

(U) Summary of Conclusions for  
**Policy Coordinating Committee on**  
**Countering Biological Threats**

Topic: (U//FOUO) United States Novel Corona Virus (nCoV)  
Response

Wednesday, January 22, 2020  
1:30 - 3:00 p.m.  
WHSR

(U) PARTICIPANTS:

Chair

Anthony Ruggiero

NSC Staff

Phil Ferro

Lauren Fabina

Gary Seffel

Hillary Carter

Katelyn Christ

Michael Sinclair

Patrick Lowry

Ivan Kanapathy

OSTP

Kelvin Droegemeier

Ian Watson

Paige Waterman

DPC

James Baehr

Maria Bonner

Kamran Daran

OMB

Christine Farquharson

USAID

Richared Greene

FAA

Alex Naar

GSA

Paul Detitta

State

Gregory Martin

Eric Carlson

Rich Waters

Nausher Ali

Virgil Carstens

Larry Padget

HHS

Robert Redfield

Rick Bright

Robert Johnson

Erika Elvander

Chris Hassell

Marty Cetron (SVTC)

DHS

Chris Magrino

William Ferrara

Debbie Seguin

DOD

Nathan Pawlick

CDR Amber Biles

MAJ Katherine Kinder

Vanessa Eddy

John Trigilio

DOT

Brett Feddersen

Amie Kalsbeek

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**Sent:** 7/2/2020 9:36:30 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Question: Cross Assay Validation (Vx)

DRAFT – PRE-DECISIONAL & DELIBERATIVE  
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY – DO NOT DISTRIBUTE  
June 29, 2020  
Vaccine Development Team, Operation Warp Speed  
SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine Neutralizing Antibody Assay Sub Working Group  
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Agenda  
Introductions – All

Brief overview (Montefiori)  
Vaccines and timelines for phase 3 trials  
The assays and who is doing them  
Timelines for readiness  
Backup plans  
Technology transfer plans

General discussion – All  
What should be our goals?  
How to facilitate licensure?  
Should we be prepared to advance one of the assays for potency testing?  
Technical and regulatory advice for assay optimization, qualification and validation  
Capacity building and technology transfer  
Other?

OWS Vaccine NAb Assay Sub Working Group  
Name  
Expertise  
David Montefiori  
Pseudovirus assays, immune monitoring  
Ralph Baric  
Live virus assays, immune monitoring  
Marcella Sarzotti-Kelsoe  
Quality assurance, data master file  
Chris Cirimotich  
Assay expertise, reagents  
Thomas Denny  
Assay qualification and validation  
Tomas Rudge  
Tech transfer  
Janet Lathey  
Project officer, Battelle assay development  
Chris Badorrek  
Gregory Rutkowski  
John Hural  
Assay development and regulatory compliance  
Assay development and regulatory compliance  
HVTN Laboratory Operations  
Rick Koup  
Co-chair, OWS Lab Group  
Ruben Donis  
Co-chair, OWS Lab Group

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SARS-CoV-2 Vx Candidates and Deployment Timeline  
Phase I-II  
August 2020  
Phase III  
100K subject-pregnancy study being considered  
October 2020  
Scale up  
Non-US manufacturing and U.S. Emergent Mfr.  
40M doses by Q12021  
Phase I

