

# Why Do Infections Emerge, and What Can We Do to Stop Them?

Stephen S. Morse Professor, Epidemiology ssm20@columbia.edu

MfPH Workshop on Early Warning Systems for Emerging and Re-emerging Diseases January 23, 2023, The Fields Institute



# An interesting time to be an Epidemiologist!

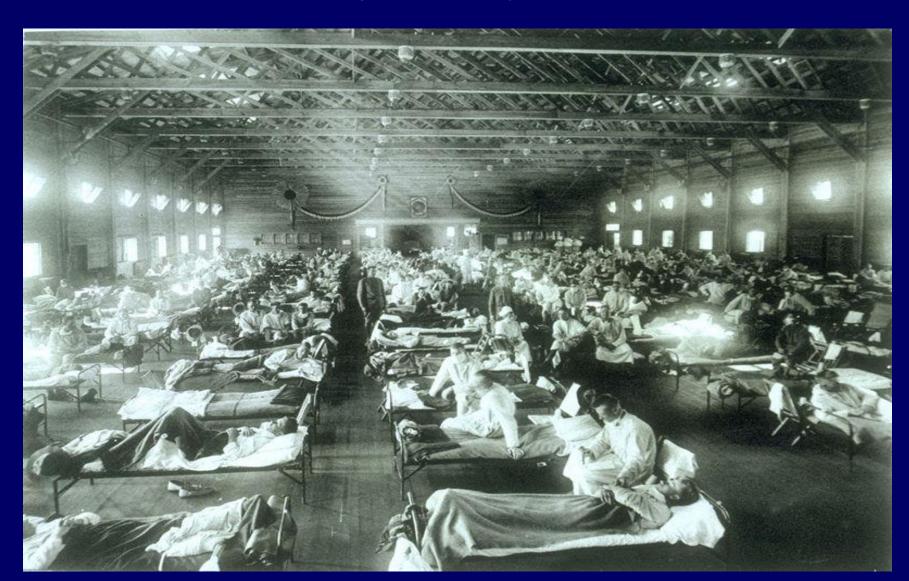
# Some Famous Microbial Invaders in History

- The Black Death (plague, 1348)
- Smallpox
- Cholera (19<sup>th</sup> Century and after)
- 1918 Influenza
- HIV/AIDS (1980's --)

## Influenza Pandemic, 1918



## Influenza Pandemic 1918 at Camp Funston (Kansas)

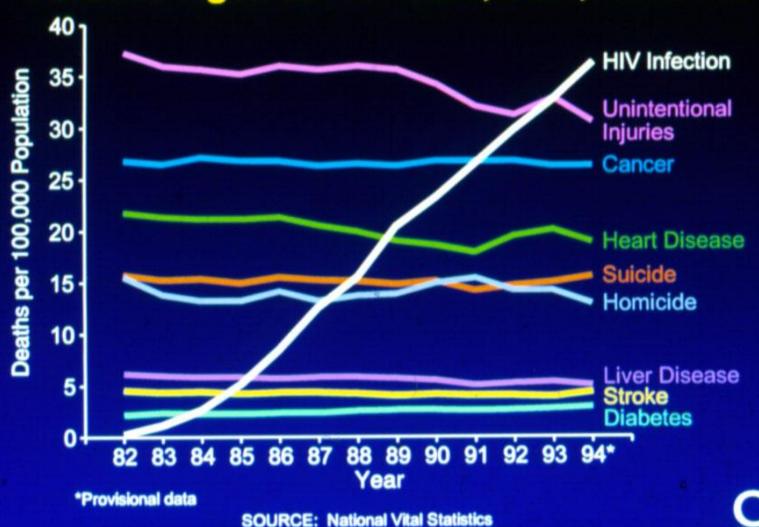


#### Influenza pandemics and recent outbreaks

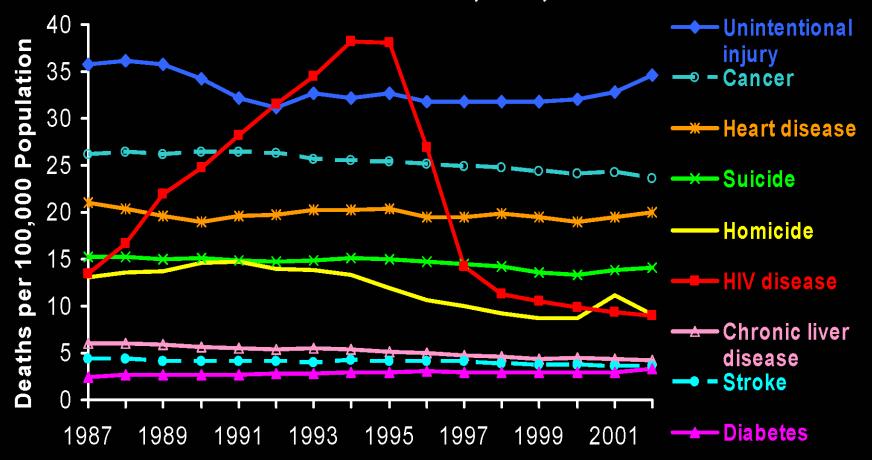
Year	Colloquial name & subtype	Affected ages	No. deaths		
Pandemics:					
1918	"Spanish flu" (H1N1)	all ages	~50 million		
1957	"Asian flu" (H2N2)	> 65 and und	ler five *		
1968	"Hong Kong flu" (H3N2)	> 65 and un	> 65 and under five *		
	* Est. 4.5 M total deaths for 1957+1968				
2009	2009-H1N1 (H1N1, "swine-like")				
Other outbreaks of interest:					
1976	Swine flu (H1N1)	all ages	2		
1997	Avian flu (H5N1)	all ages	6 (18 cases)		
2003	Avian flu (H5N1)	all ages	449		
2013	Avian flu (H7N9)	all ages	275		

Data: WHO and Dr. D. Heymann, WHO (now at PH England & Chatham Housse)

## Death Rates from Leading Causes of Death in Persons Aged 25-44 Years, USA, 1982-1994



## Trends in Annual Rates of Death due to the 9 Leading Causes among Persons 25–44 Years Old, USA, 1987–2002





Note: For comparison with data for 1999 and later years, data for 1987–1998 were modified to account for *ICD-10* rules instead of *ICD-9* rules.



