

**Biosecurity:
A Multi-Dimensional Challenge of
Escalating Complexity and Urgency**

Dr. George Poste

Chief Scientist, Complex Adaptive Systems Initiative
and Regents Professor of Health Innovation

Arizona State University

george.poste@asu.edu

www.casi.asu.edu

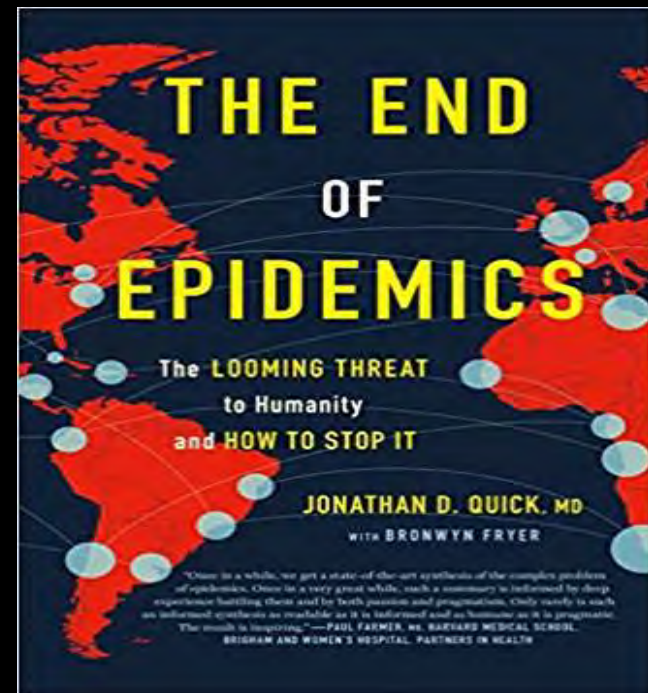
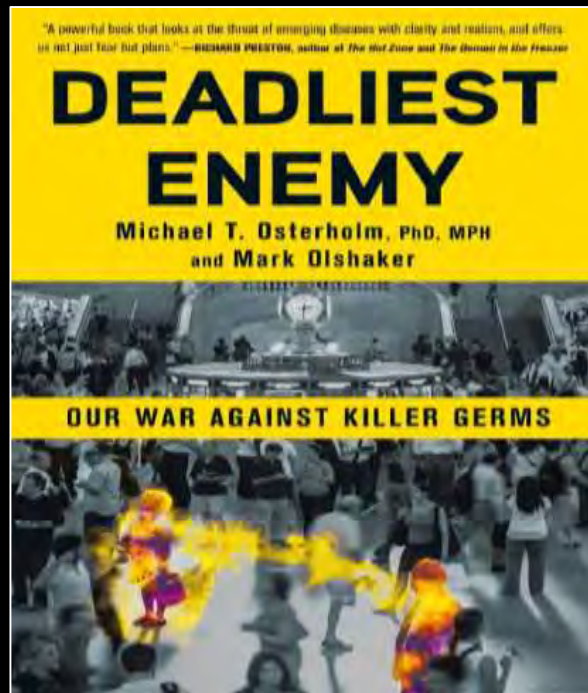
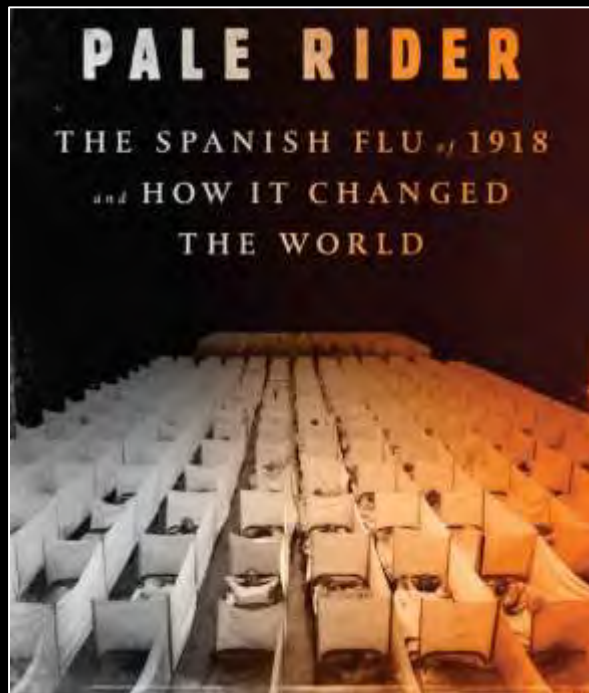
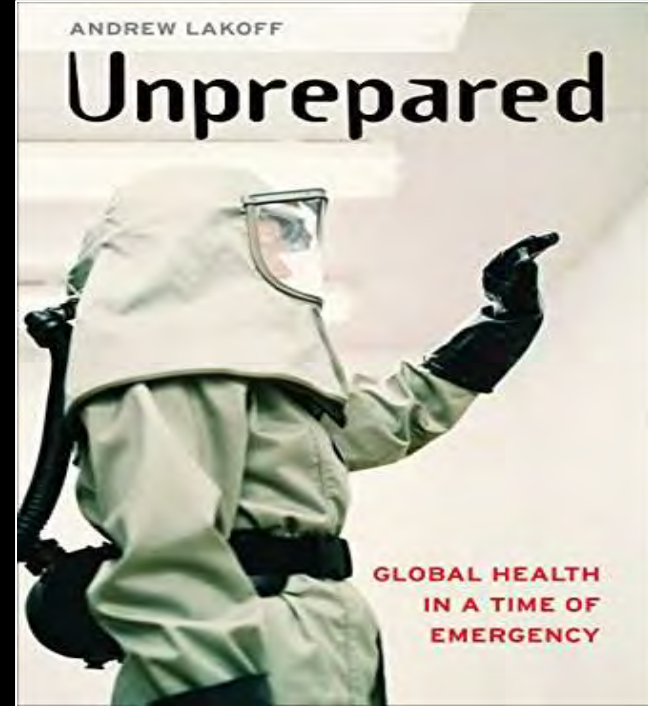
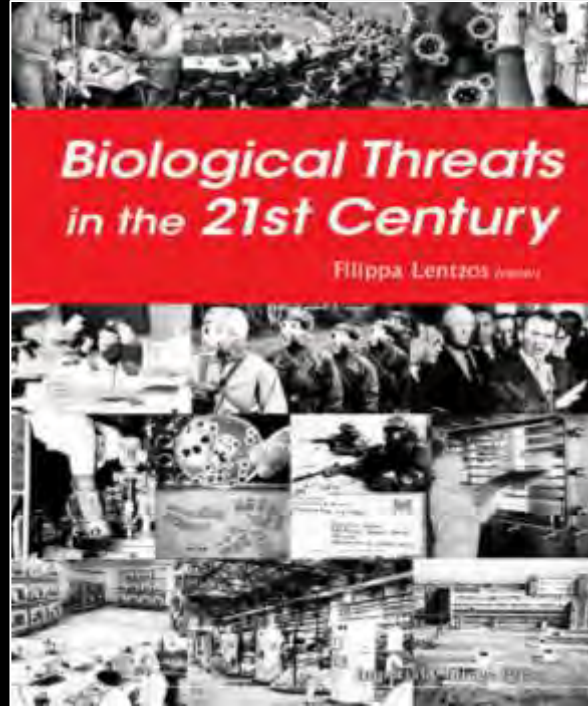
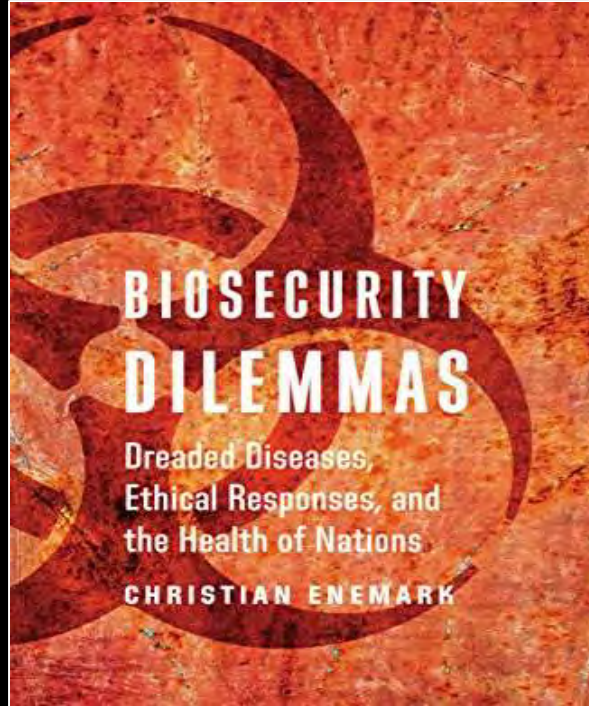
**Biosecurity and Bioterrorism Response
BIOE 122, EMED122/222, PUBLPOL 122/222 Course Winter 2018:
Stanford University School of Medicine
24 January 2018**

Biosecurity

**Broad Term for the Full Spectrum of 'Biological' Threats
Whether of Natural or Nefarious Origin**

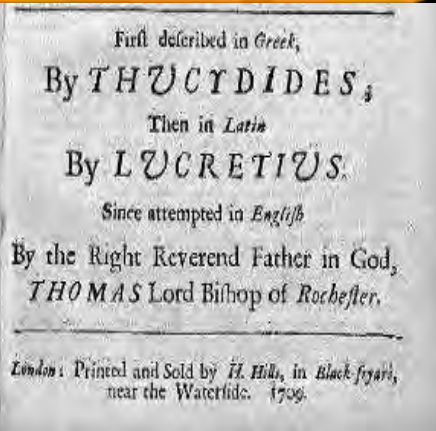
**Natural Epidemics and Bioterrorism Share Same Features
in Terms of Potential to Harm and Disrupt Society**

**Preparedness and Response Capabilities Are Similar Irrespective
of the Origin of the Biothreat**



The Social, Economic and Political Impact of Epidemic and Epizootic Disease

Plague of Athens



Bubonic Plague



Small Pox



Pandemic Influenza



Foot and Mouth Disease



Rinderpest



African Swine Fever



Rabies



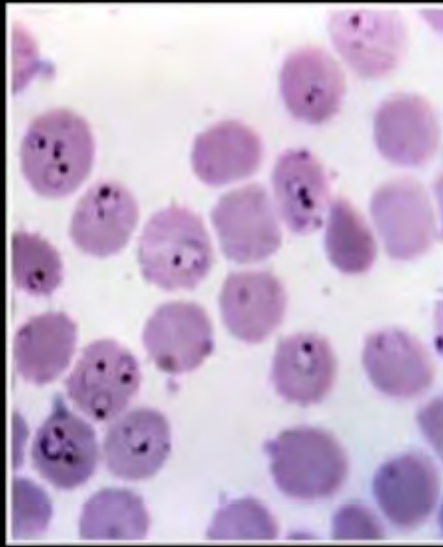
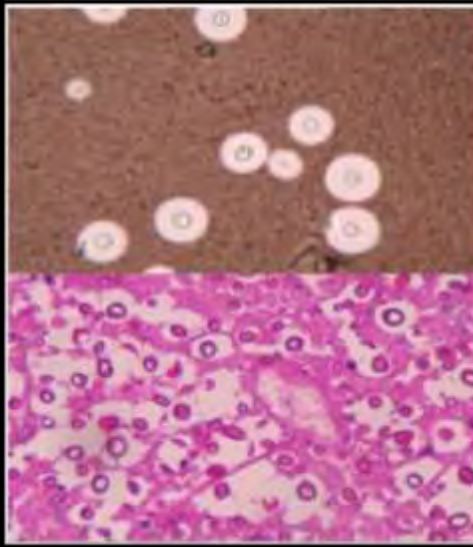
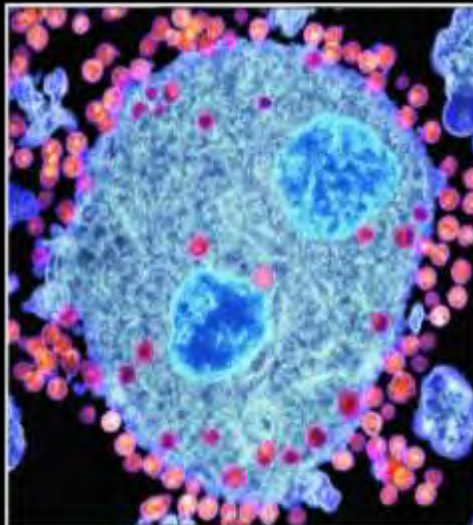
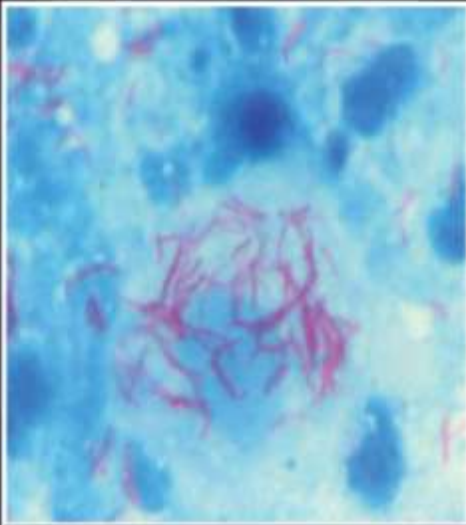
"The Big Four"

TB

HIV

Malaria

Rx Resistance



New and Resurgent Viral Threats

SARS-CoV



MERS-CoV



West Nile



Yellow Fever



Dengue



Chikungunya



Ebola



Zika

Resurgent Infectious Diseases (2017)

Madagascar

plague

Yemen

cholera

Brazil

yellow fever

**Democratic
Republic of the
Congo
Ebola**

Nigeria

monkey pox

Angola

yellow fever

Syria

polio

India

**Kyasanur Forest
disease**

Anthrax (2017)