460 subjects  
 Q4 2020  
 Phase II-III  
 6K subjects  
 TBD  
 Scale up  
 100-600M doses  
 Phase I  
 Phase II-III  
 Scale up  
 NHP studies  
 July 2020  
 Phase I-II-III  
 TBD  
 Scale up  
 100-150K doses/run  
 Phase I/II  
 May 2020  
 Phase III  
 Late July 2020-Follow-up pediatric study  
 At least 300M doses total first doses in  
 September 2020  
 Phase I  
 105 subjects  
 Q1 2020  
 Phase II  
 600 subjects  
 June 2020  
 Phase III  
 30K subjects  
 July 2020  
 Scale up  
 10-23M doses in 2020  
 Plus Lonza Mfr.  
 Phase I  
 May 2020  
 Phase II  
 July 2020  
 Phase III  
 September 2020  
 First batch-10-100M doses  
 November 2020  
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 Clinical trial timelines (I of II)  
 May  
 Jun  
 Jul  
 Aug  
 Sep  
 Oct  
 Nov  
 Dec  
 Phase 2 start  
 Phase 3 start  
 Phase 3 doses  
 P3 Interim readout  
 10M doses  
 P2 Interim readout  
 P2 Interim readout  
 EUA  
 mRNA - 1273  
 May  
 Jun  
 Jul  
 Aug  
 Sep  
 Oct  
 Nov  
 Dec  
 Phase 3 (UK) start  
 Phase 3 (US) start  
 EUA  
 Phase 3 doses from UK  
 Interim readout  
 10M dose  
 60M Doses  
 100M doses  
 Efficacy readout

Pedi-atric Study start  
AZD1222 (ChAdOx1 nCoV-19)

Notes view:

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Clinical trial timelines (II of II)

Ad26-NCOV030

May

Jun

Jul

Aug

Sep

Oct

Nov

Dec

Phase 1 CTM

Phase 1

Phase 2 CTM

rS + adjuvant

May

Jun

Jul

Aug

Sep

Oct

Nov

Dec

Phase 1-2a start

Interim readout

Phase 3 start

EUA

Phase 3 doses from NE

Notes view:

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Sampling Plan for Phase 3 Trial (Peter Gilbert)

Primary Analysis / Stage 1 (at 153 COV-DIS endpoints)

Random subcohort x 2 time points (Day 1, 57) =  $760 \times 2 = 1520$

COV-INF cases = 68 vaccine grp\*1.4 x 2 time points + 20 placebo x 2 time points = 230

Assume at most 68\*1.4 of 153\*1.4 infections in the vaccine group (assume estimated VE against infection  $\geq 20\%$ )

Do not need to measure markers in all placebo cases, because most values are 'structural zeros'

Total samples primary analysis / Stage 1 = 1750

Budget for up to 40% of infections not qualifying for COV-DIS primary endpoint

Final Analysis / Stage 2 (Through to Month 25)

Random subcohort x 4 additional time points (Day 29, Month 7, 13, 25) =  $760 \times 4 = 3040$

Takes out the Month 4/Day 119 time point

Additional COV-INF cases = 3\*68 vaccine grp\*1.4 x 4.5 time points on average before diagnosis + 20

placebo x 4.5 time points on average before diagnosis = 1375

Assume Stage 2 adds 3 times as many infections as Stage 1, and again assume estimated VE against infection  $\geq 20\%$

Total sample size final analysis / Stage 2 = 4405

Grand total samples: 1750 + 4405 = 6155

OWS - Overview of neutralization assays for phase 3 trials of COVID-19 vaccines

Pseudo-virus

Live virus

Assay	Developer	Capacity (per wk)	Assay status
Pseudovirus	NIH (Duke-)	500	Qualification - Aug 15
Lentiviral system	Montefiori Lab)		Validation - Sep 15
293T/ACE2 cells			

firefly-Luc

NIH (VIP -

McDermott Lab) 500 Qualification - Aug 15

Validation - Sept 15

NIH (Battelle) 1,000 Qualification - Aug 15

Validation - Sep 15

Micro-neutralization UNC (Baric Lab) 800 Qualification - Aug 15

IMC virus UNC (Heissen Lab) 800 Validation - Sep 15

Vero-6 cells

nano-Luc

Micro-neutralization Battelle 1,000 Qualification - Jul 20

WT virus Validation - Sep 1

Vero-6

in situ ELISA

SARS-CoV-2 Neutralizing Assay Concordance Survey (NIAID/DAIDS Virology Quality Assessment Program SNACS Project)

Tom Denny, Mike Busch, Marcella Sarzotti-Kelsoe, David Montefiori

An initial survey of assay concordance across a large number of labs and assay types. Assess specificity, accuracy and precision of labs. Baseline data for further concordance testing and design of a proficiency testing program for key labs involved in clinical trials.