#### Three Coronaviruses in Three Decades

- SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome), 2003
- MERS-CoV, 2012 –
- SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19), 2019 —

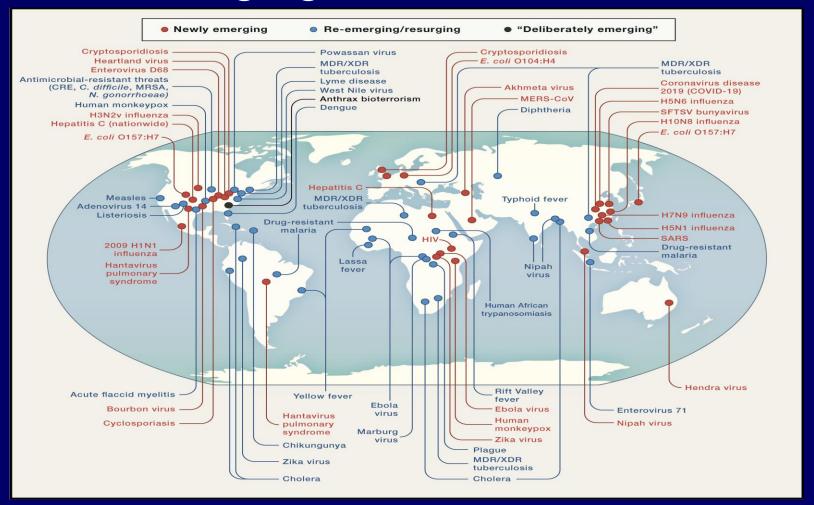
#### **Emerging Infections**

- Those rapidly increasing in incidence (number of new cases) or geographic range
- Often novel (a previously unrecognized disease)
- Anthropogenic causes often important in emergence

#### EMERGING INFECTIONS: SOME RECENT EXAMPLES

- Ebola, 1976 (and West Africa 2013 –; DRC 2018, others)
- HIV/AIDS
- BSE & Variant CJD, ca. 1986 –
- Hantavirus pulmonary syndrome, 1993
- Hemolytic uremic syndrome, 1990's –
- Nipah, 1998 –
- West Nile, US, multistate, 1999 –
- SARS 2003; MERS-CoV 2012
- Influenza (including H5 in Asia 2003 –; H1N1 pandemic 2009-10; H7N9 avian flu, China, 2013 –)
- Zika
- SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19), 2019 –
- MPOX ("Monkeypox"), 2022 –

### Global Examples of Emerging and Re-Emerging Infectious Diseases



Cell 2020 1821077-1092DOI: (10.1016/j.cell.2020.08.021)

Drs. David Morens and Anthony Fauci, NIAID

# No pandemic or emerging infection has ever been predicted

- --- Morse et al., Lancet 380: 1956–1965 (2012)
- ... and we can probably now say that none has ever been stopped yet

#### WHO Disease Outbreak News, 23 March 2014

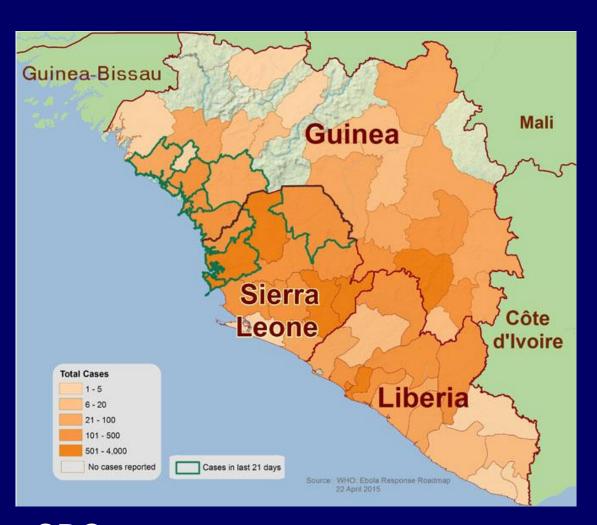
#### Global Alert and Response (GAR)

#### Ebola virus disease in Guinea

Disease Outbreak News

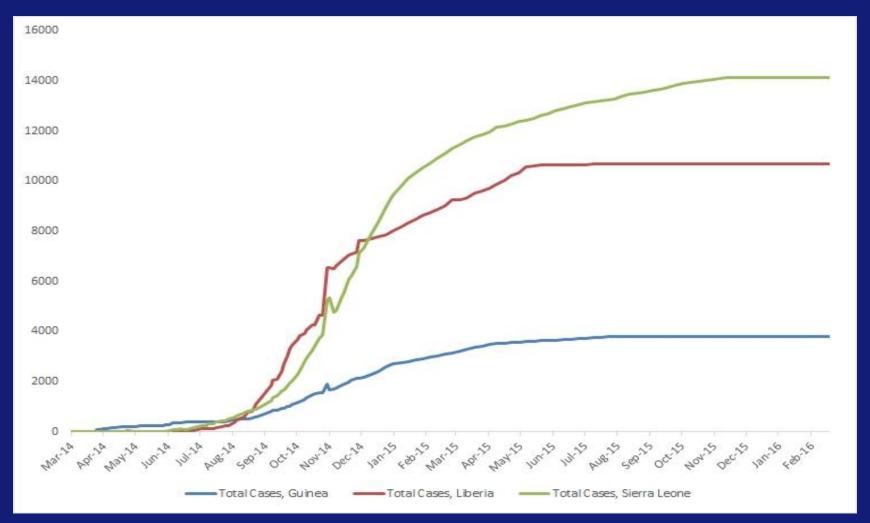
23 MARCH 2014 - The Ministry of Health (MoH) of Guinea has notified WHO of a rapidly evolving outbreak of Ebola virus disease (EVD) in forested areas of southeastern Guinea. As of 22 March 2014, a total of 49 cases including 29 deaths (case fatality ratio: 59%) had been reported.

# Ebola in West Africa (as of April 22-27, 2015)





# Total suspected, probable, and confirmed cases of Ebola virus disease in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone, Mar. 25, 2014 – February 14, 2016



Source: CDC, June 2016

## **How Do Infections Emerge?**

### The Emerging Infections "Two-Step"

Step 1: Introduction

Step 2: Establishment/Dissemination

#### The Emerging Infections Two-Step

#### **Step 1: Introduction**

- Many are zoonotic
- The "zoonotic pool" is a rich source of potential emerging pathogens
- Changes in environment may increase contact, with greater chance or frequency of introduction
- Role of food animals as well as wildlife

#### Zoonoses in disease emergence

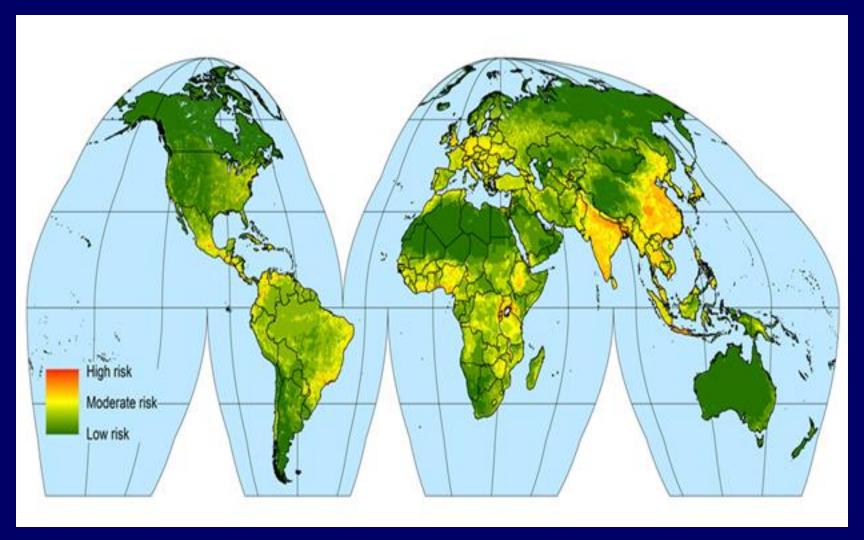
- 1407 human pathogens
- 58% are zoonotic
- 130 of the 177 recently emerged pathogens zoonotic (RR=2.0)

Woolhouse ME, Gowtage-Sequeria S. Host range and emerging and reemerging pathogens. Emerg Infect Dis 2005; 11(12): 1842-7.