Zambia/Namibia



Ivory Coast



Permafrost Thaw, Siberia



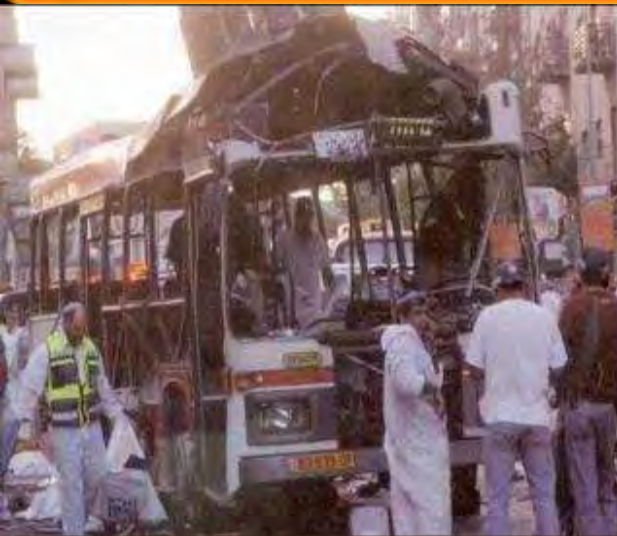
Threat Assessment: N. Korea

Infectious Diseases (Natural) and Bioterrorism (Nefarious)

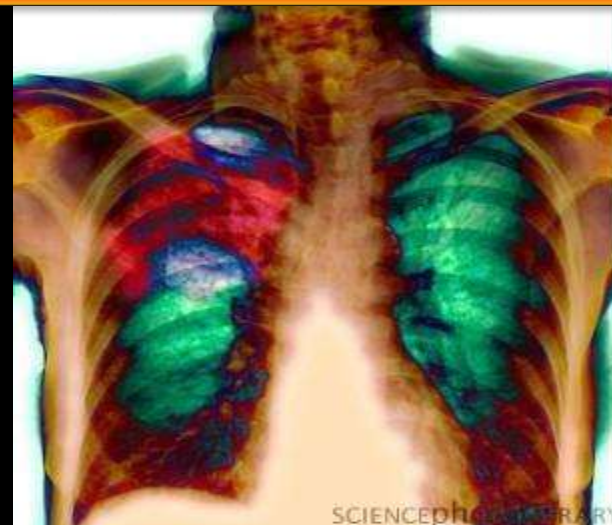
**Shared Features:
Stealth and Spread**

Detection of Infectious Disease Threats:

Very Different From Device or Hazmat Events



Emergency Rooms and Farms Will be the Front Line



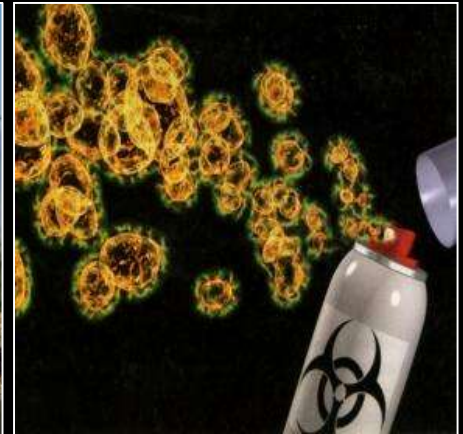
The Biosecurity Quartet

**Infectious
Diseases
of
Natural
Origin**

**Urbanization
and
Environmental
Impacts on
Disease
Emergence
(EIDs)**

**Military and/or
Humanitarian
Missions in
Dense Urban
Areas
and
'Hot Zones'**

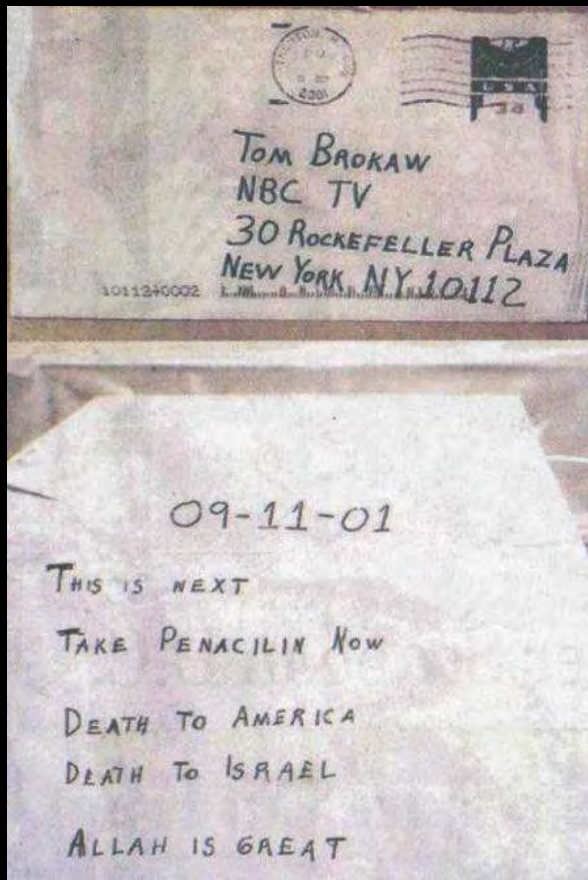
**Bioterrorism,
New Dual-Use
Technologies
and an
Expanded Threat
Spectrum**



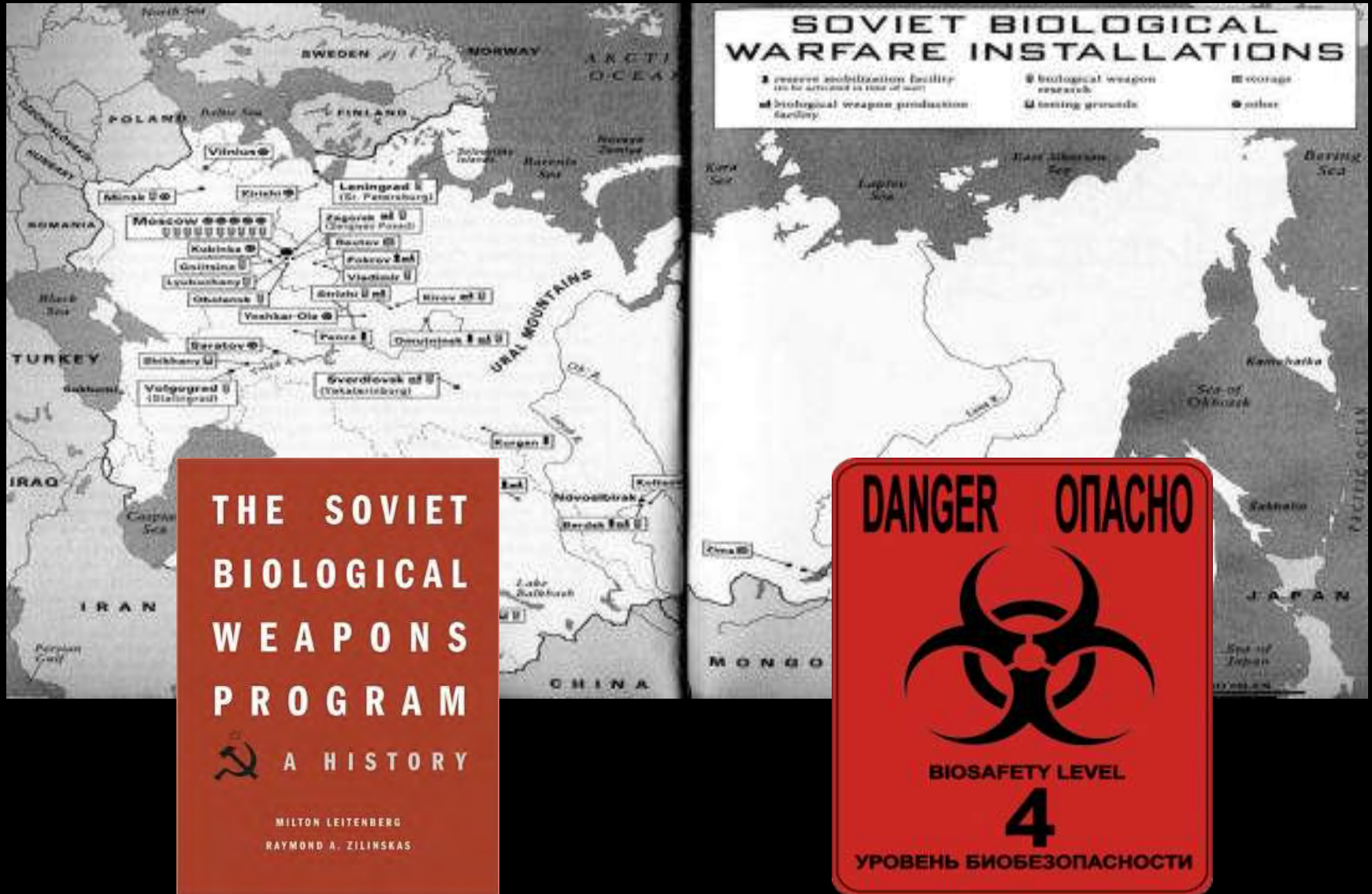
“Amerithrax” October 2001

“I will show you fear in a handful of dust”

-T. S. Elliot



The FSU Covert Biopreparat Program: Violation of 1972 BWC



The Appeal of CBW for Asymmetric Warfare and Terrorism



Diversification of the Biosecurity Threat Spectrum

Time	Low Probability: High Consequence	High Probability: High Consequence
Today		
• bioterrorism	X	
• natural infectious diseases(pandemic)		X
2025 (?)		
• bioterrorism		X ?
• natural infectious diseases(pandemic)		X

Anthropogenic Effects on Ecosystem Stability and Altered Patterns of Infectious Diseases

famine



contaminated water



no water and desertification



depletion of natural resources



**climate change and
new vector ranges**



new vulnerabilities

Increased Refugee Migration and Humanitarian Disasters Created by Conflict



Global Urbanization



- estimated 180,000 people migrate to cities every day (employment, conflict)
- unprecedented demands (stresses) on infrastructure and services by 2030
 - food (35% ↑), water (40% ↑), energy (50% ↑)
- susceptibility of megacities to extreme weather events/natural disasters
 - littoral locations of 8/10 top megacities
 - vulnerability of vertical structures and slum zones

Ebola: West Africa 2014-15

A Glimpse of the On-Ground Challenge of Managing Epidemic Disease In Locations With Inadequate Infrastructure and Frightened Populations

Still a Small Scale Epidemic and Relatively Easily Contained Versus the Challenge of a Global Pandemic

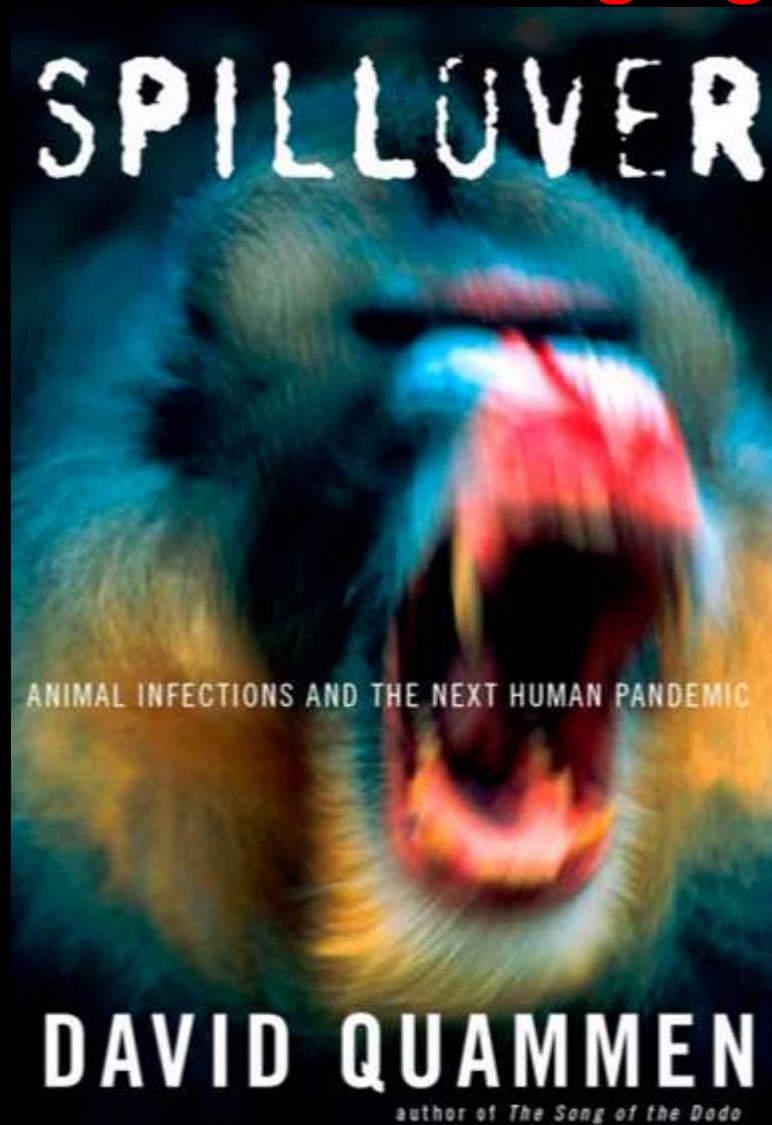
Ebola in West Africa (2014-15)



The Logistics (and Risks) of Waste Disposal



The Dominant Role of Zoonoses in Emerging Infectious Diseases



Urbanization and Mega-Cities in Developing Countries and the Increased Threat of Exotic Zoonotic Diseases

**High Population Density With
Inadequate Biosurveillance**



**Major Gaps in Health Infrastructure
and Disease Reporting**



**Expanded Eco-niches and
New Zoonotic Exposures/Risks**



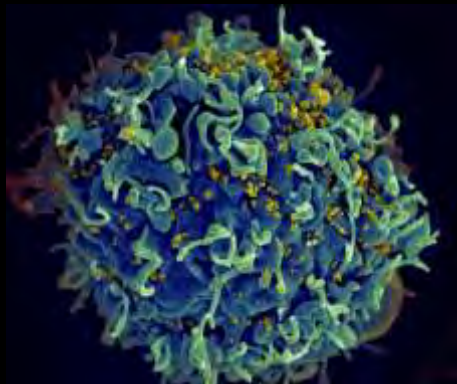
One Health:

Recognition of the Importance of Zoonotic Diseases as Human Health Threats

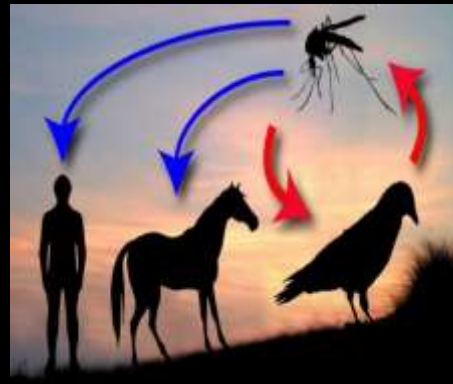
pandemic (avian) influenza



HIV



West Nile virus



MERS- CoV



Ebola virus



bush meat food chain



Zika virus



what's out there?

