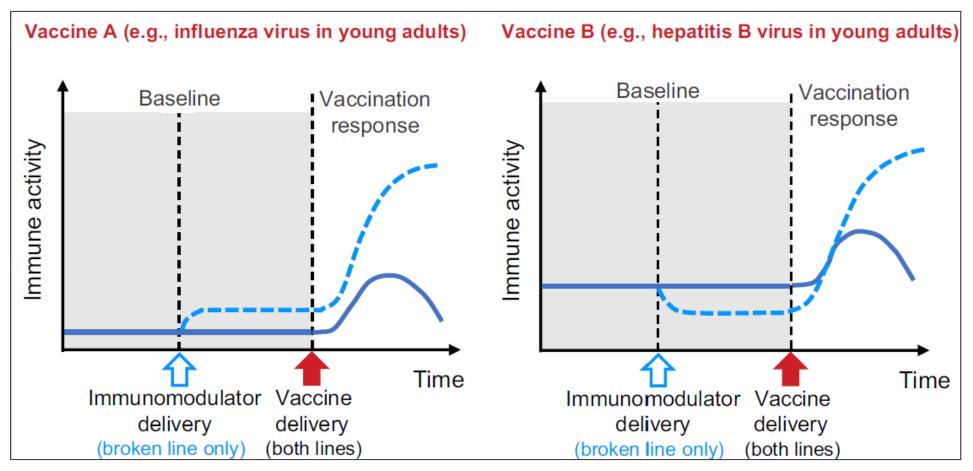


Pulendran et al. Immunity 2010 Pulendran et al. PNAS 2014





# The dawn of 'precision vaccinology'?

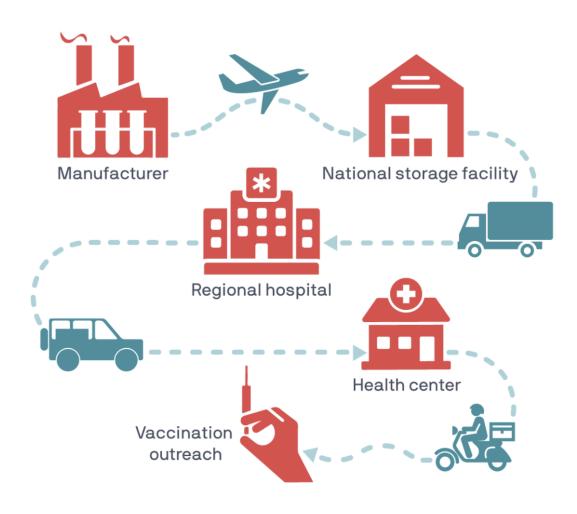








# Thermostability



nature communications

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-023-36789-2

#### Safety and immunogenicity of a thermostable ID93 + GLA-SE tuberculosis vaccine candidate in healthy adults

Received: 23 December 2022

Accepted: 16 February 2023

Published online: 06 March 2023

Check for updates

Zachary K. Sagawa<sup>1</sup>, Cristina Goman<sup>1</sup>, Aude Frevol<sup>1,8</sup>, Azra Blazevic<sup>2</sup>, Janice Tennant<sup>2</sup>, Bridget Fisher<sup>1,9</sup>, Tracey Day<sup>1,10</sup>, Stephen Jackson<sup>3</sup>, Franck Lemiale<sup>3</sup>, Leon Toussaint<sup>3</sup>, Irene Kalisz<sup>3</sup>, Joe Jiang<sup>4</sup>, Lisa Ondrejcek<sup>4</sup>, Raodoh Mohamath<sup>1</sup>, Julie Vergara<sup>1,11</sup>, Alan Lew<sup>1</sup>, Anna Marie Beckmann<sup>1</sup>, Corey Casper © 1,5,6,7, Daniel F. Hoft<sup>2</sup> & Christopher B. Fox © 1,5 ₪