# New Opportunities for Pathogens: Ecological Changes

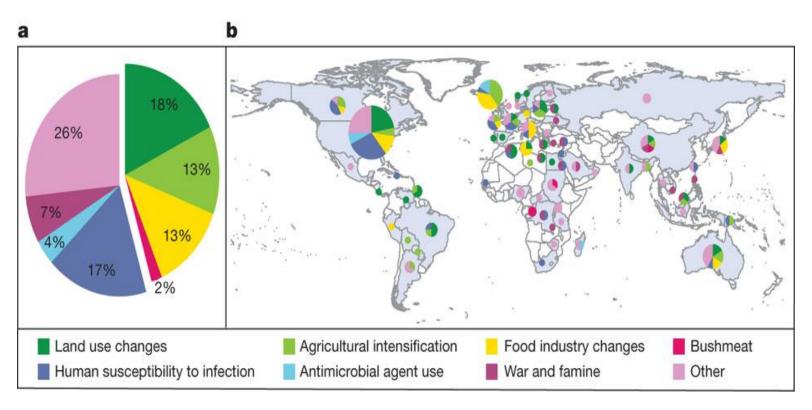
Agriculture	Hantaan, Argentine Hemorrhagic Fever, Nipah, West Nile (Israel), possibly pandemic influenza
Food handling practices	SARS, H5N1 influenza, HIV?, Enteropathogenic <i>E. coli</i>
Dams, changes in water ecosystems	Rift Valley Fever, other vector borne diseases, Schistosomiasis
Deforestation, reforestation	Kyasanur Forest, Lyme disease
Climate changes	HPS, vector borne diseases

#### Emerging Infections "Hotspots" Today



Hotspots map at 1 km<sup>2</sup> resolution (2012) Courtesy Daszak and Zambrana-Torrelio, EcoHealth Alliance (Morse *et al.*, Lancet 380: 1956–1965, 2012)

Drivers and locations of emergence events for zoonotic infectious diseases in humans from 1940–2005.



F Keesing et al. Nature 468, 647-652 (2010) doi:10.1038/nature09575



#### Why is "One Health" Important?

- Most emerging infections are zoonotic crossing species
- Thus, many of the emerging infections of the future can be found in other animal species
- Roles of evolution: Very interesting questions
- Humans may become infected through:
  - Changes in environment that increase contact (wildlife)
  - Handling of food animals
- Therefore, surveillance across species is essential

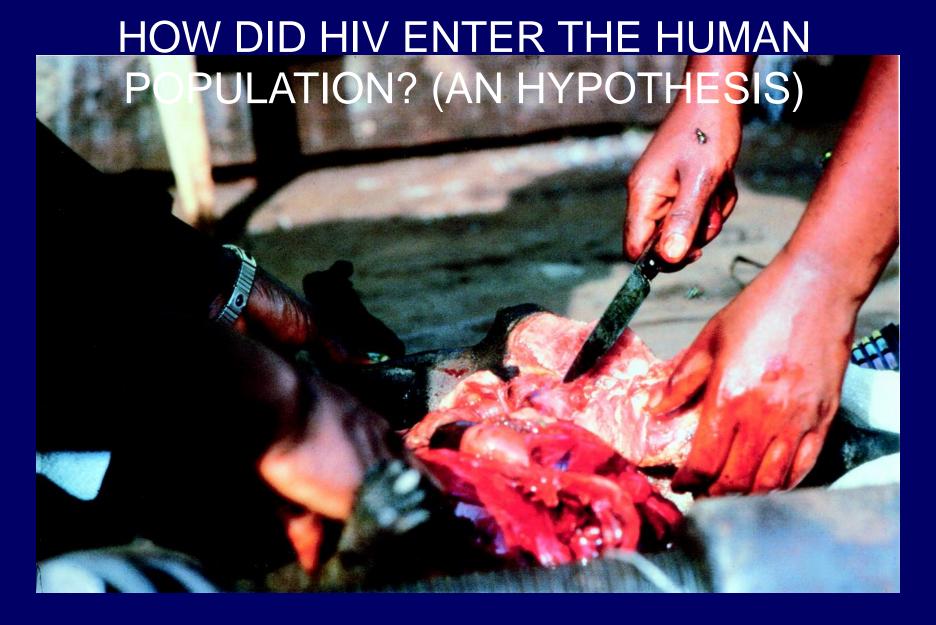
#### Common Pathways for Emerging Infections

Wildlife contact

Live animal markets and food handling

Hunting

Healthcare settings (infection control)



Photograph: Karl Ammann; from Hahn et al., 2000

#### Wildlife/livestock contact



## From Duck to Pig to Human?

Scholtissek C, Naylor E. Fish farming and influenza pandemics. Nature. 1988 Jan 21;331(6153):215. doi: 10.1038/331215a0

## A "Typical" Farm in China



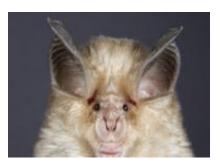
#### Markets/trade



Chicken market in Xining, Qinghai province, China [Flickr, photo by M M (Padmanaba01), 2008]

#### Rhinolophus ("Horseshoe Bat")

- Natural host of SARS Coronavirus and a number of other related coronaviruses
- Sold in live animal markets in South China



**EcoHealth Alliance** 

#### The Emerging Infections Two-Step

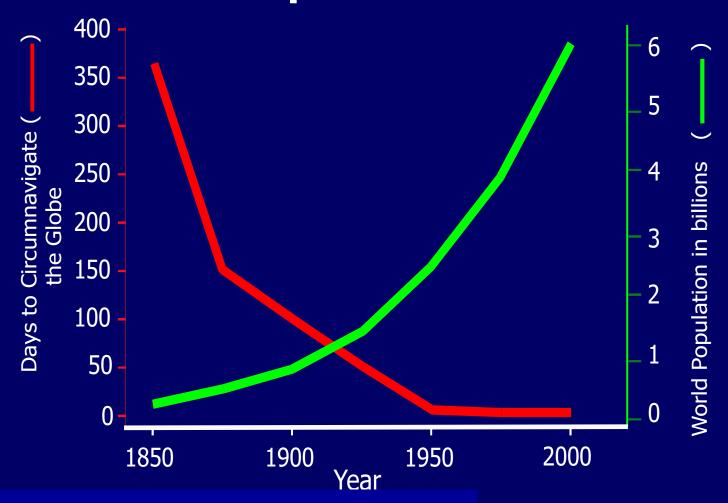
#### Opportunities increasing for both steps:

- -Changes in land use
- -Rural to urban migration
- -Internal displacement
- -Globalization of people and goods, travel, international migration
- –Medical technologies

## Step 2 (or Steps 2 & 3): Establishment & Dissemination

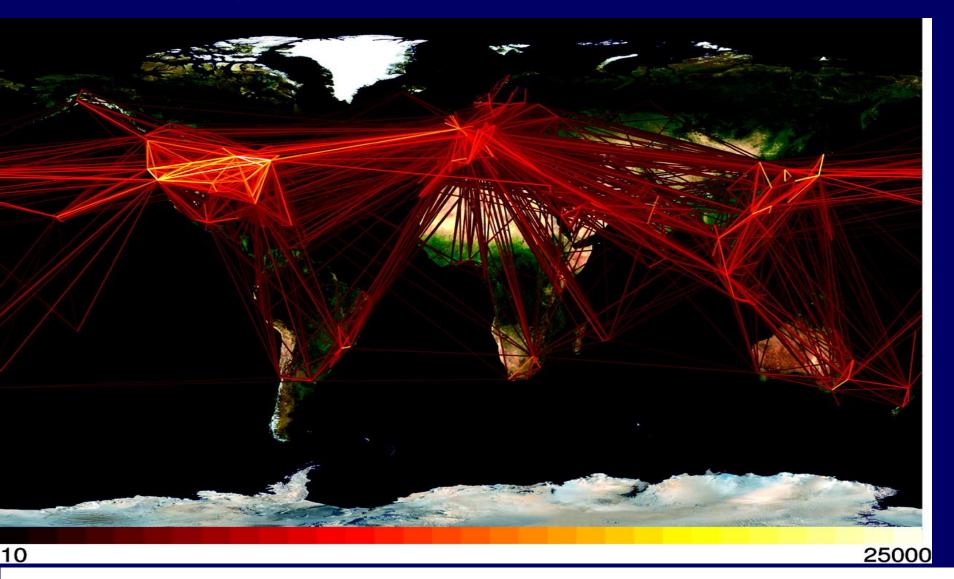
- Luckily for us, many candidates but relatively few are successful
- Human activities, including migration or travel, may disseminate a localized infection
  - Highways for "microbial traffic" to new areas
- Environmental changes may spread a natural host or vector

## Speed of Global Travel in Relation to World Population Growth



Courtesy CDC. From: Murphy and Nathanson. Semin. Virol. 5, 87, 1994

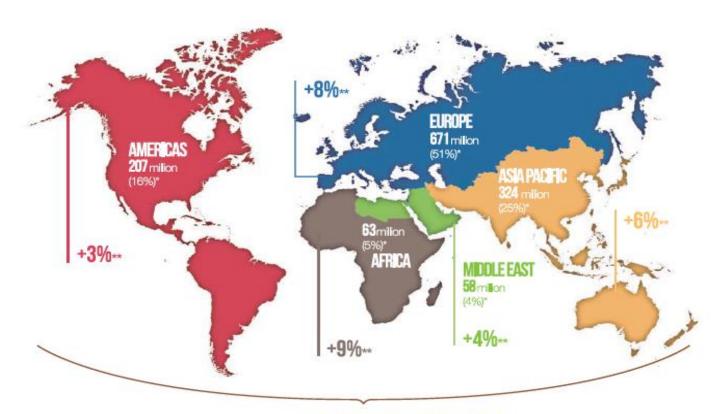
#### Global aviation network



Hufnagel, L. et al. (2004) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 101, 15124-15129

#### **INTERNATIONAL TOURIST ARRIVALS 2017**

\*Share (%)
\*\*Increase (%)



WORLD: 1,323 MILLION

Source: UN World Tourism Org. (UNWTO), 2017 Ann. Report

## Transmissibility

- Essential for pathogen success
- Effects of urbanization, high density?
- Possible relation to virulence
- Genetics and evolution of transmissibility poorly understood
- Are emerging pathogens with broad host range more likely to become transmissible human-to-human?

### SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19

- This is not the first coronavirus we've seen
- But this is the first pandemic coronavirus
- This is also not the first pandemic from a respiratory virus
  - -(flu: 1918, 1957, 1968, 2009)

Emorganialaa proparaamaaa, raapamaa

#### Home

Alert and response operations

#### **Diseases**

**Biorisk reduction** 

Disease outbreak news

#### Pneumonia of unknown cause - China

Disease outbreak news 5 January 2020

On 31 December 2019, the WHO China Country Office was informed of cases of pneumonia of unknown etiology (unknown cause) detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province of China. As of 3 January 2020, a total of 44 patients with pneumonia of unknown etiology have been reported to WHO by the national authorities in China. Of the 44 cases reported, 11 are severely ill, while the remaining 33 patients are in stable condition. According to media reports, the concerned market in Wuhan was closed on 1 January 2020 for environmental sanitation and disinfection.

The causal agent has not yet been identified or confirmed. On 1 January 2020, WHO requested further information from national authorities to assess the risk.

National authorities report that all patients are isolated and receiving treatment in Wuhan medical institutions. The clinical signs and symptoms are mainly fever, with a few patients having difficulty in breathing, and chest radiographs showing invasive lesions of both lungs.

According to the authorities, some patients were operating dealers or vendors in the Huanan Seafood market. Based on the preliminary information from the Chinese investigation team, no evidence of significant human-to-human transmission and no health care worker infections have been reported.

#### **Public Health Response**

National authorities have reported the following response measures:

- One hundred and twenty-one close contacts have been identified and are under medical observation;
- The follow-up of close contacts is ongoing;
- Pathogen identification and the tracing of the cause are underway;
- Wuhan Municipal Health Commission carried out active case finding, and retrospective investigations have been completed;

WHO, Jan. 5, 2020



Published Date: 2019-12-30 23:59:00

Subject: PRO/AH/EDR> Undiagnosed pneumonia - China (HU): RFI

Archive Number: 20191230.6864153

UNDIAGNOSED PNEUMONIA - CHINA (HUBEI): REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

A ProMED-mail post

http://www.promedmail.org

ProMED-mail is a program of the

International Society for Infectious Diseases

http://www.isid.org

[1]

Date: 30 Dec 2019

Source: Finance Sina [machine translation]

https://finance.sina.cn/2019-12-31/detail-iihnzahk1074832.d.html?from=wap

Wuhan unexplained pneumonia has been isolated test results will be announced [as soon as available]

\_\_\_\_\_

On the evening of [30 Dec 2019], an "urgent notice on the treatment of pneumonia of unknown cause" was issued, which was widely distributed on the Internet by the red-headed document of the Medical Administration and Medical Administration of Wuhan Municipal Health Committee.

On the morning of [31 Dec 2019], China Business News reporter called the official hotline of Wuhan Municipal Health and Health Committee 12320 and learned that the content of the document is true.

12320 hotline staff said that what type of pneumonia of unknown cause appeared in Wuhan this time remains to be determined.