Mapping the Global Virome and Potential for Zoonotic Spillover to Humans

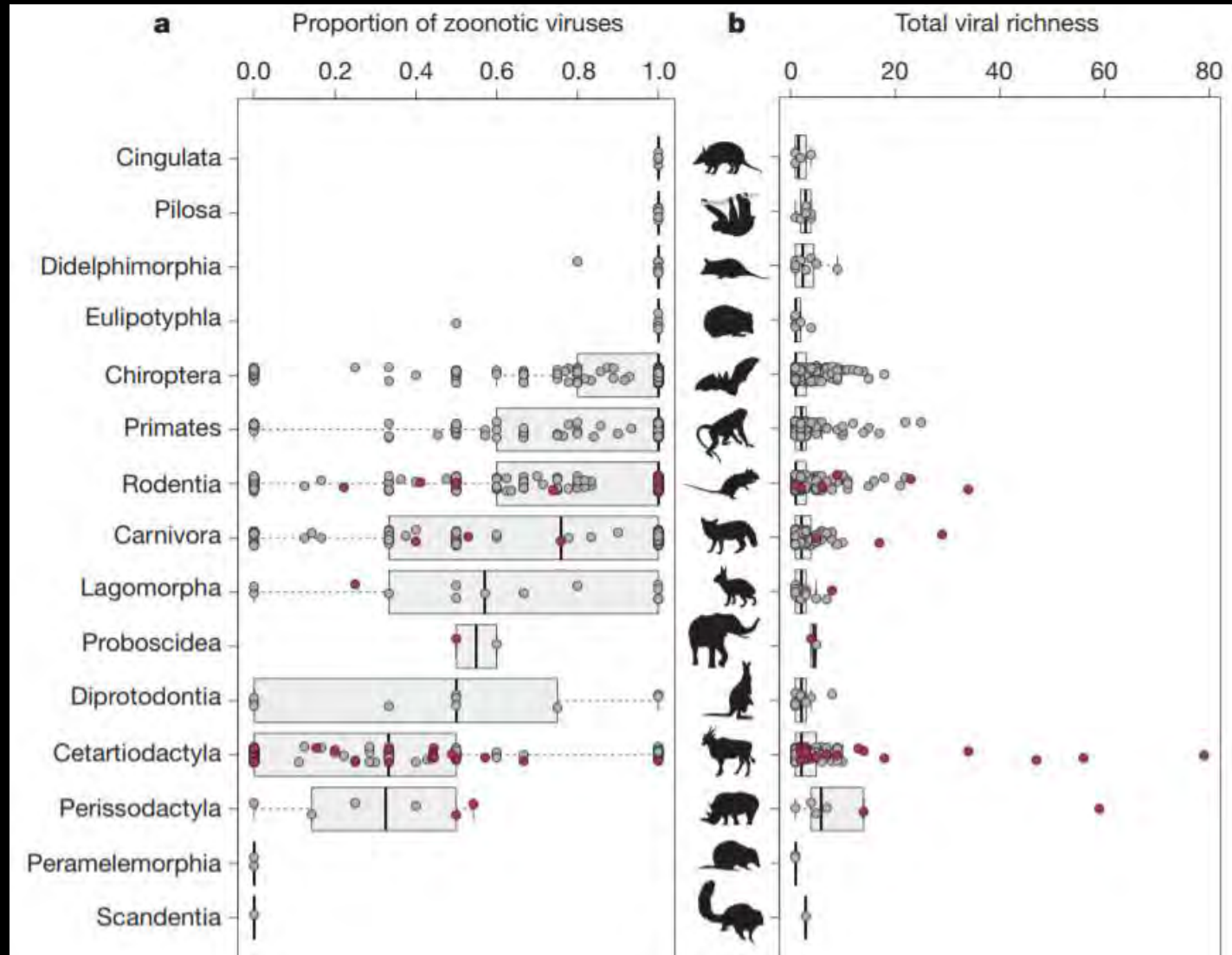
- 586 mammalian viruses in 28 families identified to date in 754 mammalian species
- 263 (44.9%) also detected in humans
 - 188 (71.5%) are zoonotic
- higher proportion of RNA viruses as zoonoses
- higher zoonotic potential for enveloped viruses that replicate in the cytoplasm
- viruses with arthropod vectors can infect a wider range of mammalian hosts

Data from: K.J. Olival et al (2017) Nature 546, 646

Bats as the Ebola Reservoir in W. Africa (2014)



The Global Virome: Analysis of 2805 Mammalian Host-Virus Association and Proportion of Zoonotic Viruses



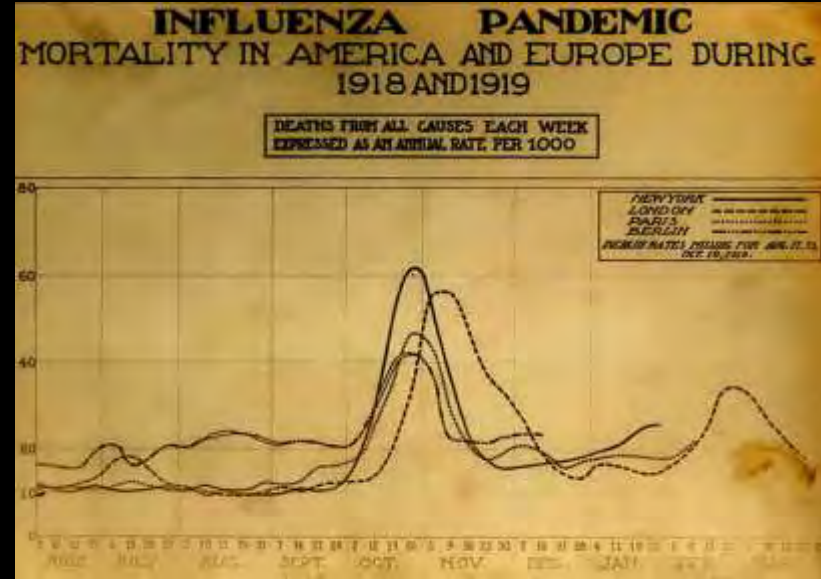
From: K. J. Olival et al. (2017) Nature 546, 646

Mapping the Global Virome and Potential for Zoonotic Spillover to Humans

- **bats (chiroptera) harbor higher proportion of zoonotic viruses than other mammalian orders**
 - **Flavi-, Bunya- and Rhabdoviruses**
- **primates and rodents next two highest reservoirs**
 - **rodents (Bunya-, Flavi- and Arenaviruses)**
- **phylogenetic relatedness and cross-species spread (viral receptor affinities)**
- **higher mutation frequency in RNA viruses and cross species spillover**
- **sympatry (two or more species in same location)**
- **increased risk with rural to urban migration**

The #1 Global Pandemic Threat?

The Omnipresent Risk of Pandemic Influenza



The Evolution of Pandemic Influenza Strains: The Bird → Pig → Human Transmission Chain

Avian Reservoirs and Global Flyways



Sporadic Transmission to Mammalian Hosts

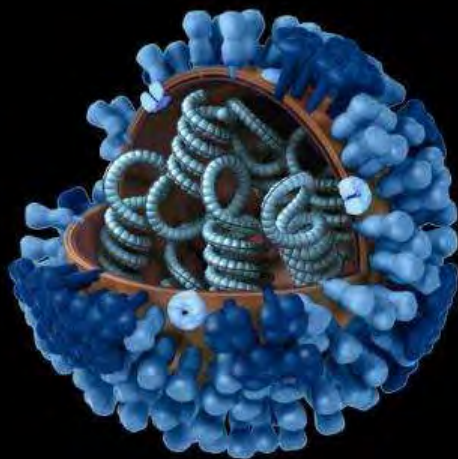


Episodic Zoonotic Human Infections



The Evolution of Pandemic Influenza Strains by Continuous Mutation and Genetic Reassortment

High Frequency Mutation and Genetic Reassortment in Zoonotic Strains



high
virulence

x

low
transmissibility



high
virulence

x

high
transmissibility

Biosecurity Implications of the Rise of Intensive Agriculture in BRIC Countries

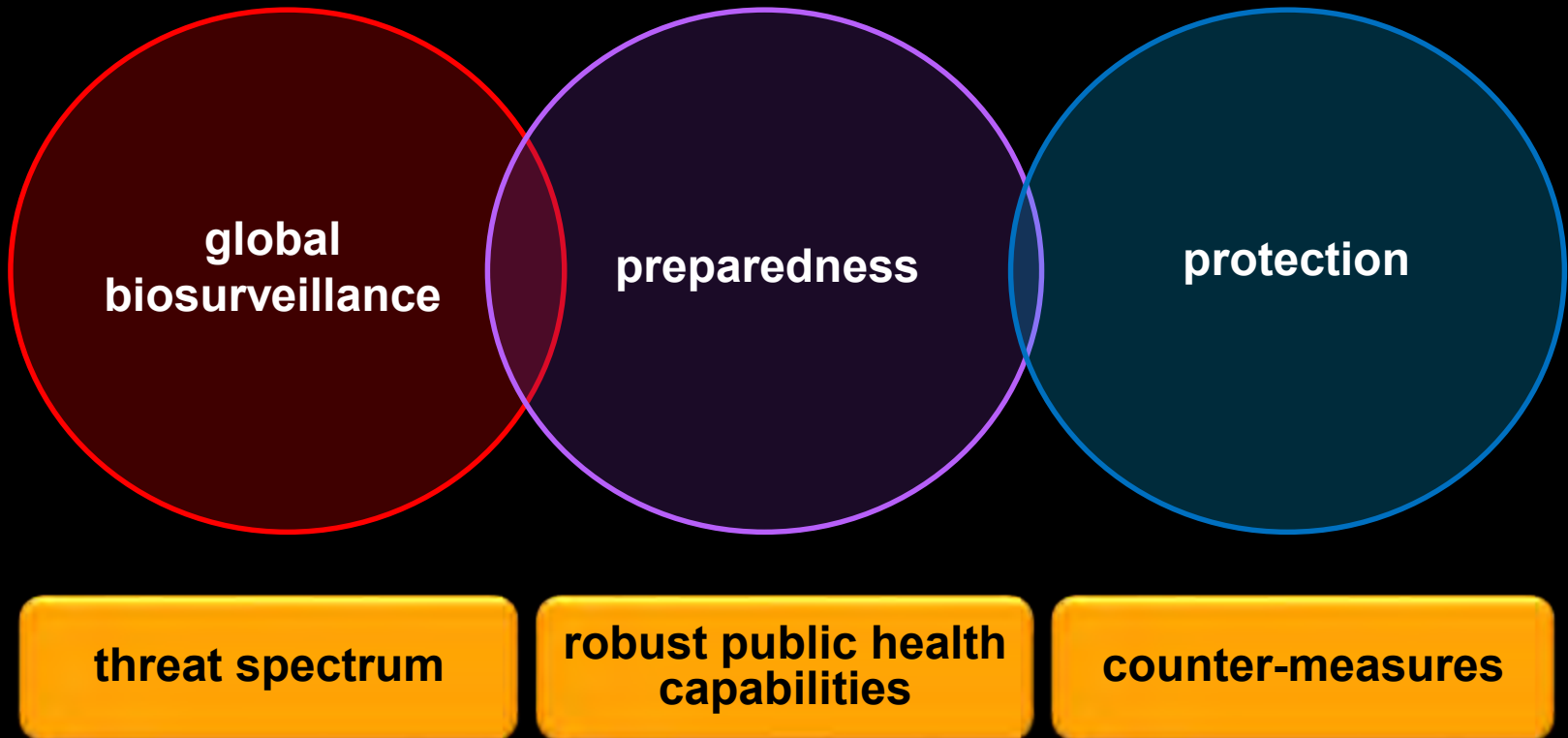


- consumer desire for animal protein (versus plant protein)
- diversion of grain to animal feed, disruption of global food chains and increased famine risk in Africa and new humanitarian crises



- juxtaposition of large numbers of birds(ducks/chickens) and pigs in same production centers
- increased cross-species influenza transfer and human zoonotic risk via genetic recombination(s) with pandemic potential

The Core Triad in Combating Infectious Diseases



Biosurveillance

What's Out There?

Early Detection Saves Lives!

**PON/POC Diagnostic Tests, Population Triage
and Managing the Worried Well**

Ebola in West Africa 2013-15: Underinvestment and Bureaucratic Sclerosis of International Public Health Responses to New Threats



26 December 2013

- index case zero
- Emile Ouamouno (Meliandou, Guinea)

21 March 2014

- first report by WHO-AFRO region

8 August 2014

- WHO declaration of Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

Ebola in West Africa 2013-15: Underinvestment and Bureaucratic Sclerosis of International Public Health Responses to New Threats



26 December 2013

- index
- (Melianidou, Guinea)

2014

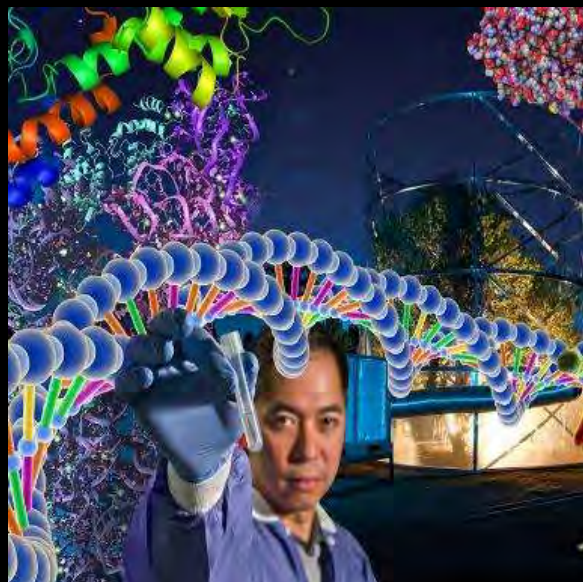
first report by WHO-AFRO region

8 August 2014

- WHO declaration of Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

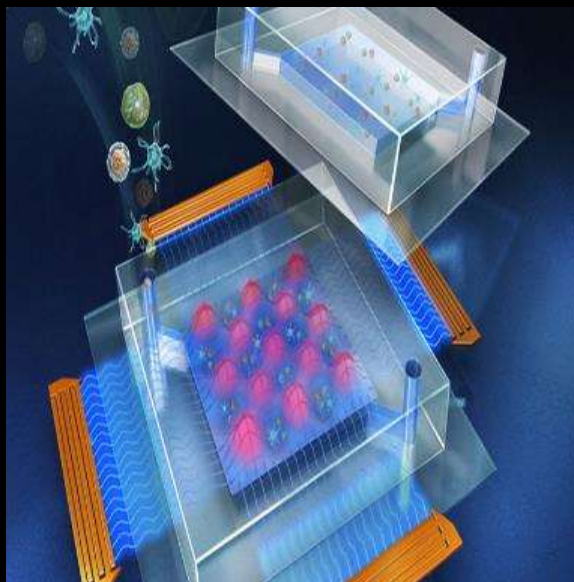
Faster Diagnosis Saves Lives: The Primacy of Early Detection and Preparedness Mobilization

Profile



**Signatures of
Infectious Agents**

Detect



**Rapid Automated
PON/POC Diagnostics**

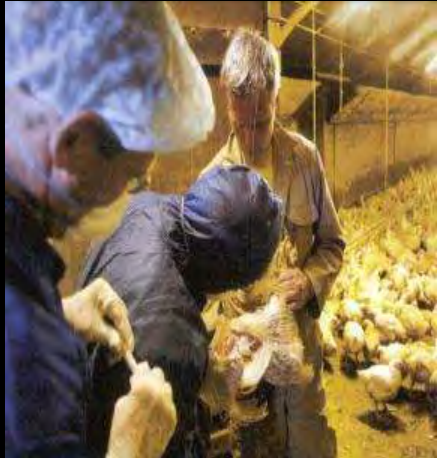
Act



**Real-time Situation
Awareness and
Decision Authority**

Ground Zero Biosurveillance Data

Comprehensive Front Line Sampling of Sentinel Species



Real-time Intelligence and Faster Response Mobilization

Global Disease Surveillance



EMERGENCY ID NET



U.S. Influenza Sentinel Provider Surveillance Network



Quarantine Activity Reporting System (QARS).



