

# Evaluación del riesgo de nuevas infecciones emergentes

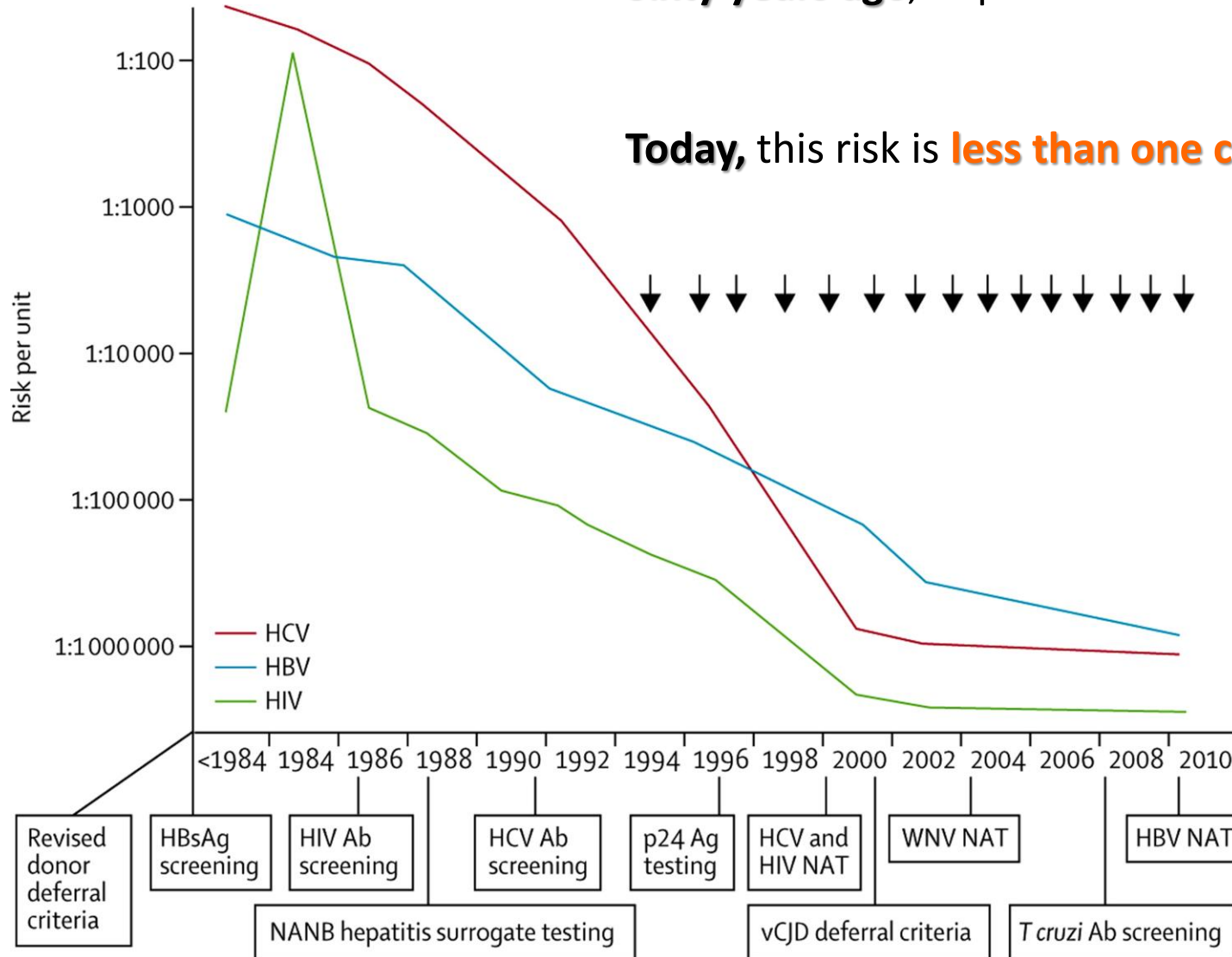
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**Sixty years ago**, hepatitis was a common outcome of blood transfusion!