According to the above documents, according to the urgent notice from the superior, some medical institutions in Wuhan have successively appeared patients with pneumonia of unknown cause. All medical institutions should strengthen the management of outpatient and emergency departments, strictly implement the first-in-patient responsibility system, and find that patients with unknown cause of pneumonia actively adjust the power to treat them on the spot, and there should be no refusal to be pushed.

The document emphasizes that medical institutions need to strengthen multidisciplinary professional forces such as respiratory, infectious diseases, and intensive medicine in a targeted manner, open green channels, make effective connections between outpatient and emergency departments, and improve emergency plans for medical treatment.

Another piece of emergency notification, entitled "City Health and Health Commission's Report on Reporting the Treatment of Unknown Cause of Pneumonia" is also true. According to this document, according to the urgent notice from the superior, the South China Seafood Market in our city has seen patients with pneumonia of unknown cause one after another.

The so-called unexplained pneumonia cases refer to the following 4 cases of pneumonia that cannot be diagnosed at the same time: fever (greater than or equal to 38C); imaging characteristics of pneumonia or acute respiratory distress syndrome; reduced or normal white blood cells in the early stages of onset The number of lymphocytes was reduced. After treatment with antibiotics for 3 to 5 days, the condition did not improve significantly.

It is understood that the 1st patient with unexplained pneumonia that appeared in Wuhan this time came from Wuhan South China Seafood Market.

#### Timeline



#### ProMED posting: Dec. 30

# Mission summary: WHO Field Visit to Wuhan, China 20-21 January 2020

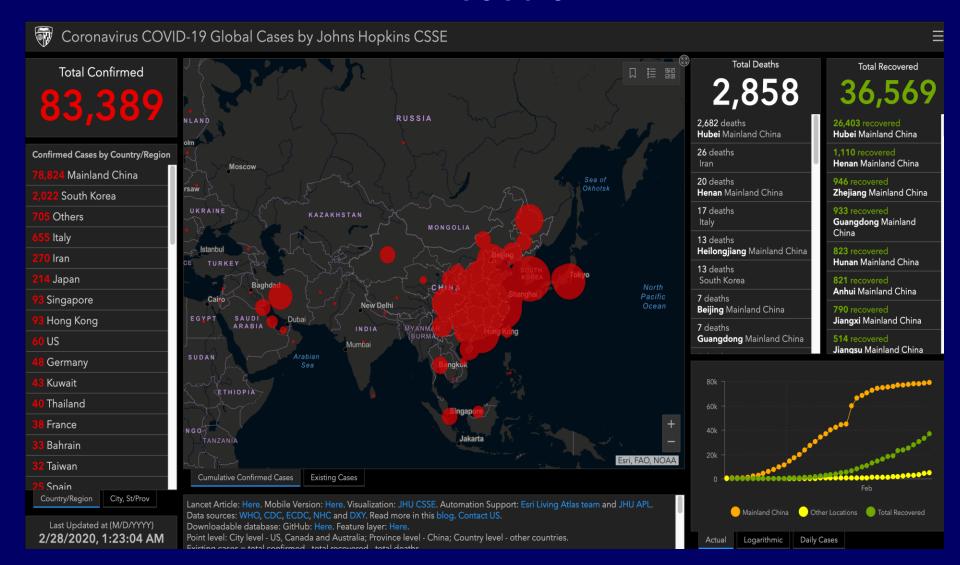
22 January 2020 | Statement

On 20-21 January 2020, a World Health Organization (WHO) delegation conducted a field visit to Wuhan to learn about the response to 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCOV). The mission was part of the on-going close collaboration between WHO and Chinese national, provincial, and Wuhan health authorities in responding to 2019-nCoV.

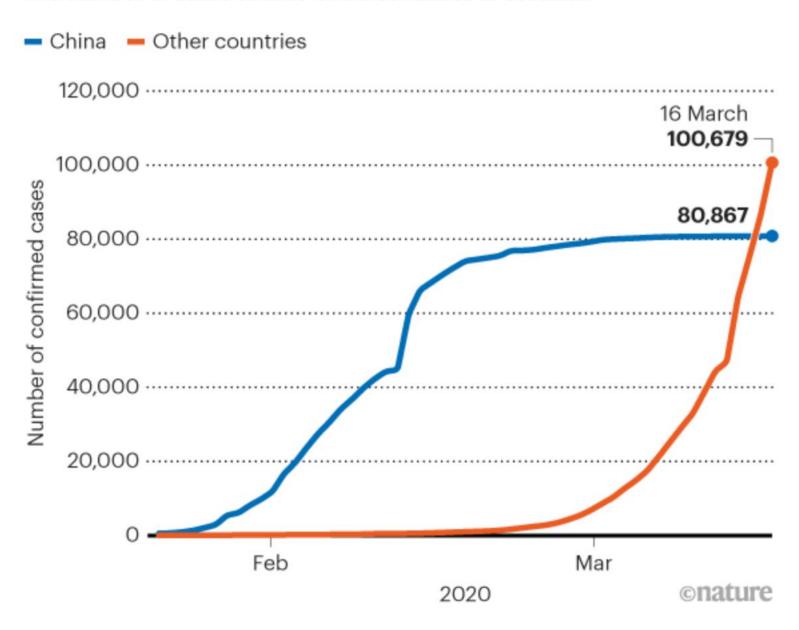
The delegation visited the Wuhan Tianhe Airport, Zhongnan hospital, Hubei provincial CDC, including the BSL3 laboratory in China's Center for Disease Control (CDC). The delegation observed and discussed active surveillance processes, temperature screening at the airport, laboratory facilities, infection prevention and control measures at the hospital and its associated fever clinics, and the deployment of the rRT-PCR test kit to detect the virus.

Data collected through detailed epidemiological investigation and through the deployment of the new test kit nationally suggests that human-to-human transmission is taking place in Wuhan. More analysis of the epidemiological data is needed to understand the full extent of human-to-human transmission. WHO stands ready to provide support to China to conduct further detailed analysis.

## https://gisanddata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48 e9ecf6

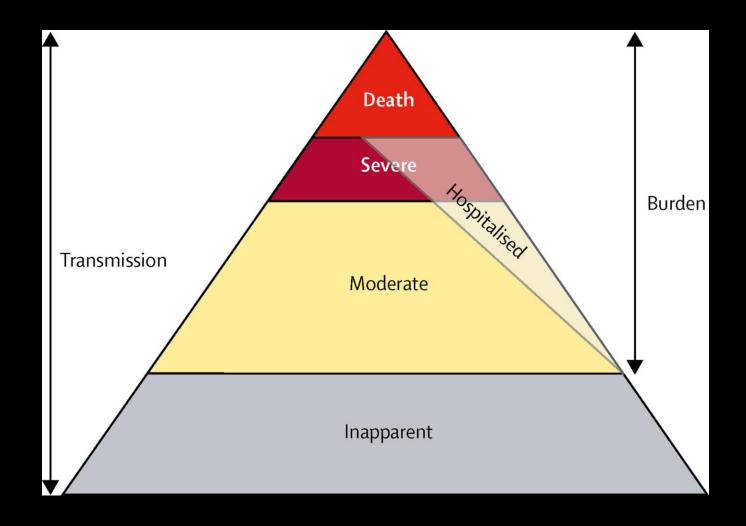


The new coronavirus has infected more than 180,000 people globally. The number of cases outside China continues to escalate.