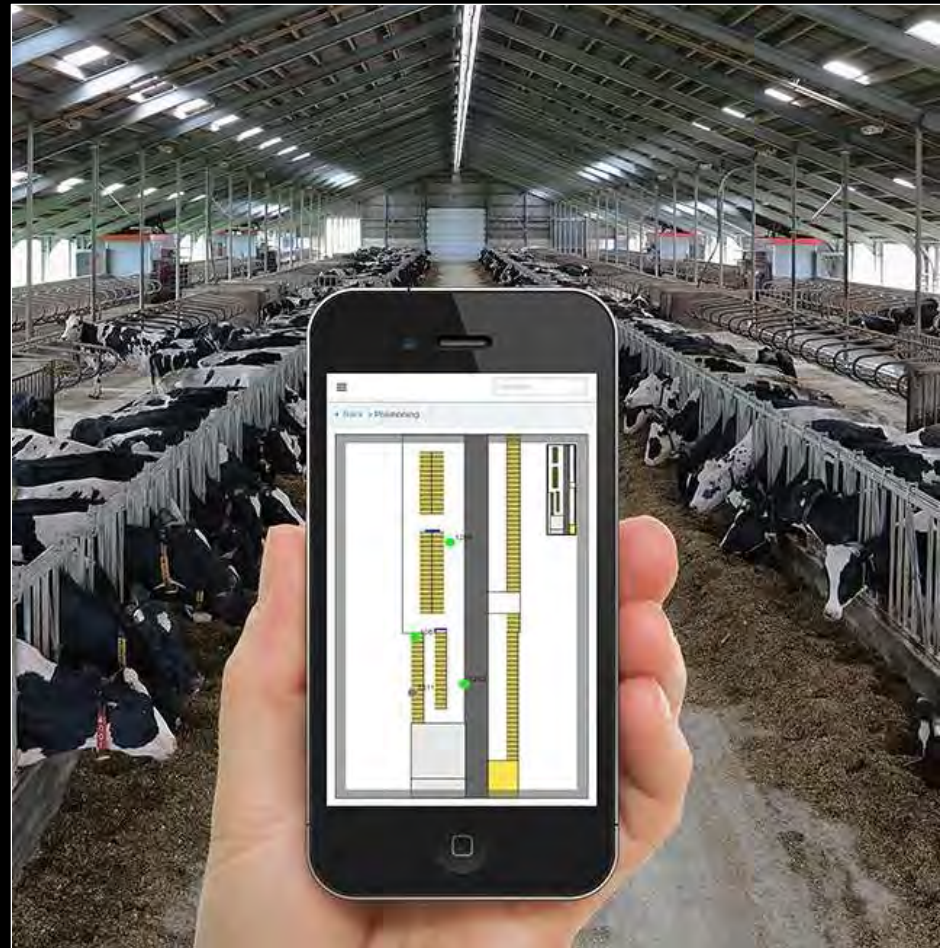
Public Health Department's Surveillance



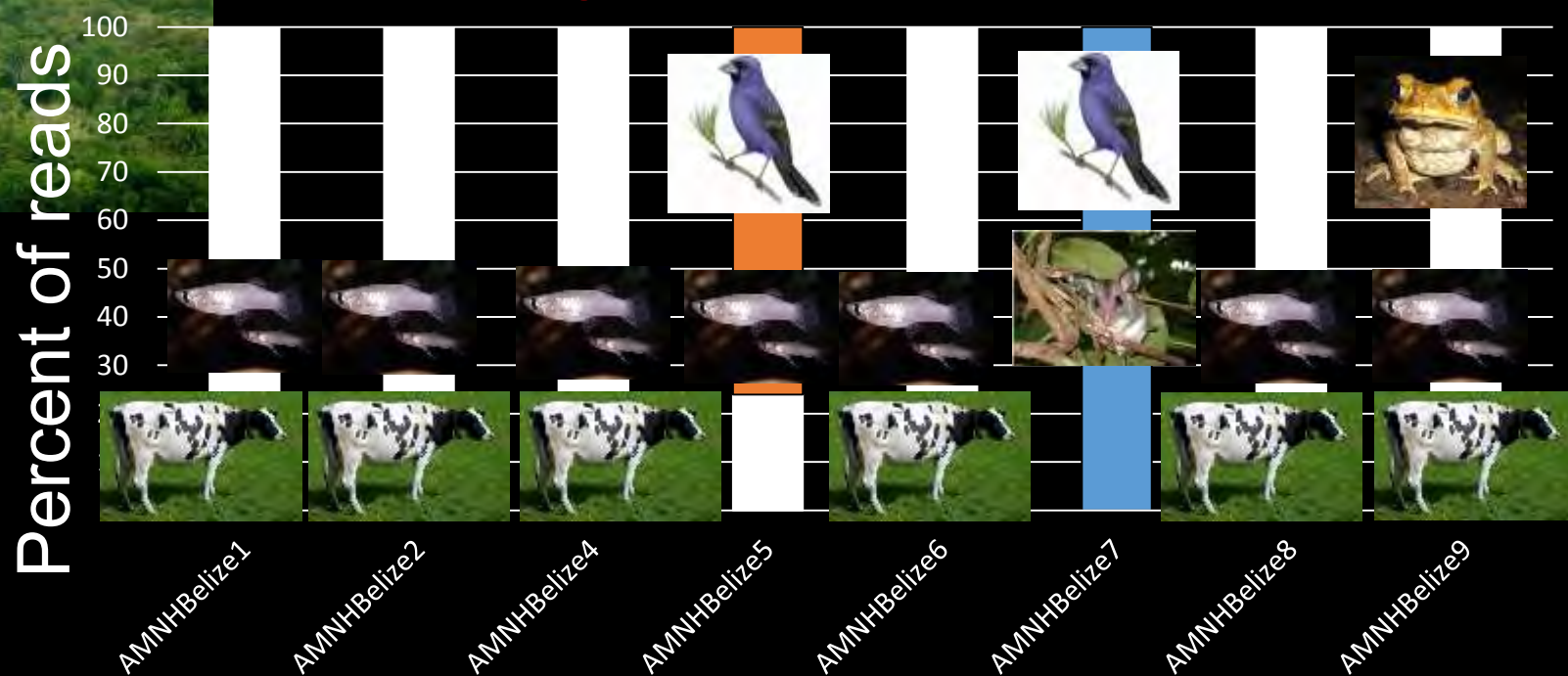
GEIS

EMPRES WATCH





Species From Feces: Identification of Predator-Prey Relationships from DNA Analysis of Fecal Samples



