BILL& MELINDA GATES foundation

LOST IN TRANSLATION: DATA AS THE COMPASS TO SUCCESS

Dr. Trevor Mundel, President, Global Health

Sanosan Hitvan Gino

© Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

THE PROBLEM

We have a vast portfolio of ideas and proto-solutions.

Linking the ecosystem of partners with the tools and platforms necessary to accelerate impact is central to our efforts going forward.





THE FUNDAMENTAL CHALLENGE

HOW TO ALLOCATE RESOURCES TO PROGRESSING THE PORTFOLIO IN A MANNER THAT MAXIMIZES SPEED AND FINDS THE HIGHEST VALUE OPPORTUNITIES (MINUS RISK OF LATE FAILURE).



SAFEGUARDING GENE DRIVE EXPERIMENTS IN THE LABORATORY



The spread of RNA-guided gene drive systems. Unlike the population dynamics of normal genomic alterations, gene drive systems can spread changes through wild populations by converting heterozygotes into homozygotes in each generation.

BIOSAFETY

Safeguarding gene drive experiments in the laboratory

Multiple stringent confinement strategies should be used whenever possible

By Omar S. Akbari^{1,0}, Hugo J. Bellen^{1,4}, Ethan Bier^{1,4}, Simon L. Bullock⁴, Austin Burt⁷ George M. Church^{1,0}, Kevin R. Cook¹⁰, Peter Duchek¹⁰, Owain R. Edward¹⁰ Ezvelt^{4,4}, Valentino M. Gantz⁴, Kent G. Golle¹⁰, Scott J. Gratz¹⁰, Melissa N Keith R. Hayes", Anthony A. James", Thomas C. Kaufman", Juergen R Harmit S. Malik^{14,10}, Kathy A. Matthews¹⁰, Kate M. O'Connor-Giles^{14,10} Norbert Perrimon^{4,0}, Fillip Port⁴, Steven Rassell⁴⁰, Ryu Ueda^{40,10}, Jill W

dental release.

safety recomm

Secarate

Due a lat

chue foi

ene drive systems promote the spread | fore used institution of genetic elements through populations by assuring they are inherited nore often than Mendelian segregation would predict (see the figure). Natural examples of gene drive from Drosophila include sex-ratio meiotic drive, segregation distortion, and replicative transposition. Synthetic drive systems based on selective embryonic lethality or homing endonucleases have been described previously in Drosophila mela-POLICY negaster (J-3), but they are difficult to build or are limited to transgenic populations. In contrast, RNAguided gene drives based on the CRISPR/ Cas9 nuclease can, in principle, be constructed by any laboratory capable of making transgenic organisms (4). They have tremendous potential to address global problems in health, agriculture, and conservation, but their capacity to alter wild populations Multiple stringent conf outside the laboratory demands caution (4-7). Just as research-TYPE ers working with self-propagating pathogens must ensure that these Molecular agents do not escape to the outside world, scientists working in the laboratory with gene drive constructs are responsible for keeping Ecological them confined (4, 6, 7). Two of us recently used a CRISPR/Cas9-based gene drive system to generate a Drosophila strain homorygous for a loss-offunction mutation [the mutagenic chain reaction (6)] (see the figure). Even though D. melanogaster ordinarily poses no threat to human health or agriculture, the accidental release of flies carrying gene drive constructs from the laboratory

could have unpredictable ecological consequences. This study there-SCIENCE wirnermag.org

research involving potential gene drive systems while formal national guidelines are developed. Although we cannot claim to represent all researchers, we share a commitment to the safe and responsible development of gene drive technology. Although we differ in our assessments of the types of precaution needed, we recognize that any single confinement strategy could fail. We therefore unanimously recommend that future studies use a combination of stringent confinement strategies (see the table) whenever possible and always use



5

PROOF OF CONCEPT: TB HOST DIRECTED THERAPY

Shorten treatment and minimize lung damage by increasing autophagy and decreasing inflammation.

- First set of interventions: vitamin D, CC-11050, everolimus, and auranofin
- HDT will be added for 4 months to standard therapy in DS TB patients, and compared to standard therapy alone
- Goal of the trial
 - Establish safety
 - Indications of mechanistic effect, plausibility of efficacy
- Variety of endpoints
 - Traditional bacteriological
 - PET/CT Lung Imaging
 - Lung function
 - Biochemical assays based on mechanism
 - Biomarkers of response



PROOF OF CONCEPT: PET/CT SCANNING IN TB PATIENTS

Scanning in TB patients show heterogeneous response within the lung.



PET IMAGINE COULD PROVIDE AN EARLY SIGNAL OF EFFICACY IN HOST DIRECTED THERAPY



THE HUMAN CHALLENGE: MALARIA

- Volunteers inoculated with ~1,800 viable Plasmodium falciparum-infected human erythrocytes
- Daily qPCR
- After approx 6 days parasite levels reach 1000 p/ml
- Start treatment
- F/U until 28 days
- Human model decreases risk and improve decisions
- Response in sub-clinical infection reflects clinical reality





THE HUMAN CHALLENGE: MALARIA





0

HEALTHY BIRTH, GROWTH, AND DEVELOPMENT

The WASH Benefits study will measure the impact of water, sanitation, hand washing and nutritional interventions during the first 2 years of life in rural Bangladesh and Kenya.

