

UPDATE 177: FEB 1– FEB 29 2024

PDP FUNDERS GROUP

Items in green should be hyperlinked to the full text version; if I have made mistakes, many apologies. If you have any issues that you would like to include in the Update please send them to Alex Fullem (alexfullem@gmail.com).

PDP PRESS RELEASES
PATH
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8 Feb: PATH and the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation partner to promote child development services in facilities and communities• 9 Feb: Uganda's first-ever veterinary laboratories receive recommendation for international accreditation
GARDP
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 21 Feb: UK Government pledges £2.5 million towards new antibiotic treatment
IAVI
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 14 Feb: Upending the dogma of TB latency: Will it offer new clues for vaccine research?• 27 Feb: IAVI and WomenLift Health announce partnership to promote women's leadership in global health
DNDi
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 19 Feb: Eighth meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) for a WHO instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response
IVI
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 23 Feb: SK bioscience's typhoid conjugate vaccine achieves WHO prequalification <p>Population Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 20 Feb: The Population Council's Center for Biomedical Research enters agreement with Exeltis to develop a non-hormonal multipurpose intravaginal ring
Pop Council
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 20 Feb: The Population Council's Center for Biomedical Research enters agreement with Exeltis to develop a non-hormonal multipurpose intravaginal ring
FIND
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 15 Feb: Testing the tests: Scientists seek out best on-the-spot diagnostics for deadly Nipah and Lassa• 22 Feb: FIND's intervention statement at the first G20 health working group meeting in Brazil

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FUNDER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 28 Feb: [£23mn for global research to protect human health from climate change.](#) Wellcome

OTHER NEW PUBLICATIONS

- Feb 8: [Setting Up the Strategic Initiative for the Acceleration of Malaria Vaccine Introduction and Rollout Across Africa \(AMVIRA\).](#) WHO

RECENTLY RELEASED GENERAL R&D PDP RELATED ARTICLES AND BLOGS

- 2 Feb: [Access to medicines and vaccines is about much more than price.](#) IFPMA
- 5 Feb: [Innovative funding systems are key to fighting inequities in African science.](#) Nature
- 6 Feb: [Africa CDC moves to manufacture 60% of vaccines locally by 2040.](#) Business Day
- 7 Feb: [Regionalizing vaccine manufacturing: a path to equitable access.](#) CEPI
- 7 Feb: [EXCLUSIVE: Reject Drug Procurement Secrecy, Civil Society Urges ‘Big Five’ Buyers.](#) Health Policy Watch
- 8 Feb: [Plant-based ALiCE® technology could shave weeks off vaccine production.](#) CEPI
- 9 Feb: [Deployment of vaccine cold chain equipment in resource-limited settings: lessons from the Gavi Cold Chain Optimization Platform in Cameroon.](#) Oxford Academic
- 9 Feb: [Boosting Africa science through collaborations.](#) SciDevNet
- 11 Feb: [There's a science research gap in Africa. Here's how to fill it.](#) WEF
- 12 Feb: [The ‘Bill Gates problem’: do billionaire philanthropists skew global health research?.](#) Nature
- 12 Feb: [USAID’s latest localization drive garners mixed reviews.](#) Devex
- 13 Feb: [Global health research suffers from a power imbalance – decolonizing mentorship can help level the playing field.](#) The Conversation

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- 14 Feb: WHO Launches Biomanufacturing Workforce Training Initiative to Strengthen Global Health Resilience. WHO
- 15 Feb: Viewpoint: the EU must continue to support development of drugs for neglected infectious diseases in Framework Programme 10. Science Business
- 15 Feb: COVAX officially closes. The Lancet
- 15 Feb: India Pushes Back To Protect Patient Access to Generic Medicines. Health Policy Watch
- 16 Feb: Africa: Gavi alliance board chair on the future of the continent's vaccine manufacturing capacity. Africa News
- 19 Feb: Pull me – push you? The disparate financing mechanisms of drug research in global health. Globalization & Health
- 19 Feb: Africa CDC Announces Pooled Medicines Procurement at AU Summit; Leaders Called Upon To Expedite African Medicines Agency Set-Up. Health Policy Watch
- 19 Feb: Africa CDC Spearheads Bold Move to Secure Africa's Health Future by Creating a 50 billion Dollar Medical Market. Africa CDC
- 20 Feb: FHI 360 conducting trial for Casea S, a biodegradable contraceptive implant. FHI 360
- 20 Feb: The AU plans to pool resources to unify \$50B pharma market. Devex
- 20 Feb: WHO product review process set for improvements, but more sweeping reforms could be a game changer. GHTC
- 21 Feb: Powerful new antivenom raises hopes for a universal solution to lethal snakebites. Science
- 21 Feb: Science can drive development and unity in Africa — as it does in the US and Europe. Nature
- 22 Feb: Emerging genomics hub in Africa aims to transform disease response. Devex
- 23 Feb: How Gavi decides which vaccines to invest in. Gavi
- 23 Feb: Gavi stakes \$1m incentive for firms investing in vaccines. The Monitor