Samples:

COVID-19 convalescent sera  
High, medium and low titers  
Built-in replicates  
Negative controls

Assays:

Live virus assay = 34 labs  
Pseudovirus assay= 46 labs  
Binding and ACE2-inhibition= 10 labs

Schedule:

Send-out: July 15, 2020  
Data close-out: August 7, 2020  
Statistical analysis: August 8-14, 2020  
Report: August 15, 2020

Lab PI

Assay Type

Institution

Greg Sempowski

Live Virus

Duke University - RBL

Ralph Baric / David Martinez

Live Virus

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Michael Diamond

Live Virus

Washington University

Anthony Griffiths

Live Virus

Boston University, NEIDL-NBL

Colleen Beth Jonsson

Live Virus

University of Tennessee - RBL

Aarthi Narayanan

Live Virus

George Mason University - RBL

Dominique Missiakas

Live Virus

University of Chicago - RBL

Jeffrey Adamovicz

Live Virus

University of Missouri - RBL

Mehul Suthar

Live Virus

Emory University Vaccine Center

Sue Vandewoude, Christie Mayo

Live Virus

Colorado State University - RBL

Marila Gennaro

Live Virus

Rutgers University - RBL

William Severson, Donghoon Chung

Live Virus

University of Louisville - RBL

Jame LeDuc

Live Virus

University of Texas Medical Branch - NBL

Mark Dension

Live Virus

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Adolfo Garcia-Sastre

Live Virus

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Pei-Yong Shi

Live Virus

University of Texas Medical Branch

Yoshihiro Kawaoka

Live Virus

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Matthew Frieman

Live Virus

University of Maryland

Dan Ewing

Live Virus

Navy Medical Research Center

Jay Hooper

Live Virus  
 U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID)  
 John Dye  
 Live Virus  
 U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID)  
 Landon Westfall, Fusatake Koide  
 Live Virus  
 Southern Research Institute  
 Bassam Hallis  
 Live Virus  
 Public Health England, UK  
 Christopher Cirimotich and Jennifer Garver  
 Live Virus  
 Battelle Memorial Institute  
 Bassam Hallis  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Public Health England, UK  
 Christopher Cirimotich and Jennifer Garver  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Battelle Memorial Institute  
 David Montefiori  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Duke University  
 Nicole Doria-Rose, John Masocla  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Vaccine Research Center  
 Adrian McDermott, Britta Flach  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Vaccine Immunology Program at Vaccine Research Center (VIP-VRC)  
 Mike Seaman  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center  
 Simon Cocklin  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Drexel University College of Medicine  
 Theodora Hatzioannou, Paul Bieniasz  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Rockefeller University  
 John Moore, Tom Ketas  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Cornell University  
 Beatrice Hahn, Ronnie Russell  
 Pseudo Virus  
 University of Pennsylvania  
 Paul Bates  
 Pseudo Virus  
 University of Pennsylvania  
 Erica Ollman Saphire / Kate Hastie  
 Pseudo Virus  
 La Jolla Institute for Immunology  
 Linqi Zhang  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Tsinghua University, China  
 Penny Moore and Lynn Morris  
 Pseudo Virus  
 National Institute of Infectious Diseases, S. Africa  
 Yousun Wang  
 Pseudo Virus  
 National Institute for Food and Drug Control, China  
 Miao Xu  
 Pseudo Virus  
 National Institute for Food and Drug Control, China  
 Michael Farzan  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Scripps Research  
 Barney Graham  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Vaccine Research Center  
 Rogier Sanders, Marit van Gils  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Amsterdam - Academic Medical Center (AMC)  
 Leonidas Stamatatos  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center  
 Ian Lipkin  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Columbia  
 James Binley