- Trials will include 7 arms:
 - Water quality
 - Sanitation
 - Handwashing
 - Water quality + sanitation + handwashing
 - Nutrition
 - Nutrition + water quality + sanitation + handwashing
 - Double-sized control arm



TRANSLATION: LARGE-SCALE DYNAMIC MODELING OF DISEASES



SUCCESS IN TRANSLATION



THE WORK IS COMPLICATED. WHY WE DO IT IS NOT

TRANSLATION EXAMPLE: WOLBACHIA

- Naturally occurring bacteria
- Lives inside insect cells
- Occurs naturally in up to 60% of all insect species
- Transmitted from parent to offspring through the insect's eggs
- Not naturally found in Aedes aegypti mosquito
- Cannot be transmitted to warm-blooded animals
- Safe for humans, animals and the environment

60%	
INSECT SPECIES HAVE WOLBACHIA	





CRITERIA	MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE	wMEL Candidate
Inhibition of viral transmission	>50% reduction in virus prevalence in saliva	60-75% for DEN 1-4
Invasiveness	Short term release(s): >95% invasiveness	\checkmark
Sustainability	90%+ sustained invasion	>90% in 7 sites; on track in 5 sites
Maternal transmission	≥95%	100%
Cytoplasmic incompatibility	≥95%	100%
Fitness cost	Overall fitness cost < 30%	15-25%
Wolbachia density	Higher in critical tissues (e.g., salivary glands)	\checkmark
Effect on other arboviruses	No transmission enhancement of other pathogens	No enhancement
Modelling predictions	Local elimination	Local elimination

CHALLENGE MODEL EXAMPLE: DENGUE HUMAN CHALLENGE

Model Characteristics

- Based on an avirulent natural isolate
- Repurposed 'hot' vaccine candidate
- Healthy volunteers
- Primary endpoint viraemia NOT disease model safe
- Characterized by rash similar to natural infection
- 20-40% neutropenia
- Reproducible attack rate (100%) allowing well powered studies



Dengue Rash



Uses

- Vaccine efficacy
 - e.g. NIH candidate (TV0003) tested in small CHIM EM (N=21 and 20 controls)
 - 100% protection from viraemia & neutropenia
- Correlates of vaccine protection
 - Correlates in TV0003 to be assessed (but high levels of protection may prevent)
- Correlate of natural immunity
 - Assess mechanism of natural immunity v.s. vaccine induced

Limitations

Over-attenuation?

Future Directions

- Additional strains
- Development of disease model?
- Test Dengue bNAb for reverse vaccinology?

CHALLENGE MODEL EXAMPLE: CRYPTOSPORIDIUM



THE PROBLEM: WE HAVE A VAST PORTFOLIO OF IDEAS AND PROTO-SOLUTIONS



CHALLENGE MODEL APPROACH



CHALLENGE MODEL EXAMPLE: CONTROLLED HUMAN INFECTIONS MODELS (CHIM) FOR ENTERIC VACCINES



CONTROLLED HUMAN INFECTIONS MODELS (CHIMS) FOR ENTERIC VACCINES

Valuable for:Pathogens where we have no Correlates of Protection

- Early down-selection of candidates
- Host immune response when coupled with microarrays



EXAMPLE # 1PHASE 2B CSSBA TRIAL (CY18-19)

EDD from Evan

 Rationale: Efficacy of prototype CS6 vaccine well-defined human challenge model Design: randomized, double-blind, placebo-co Challenge strain: B7A (CS6, CS21, LT,STh,STp,O148:H28) Objectives Primary: Efficacy against mod-sev diarrheat Secondary: safety and immunogenicity Site: JHU CIR 	ontrolled	 Pending issues/questions Dose/route/adjuvant to be determined from phase 1 trial B7A dose/fasting regimen defined from currently funded (DoD/PATH) efforts Establish acceptable placebo response to B7A challenge a priori as a precursor to efficacy analysis Identify sponsor 		
 Sample size 56 (28 vaccine, 28 placebo) days 0 7 21 28 	42 49 I I	69 62 70 77 98 180 365		
Vaccinate				
Serum 🔺 💧		challenge		
PBMCs				

EXAMPLE #2 STUDY DESIGN AND PRIMARY EFFICACY HYPOTHESIS FOR ACE527 PHASE 2B TRIAL

EDD from Evan



Primary Efficacy Hypothesis: The incidence of severe diarrhea will be lower in the ACE527 alone or ACE527 + dmLT recipients compared to unvaccinated controls.

Vaccine Dose: 10¹⁰ cfu of reconstituted lyophilized formulation (~3x10⁹ of each strain).