Gerhardt et al. bioRxiv 2021









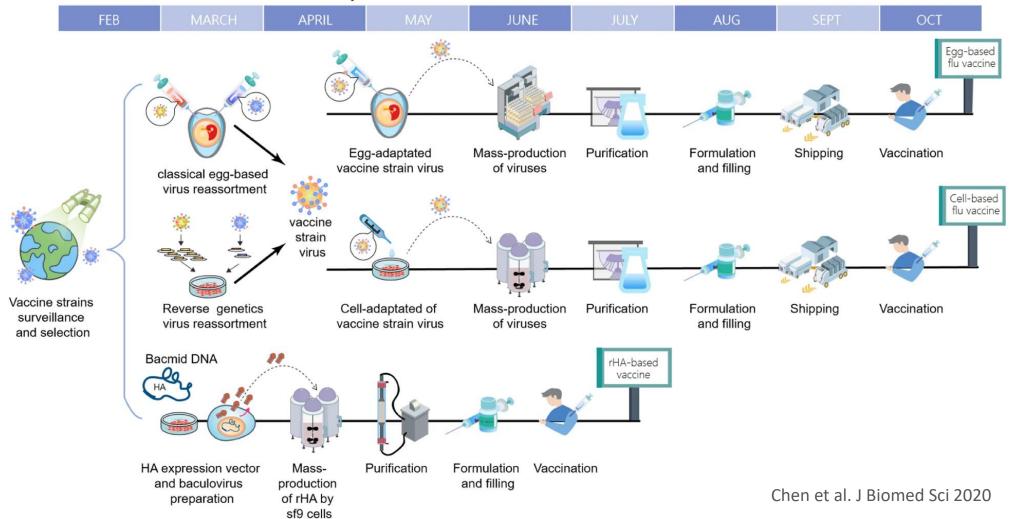




# New vaccines

# Seasonal influenza vaccine pathway

#### Current influenza vaccine productions



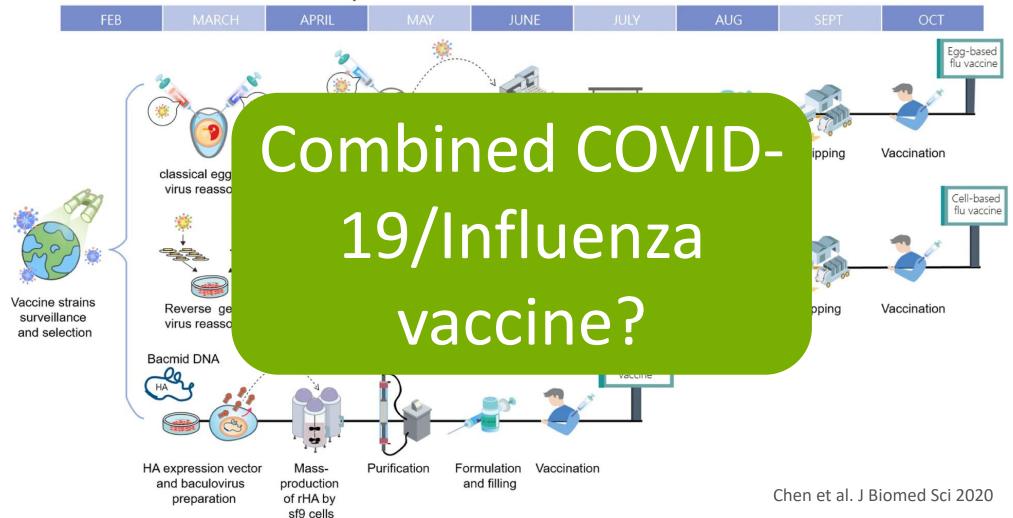






# Seasonal influenza vaccine pathway

#### Current influenza vaccine productions









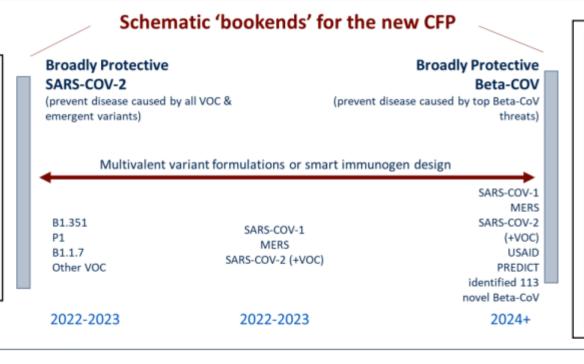
# Broadly-protective beta coronavirus vaccine?

Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations



# Example BPCoV2 ideal Target Product Profile:

- 80% or more efficacy against moderateto-severe disease caused by variants;
- Prevention of viral infection and transmission
- Thermostable at 4-8° C
- Use in all ages and pregnant women
- Use in the immunocompromised
- · Potential as booster vaccine



#### Example of a BPBC ideal Target Product Profile:

- Active immunization of at-risk individuals, based on specific risk factors, to prevent disease and mortality (proxy - robust [80%] neutralization against a panel of Betacoronaviuses predictive of protection against disease).
- Prevention of virus infection and transmission
- Thermostable at 4-8° C
- · Use in all age groups and pregnant women
- Use in the immunocompromised
- Suitable for use in outbreak situation







# Universal influenza vaccine



Vaccine Coverage

Strain specific Current circulating strains

Subtype specific All strains within a single HA

subtype (eg, H1)

Multisubtype Multiple HA subtypes within

single group (eg, H1/H5/H9)

Pan-group Covering all group 1 or 2 influenza A viruses

Universal All influenza A viruses (with or without influenza B viruses)

Courtesy Gary Nabel

#### A universal influenza vaccine should:

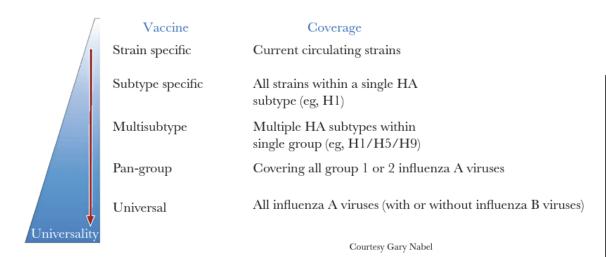
- Be at least 75% effective against symptomatic influenza virus infection;
- Protect against group I and group II influenza A viruses (influenza B virus would be a secondary target)
- Have durable protection that lasts at least 1 year and preferably through multiple seasons
- Be suitable for all age groups







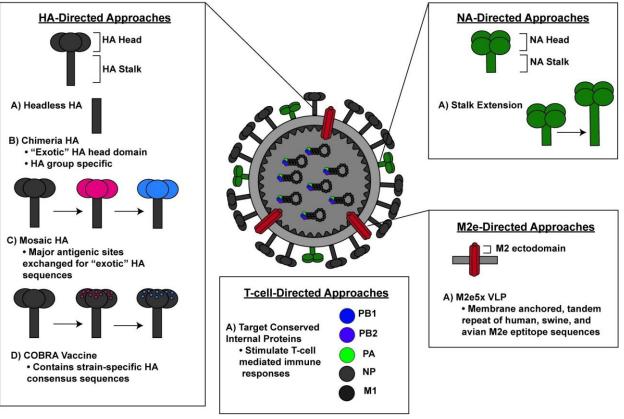
## Universal influenza vaccine



#### A universal influenza vaccine should:

- Be at least 75% effective against symptomatic influenza virus infection;
- Protect against group I and group II influenza A viruses (influenza B virus would be a secondary target)
- Have durable protection that lasts at least 1 year and preferably through multiple seasons
- Be suitable for all age groups