Pseudo Virus  
 San Diego Biomedical Research Institute  
 Dan Barouch  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center  
 Xuping Xie, Pei-Yong Shi  
 Pseudo Virus  
 University of Texas Medical Branch  
 Warner Greene  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Gladstone Institute of Virology and immunology  
 John Mellors  
 Pseudo Virus  
 University of Pittsburg School of Medicine  
 Jesse Bloom  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center  
 Graham Simmons  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Vitalant Research Institute  
 John Mills, Elizabeth Theel  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Mayo Clinic  
 Luc Gagnon  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Nexelis  
 Shelly Krebs, Gregory Gromowski  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR)  
 Stephen J. Russell, Rianna Vandergaast  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Imanis Life Sciences  
 Kai Wu  
 Pseudo Virus  
 Moderna  
 Mike Holbrook  
 Pseudo Virus  
 NIH  
 Linfa (Lin-Fa) WANG  
 Pseudo Virus / Live Virus (TBD)  
 Duke University  
 Rafael Delgado  
 Pseudo Virus  
 University Hospital, Spain  
 Emanuele Montomoli  
 Pseudo Virus / Live Virus & ELISA (TBD)  
 VisMederi, Italy  
 Ivo Ploemen  
 Pseudo Virus / Live Virus & ELISA (TBD)  
 Viroclinics, The Netherlands  
 Giada Mattiuzzo  
 Pseudo Virus / Live Virus & ELISA (TBD)  
 NIBSC, UK  
 Guruprasad Medigeschi  
 Pseudo Virus / Live Virus & ELISA (TBD)  
 Translational Health Science and Technology Institute, India  
 Wendy Barclay  
 Pseudo Virus / Live Virus (TBD)  
 Imperial College London  
 Le Sun  
 Pseudo Virus / Live Virus (TBD)  
 China  
 Jay Rappaport  
 Pseudo Virus / Live Virus (TBD)  
 Tulane University  
 Florian Krammer  
 Pseudo Virus / Live Virus (TBD)  
 Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai  
 Tom Rogers  
 Pseudo Virus / Live Virus (TBD)  
 Scripps Research  
 Vincent Munster  
 Pseudo Virus / Live Virus (TBD)  
 Rocky Mountain Labs  
  
 Other Assays  
 Georgia Tomaras  
 Binding Ab Assay

Duke University  
Guido Ferrari  
ADCC  
Duke University  
Nicole Doria-Rose, John Mascola  
Binding Ab Assay  
Vaccine Research Center  
Adrian McDermott, Britta Flach  
ACE2 inhibition assay  
Vaccine Immunology Program at Vaccine Research Center (VIP-VRC)  
Melicia Gainey, Christopher Cirimotich and Jennifer Garver  
ELISA Spike  
Battelle Memorial Institute  
John Dye  
ELISA Spike  
USAMRIID  
Luc Gagnon  
ELISA Spike & RDB  
Nexelis  
Landon Westfall, Fusatake Koide  
ELISA Spike  
Southern Research Institute  
Shelly Krebs, Greg Gromowski  
Single ELISA & Multiplex Luminex  
Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR)  
Dan Ewing  
ELISA  
Navy Medical Research Center