INVENTORY / GAP ASSESSMENT

EDD from Evan

Model	Strain	Shigella whole cell (WC Lead)	DB Fusion ⁶ (Sub Unit Backup)	GMMA ¹	Truncated whole cell	WRSS1 (Live Att)	CVD1208S ³
S. flexneri 2a CHIM from Karen K at CVD	2457 strain Frozen seed est., dose has been determined ⁹	Use current model ⁴	Use current model		Use current model		no
S. flexneri 4a ⁷ <u>CHIM from Karen K</u> <u>at CVD</u> S. flexneri 6 ⁸	Plate grown organism, dose to be determined				Would need sf6		no
S. Sonnei 53G <u>CHIM from Bob @</u> <u>CCHMC Lyo</u>	-53G Plate grown -53G Lyo (proposed) ⁹	Would benefit from a Iyo 53G ⁵	Would benefit from a lyo 53G	Would benefit from a lyo 53G	Would benefit from lyo 53G to show cross strain p rotection	no ²	
 GMMA project funding will hinge on P1 data provided in May. The GSK POC will be sonnei, but we really don't have a BMGF PoC until a flex CM. That would be late 2017 WRSS-1 is a live attenuated candidate with nominal BMGF preclinical funding. Other funders would carry if forward to challenge in 2019+ CVD1208S is not in the EVI portfolio <u>The Lead Candidate TSWC is in a program design that requires it to work first on flex 2a before progressing</u> <u>A Challenge model using Sf2a and sonnei is planned in 2016</u> This model can predict whether cross protection exists in man, but is not essential to current vaccine development. Sf6 does not cross react with other strains, so will be used to test protection against itself. Dose finding completed outside EVI3 See note from Malbi in the protes section below. S 						Most useful Somewhat useful useful Neutral Not useful	

CHALLENGE MODELS NEEDED FOR SHIGELLA VACCINE CANDIDATES IN BMGF PORTFOLIO

See note from Malbi in the notes section below.. S 9.

INVENTORY / GAP ASSESSMENT

CHALLENGE MODELS NEEDED FOR **ETEC** VACCINE CANDIDATES IN BMGF PORTFOLIO

EDD from Evan

Model (Strain)	СНІМ	Information Provided by Model	ETVAX ¹ (WC Lead Product)	FTA (SubUnit Candidate)	ST ⁵ (Bolt on)	dmLT	
H10407 (CFA/1, LT,ST)	Pre-existing standard	Protection; role of dmLT, establish whether CS6 is a protective antigen	Would provide false positive protection results ²	Applicable, but B7A has more utility for POC against CS6 component		We have ACE527 +/- dmLT data but haven't parsed out the adjuvanticity vs antigen effect	
E24377A^{3 (}L TST, CS1+CS3)	Development of strain already granted EVI3 = \$	Protection; contribution of anti-CS3 to protection,	Would establish protection against CS3 ETEC strain				
B7A ⁴ (ST,LT,CS6) - <u>Plate grown</u> refinement funded in EVI3 - <u>Lyo Prep</u> proposed in CHIM (EVI) <u>From Dick</u> @EVI	Development of strain and challenge regimen already granted EVI3 = \$ Plate grown CHIM proposal (Lyo B7A)= \$	Protection with novel antigen; novel route of immunization; <i>contribution</i> of CS6 to protection	Would establish protection against CS6 ETEC strain	Future (unfunded) FTA plans would rely on B7A as the strain to establish that CS6 is a protective ETEC antigen and show value of CssbA component of FTA vaccine following active vaccination ⁶		Has LTsame problem as above	
ST TW10590 & TW10681 From Wilbur Chen at CVD	EVI3 with DfiD \$ CHIM Proposal from Chen CVD = \$	First demonstration of Contribution of Strain-ST to protection, which could lead to its inclusion in many vaccines	Not applicable until point at which ETVAX and ST would be combined	Applicable, but B7A has will likely become our POC study	Would be essential to prove ST offers protection	This ST only challenge would tell us if dmLT is stimulating a mucosal response when given peripherally.	
 E24377A will be used to challenge volunteers vaccinated with ETVAX only as well as ETVAX combined with TSWC. This will establish that the anti CS3 immunity is not compromised in combination. EVI would like to make sure of protection against key antigens, particularly CS6, if they don't show up in the travelers study. A study with CS6 (B7A CM) would also offer the best model to show the value of the dmLT adjuvant in the vaccine. H10407 shares O78 antigen with ETVAX, so it will not be suitable for ETVAX challenge study E24377A does not share O antigen with ETVAX, thus will be essential when doing a combination challenge or challenge alone in ETVAX studies Could help determine the extent to which CS6 is a protective antigen and needs to be included in future ETEC vaccine formulations such as ETVAX. ST would need a CM if it passes a P1 Study in 2018. If it was to be bolted on to ETVAX for instance, a CM would be needed. For FTA, initial model refinement followed by passive protection studies using cows milk will be conducted with plate grown organisms (this work starts in 3Q2015) The active vaccination and challenge work will be done at a later time, and the lyophilized material should be available at that point. 							