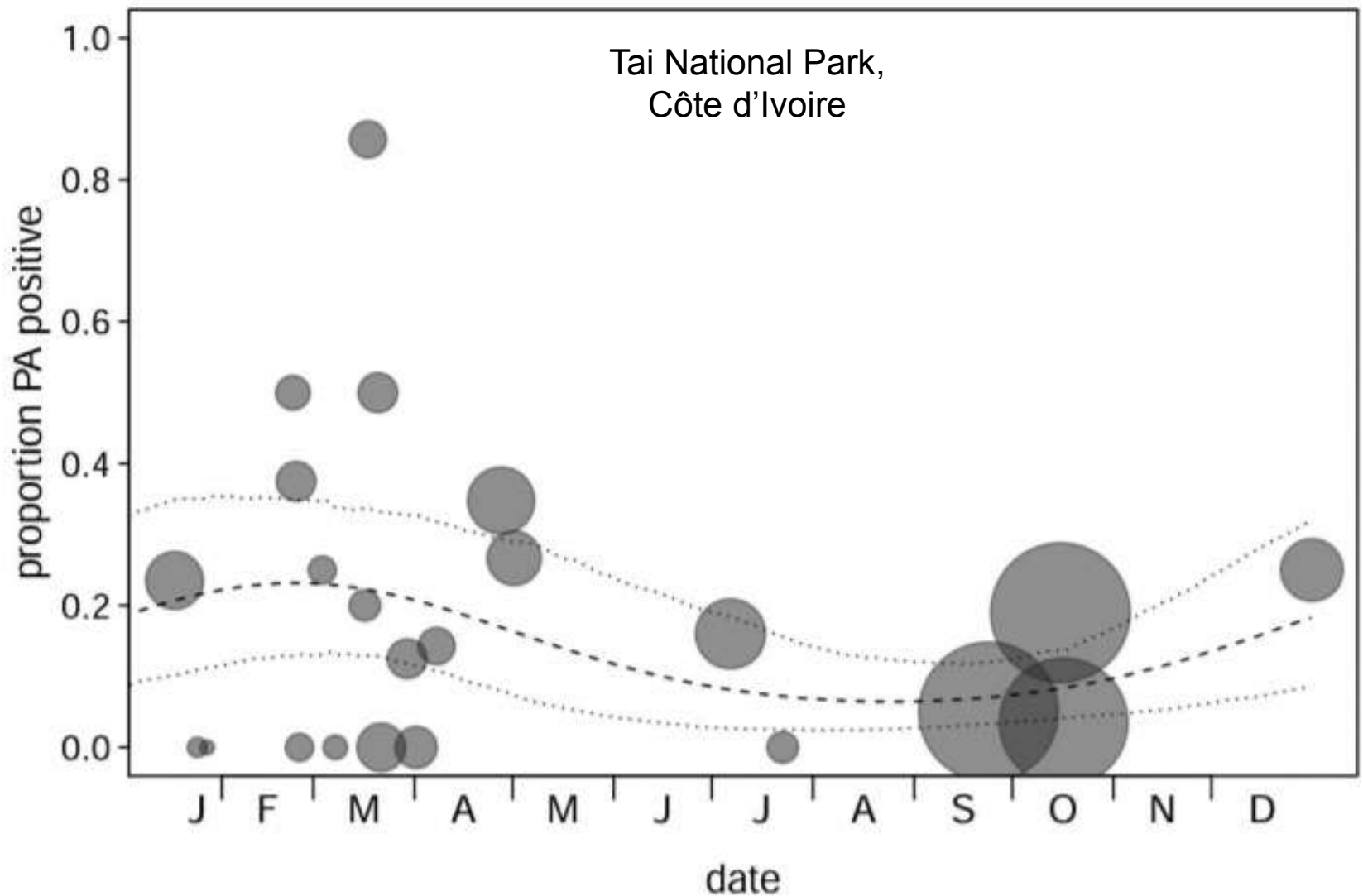
■ *Desmodus rotundus*

■ *Natalus stramineus*

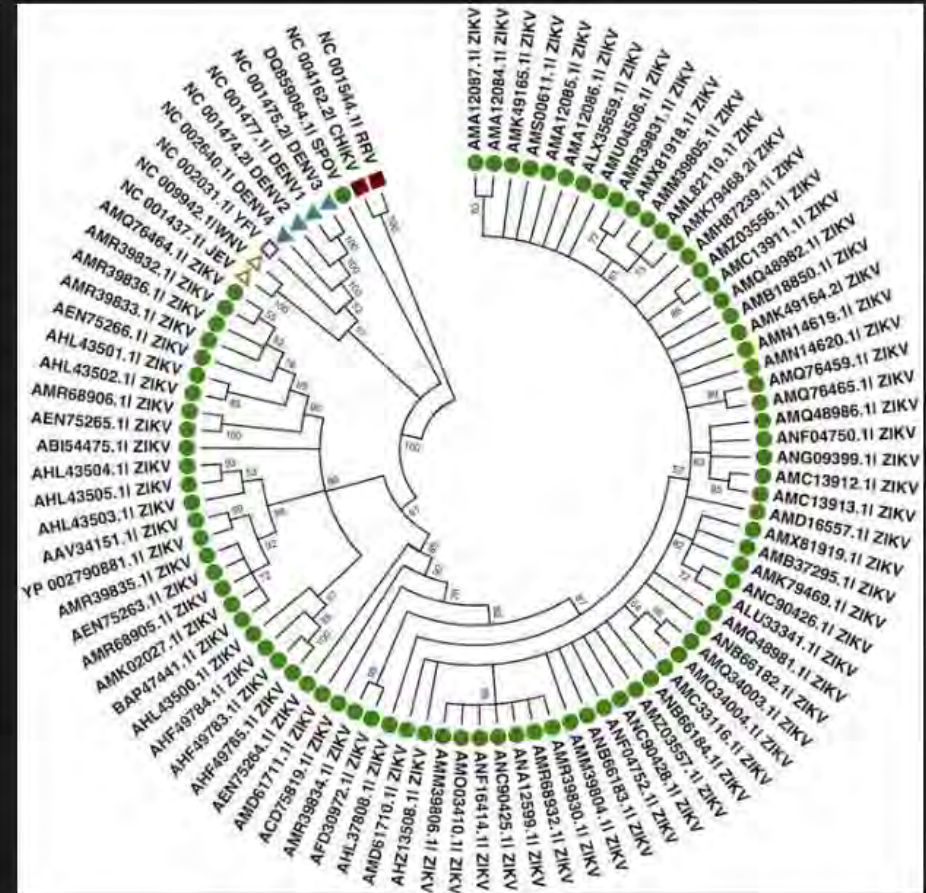
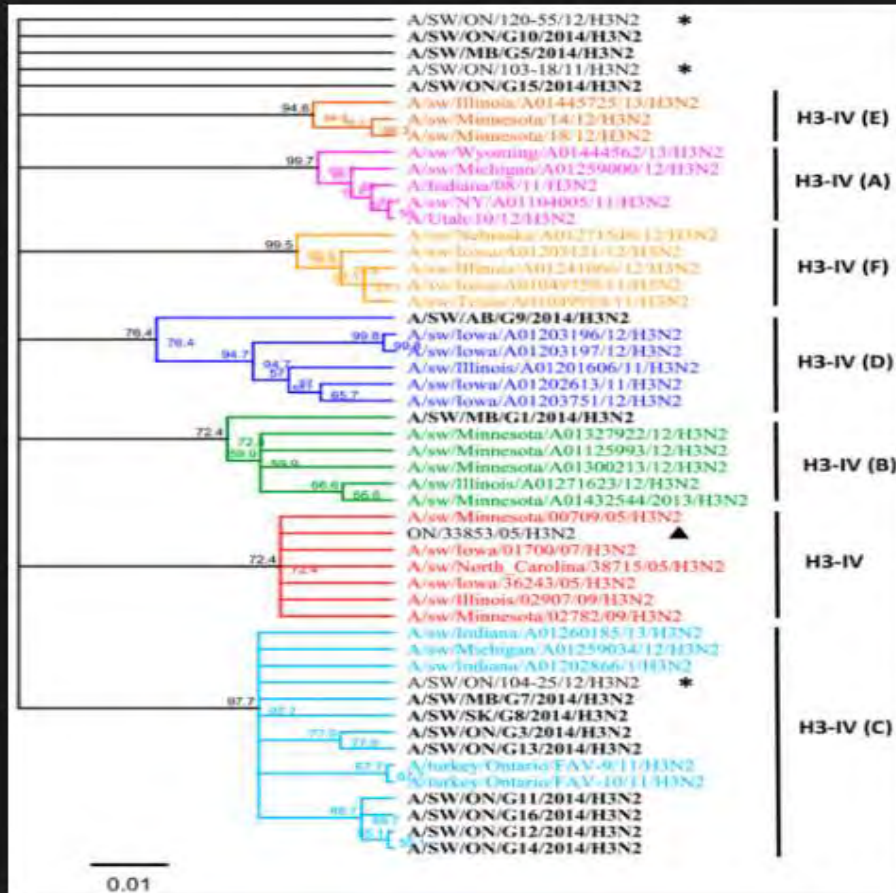
■ *Chiropterus auritus*



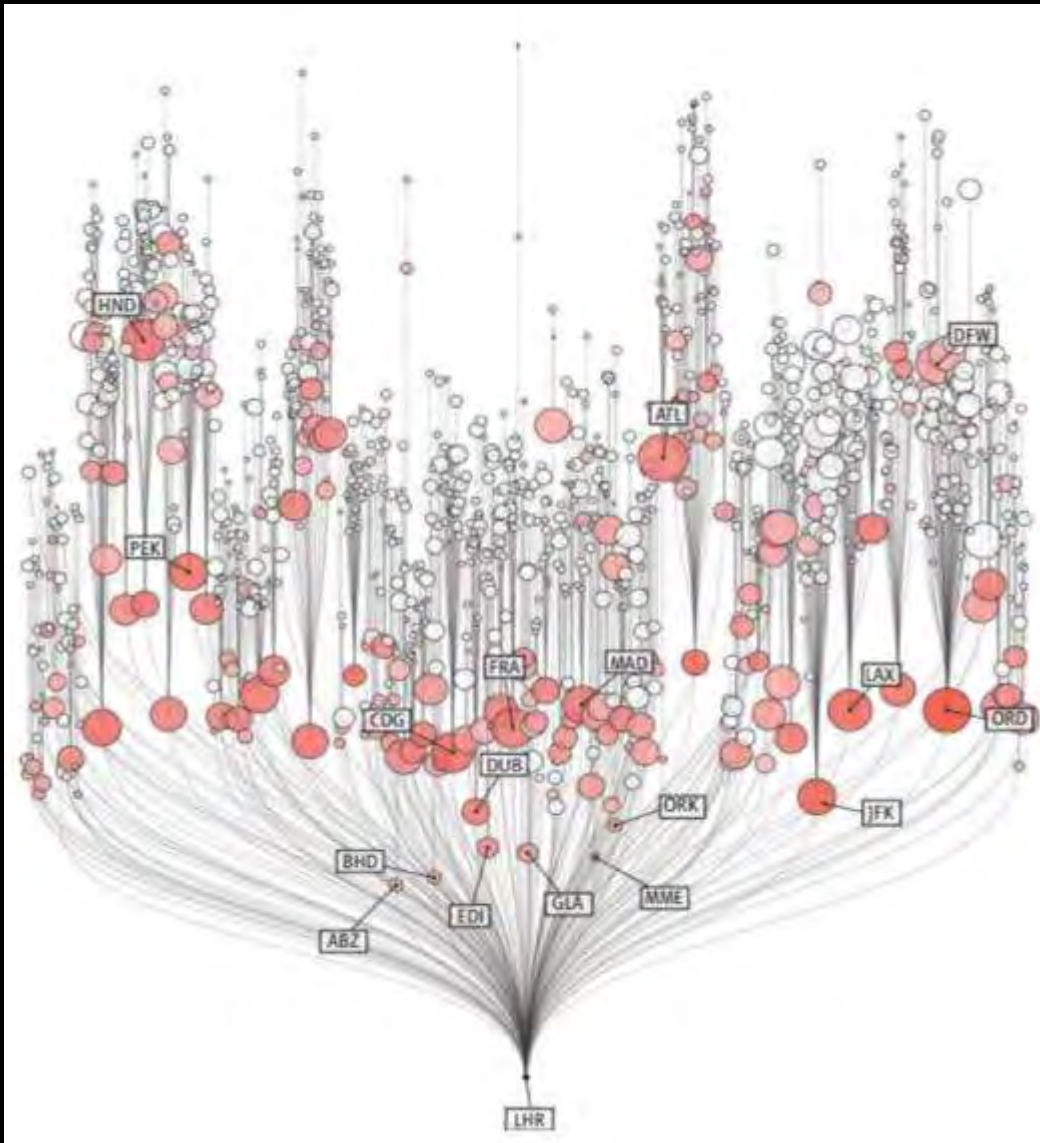
Detection of *Bacillus cereus* biovar *anthracis* in Carrion Flies Feeding/Ovipositing on Mammalian Carcasses as Proxy Marker for Anthrax Endemicity



Influenza Virus



Coming to an Airport Near You:



**Modeling Airport
Connectivities,
Traffic and Distance
Relationships and
Implications for
Epidemic Spread
via the Global
Aviation Network**

Mobile Devices, Disease Tracking, Contact-Tracing and Education

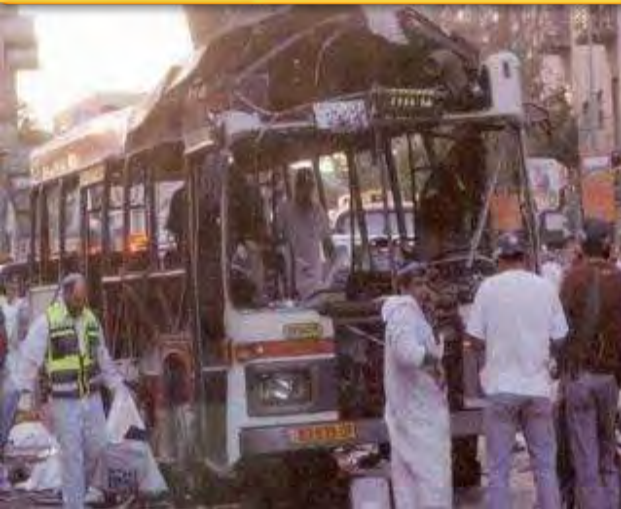


Street Vendors of Pharmaceuticals: Haiti

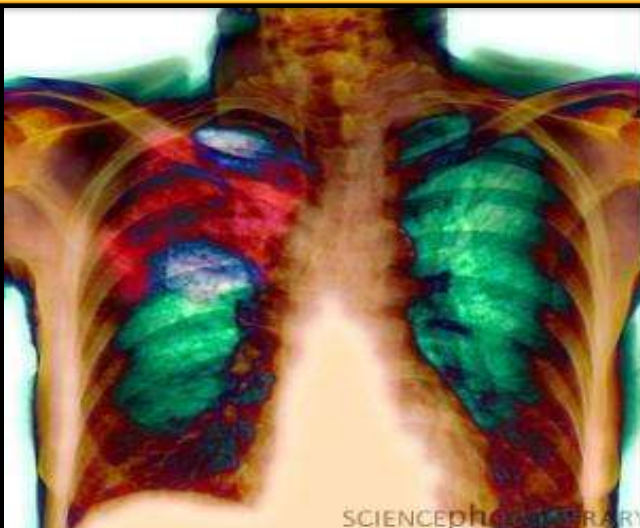


Detection of Infectious Disease Threats:

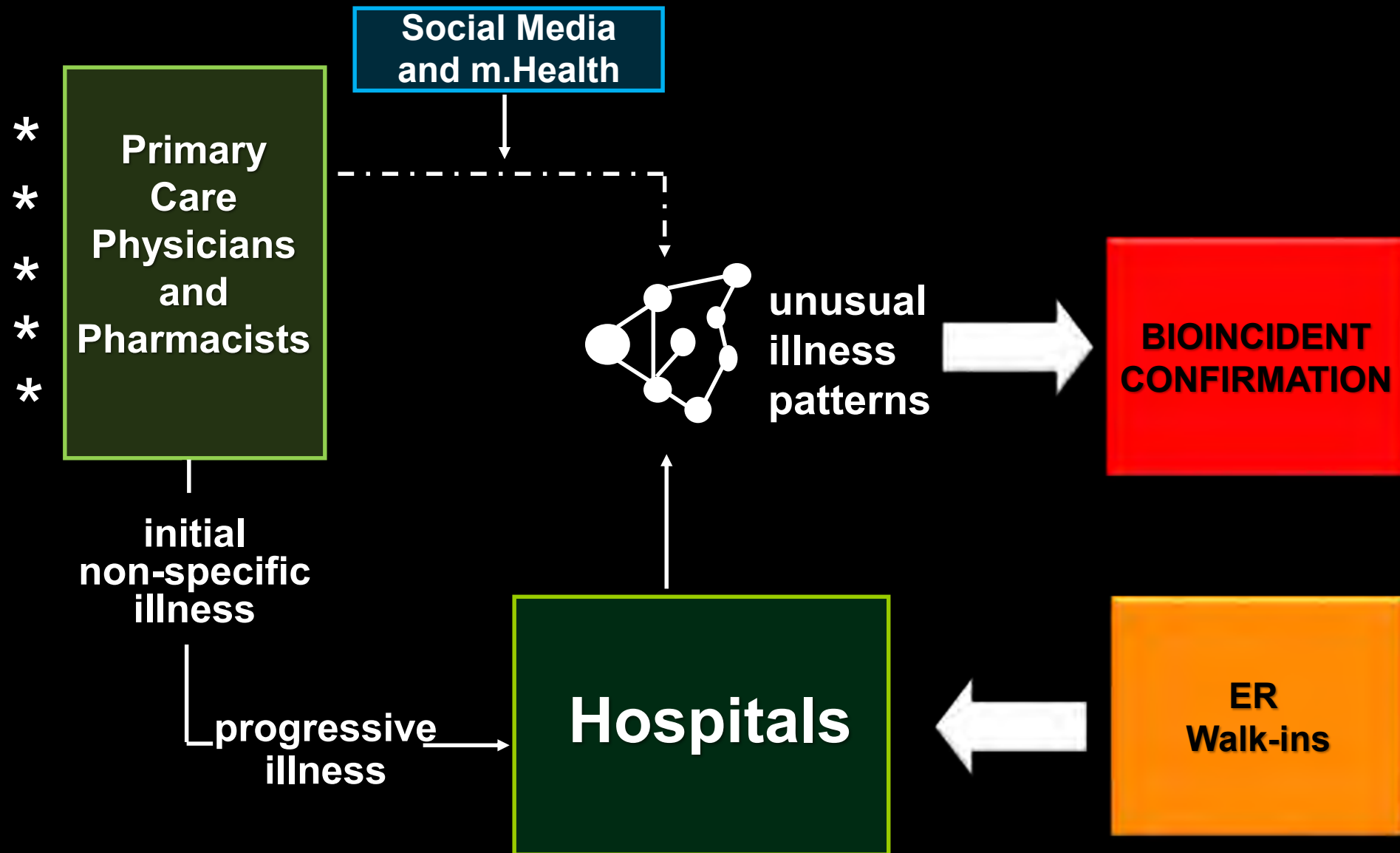
Very Different From Device or Hazmat Events