Source: World Health Organization

Figure 1

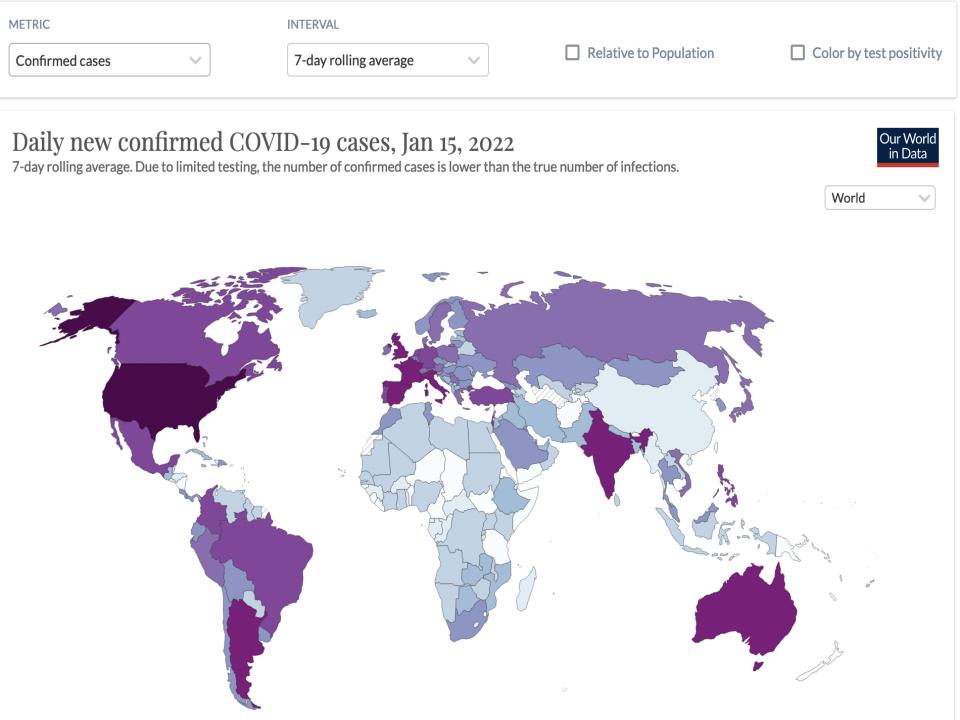


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International Arrivals at DFW Airport, Mar. 14, 2020