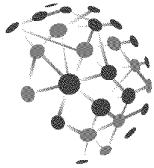
#### Agenda

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# R&D Blueprint

Powering research  
to prevent epidemics

## Notes from Teleconference of the R&D Blueprint GCM

January 10, 2020

Friday 14:00-15:00 GVA time

### Pneumonia of unknown etiology in Wuhan China

#### agenda items

#### 1. WHO Overview of emerging data on disease epidemiology

- 59 cases of pneumonia listed as unknown etiology, 7 listed as severe. Now know Chinese have identified as a novel coronavirus, which we understand they have confirmed by PCR testing and whole genome sequencing.
- Limited clinical picture. Symptom onset from 12-29 December. All known cases are linked to live fish market in Wuhan that also sells other animals. No reported health care worker infection. No reported human-to-human transmission, which is surprising given suspected cause of novel corona virus.
- Market was closed on December 1
- 153 known close contacts being monitored. This is lower than would be expected given cause and expected respiratory transmission
- WHO has requested more information on epidemiological situation but also ongoing investigations
- No known international spread, but many countries in the region have activated protocols to monitor pneumonia patients of unknown etiology who have recently been to china. Difficult to confirm without
- Currently potential zoonotic spill over event but very concerned about potential international spread.
- WHO developing guidance for member states
- Understand there have been investigations from the market where samples have been tested from animals, but do not know methodology or details.
- Know there may be other investigations ongoing in China

#### Questions:

David \_\_\_\_ (BMGF) Who are you communicating with in China? Heard Hu Jing Jiao (Sp?) from Chinese Academy of Engineering is leading. Also would like to offer use of BMGF grantee open data sharing platform

- WHO Communicating with WHO Country office who is in touch with the national focal point and working through formal channels. This has been raised as high as the DG within WHO, who is currently on the phone with China. Many requests for information.

#### Priority questions:

- Any information on human to human transmission
- Sequence information and PCR primers. Understand the coronavirus has been sequenced and there are PCR primers developed. These need to be shared asap.

How many cases have there been in the last two weeks since the close of the Market Dec. 1?

- Last report WHO received from China was from Dec 5 and that had the last case's symptom onset as Dec 29, so do not know if there have been any confirmed cases with symptom onset after market was closed.
- Jeremy: Summarizing on animal side, do not have a confirmed vector or confirmation that the corona virus has been found or sequenced from animals

Jeremy Ferrar (Wellcome Trust) Encourage all GCM members who may have additional information through formal or informal channels to please share that with Ana Maria Henao Restrepo and WHO.

Hilary Marston, NIAID: Who in China is doing the sequencing? Appreciate WHO's emphasis on sequence sharing. What our researchers are emphasizing is the critical need for sequence data. Ready to develop and work on animal models and other research, but need sequences to start.

- WHO: We understand it is China CDC, although we know there is also a very competent BSL3/4 lab in Wuhan.
2. Overview of research priorities and a collaborative process to offer support -if requested- to the national authorities in China and elsewhere.

Ana Maria Henao Restrepo: Have received many offers and suggestions and bilateral discussions are ongoing about research priorities. We just had a call with members of the SAG and now have GCM. Discussed 4 points

- Diagnostics: outlined importance of reliable and standardized process for diagnostics. Also need for understanding of epidemiology. Need protocols and standardization of data collection. Suggestion of a generic protocol for diagnostics development and data collection. Vasee Moorthy from R&D Blueprint team and Marion Koopmans and Cathy Roth from SAG were going to work on this.
- Therapeutics: WHO working on review of all current therapeutics available for coronavirus, including those in china and make this available
  - Also a review of which therapeutics could be advanced rapidly
  - With R&D Blueprint did a generic protocol for coronavirus/MERS therapeutics and want to see how this might be applied or adapted
- Vaccines Similarly, want to look at candidate vaccines. There was an invitation from CEPI, which has some of the candidates, but want to have a full list of vaccine candidates including those available in China.
- Data Sharing and Sample Sharing: Two points discussed. One was proposal of a standardized approach to data collection. Second was that WHO should promote data sharing, sequence sharing, but wanted to have a secondary conversation with some of you to discuss how to do this in a way that is satisfactory to all parties.

Peter Horby: Question: Ana Maria, other aspects of clinical features like clinical epi, natural epi, pathogenesis...I know this is not typically captured by Blueprint, but is this being captured elsewhere in WHO,

- Yes, being led by Janet Diaz. Key is developing optimized supportive care protocol and this work has begun.
- Peter: In terms of data standardization, we have had some conversations informally with contacts in China and shared some standardized data collection tools. Also shared some protocols for establishing risk (protocols on sero-epi etc. for HCWs), which we understand are being used to some extent. Miracle study protocol has also been shared.

