Message from Marie-Paule Kieny

Dr Marie-Paule Kieny will retire from WHO on 30 June, after heading the WHO Health Systems and Innovation cluster for the last 5 years. During the Ebola outbreak in west Africa, she led the WHO R&D effort, resulting in many achievements, including the successful testing of the first ever effective vaccine against Ebola. On the basis of that experience, Member States asked WHO to develop the R&D Blueprint. Read Marie-Paule’s message

Regulatory preparedness in public health emergencies

WHO held an informal consultation in Geneva, on 17-19 May, on options to improve regulatory preparedness and how WHO can support the process. The consultation concluded with a number of outcomes for WHO to move this agenda forward. Read more

R&D Blueprint MTA Tool

WHO is developing a web-based tool to facilitate discussions between parties involved in negotiating the movement of samples. A draft of the document was released for public comments in May and is now being revised in view of comments received. Read more
WHO publishes Vaccine profiles for MERS-CoV, Nipah virus and Lassa fever

As was the case for Ebola until recently, MERS-CoV infection. Nipah virus and Lassa fever are still little known to science and the world has no medical countermeasures to fight them. WHO’s target product profiles for the preferred type of vaccine for each of these diseases underwent public consultation and are now final. They will be key tools for future R&D by focusing researchers’ and the pharmaceutical industry’s efforts on the kind of preventive vaccines the world needs. MERS-CoV, Lassa fever, Nipah virus

Paving the way for clinical trial readiness during outbreaks

On May 1-2 2017, WHO convened a third consultation on vaccine clinical trials to be used to assess vaccines against the priority pathogens of the Blueprint. This consultation is part of a work plan to develop material and tools to improve the way we evaluate vaccines during outbreaks. Read more

Promoting better R&D coordination during emergencies

Terms of reference for a Global Coordination Mechanism (GCM) for R&D outbreak preparedness were discussed with key stakeholders earlier this year and the consensus was that WHO would play a lead role in the effort. Since then, the GCM has further evolved in building a voluntary framework for collaboration and providing a platform for information sharing and discussion. Read more

UPCOMING EVENTS

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