New York Times, Mar. 15, 2020



### And then mpox (monkeypox) ...

## MONKEYPOX

## VISUAL EXAMPLES OF MONKEYPOX RASH





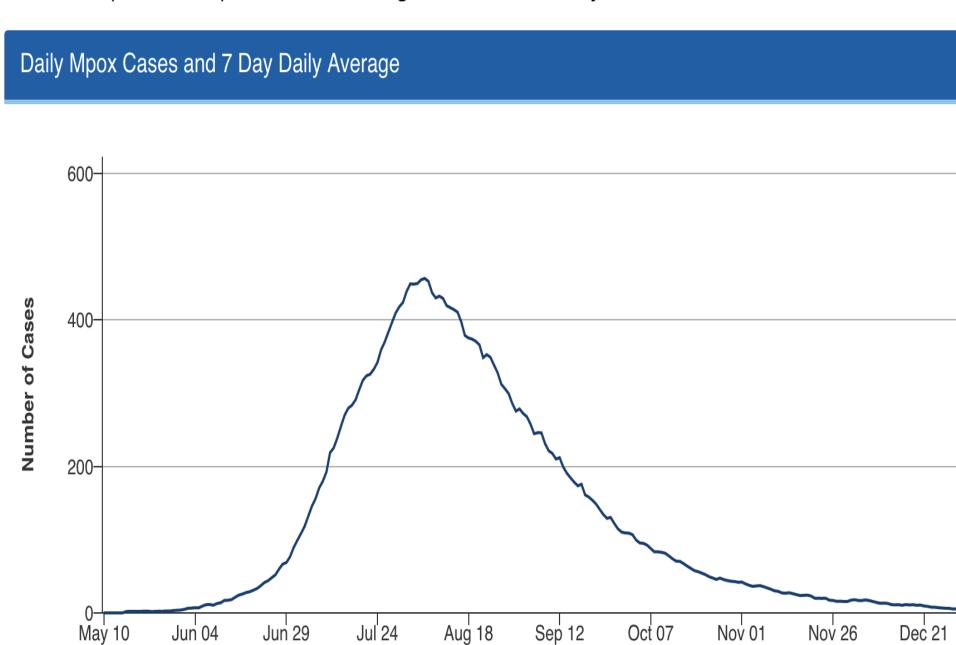


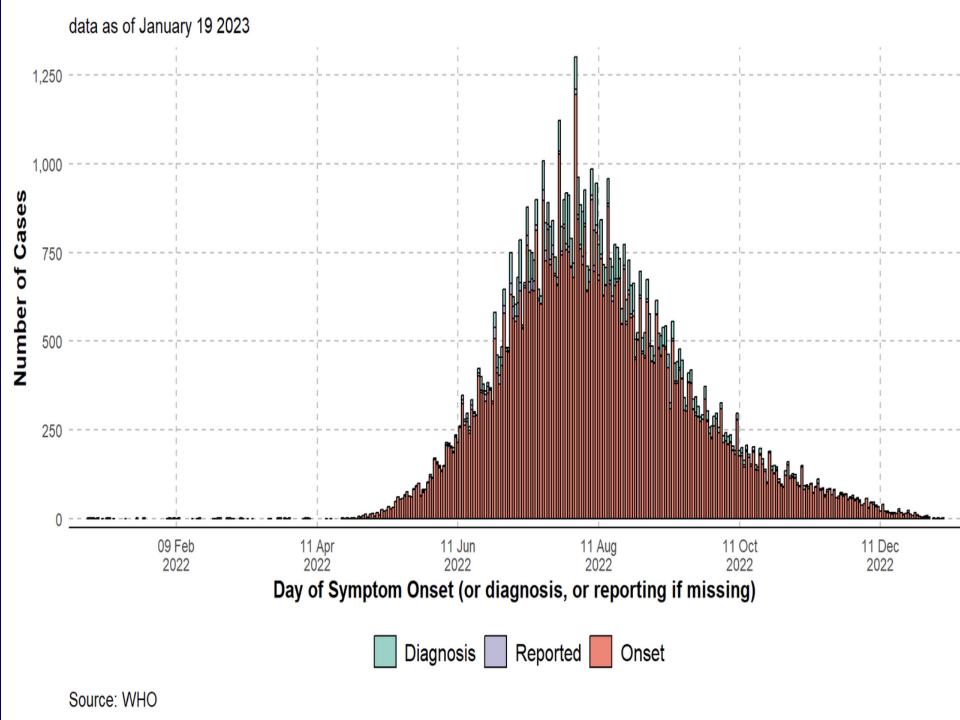


Photo Credit: NHS England High Consequence Infectious Diseases Network



Trends of mpox cases reported to CDC during the 2022 outbreak by date\*

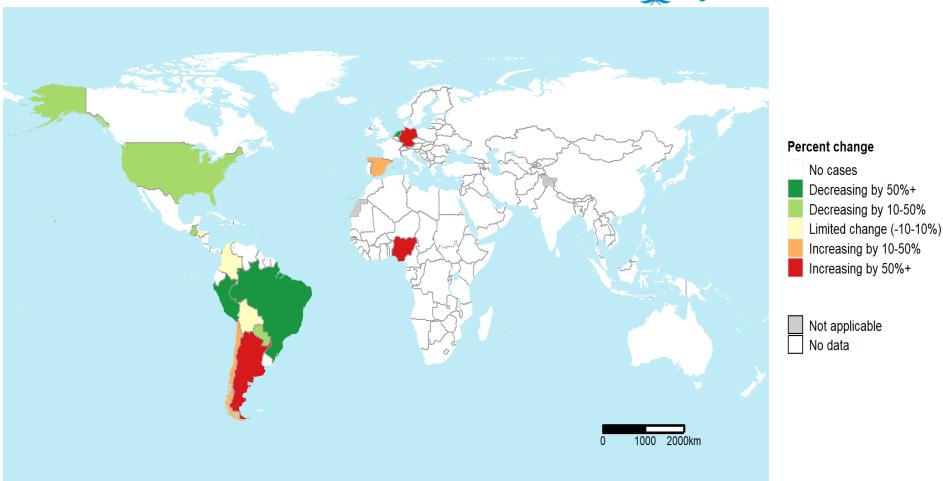




#### Weekly percent change in mpox cases

from 02 Jan to 15 Jan 2023, data as of 19 Jan 23





The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of WHO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

Data Source: World Health Organization
Map Production: WHO Health Emergencies Programme
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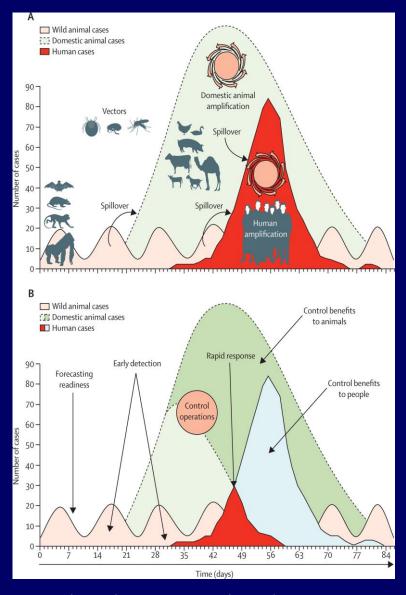
## Factors ("Drivers") in Emergence

- Ecological Changes
  - Including economic development, land use
- Human Demographics, Behavior
- International Travel and Trade
- Technology and Industry
  - Food processing
  - Health care
- Microbial Adaptation and Change
- Breakdown in Public Health Measures ("Re-Emerging Diseases")

"People ask me to predict the future, when all I want to do is prevent it."

—Ray Bradbury

### BENEFIT OF EARLY DETECTION





From Karesh et al., Lancet 380 (9857): 1936-1945 (2012)

## ProMED-mail: A Prototype Outbreak Reporting System

## ProMED-mail: www.promedmail.org

- Moderated listserv
- Free to all
- Started 1994
- Approximately 70,000 subscribers in >185 countries

OME **ABOUT OUR TEAM** IN THE NEWS **SUBMIT INFO** SEARCH POSTS

#### **ISID IS PROUD TO BE A WINNER OF THE 2022**

**Amazon Web Services (AWS) IMAGINE Grant** 



















Afrique Francophone









#### Latest on COVID-19

Latest **Plants** 

**Hot Topics** 

Errata

Published Date: 2023-01-20 05:50:11 EST

MPOX UPDATE (03): WORLDWIDE, USA, DR CONGO

♦ View printable version Share this post:

Subject: PRO/AH/EDR> Mpox update (03): worldwide, USA, DR Congo

Archive Number: 20230120.8707842

International Society for Infectious Diseases

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ProMED-mail is a program of the

http://www.promedmail.org

#### **Latest Posts By Topic**

20 Jan 2023 Mpox update (03): worldwide, USA, DR Congo

17 Jan 2023 Yellow fever - Americas (01): Brazil

12 Jan 2023 Mpox update (02): worldwide, USA, antivirals

12 Jan 2023 Ebola update (01): Uganda, WHO declares outbreak over

05 Jan 2023 Mnov undate (01): worldwide USA

In this update:

[1] Cases around the world [2] USA: cases by state

A ProMED-mail post

http://www.isid.org

[3] DRC: ECHO Daily Flash

[1] Cases around the world

## First Reports

- Ebola, Africa (Zaire), 1995
- Meningitis, US (multistate), UK, 1995
- VEE, Venezuela
- West Nile, 1999 –
- SARS, Feb. 10, 2003
- Avian influenza, Indonesia, Nov. 2003
- Numerous others
- About 300-500 EDR a year

## ProMED ALSO HAD FIRST GLOBAL REPORTS OF SARS (AND MERS-CoV)

PNEUMONIA - CHINA (GUANGDONG): RFI

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

A ProMED-mail post

<a href="http://www.promedmail.org">http://www.promedmail.org</a>

ProMED-mail is a program of the International Society for Infectious Diseases <a href="http://www.isid.org">http://www.isid.org</a>

[1]

Date: 10 Feb 2003

From: Stephen O. Cunnion, MD, PhD, MPH <cunnion@erols.com>

This morning I received this e-mail and then searched your archives and found nothing that pertained to it. Does anyone know anything about this problem?

"Have you heard of an epidemic in Guangzhou? An acquaintance of mine from a teacher's chat room lives there and reports that the hospitals there have been closed and people are dying."

--

Stephen O. Cunnion, MD, PhD, MPH

International Consultants in Health, Inc.

Member ASTM&H, ISTM

<cunnion@erols.com>

## A Compliment?

"The popular ProMED-mail e-list offers a daily update on all the known disease outbreaks flaring up around the world, which surely makes it the most terrifying news source known to man."