#### Universal Influenza Vaccine Approaches









# Universal influenza vaccine



Health Information Grants & Funding News & Events Research & Training

Home » News & Events » News Releases

NEWS RELEASES

Monday, May 15, 2023

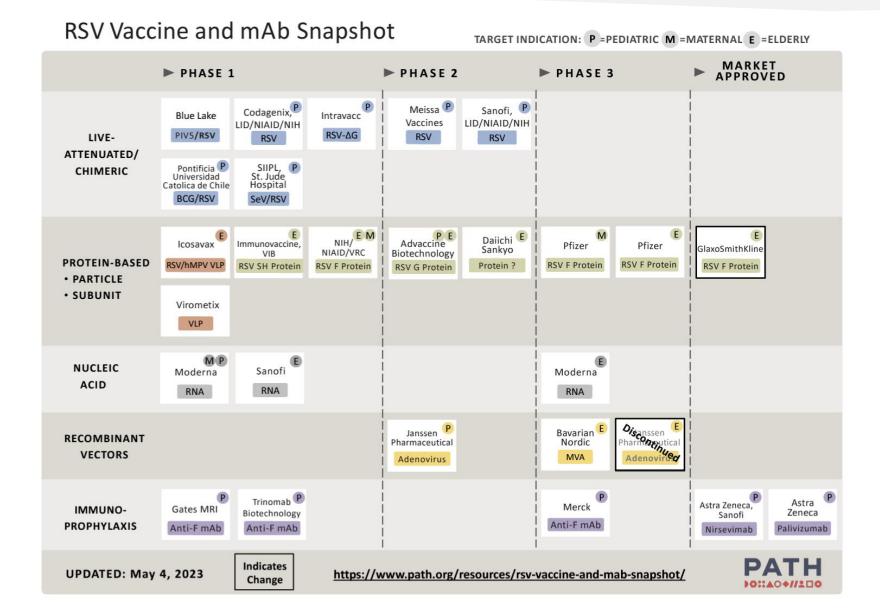
# Clinical trial of mRNA universal influenza vaccine candidate begins







# Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)



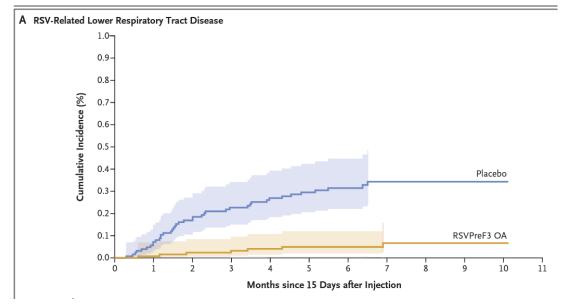






### RSV – recent successes

Vaccine efficacy 83% in adults aged 60y+



• Immunoprophylaxis – nirsevimab – efficacy ~60-80%

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

#### Nirsevimab for Prevention of RSV in Healthy Late-Preterm and Term Infants

Laura L. Hammitt, M.D., Ron Dagan, M.D., Yuan Yuan, Ph.D.,
Manuel Baca Cots, M.D., Miroslava Bosheva, M.D., Shabir A. Madhi, Ph.D.,
William J. Muller, Ph.D., Heather J. Zar, Ph.D., Dennis Brooks, M.D.,
Amy Grenham, M.Sc., Ulrika Wählby Hamrén, Ph.D., Vaishali S. Mankad, M.D.,
Pin Ren, Ph.D., Therese Takas, B.Sc., Michael E. Abram, Ph.D.,
Amanda Leach, M.R.C.P.C.H., M. Pamela Griffin, M.D.,
and Tonya Villafana, Ph.D., for the MELODY Study Group\*



#### Single-Dose Nirsevimab for Prevention of RSV in Preterm Infants

M. Pamela Griffin, M.D., Yuan Yuan, Ph.D., Therese Takas, B.S., Joseph B. Domachowske, M.D., Shabir A. Madhi, M.B., B.Ch., Ph.D., Paolo Manzoni, M.D., Ph.D., Eric A.F. Simões, M.D., Mark T. Esser, Ph.D., Anis A. Khan, Ph.D., Filip Dubovsky, M.D., Tonya Villafana, Ph.D., and John P. DeVincenzo, M.D., for the Nirsevimab Study Group







#### RSV – work in progress

Pregnancy

Berlin

Cite this as: *BMJ* 2023;381:p1021 http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmj.p1021

Published: 10 May 2023

#### **NEWS ANALYSIS**

#### Maternal RSV vaccine: Further analysis is urged on preterm births

A "safety signal" in a similar respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine has led to trials being stopped and prompted calls for a cautious approach to using the vaccine in pregnant women, reports **Hristio** 

**Boytchev** 

Hristio Boytchev

Experts have called for further analysis of trial data and post-approval monitoring of Pfizer's maternal RSV vaccine candidate after GSK's trials of a similar product were halted over a rise in preterm births and neonatal deaths.