Emergency Rooms and Farms Will be the Front Line



The Lag Phase in Bioincident Detection



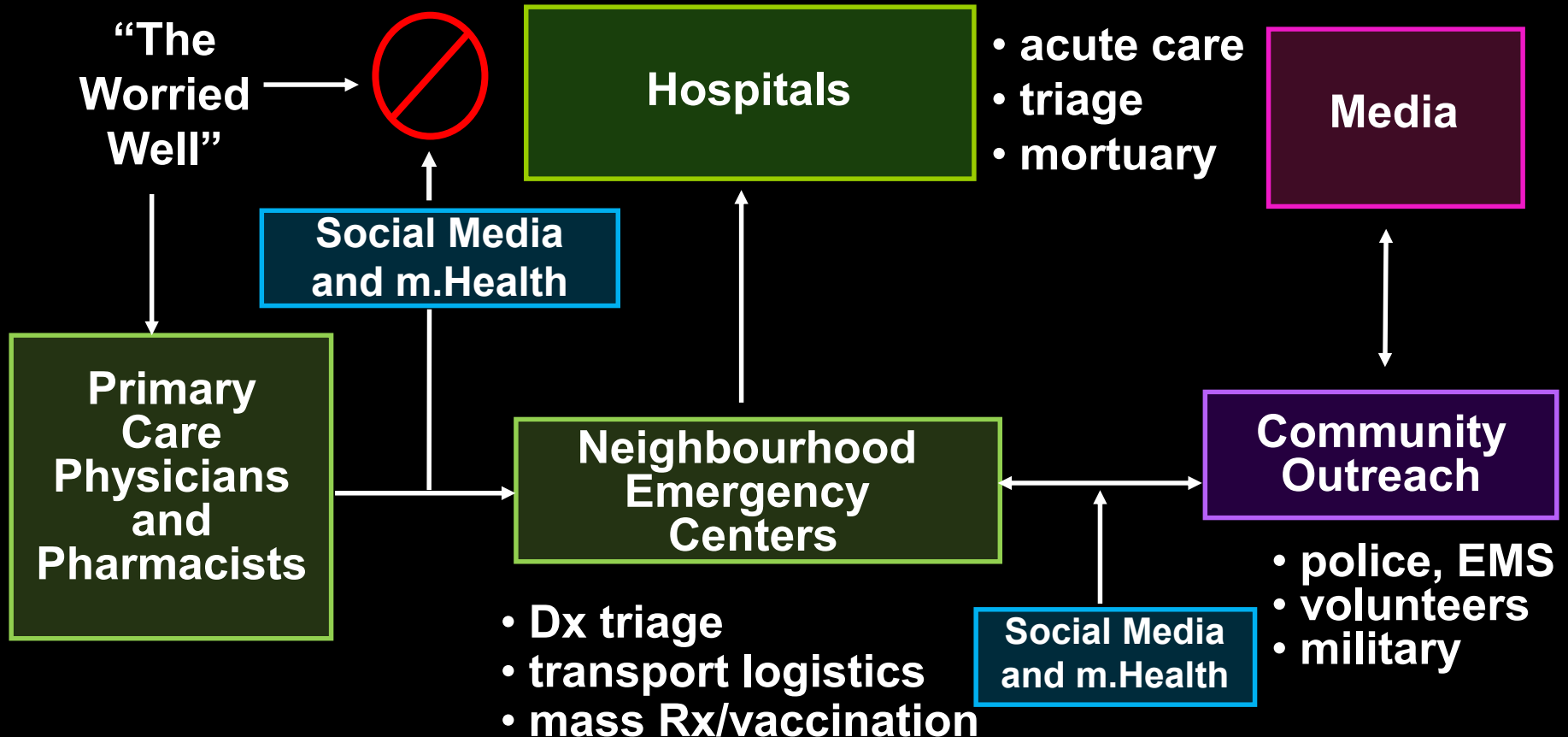
Consequence and Crisis Control in a Bioincident

Command Center

- public health
- logistics
- communications

- medical
- law enforcement
- coordination

- local
- national
- international
- regional



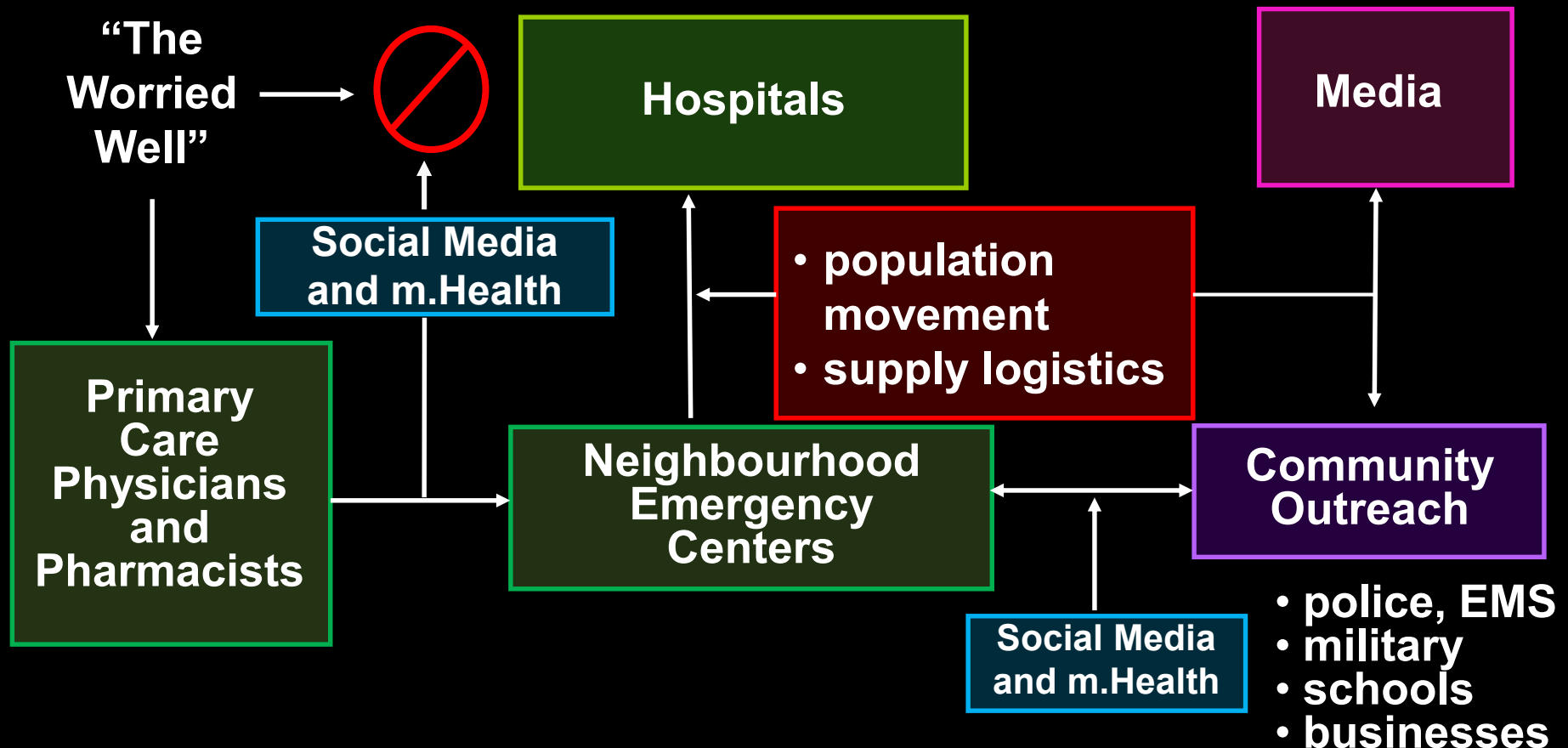
Consequence and Crisis Control in a Bioincident

Command Center

- public health
- logistics
- communications

- **medical**
- **law enforcement**
- **coordination**

- local
 - national
 - international
- regional



Management of Major Bioincidents

Key Success Factors

- **tested incident management plan**
- **responder training and education**
- **command structure**
 - **demarcated roles, responsibilities, authority**
 - **robust communication channels**
- **single source POC for key interfaces**
 - **ground zero staff (multiple ground zeros in CBW)**
 - **emergency services and first responders**
 - **medical/public health**
 - **politicians and inter-agency coordination**
 - **conventional media and social media**

Who's In Charge?

- **ill-defined responsibilities and accountabilities lead to operational confusion**
- **delusional to believe that optimum disaster response is a physician/health system-centric process**
- **crucial medical component but multi-disciplinary, multi-sector 'bigger picture' complexities requires sophisticated integration of diverse expertise and proficient large scale logistics**



US High Level Isolation Units (HLIU's)*

- **56 designated hospitals by CDC as Ebola Treatment Centers (ETC's) in response to W. Africa Ebola (2014-2016)**
- **subsequently 1 ETC designated in each HHS region as Regional Ebola and other Special Pathogens Treatment Centers (RESPTC)**
 - **capable of managing highly infectious diseases for extended periods**
- **economic sustainability of maintaining 'warm' facilities**
 - **lack of funding for non-RESPTCs**
 - **high absorbed non-reimbursed standup costs**

***J.J. Herstein et. al. (2017) Emerge. Inf. Dis. 23, 965**

Biocontainment Protocols and HCP Training



Resource Asymmetries in Management of Global Bioincidents



Distribution of Medical Emergency Supplies for a Major Epidemic/Pandemic



- pre-positioning for known threats: The Strategic National Stockpile (select agents only)
- rapid movement by commercial carriers

Use of GIS for Management of Population Movement, Healthcare Facilities and Supply Chains for Optimum Bioincident Control



Resource/Situation Awareness - ViewPort™

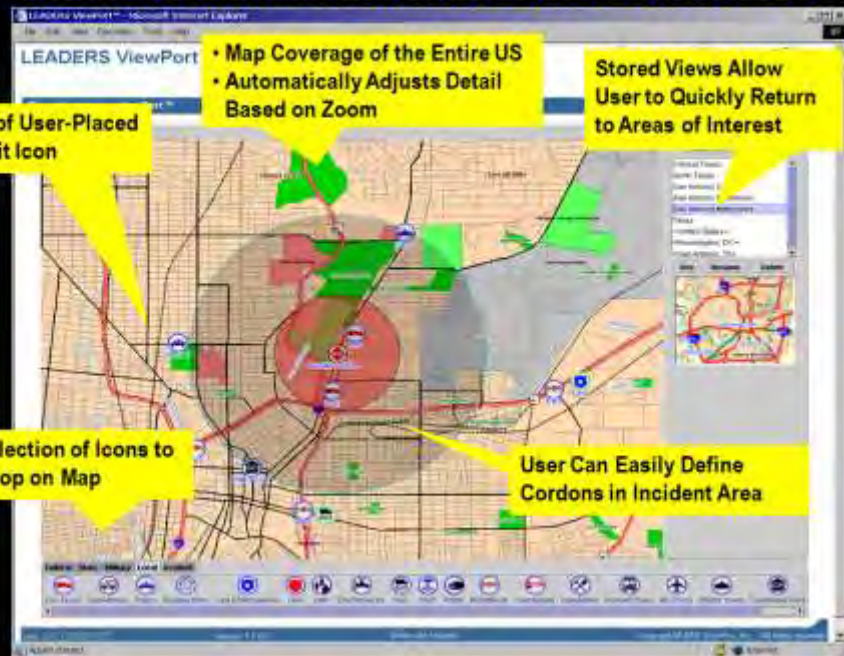
Example of User-Placed Police Unit Icon

- Map Coverage of the Entire US
- Automatically Adjusts Detail Based on Zoom

Stored Views Allow User to Quickly Return to Areas of Interest

Large Collection of Icons to Drag & Drop on Map

User Can Easily Define Cordons in Incident Area



Vulnerability of Global, National and Local Supply Chains in a Major Epidemic/Pandemic

Medicines

- **“just-in-time” supply networks**
 - major hospitals 2 or 3 deliveries per day
- **out-patient prescription drugs**
 - insurance company limits on prescription volume (USA)
- **majority of drug intermediates, excipients and final products sourced off-shore**
- **95% generic drugs used in US (80% of total Rx) are made off-shore, primarily in PRC and India**
- **no national stockpile for routine prescriptions**

Medical Countermeasures (MCMs) for Special Populations: Emergency Use Authorization

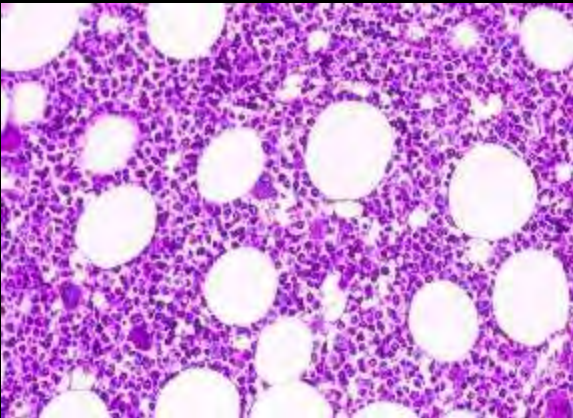
Children



Pregnant



Aged



Immunosuppressed



**Impaired Major
Organ Function**



ICU-Critical Care

Stockpiling Ventilators for Influenza Pandemics: Estimated Deaths and Hospitalization



Ethical Considerations for Decision Making Regarding Allocation of Mechanical Ventilators during a Severe Influenza Pandemic or Other Public Health Emergency



*Prepared by the Ventilator Document Workgroup,
Ethics Subcommittee of the Advisory Committee to the Director,
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*

July 1, 2011

1918

- **estimated 675,000 US deaths, 50 million globally**

moderate pandemic: 1957, 1968

- **865,000 ILI hospitalizations**

severe pandemic: 1918 like

- **projected 9.9 million hospitalizations**

Modeling of Peak-Week Ventilator Demand in an Influenza Pandemic

Parameter	Mild (2009-like)	Moderate 1957/68-like	Severe 1918-like
Hospitalization Overload	1	x 3	x 36

Constraining Capabilities for Effective Mechanical Ventilation for Large Scale Public Health Emergency

Components/subcomponents		Number of additional patients that can be ventilated national by capacity level		
		Conventional Capacity Level	Contingency Capacity Level	Crisis Capacity Level
Space	Beds	8,200 – 16,400	26,200 – 52,400	88,600 – 177,300
Staff	Physicians	6,300 – 18,900	47,800 – 143,400	114,700 – 229,500
	Respiratory Therapists	22,500 – 67,500	39,400 – 101,300	56,300 – 135,000
	Critical care Nurses	25,200 – 50,300	50,300 – 100,600	75,500 – 301,900

Indicate the constraining component at each capacity level.