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- 26 Feb: [The WHO's Push for Global mRNA Vaccine Access](#). Think Global Health
- 27 Feb: [African-made auto-disable syringes are bolstering immunisation on the continent](#). Gavi
- 28 Feb: [African scientists secure major grants to accelerate drug discovery in fight against TB and malaria](#). Stellenbosch University
- 29 Feb: [The twin model: decolonising research and knowledge sharing through equitable collaborations](#). BMJ

PDP DISEASE AREA RELATED NEWS/ ARTICLES

HIV/AIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Feb: New licensing agreement set to double HIV vaginal ring supply in Africa. Devex • 6 Feb: Colombia takes significant next step to expand people’s access to affordable HIV treatment, and moves forward with compulsory license for HIV medicine dolutegravir. MSF • 22 Feb: Long-lasting HIV jab marks ‘new era for prevention’ in Africa. The Telegraph
TB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 Feb: What Will It Take to End Tuberculosis?. Harvard University
Malaria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Feb: New phase 3 trial data confirm the uniquely high efficacy and good safety profile of the R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccine in African children. University of Oxford • 1 Feb: “Relief” as RTS,S malaria vaccine rollout set to begin in Burkina Faso. GAVI • 1 Feb: Safety and efficacy of malaria vaccine candidate R21/Matrix-M in African children: a multicentre, double-blind, randomised, phase 3 trial. The Lancet • 1 Feb: Malaria vaccines for children: and now there are two. The Lancet • 2 Feb: Second malaria vaccine highly protective, trial results show. Reuters • 5 Feb: Burkina Faso becomes 2nd African country to include malaria vaccine in immunization program. Africa News • 8 Feb: R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccine: a vital tool in the arsenal against malaria, not a silver bullet. The Lancet

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- 8 Feb: The public health impact and cost-effectiveness of the R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccine: a mathematical modelling study. The Lancet
- 9 Feb: New malaria vaccine has substantial public health benefit. Imperial College London
- 9 Feb: Nearly 10 000 children vaccinated as malaria vaccine rollout in Africa expands. WHO
- 10 Feb: Malaria vaccines: a test for global health. The Lancet
- 10 Feb: R21/Matrix-M vaccine: optimising supply, maximising impact. The Lancet
- 12 Feb: Establishing RTS,S/AS01 as a benchmark for comparison to next-generation malaria vaccines in a mouse model. Physician's Weekly
- 13 Feb: Cameroon's malaria vaccination roll-out finds an enthusiastic reception. Gavi
- 13 Feb: Malaria vaccine shortfall, heavy cost of Africa's child deaths all thanks to global complacency. Daily Maverick
- 14 Feb: Conflict and climate change are supercharging malaria, but it can be stopped. The Telegraph
- 15 Feb: Flexible and cost-effective genomic surveillance of *P. falciparum* malaria with targeted nanopore sequencing. Nature
- 16 Feb: Two vaccines, one target: How the RTS,S and R21 malaria vaccines work. Gavi
- 18 Feb: Malaria could be wiped out within a decade, says Oxford scientist. The Telegraph
- 19 Feb: Making the most of malaria chemoprevention. The Malaria Journal
- 21 Feb: Is the next generation of mosquito nets surviving expectations?. The Lancet
- 21 Feb: Effectiveness of pyriproxyfen-pyrethroid and chlorfenapyr-pyrethroid long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) compared with pyrethroid-only LLINs for malaria control in the third year post-