## The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

APRIL 20, 2023

VOL. 388 NO. 16

#### Bivalent Prefusion F Vaccine in Pregnancy to Prevent RSV Illness in Infants

B. Kampmann, S.A. Madhi, I. Munjal, E.A.F. Simões, B.A. Pahud, C. Llapur, J. Baker, G. Pérez Marc, D. Radley, E. Shittu, J. Glanternik, H. Snaggs, J. Baber, P. Zachariah, S.L. Barnabas, M. Fausett, T. Adam, N. Perreras, M.A. Van Houten, A. Kantele, L.-M. Huang, L.J. Bont, T. Otsuki, S.L. Vargas, J. Gullam, B. Tapiero, R.T. Stein, F.P. Polack, H.J. Zar, N.B. Staerke, M. Duron Padilla, P.C. Richmond, K. Koury, K. Schneider, E.V. Kalinina, D. Cooper, K.U. Jansen, A.S. Anderson, K.A. Swanson, W.C. Gruber, and A. Gurtman, for the MATISSE Study Group\*

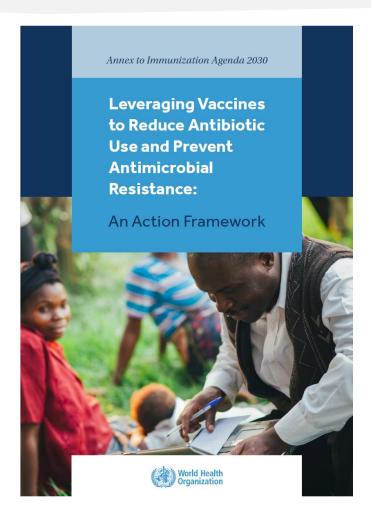






Fig. 1. Strategic objectives of the Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance

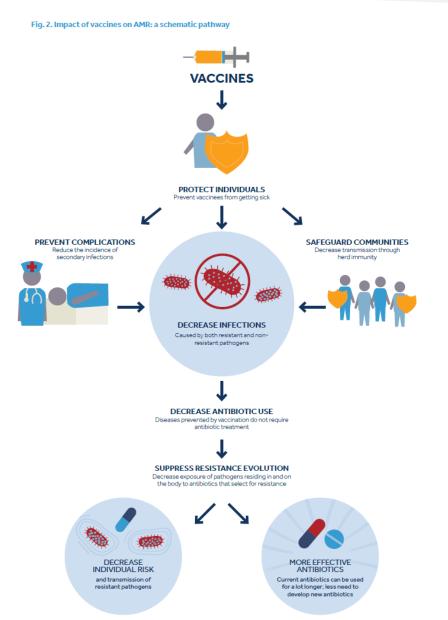


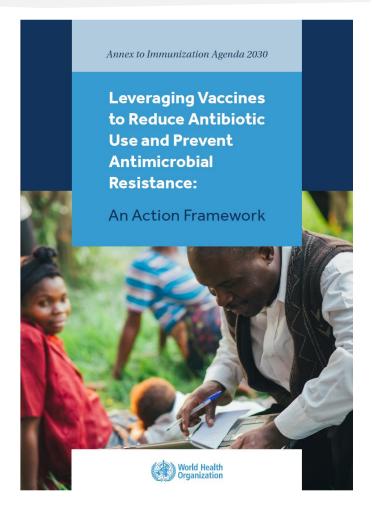














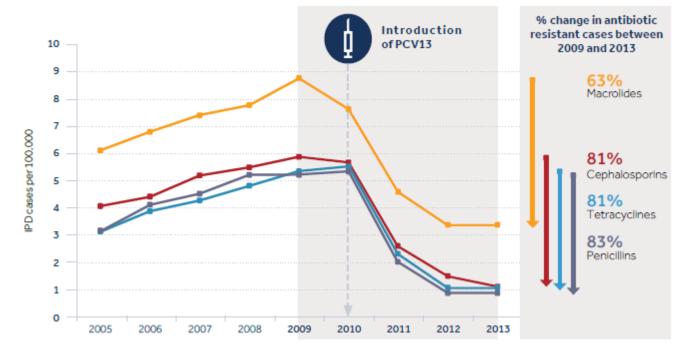






Expanding use of licensed vaccines
to maximize impact on AMR

Fig. 3. Impact of pneumococcal vaccine on rates of drug-resistant invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD) in the United States of America. b











Expanding use of licensed vaccines to maximize impact on AMR



Developing new vaccines that contribute to prevention and control of AMR



Expanding and sharing knowledge of vaccine impact on AMR

Pipeline Feasibility Group	Description	Pathogens
Very high  Group	AMR priority pathogens for which licensed vaccines already exist	<ul> <li>Salmonella enterica ser. Typhi</li> <li>Streptococcus pneumoniae</li> <li>Haemophilus influenzaetype b</li> <li>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</li> </ul>
High	AMR priority pathogens for which a vaccine candidate is in late-stage development (Phase 3) and vaccines would be suitable to target AMR infections caused be these priority pathogens in the coming years	<ul> <li>Extraintestinal pathogenic Escherichia coli(ExPEC)</li> <li>Salmonella enterica ser. Paratyphi A</li> <li>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</li> <li>Clostridioides difficile</li> </ul>
Moderate  Group	AMR priority pathogens for which a vaccine candidate has either been identified in early clinical trials or been identified as a feasible vaccine target during expert review. Vaccines may be feasible solutions to target AMR infections, with moderate feasibility of vaccine development	<ul> <li>Enterotoxigenic Escherichia coli (ETEC)</li> <li>Klebsiella pneumoniae</li> <li>Non-typhoidal Salmonella</li> <li>Campylobacter spp.</li> <li>Shigella spp.</li> </ul>

Frost et al. Hum Vacc Immun 2022







### Controlled human infection models (CHIMs)

**TABLE 38** Summary recommendations for the continued development and utilization of human challenge models for 17 infectious diseases<sup>a</sup>

Disease	Challenge agent(s)	Recommendation from the literature review
Malaria	Plasmodium falciparum	Proceed. Few concerns identified, if any.
Cholera	Vibrio cholerae	
Pneumococcus	Streptococcus pneumoniae	
Rotavirus	Live oral rotavirus vaccine	
Poliomyelitis	Oral poliovirus vaccine	
Influenza	Influenza strains pertinent to the development of universal	
	influenza vaccines	
Typhoid/Paratyphoid	Salmonella Typhi and Salmonella Paratyphi serovars	
ETEC	ETEC strains expressing selected toxins and colonization factors	Proceed with caution. Minor concerns
Shigellosis	Shigella flexneri serotypes and Shigella sonnei	identified.
Norovirus	Norovirus genogroups and genotypes	
RSV	RSV strains of genogroups A and B	
Dengue	Attenuated dengue virus serotypes 1 through 4	
Malaria	Plasmodium vivax	Address major concerns before proceeding.
Campylobacteriosis	Campylobacter jejuni serotypes	
Tuberculosis	Bacillus Calmette-Guérin	
Pertussis	Bordetella pertussis	
Cryptosporidiosis	Cryptosporidium parvum and Cryptosporidium hominis	
COVID-19	SARS-CoV-2	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>COVID-19, Coronavirus disease 2019; ETEC, enterotoxigenic *Escherichia coli*; RSV, respiratory syncytial virus; SARS-CoV-2, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2.













