

# THE NEXT EPIDEMIC IS COMING. HOW SHOULD WE PREPARE?

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In recent years, outbreaks of infectious diseases such as Ebola have claimed the lives of thousands and resulted in economic losses in the billions of dollars. We don't know when the next epidemic will come, but we can be better prepared for it if we invest now to strengthen prevention, detection, and response capabilities in countries and regions across the globe.



Source: The Lancet

## THE UW METACENTER

The University of Washington MetaCenter for Pandemic Preparedness and Global Health Security aims to limit the extent of infectious disease epidemics and thereby save lives. We are fostering a bold, comprehensive, and integrated systems approach spearheaded by top scientists and practitioners across disciplines that focuses on improving readiness before epidemics hit.

# WHO WE ARE

The UW MetaCenter connects diverse expertise across UW that includes public health, medicine, statistical modeling, computer science, pharmacy, environmental and behavioral sciences, engineering, urban planning and law, in collaboration with local and international partners.

Eight core groups focusing on strategic areas:



## DATA AND ANALYTICS, GEOSPATIAL, RISK FACTOR AND DISEASE MODELING

The Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), the Center for Health and the Global Environment (CHaNGE), the Center for One Health Research (COHR)



## RESEARCH TO DEVELOP DIAGNOSTICS, THERAPEUTICS, AND VACCINES

The Center for Emerging and Reemerging Infectious Diseases (CERID), the Institute for Protein Design (IPD), the Center for Innate Immunity and Immune Disease (CIID), the Center for Development and Deployment of Diagnostic Technologies for Low Resource Settings (CD3)



## TRAINING, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING

The International Training and Education Center for Health (I-TECH)

# WHAT WE DO

Our strategy begins by identifying geographic areas that are most vulnerable to outbreaks and highlighting pathogens of greatest concern, in order to identify gaps in readiness and to focus and prioritize solutions. We then develop and test effective tools to address these gaps and help strengthen the capacities of public health leaders and practitioners and the health systems in which they work before the next big epidemic emerges.

Our work includes vulnerability assessments, novel approaches to the development of vaccines and treatments, and focused capacity building, education, and training. We engage UW's global network of partners in low- and middle-income countries and leverage strong ties with ministries of health to provide training that speeds effective implementation.

By taking an integrated systems approach, we are bridging complex data sources with pioneering new approaches to develop diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines, and on-the-ground implementation of effective detection, response, and prevention strategies. By linking these essential components before an outbreak hits, we can be better prepared.

# CONTACT US

To address pandemics effectively we must work across sectors. We are strengthening key partnerships and focusing on projects to demonstrate proof of principle. Together, we can prepare for the next big pandemic.

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