Steven Johnson"The Ghost Map", p. 219Riverhead Books/Penguin, 2006

## Some Other Electronic Systems

- GPHIN (Global Public Health Intelligence Network)
  - Started by Canadian Government
  - Searches news sources on web
- HealthMap (partnership with ProMED-mail)
- CDC "EpiX"
- Infectious Diseases Society of America
- Clinicians Biodefense Network

## Crowdsourcing Reporting and Using Social Media

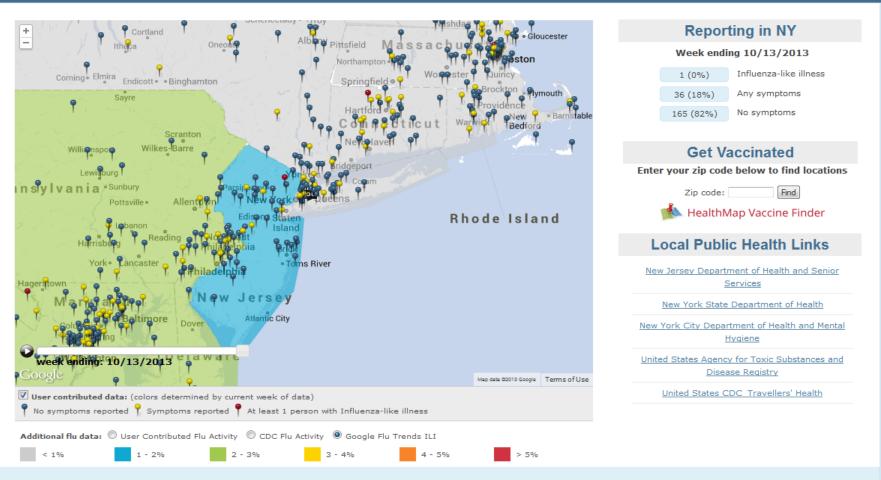
- Twitter, Google, Facebook, etc. for symptom reports
- Must be used cautiously, easily misinterpreted (Zombie Apocalypse comments after zombie movie?)
- Useful: NYC DOHMH uses "Yelp" comments on restaurants





Map In Chart Jump to: New York

<u>Video Press FAQ About</u>





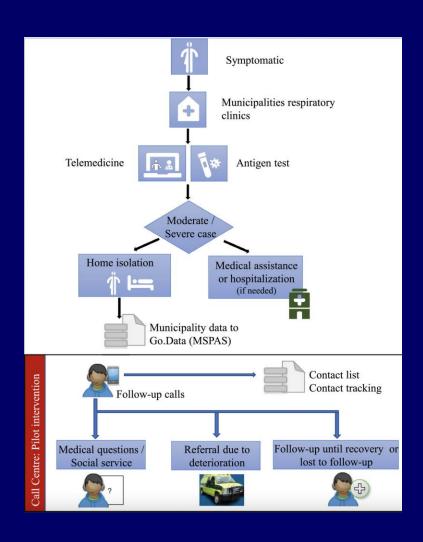






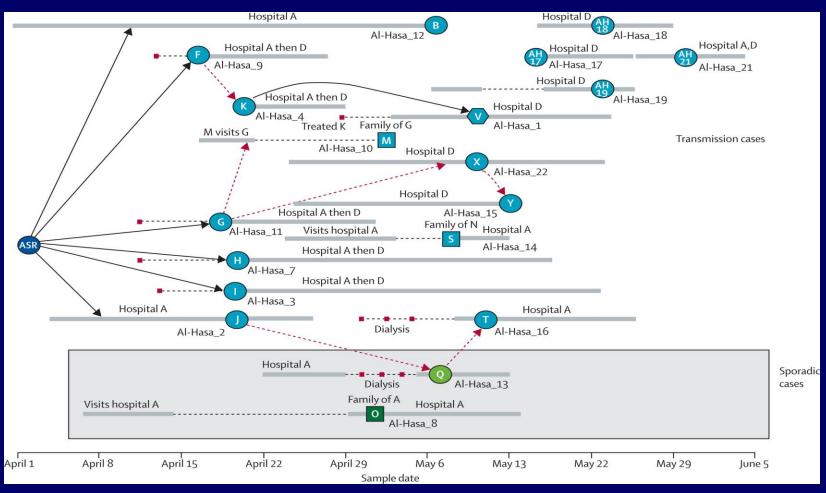
Go!

### Go.Data (WHO app) for Contact Tracing

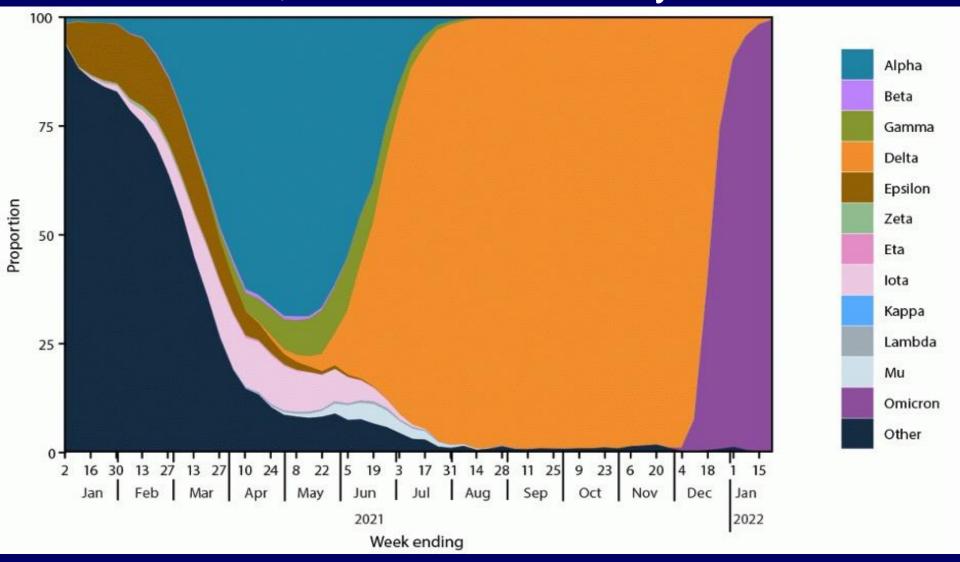


C. Valencia et al., Lancet Regional Health – Americas, Dec. 2022

## Early Example of "Genomic Epidemiology"



## Genomic Surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 Variants, U.S., June 2021–January 2022



### Wastewater testing to start at Vancouver, Toronto airports for flights arriving from China

#### MIKE HAGER >

VANCOUVER
PUBLISHED JANUARY 4, 2023
UPDATED JANUARY 5, 2023



### "Forewarned is Forearmed"?

### Really?

- Surveillance for early warning is still evolving
- Also need to respond appropriately
  - -- remains challlenging
- Political will and sustainability major issues



## Thank You! ssm20@columbia.edu



#### Summary of Mpox cases

As of 19 Jan 2023

	Total Cases	Total cases per 1M inhabitants	Cases in the last week <sup>1</sup>	Cases in the preceding week	Weekly % change in cases	Days since last report	Date of first reported case
Region of the Americas							
United States of America	29,808	90	63	121	-48%	0	03 Jun 2022
Brazil	10,680	50	36	78	-54%	0	10 Jun 2022
Colombia	4,062	80	14	14	0%	0	25 Jun 2022
Peru	3,711	113	15	40	-62%	0	28 Jun 2022
Mexico	3,696	29	59	0	-	0	03 Jun 2022
Canada	1,460	39	0	0	-	0	03 Jun 2022
Chile	1,405	74	11	10	10%	0	18 Jun 2022
Argentina	1,052	23	12	7	71%	0	03 Jun 2022
Ecuador	460	26	19	0	-	0	06 Jul 2022
Guatemala	314	18	13	18	-28%	0	04 Aug 2022