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	<p>distribution: a secondary analysis of a cluster-randomised controlled trial in Benin. The Lancet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22 Feb: One Business Decision Made the World’s Losing Battle With Malaria Even Tougher. Bloomberg • 23 Feb: Malaria vaccine development in Mali: a step towards transmission-blocking strategies. The Lancet
NTDs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 Feb: Valneva sells chikungunya vaccine priority review voucher for \$103 mln. Reuters • 16 Feb: Scientists race to develop rapid testing for two of the world’s deadliest pathogens. The Telegraph • 19 Feb: Guinea worm disease inched closer to eradication in 2023. The Lancet • 22 Feb: A spiking fever. Science
Emerging Infectious Diseases/Pandemics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Feb: New single-dose dengue vaccine shows 80% protection. CIDRAP • 5 Feb: South American cities release mosquitoes to stem disease. SciDevNet • 5 Feb: With Only 10 Negotiating Days Left, Pressure Builds on Group Amending International Health Regulations. Health Policy Watch • 6 Feb: CEPI and PAHO collaborate to boost regional preparedness against diseases with epidemic or pandemic potential. CEPI • 6 Feb: Conducting clinical trials for Sabin's Marburg vaccine in Uganda. Sabin • 6 Feb: ‘Team Europe’ Agreements Boost Africa’s Pandemic Preparedness. Health Policy Watch • 7 Feb: New rapid gonorrhoea test shows promise in South African study. CIDRAP • 7 Feb: Developing Countries Seek to Retain Equity Provisions in the Amendments to the IHR. Geneva Health Files • 8 Feb: Opinion: The deadly potential of chikungunya virus. The Lancet • 10 Feb: Brazil Has a Dengue Emergency, Portending a Health Crisis for the Americas. The New York Times

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- 12 Feb: Ebola vaccine cuts fatality even in people who were infected before the jab, new study shows. STAT
- 12 Feb: WHO IHR Negotiators Agree on Special Session on Equity. Health Policy Watch
- 14 Feb: WTO fails to reach agreement on providing global access to Covid treatments. The Guardian
- 15 Feb: Will the pandemic treaty make it over the line?. BMJ
- 15 Feb: EXCLUSIVE: Read Latest Pandemic Agreement Draft Ahead of Monday's Negotiations. Health Policy Watch
- 15 Feb: Five key factors that allowed COVAX to deliver two billion COVID-19 vaccines. Gavi
- 16 Feb: Setting research priorities for global pandemic preparedness: An international consensus and comparison with ChatGPT's output. Journal of Global Health
- 18 Feb: Dengue Rages Around The Globe. Where Are The Vaccines?. Forbes
- 19 Feb: Member States consider proposed amendments to the International Health Regulations with discussions on equity to continue. WHO
- 19 Feb: Opinion: A global pandemic agreement must include IP flexibilities. Devex
- 19 Feb: Pandemic Talks: Chasm Between Member States Over How to Share Pathogen Information. Health Policy Watch
- 20 Feb: Developing Countries Mean Business on Equity Provisions in Pandemic Agreement. Will it Count?. Geneva Health Files
- 22 Feb: The new pandemic treaty: Are we in safer hands? Probably not. BMJ
- 22 Feb: Statement: Supporting AU Summit Leaders' Call For A Faster Africa Epidemics Fund Operationalisation. RANA
- 26 Feb: Brazil Tries New Vaccine as 'Exponential' Rise in Dengue Cases Plagues the Americas. Health Policy Watch

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 27 Feb: As Pandemic Negotiations Move at Snails' Pace, Scientists Urge Pathogen-Sharing Agreement. Health Policy Watch
AMR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7 Feb: Vaccine makers seek a role in the fight against antibiotic resistance. CIDRAP• 8 Feb: Report warns of 'brain drain' from antibiotic research and development. CIDRAP• 8 Feb: CARB-X funds Visby Medical to develop a portable rapid diagnostic for gonorrhea including antibiotic susceptibility. CARB-X• 13 Feb: CARB-X awards \$1.2 million for developing oral antibiotics for resistant infections. CIDRAP• 13 Feb: WHO launches data visualization dashboard on antimicrobial resistance and use. WHO• 16 Feb: Report cites progress, but says leading economies need to do more to fight antimicrobial resistance. CIDRAP• 20 Feb: Phage therapy: Researchers sharpen another arrow in the quiver against antibiotic resistance. STAT• 21 Feb: UK Government pledges £2.5 million towards new antibiotic treatment. GARDP• 22 Feb: The Economics of Antibiotic Resistance. CGD

Upcoming Meetings/ Webinars

Week of June 3, 2024

PFG PDP Donor Meetings and other meetings

Cape Town area, South Africa

Week of Oct 7, 2024

WHO Science Division Meeting and PFG PDP CEO Meeting and PFG Face to Face Meeting

Geneva, Switzerland