## Outbreaks, CEPI and vaccines for COVID-19

## Outbreaks, Epidemics and Pandemics

- The number and diversity of outbreaks has increased over the past 30 years
- SARS-CoV2 is one in a long line of infectious agents spreading around the world
- The alphabet from AIDS to Zika
- A-AIDS, B-Bacillus anthracis, C-Chikungunya, D-Dengue, E-Enteroviruses, F-Filoviruses, G-German measles, H-Hantaan virus, I-Influenza, J-Japanese encephalitis virus, K-Kyasanur Forest Disease virus, L-Lassa virus, M-MERS CoV, N-Nipah, O-Omsk hemorhagic fever virus, P-Polio, Q-Q fever, R-Ross River Virus, S-SARS-CoV, T-Tickborne Encephalitis virus, U-Usutu virus, V-Vibrio cholerae, W-West Nile virus, X-, Y-Yellow fever virus, Z-Zika virus
- With
  - increasing trade
  - travel
  - population density
  - human displacement
  - migration
  - Deforestation
  - climate change, a new era in the risk of epidemics has begun



Indirect costs

- Death of healthcare professionals
  - Quarantine
    necessitates expensive,
    rigorous screening and
    closure of borders
- Reduces trade and travel
- Affects food supply (<30,000 cases but >1000,000 affected)

The World Bank estimates that Ebola cost 4 billion US dollars in direct costs, 54 billion in total costs

# Calls for global action



### In response to Ebola-a new initiative



#### Preparedness

Advance access to safe and effective vaccines against emerging infectious diseases



**Response** Accelerate the research, development and use of vaccines during outbreaks



#### Sustainability

Create durable and equitable solutions for outbreak response capacity

#### **Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations**

### The CEPI response



and **facilitate** the advanced development of vaccines for emerging infectious diseases

### Rationalize and accelerate

- WHO R and D Blueprint
- Updated for top ten threats every year

• And disease X

## CEPI's strategic portfolio targets



CEPI has 12 vaccine candidates funded since Jan 2020 CEPI and Gavi Alliance lead the vaccine pillar of the ACT Accelerator

### The first two months of Disease X

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report – 37

Data as reported by 10AM CET 25 February 2020\*

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

#### SITUATION IN NUMBERS total and new cases in last 24 hours

World Health Organization

World Health

- Four new Member States (Algeria, Austria, Croatia, and Switzerland) reported cases of COVID-19 in the past 24 hours. Algeria is the first Member State of the AFRO Region to report
   Distribution of COVID-19 cases as of 26 February 2020
- For the first time, since th
   COVID-19 on 8 December
   from countries outside of



# Not unexpected, zoonotic diseases from AIDS to Zika



### Coronavirus



Structural Protein	Functional Protein
Nucleocapsid Protein (N)	<ul> <li>Bound to RNA genome to make up nucleocapsid</li> </ul>
Spike Protein (S)	<ul> <li>Critical for binding of host cell receptors to facilitate entry of host cell</li> </ul>
Envelop Protein (E)	<ul> <li>Interacts with M to form viral envelop</li> </ul>
Membrane Protein (M)	<ul><li>Central organizer of CoV assembly</li><li>Determines shape of viral envelop</li></ul>
NOTE: Some CoVs do not need to have the full ensemble of structural proteins to make virions, highlighting that certain	

structural proteins to make virions, highlighting that certain proteins may be dispensable or compensated by the function of non-structural proteins.

### How Contagious is COVID-19?



### Flatten the curve/ Buy us time



During the past 20 years, new technologies have exploded vaccine design  $\rightarrow$  230+ candidates for COVID 19 prevention







Virus like particles

**DNA vaccines** 



Recombinant DNA







**RNA vaccines** 

Illustrations from the New York Times, May 2020



### Major and Indian players

- J & J, Sanofi Pasteur (with adjuvants from GSK), Merck (Oxford), Pfizer (BioNTech), Takeda
- Overall, 230+ projects
  - DNA-Zydus Cadila
  - Inactivated-Bharat Biotech, Indian Imunologicals
  - RNA-Gennova
  - deoptimized live attenuated-Codagenix-SII, Indian Immunologicals
  - Replicating viral vector (including VSV, horsepox)-Aurobindo Pharma
  - Coroflu, self-limiting influenza, Bharat Biotech
  - Non-replicating viral vector (MVA, Ad)-SII/Oxford Astra Zeneca, Rabies vector-Bharat Biotech
  - Replicating measles vector-Zydus Cadila
  - Subunit protein/VLP-Biological E, Mynvax
  - Multiple other approaches including plant based vaccines

### Projects in clinical phases

- University of Oxford/Astra Zeneca/other partners-ChAdOx1, phase 2/3
- Moderna (US) -lipid encapsulated mRNA, 1<sup>st</sup> readout May 2020-safe and immunogenic, moving to phase 3
- CanSino (China)- Ad5 nCoV, 1<sup>st</sup> readout available, now phase 2
- Sinovac (China)- inactivated+alum, animal studies show no antibody dependent enhancement, phase 1/2
- Sinopharm (China)- Inactivated, phase 1/2
- Inovio (US)-DNA, in phase 1
- Shenzhen Geno-Immune Medical Institute (China) 2 programs in phase 1, Pathogen-specific aAPC, Lentiviral minigene vaccine
- BioNTech-RNA-LNP, in phase 1/2

# What are the vaccines targeting?

**a** Domain architecture of the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein. Receptor-binding domain (RBD), heptad repeats (HR1 and HR2), transmembrane domain (TP), and protease cleavage sites S<sub>1</sub>/S<sub>2</sub> and S<sub>2</sub>' are labeled. **b** Side views of the spike protein trimer in a closed conformation (left, PDB 6vxx) and open conformation (right, PDB 6vyb). Three protomers are colored light cyan, gray, and light orange. Buried in the closed state RBD (orange) from one of the protomers (light orange) swings up and is ready to bind ACE2 in the open state. **c** Side view of the RBD-ACE2 complex (PDB 6m0j). The RBD position is aligned to that of in (**b**). **d** Zoom in view of the interface of the RBD-ACE2 complex (PDB 6vw1). Dashed lines indicate salt bridges observed 6vw1). Dashed lines indicate salt bridges observed in the SARS-CoV-2 complex that are absent in the corresponding SARS-CoV complex.



### We need vaccines, and fast

- But no compromise on safety
- Issues of scale/manufacture
- Vaccine nationalism
- Glass vials/syringes/adjuvants



- Our vaccine industry leads the world in number of doses
- But we make vaccines very slowly and on limited platforms

• DBT is leading efforts in India



### Coordination for public protection