Jeremy: We tried very hard to get someone from China on the call, but it was not authorized. We encourage others with contacts in China to please share any additional information you may have

Marie Paul Kieny: How much sequence data has been shared by the Chinese?

- So far the sequence has not been shared by the Chinese, but this is a top WHO priority being handled directly by WHO DG

Richard Hatchett CEPI: CEPI will have a call of CEPI SAG immediately after this call. We

invited WHO to call. CEPI taking an alert, forward leaning posture. Doing outreach to CEPI vaccine manufacturers working on coronavirus to start some exploratory conversations on what might be possible if it is needed/asked for.

- CEPI stands ready if WHO and colleagues require to support enabling work for development of vaccines and potentially also diagnostics including development of reference materials.
- CEPI understands WHO set up a site for standardized, open information flow during Zika and encourage a similar approach for this.

Ana Maria: Yes understand there are a number of vaccine candidates and also understand there are some candidates in China. What we are doing now is asking for partners to share what information they have and we will analyse and make it available.

Rita Helfand: Once you have sequencing, CDC stands ready to help with all elements of diagnostics development similar to what we do with flu.

- Ana Maria: Thank you, we are doing work on generic protocol for diagnostics development and would welcome CDC's input into this work

GloPID-R: China not a GloPID member but some of the neighbouring countries are. We are holding a call soon and will share any information that becomes available.

Institute Pasteur: Have reached out to colleagues in Shanghai, China, have not heard response, but will communicate anything we learn.

Jeremy: If all the key groups who have mentioned that they plan to have calls to share information in your networks, can plan to share summaries of those calls to share information with Ana Maria and WHO.

- Although information flow may not be as good as would like out of China, recognize that if there is spread to other countries, we may have additional opportunities for sharing information through our networks of partners.
- Mechanisms for coordination/collaboration in terms of international research

Ana Maria: Propose regular (potentially weekly) calls to keep partners updated.

- Two: please share any information you hear through your networks with WHO
- Three: plan to share summary of SAG call that just completed
- Four: Please consider any ways you may be able to support WHO and also China. Purpose of GCM calls is to think of ways we can better work together and so welcome suggestions and offers of resources.

### 3. Next steps including considerations of potential spread scenarios vis a vis research priorities

Ana Maria: Best approach for China is to engage with them and not seem as if we are trying to tell them what they should do. We plan to share summaries of this GCM call as well as the SAG call. Also plan to reach out to GCM members individually to discuss ways they may be able to assist or contribute.

Jeremy Ferrar: plan to set up additional GCM calls going forward in January, will follow up with schedule. Think this is a very effective mechanism for sharing information, whether GCM members or their colleagues are able to join, we would welcome that.

- We wish there was more information being shared, but we believe that maximum pressure is being applied to encourage sharing of information. Encourage partners

## P4 Lab is Open and Transparent, Officials Emphasize

3. (SBU) The Wuhan P4 lab, referring to labs with the highest level of safety precautions, became fully operational and began working with live viruses early this year. Institute officials said they believed it is the only operational P4 lab in Asia aside from a U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC)-supported facility in Pune, India (Ref C). China plans to stand up a second P4 lab in Harbin. Institute officials said Japan's biosafety labs are "old" and lack cutting-edge equipment, so they consider Japan's labs to be "P3 Plus" (Note: the Japanese government says it has one P4-level lab in the Tokyo suburbs, though its activities are limited, and Japan is building a new P4 lab in Nagasaki, see Ref D. Taiwan operates at least [HYPERLINK](#) "<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5404250/>" one P4 lab. South Korea was close to [HYPERLINK](#) "<http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20170316000902>" opening a P4 lab as of last year, see Ref E. End Note.) Wuhan's lab is located about 20 miles from the city center in Zhengdian district, and the institute plans to gradually consolidate its other training, classroom and lab facilities at that location.