## Vaccine hesitancy

### What is vaccine hesitancy?

#### Vaccine hesitancy continuum



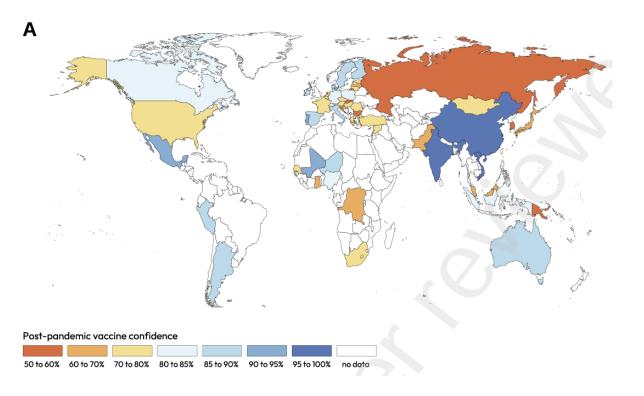


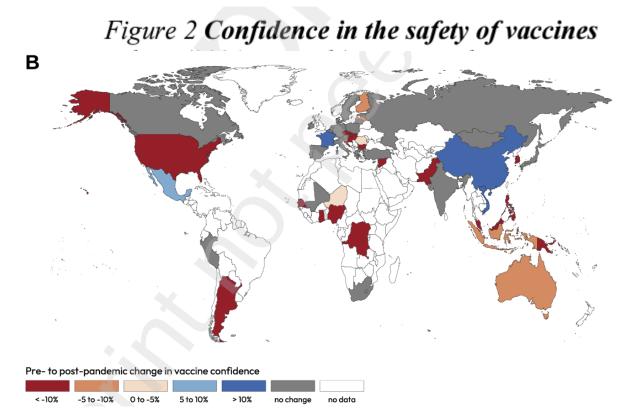




### Should we be worried about vaccine hesitancy?

Global state of vaccine confidence





Wiegand et al. SSRN 2023



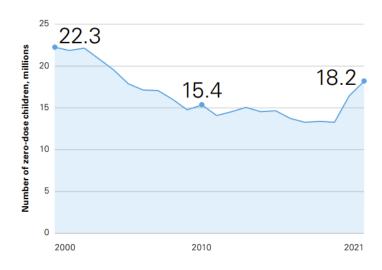


#### We are failing to vaccinate the world

Vaccines save lives, but far too many children in the world are not being vaccinated. The COVID-19 pandemic only added to their numbers. The children who are missing out live in the poorest, most remote and most marginalized communities. To reach them, it is vital to prioritize investment in primary health care and in the health workers – mostly women – who deliver services. It is essential, too, to build confidence in vaccines and to make the most of a host of new ideas and technologies that can boost the power of vaccines and ensure they reach every child.

Over the past decade or so, despite growing efforts to expand immunization, there has been little progress in reducing the number of zero-dose children. Reaching every child remains a challenge.

Figure 1. Zero-dose children globally, 2000-2021



**Source:** World Health Organization and United Nations Children's Fund, 'Estimates of National Immunization Coverage (WUENIC), 2021 revision', July 2022.



children are **zero-dose** (unvaccinated) and **under-vaccinated**, leaving them vulnerable to a range of vaccine-preventable diseases.



1 in 5

children have no protection at all against measles, a childhood killer.



Around

7 in 8

eligible girls are not vaccinated against human papillomavirus (HPV), which can cause cervical cancer.