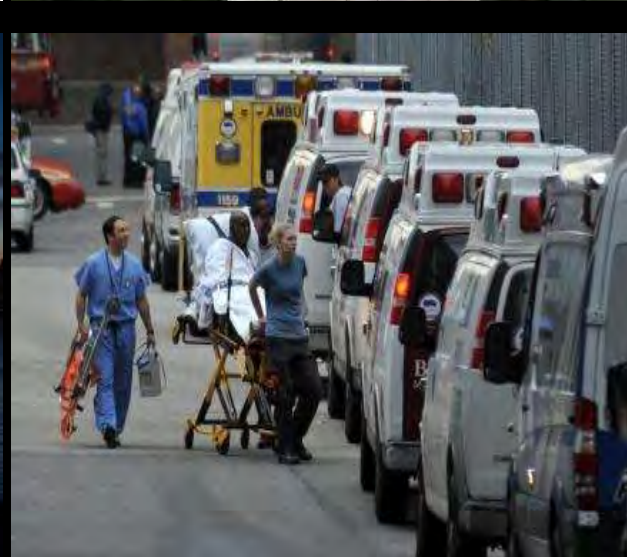
The Challenge of Vector Control



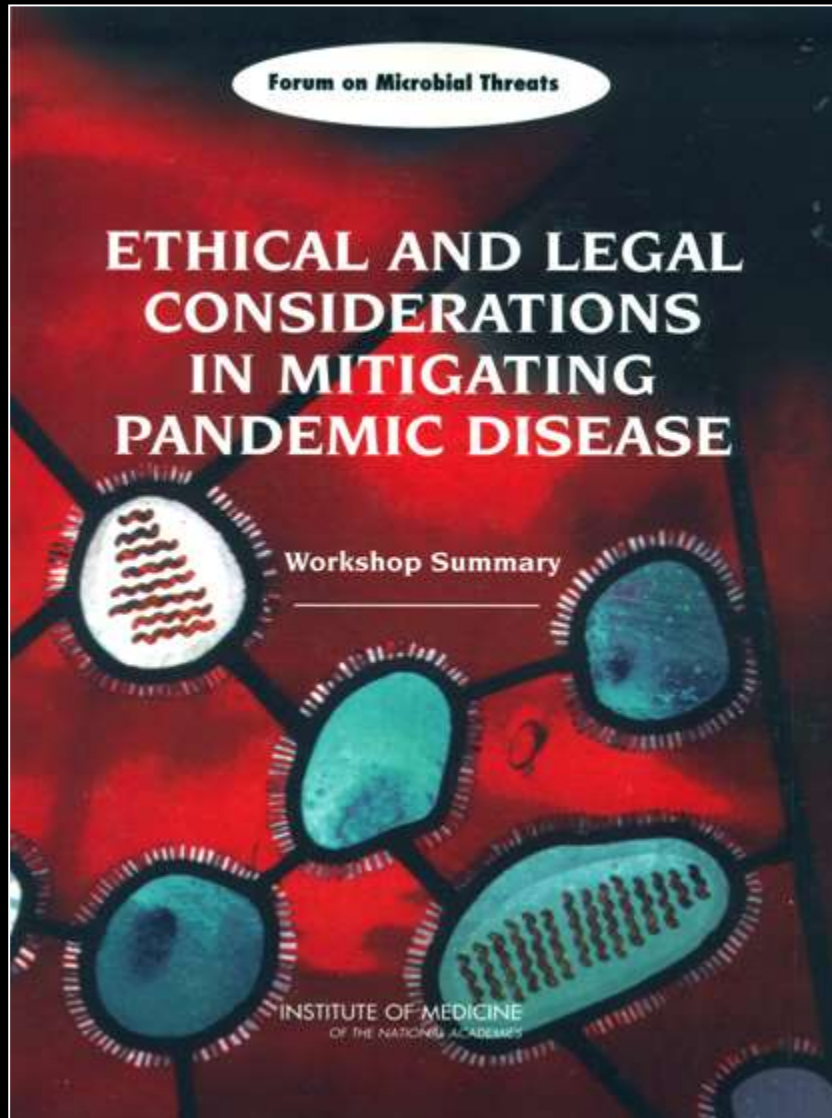
“For most of us design is invisible until it fails”
Bruce Mau



The 'Fog of Disaster': Crisis Standards of Care and Proliferation of Unanticipated Events and Consequences



Legal Aspects of Public Health and Counter-Terrorism Actions to Contain Bioincidents



- suspension of civil liberties
- imposition of quarantine
- triage decisions and R_x/vaccine rationing
- mandatory medical examination and treatment
- mandatory treatment with unapproved drugs and vaccines
 - informed consent
 - indemnification
 - special populations

Sustaining Critical Systems and Infrastructure



Control of Population Movement and Supply Chain Networks



Supply Chain Logistics in Disaster Management



The Critical Role of Communication and Gaining Public Trust in a Major Bioincident

Managing the “Worried Well”

Timely, Authoritative and Accurate Information

False Threat Alerts and Public Panic

Hawaii, 13 January 2018



Japan, 16 January 2018

Public Awareness of Potential Risk



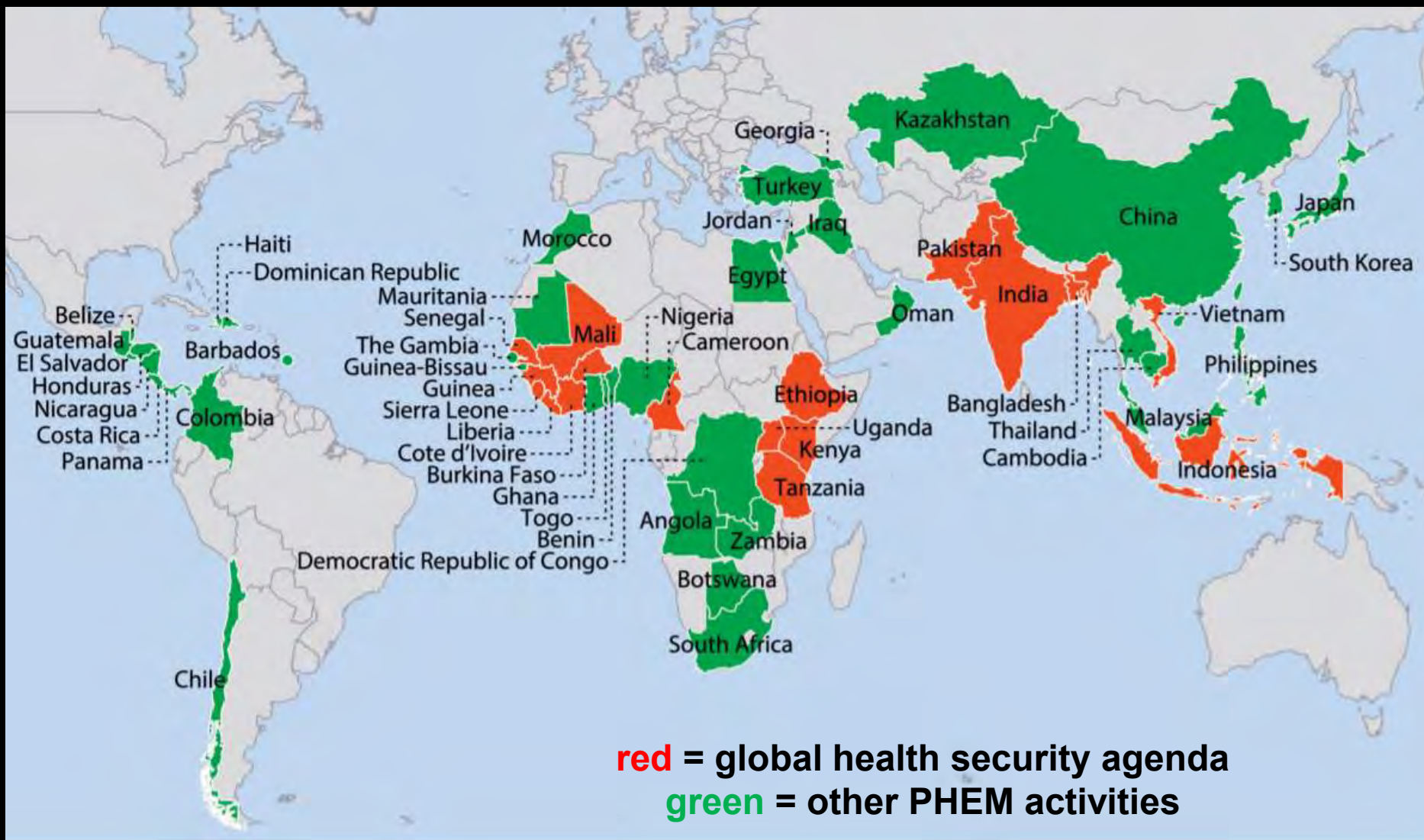
Political Media Sensationalism, Public Fear and Irrational Populist Decisions by Political Leadership



Informing the Public: A Critical and Unenviable Challenge

- **media sensationalism and public panic**
- **pressure on governments to make illogical but politically expedient decisions**
- **in a severe outbreak the shock factor from any major level of fatalities will be unprecedented in modern peace times with unpredictable consequences for public responses**
- **unpredictable unilateral decisions by other governments, restricting trade, travel and shipment of goods**
- **extended supply chains might break down completely**

CDC Engagements in Public Health Emergency Management: 2008-2016



“Aliens Have Landed”



Fear and Distrust: Proliferation of Myth and Misinformation



- deliberate spread by Governments
 - delay elections
 - genocidal assault on Kissi tribe
- deliberate spread by healthcare workers (HCW)
- treatment centers as organ harvesting operations for western countries
- attacks on HCW and contact tracers

Amplifying Fears and Resentment



forceful capture of individual who fled from treatment center



military enforcement of quarantine zone and public hostility

Breakdown of Civil Order and Incident Management

Constrained Mobility



Constrained Access

Containing Epidemics Without Effective Drugs or Vaccines

Notice the Resemblance? Hygiene and Quarantine as the Only Effective Containment Absent Drugs or Vaccines

Bubonic Plague
Physician 15th Century



Ebola, Liberia
21st Century



Out of Sight: Out of Mind!

**The Cocoon of Protection: How Quickly We Forget
Past Epidemics and Their Toll**

**Reduced Investment in Public Health and Biosecurity:
A False Economic Gain**

Comfort and Complacency: The Enemies of Vigilance and Preparedness



Drug Discovery and Development: One of the Most Complex Intellectual and Logistical Exercises Undertaken by Modern Industry

- **\$750 million to \$2 billion R&D cost/drug**
- **\$400 million to \$1 billion R&D cost/vaccine**
- **multi-year R&D cycles**
- **market incentives**
 - **vaccines vs. Viagra**
 - **antibiotics vs. alopecia**
 - **diseases of the developing world**
 - **EIDs of epi(pan)demic potential**

NO ESKAPE!: Resistant Bugs and Few New Drugs



- increasing resistance in G⁺ and G⁻ pathogens in hospital and community settings

- the **ESKAPE** pathogens

Enterococcus faecium

Staphylococcus aureus

Klebsiella pneumoniae

Acinetobacter baumannii

Pseudomonas aeruginosa

Enterobacter species



Multidrug Resistant Organisms (MDROs): Growing, Spreading and Killing



These images depict a patient with septic shock and purpura fulminans caused by β -lactamase-negative ampicillin-resistant *Hemophilus influenzae*. Images A and B: Day 1 of hospitalization. Image C: Hospital day 9, in which gangrene of the bilateral limbs, the facial region, and penis progressed gradually. All the limbs were complicated with infection and eventually amputated. The patient succumbed to sepsis on hospital day 34.

Safety Fears Threaten Global Dengue Vaccine Control Efforts



Responding to Agent-X

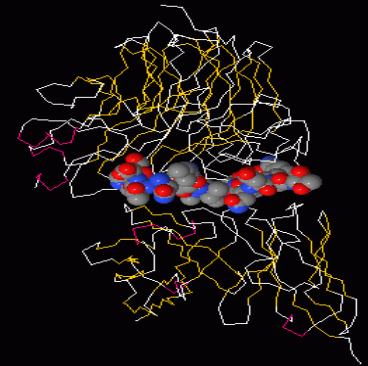
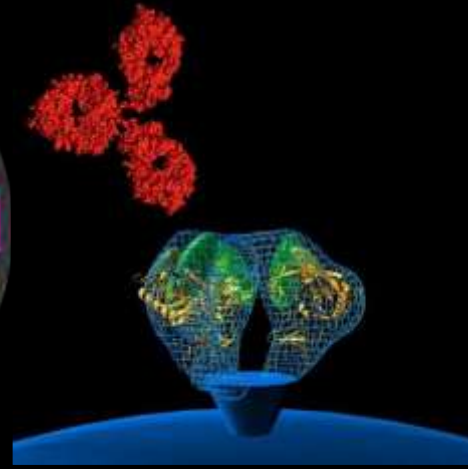
**The Imperative for New Technology Approaches
to Vaccine Development**

Speed: Reduce Vaccine Development Cycle from Years to Weeks

Scalability: From Millions of Doses to Billions

Combating Agent-X: Agile Adaptive Manufacturing for Rapid Preparedness Against Novel Infectious Agents

From Pasteur to Computationally Predicted Epitopes



From Biological to Chemical Vaccines



Who Pays for Preparedness?



The Obligate Role of Private-Public Partnerships in Biosecurity Policy



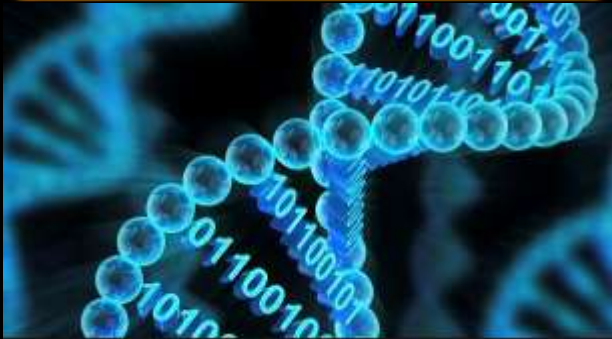


The Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)

- **launched at WEF, Davos, January 2017**
- **200 organizations**
- **develop 4-6 candidate vaccines to end of Phase 2 by 2021**
 - **non-Zaire strains(s) of Ebola**
 - **Lassa Fever**
 - **MERS-CoV**
 - **Nipah**
- **preclinical status of candidate vaccines**
 - **Lassa (7), Nipah (20), MERS-CoV (8 plus 8 in Phase 1)**

New Technologies and Increased Complexity of Dual-Use Issues in Biosecurity: Synthetic Biology, Genome Editing and Manipulation of Biological Circuits

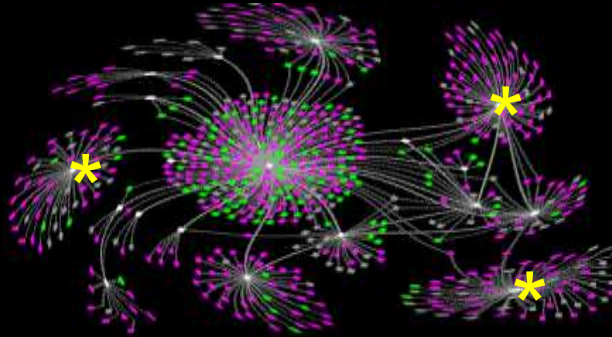
**digital biology:
“it from bits”**



**de novo
synthesis of organisms**



**engineered
virulence**



**targeted modification of any
biological circuit in any organ**



**mapping neural circuitry and
brain – machine interfaces**



**accelerating technological
diffusion**

Synthetic Biology, Genome Editing and National Security: The Ultimate Dual-Use Technology for Modification of Biological Systems?