4. (U) officials described the lab as a "regional node" in the global biosafety system and said it would play an emergency response role in an epidemic or pandemic. The lab's English brochure highlighted a national security role, saying that it "is an effective measure to improve China's availability in safeguarding national bio-safety if [a] possible biological warfare or terrorist attack happens."

5. (SBU) Institute officials said there would be "limited availability" for international and domestic scientists who had gone through the necessary approval process to do research at the lab. They stressed that the lab aimed to be a "worldwide, open platform" for virology. They said they welcomed U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) experts, noting that the Chinese Academy of Sciences was not strong on human disease expertise, having only focused on it in the last 15 years, after the SARS outbreak. A Wuhan-based French consulate official who works on science and technology cooperation with China also emphasized that the lab, which was initiated in 2004 as a France-China joint project, was meant to be "open and transparent" to the global scientific community. "The intent was to set up a lab to international standards, and open to international research," he said. French experts have provided guidance and biosafety training to the lab, which will continue, the French official said. Institute officials said that France provided the lab's design and much of its technology, but that it is entirely China-funded and has been completely China-run since a "handover" ceremony in 2016.

6. (U) In addition to French assistance, experts from the NIH-supported P4 lab at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston have trained Wuhan lab technicians in lab management and maintenance, institute officials said. The Wuhan institute plans to invite scientists from the Galveston lab to do research in Wuhan's lab. One Wuhan Institute of Virology researcher trained for two years at the Galveston lab, and the institute also sent one scientist to U.S. CDC headquarters in Atlanta for six months' work on influenza.

## NIH-Supported Research Revises SARS Origin Story

7. (U) NIH was a major funder, along with the Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC), of SARS research by the Wuhan Institute of Virology's Shi Zhengli and Cui Jie. The researchers spent five

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**From:** Mair, Michael [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=F4511BDAD7564D7FAC7EADC7961467AB-MICHAEL.MAI]  
**Sent:** 4/20/2018 12:35:23 PM  
**To:** Valdez, Mary Lou [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=80d9c6b02db946618f69aa301d484a7c-MaryLou.Val]; Blair, Joan W. (CBER) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8cc3d088be164491a76b9ce048d71a02-BLAIR]; Marks, Peter [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=dfbb2b5bd38445cb9c9adca3f72df53a-MarksP]; Hinton, Denise [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=85fec0be0694803be6030e97c7b4adb-HINTOND]  
**Subject:** RE: MCB Cables for HHS U.S 19Apr18

Lou – Hi and thx for sending. Do you happen to have ‘Ref A’ referred to in the cable on China Virus Institute? We (in collaboration w/other partners) offer a course every year in achieving data quality and integrity in BSL4 labs e (this year’s course runs next week). Might provide an additional opportunity bilateral cooperation...maybe worth discussing...?

---

**From:** Valdez, Mary Lou  
**Sent:** Friday, April 20, 2018 8:10 AM  
**To:** Blair, Joan W. (CBER) <Joan.Blair@fda.hhs.gov>; Mair, Michael <Michael.Mair@fda.hhs.gov>; Marks, Peter <Peter.Marks@fda.hhs.gov>; Hinton, Denise <Denise.Hinton@fda.hhs.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: MCB Cables for HHS U.S 19Apr18

Thought both of these cables would be of general interest to you. Thanks, Lou

**Lou Valdez**  
**Associate Commissioner for International Programs**  
**Office of International Programs**  
**U.S. Food and Drug Administration**  
**Office: 301 794 8400**  
**Direct:** (b) (6)  
**Mobile:** [REDACTED]

---

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**Sent:** Thursday, April 19, 2018 11:59 PM  
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#### China Virus Institute Welcomes More U.S. Cooperation on Global Health Security

(SBU) Summary with Comment: China's Wuhan Institute of Virology, a global leader in virus research, is a key partner for the United States in protecting global health security. Its role as operator of the just-launched Biosafety Level 4 (or "P4") lab -- the first such lab in China -- opens up even more opportunities for expert exchange, especially in light of the lab's shortage of trained staff (Ref A). Given the legacy of