## www.vaccineconfidence.org

#### Pillars of vaccine confidence





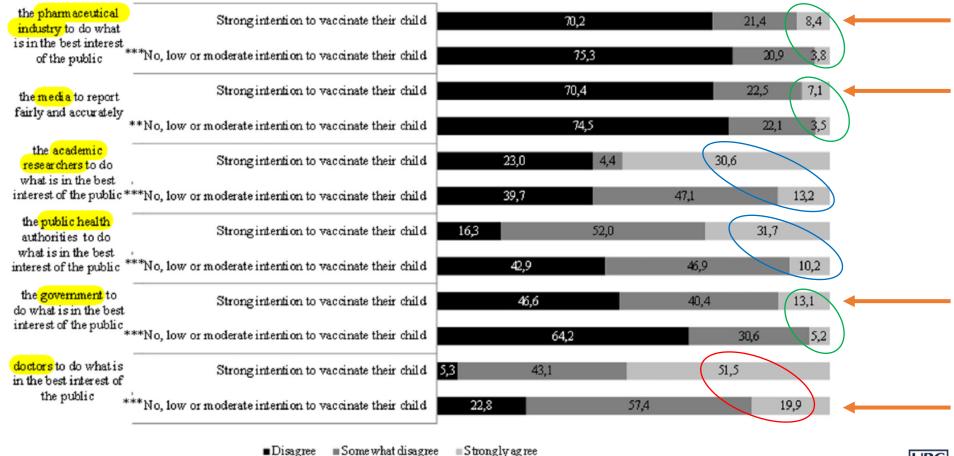




#### What can you do?

You are the most trusted source of information...

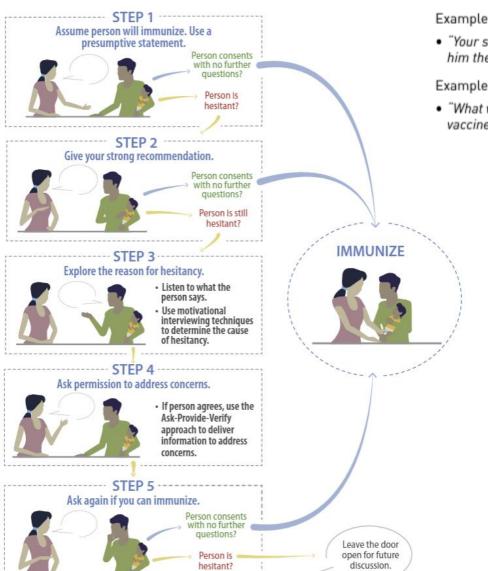
Most of the time, we can trust...







### You have the power to address vaccine hesitancy



Example of a presumptive statement:

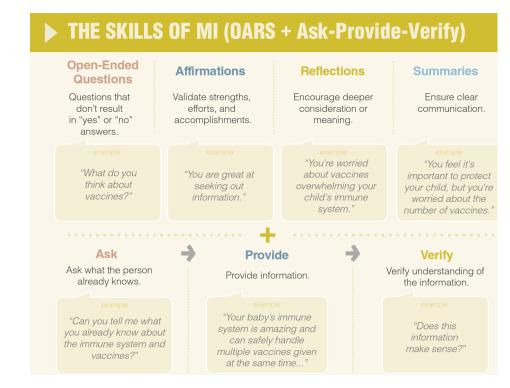
 "Your son is due for his 4-month vaccines. We will give him these vaccines before you leave today."

Example of a participatory ask:

 "What would you like to do about your son's 4-month vaccines?"

> "I strongly recommend your child gets these vaccines today. These vaccines are very important to protect your child against serious diseases."

http://www.bccdc.ca/resource-gallery/Documents/Guidelines%2 0and%20Forms/Guidelines%20and%20Manuals/Immunization/Vaccine%20Safety/ICT-2021.pdf



 "I hope I was able to address your concerns regarding the safety of vaccines. I really want to ensure your daughter is protected against these diseases. Can I provide the immunizations now?"







#### Summary

- COVID-19 has enabled rapid optimization of vaccine platforms
  - RNA and viral vector potentially promising for future vaccines
  - Multiple issues that remain to be resolved
  - Other platforms also in development
- Potential game-changers would be
  - Non-injectable administration
  - Need for a single vaccine dose
  - Long-term thermostable vaccines
- Vaccines will be a vital part of our strategy against antimicrobial resistance
- New and improved vaccines against respiratory viruses are coming soon...
- Do not under-estimate your role in addressing vaccine hesitancy















msadarangani@bcchr.ubc.ca

https://www.bcchr.ca/vec

Twitter: @manishs\_ @VEC\_ubc

# Thank you