Statement for the Record

Worldwide Threat Assessment
of the
US Intelligence Community

Senate Select Committee on Intelligence



James R. Clapper

Director of National Intelligence

February 9, 2016

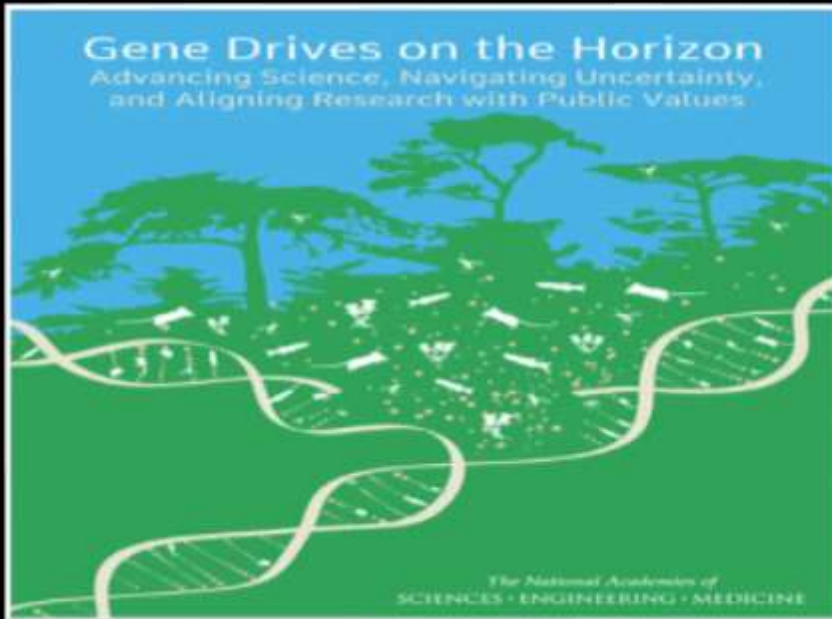


Technology Diffusion,
Automation,
Simplification and Cost
Reduction



New Oversight
Mechanisms and
International
Harmonization

Gene Drives and Sterilization of Mosquitoes

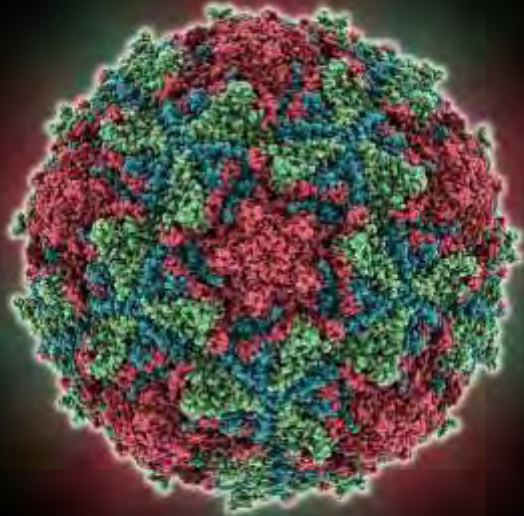


USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



We
Robotics

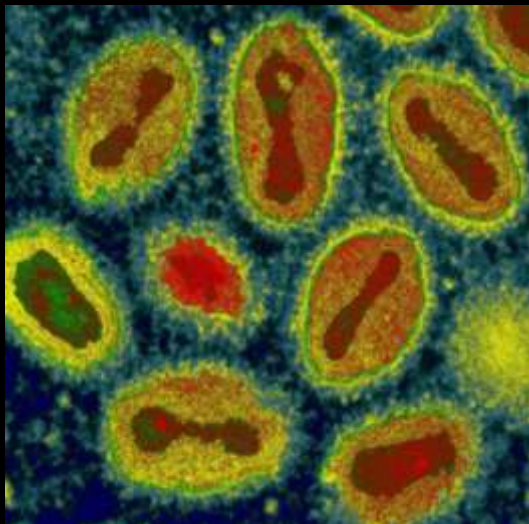
De Novo Synthesis of Pathogens



Science (2002) 297, 1016

Chemical Synthesis of Poliovirus cDNA: Generation of Infectious Virus in the Absence of Natural Template

Jeronimo Cello, Aniko V. Paul, Eckard Wimmer*



PLOS ONE <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0188453> January 19, 2018

Construction of an infectious horsepox virus vaccine from chemically synthesized DNA fragments

Ryan S. Noyce¹, Seth Lederman², David H. Evans^{1*}

¹ Department of Medical Microbiology & Immunology and Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, ² Tonix Pharmaceuticals, Inc., New York, New York, United States of America

The National Academies of
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE

CONSENSUS STUDY REPORT



**DUAL USE
RESEARCH
OF CONCERN
IN THE LIFE
SCIENCES**

**Current Issues
and Controversies**



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

**Framework for
Guiding Funding Decisions
about Proposed Research
Involving Enhanced Potential
Pandemic Pathogens**

2017

Functional Genomic and Computational Assessment of Threats (Fun GCAT)



The Functional Genomic and Computational Assessment of Threats (Fun GCAT) program intends to develop new approaches and tools for the screening of nucleic acid sequences, and for the functional annotation and characterization of genes of concern, with the goal

of preventing the accidental or intentional creation of a biological threat. Advances in biotechnology and synthetic biology over the past decade have the potential to address important societal challenges in food, energy, and medicine. Despite the promising advances these technologies might enable, the potential for their deliberate or accidental misuse exists, warranting the development of approaches to help prevent the creation of biothreats. Currently, biological threats are organized based on genetic relatedness, resulting in static, threat-based lists that fail to emphasize biological functions, or assess the risks of unknown sequences. In order to better address biosecurity concerns, the Fun GCAT program intends to develop next-generation computational and bioinformatics tools to improve DNA sequence screening, to augment biodefense capabilities through the characterization of threats based on function, and to advance our understanding of the relative risks posed by unknown nucleic acid sequences. These tools will enhance the ability to computationally and functionally analyze nucleic acid sequences, ascribe threat potential to known and unknown genes through comparisons to the functions of known threats, and facilitate the ability to screen and identify sequences of concern, including genes responsible for the pathogenesis and virulence of viral threats, bacterial threats, and toxins.

Program Manager

[John Julias](#)


Program Information

[IARPA-BAA-16-08](#)


Research Area(s)

- Bioinformatics
- DNA sequence screening
- Functional genomics
- Systems biology
- Infectious disease
- Synthetic biology

Related Publications

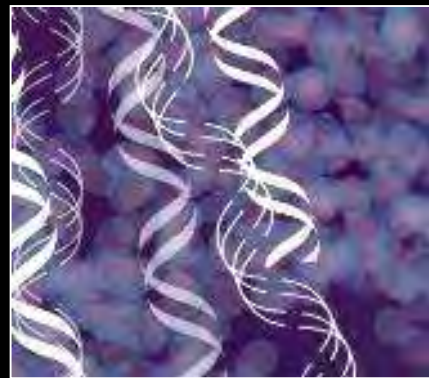
To access Fun GCAT program-related publications, please visit [Google Scholar](#) .

Related Article(s)

[UMIACS Partners with Fraunhofer, Signature Science on DNA Screening Technologies](#) .

[Intelligence Agency Wants to Keep 'Novel Organisms' From Threatening Humans](#) .

The Expanded Dimension of the 'Bio' Challenge



- **thinking beyond 'bio' as just infectious agents**
- **systems biology**
 - **targeted disruption of ANY body function**
 - **novel C and B threats**
- **synthetic biology**
 - **exploring biospace: designing new life forms**
 - **designer organisms to attack materials/infrastructure**



We **ignore the link** between health security and international security at our own peril.

Bill Gates

Co-Chair,
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation



msc

Munich Security Conference 2017



We need to build an arsenal of new **weapons against disease** – vaccines, drugs, and diagnostics.

Bill Gates

Co-Chair,
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation



msc



“Is global health intended to improve population to health, or to be a diplomatic tool for countries to exert their soft power?”

The securitization of global health is little more than fear mongering.(and) justifies government violations of human rights in the name of health.”

**Andre Heller Perache
Head of Programmes, MSF
cited in Lancet 2017 389, 892**

Biosecurity



Escalating Biosecurity Risks

**Can No Longer Be Relegated to the
'Too Hard' Class of Strategic Challenges**

**Lack of Preparedness, Inadequate Institutions and
Strategic Policy for Robust Domestic and Global
Engagement in Addressing the Biosecurity Challenge**

Preparing for the Long Game/the Long Emergency

Governing Frameworks for Global Health Security

1851 to 1938

- 14 conferences
- International Sanitary Convention (ISC) (1892)
 - cholera, plague, yellow fever
- influential in formation of WHO (1948)



1951

- International Sanitary Regulations

1969

- renamed International Health Regulations

2005

- International Sanitary Regulations

2014

- only 64 states met core capacities
- 48 failed to even provide information to WHO

2017

- G7 Global Health Security Agenda and strategy for prioritized international support to 'hot zone' regions



Global Health Security Agenda

*COUNTRIES WORKING TOGETHER
ON COMMITMENTS TO THE*
GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY AGENDA

— PREVENT — DETECT — RESPOND



- **launched February 2014**
- **partnership of 64 nations, international organizations, NGOs**
- **elevate global health security as a national and global priority**
- **strengthen global capacity to prevent, detect and respond to infectious diseases**
- **WHO Joint External Evaluation to assess national capacities**

A NATIONAL BLUEPRINT FOR BIODEFENSE:

LEADERSHIP AND MAJOR REFORM
NEEDED TO OPTIMIZE EFFORTS

BIPARTISAN REPORT OF THE BLUE RIBBON
STUDY PANEL ON BIODEFENSE

October 2015



Institutional Sponsors:

Hudson Institute



BIODEFENSE INDICATORS



ONE YEAR LATER, EVENTS OUTPACING FEDERAL EFFORTS TO DEFEND THE NATION

A Bipartisan Report of the Blue Ribbon Study Panel on Biodefense

December 2016



Institutional Sponsors

Hudson Institute



Center for Security and Homeland
Threat Reduction
TERORISM

SF



DEFENSE OF ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

BIPARTISAN REPORT OF THE
BLUE RIBBON STUDY PANEL ON BIODEFENSE

October 2017



SPECIAL FOCUS

The Curse of Contemporary Governance: 'Quick Fixes' and the Retreat from Complexity

- **society increasingly “cocooned” from complexity and risk**
- **pervasive and dangerous scientific illiteracy among legislative and policy makers about biosecurity**
- **“quick fixes”: unidimensional, short term policies that do not address long term, multidimensional complexity**
- **public policy defined increasingly by length of legislative terms**
- **influence of media in shaping public policy priorities and potential compromise of operational preparedness and incident management**

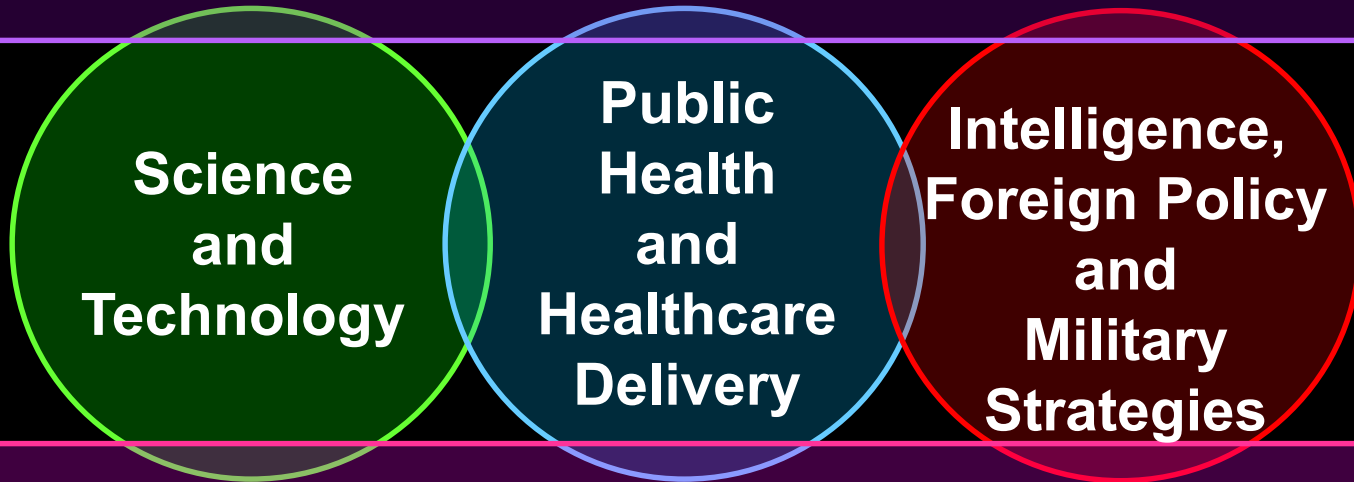
Building Robust Defenses for Biosecurity

- **governments must accord higher priority to 'biosecurity' as a integral component of national security and foreign policy**
- **(re)building a national and international infrastructure for the surveillance, diagnosis and containment of infectious diseases is fundamental to future protection against major instabilities triggered by infectious agents, whether of natural or malevolent origins**

Biosecurity:

A Classic Complex System of Systems Challenge

- global perspectives
- biological, socio-economic, and political ecosystems



- societal priorities and cost of biosecurity
- proactive preparedness
- conflicting political ideologies, intents and capabilities

**“Politics is the art of the possible,
the calculated science of survival”**

Prince Otto von Bismarck



**“Survival owes little to the art of politics,
but everything to the calculated application
of science”.**

**Professor Rudolph Virchow
(in reply)**



Slides Available
@ <http://casi.asu.edu/>

