

April Newsletter

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1 Million new Malaria cases estimated in Venezuela last year. Venezuela's ongoing political crisis has caused a huge rise in malaria, estimated at 1 million cases last year. The most recent estimates come from the [Alianza Venezolana por la Salud/ Red Defendamos la Epidemiología Nacional](#); from January to June 2018, they show 600,000 new cases of malaria in Venezuela alone in just six months, and the latest estimates suggest the country will report over 1 million new cases of malaria for the whole of 2018. Once recognised as a regional leader for public health and vector control policies, Venezuela's healthcare has fallen into a state of collapse, contributing to an exodus of over 3 million people.

Ghana launches the world's largest vaccine drone delivery network. The California-based logistics company, Zipline, is partnering with the Gavi vaccine alliance to set-up a nationwide drone delivery network for emergency and routine vaccinations and other medicines. The drone service will operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week with 120 drones delivering to over 2,000 health facilities that serve 12 million people across the country. The network will be integrated into the national healthcare supply chain in Ghana to help prevent vaccine stockouts in health facilities as well as during national immunisation campaigns. [Read more.](#)

Measles cases up 300% worldwide in 2019. The World Health Organization (WHO) has estimated a 300% increase in measles cases worldwide so far in 2019, compared to the previous year. Spikes in cases have also occurred in countries that are known to have high levels of vaccination coverage, mostly through clusters of unvaccinated people. There is also significant cause for concern in Africa, which has less vaccine coverage than other regions. WHO says Africa saw the biggest rise in cases in the last three months compared

...y... with the same time last year – a 700% increase. [Read more.](#)

Self-spreading vaccines and 3D-printed drugs. A recent Center for Health Security report looked at various available technologies that had not yet been applied to infectious disease emergencies. These technologies included genetically modified active vaccines that were able to spread through populations like a disease and 3D printing of drugs, whose instructions for manufacture could be shared around the world in rapid response to outbreaks. Lead author of the report, Crystal Watson described the technologies as "potentially game changing" but admitted there were "substantial technical challenges". [Read more.](#)

In Case You Missed It



Professor Patricia Nuttall of Oxford University discusses what makes ticks such effective vectors of pathogens and how we might prevent the spread of tick-borne diseases.

[Read more](#)



As part of our funded partnership with Virology Research Services, new immunofluorescence protocols and data are now available for our CMV, Yellow Fever and Ebola antibodies.

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April Podcasts

[TWiM: Intercellular Microbial Trade](#)

[TWiV: Biocrimes and Misdemeanors](#)

[Bacteriofiles: Small Scavengers Suck Sizable Cells](#)



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