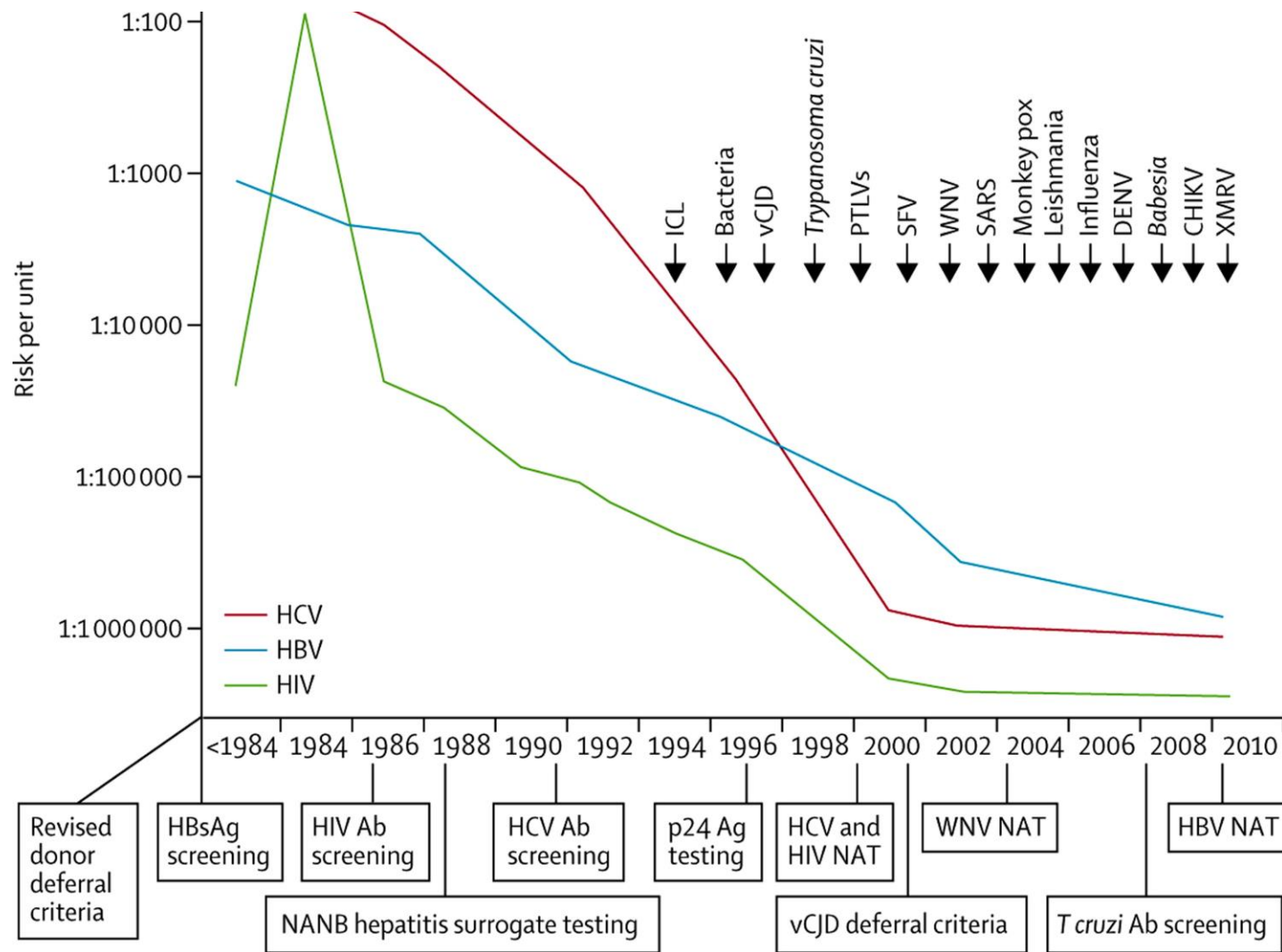
**Today**, this risk is **less than one case per million transfusions**.



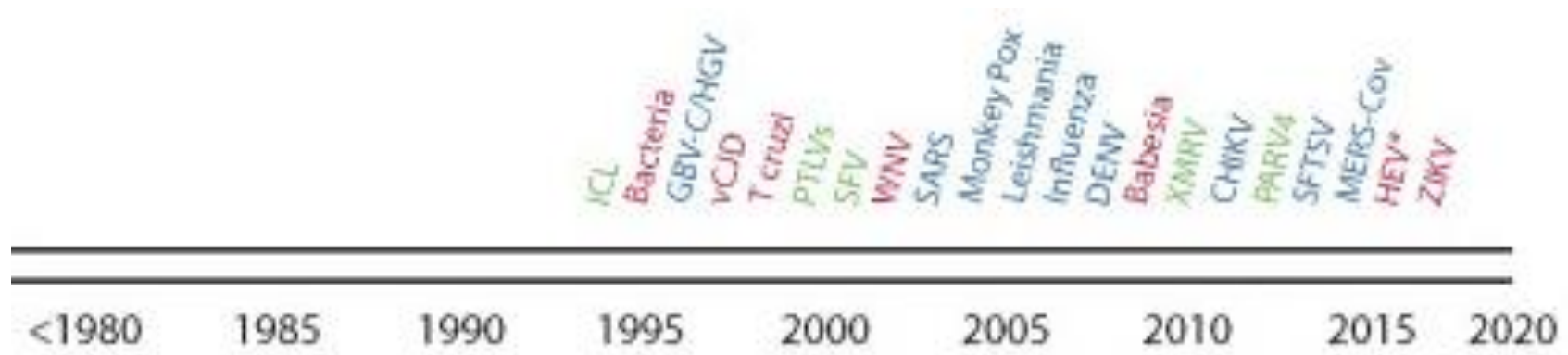
This is the result of continuous efforts to reduce or eliminate the risk through:

- **rigorous donor selection criteria,**
- **more sensitive laboratory testing,**
- and most recently, the introduction of **pathogen inactivation,**
- along with extraordinary advances in molecular biology.

In the last 20 - 30 years, the frequency of **EID outbreaks** has increased:



and experts predict that  
this will continue...



Over this period, for each new emergent agent, the risk to transfusion safety has been analyzed and addressed.

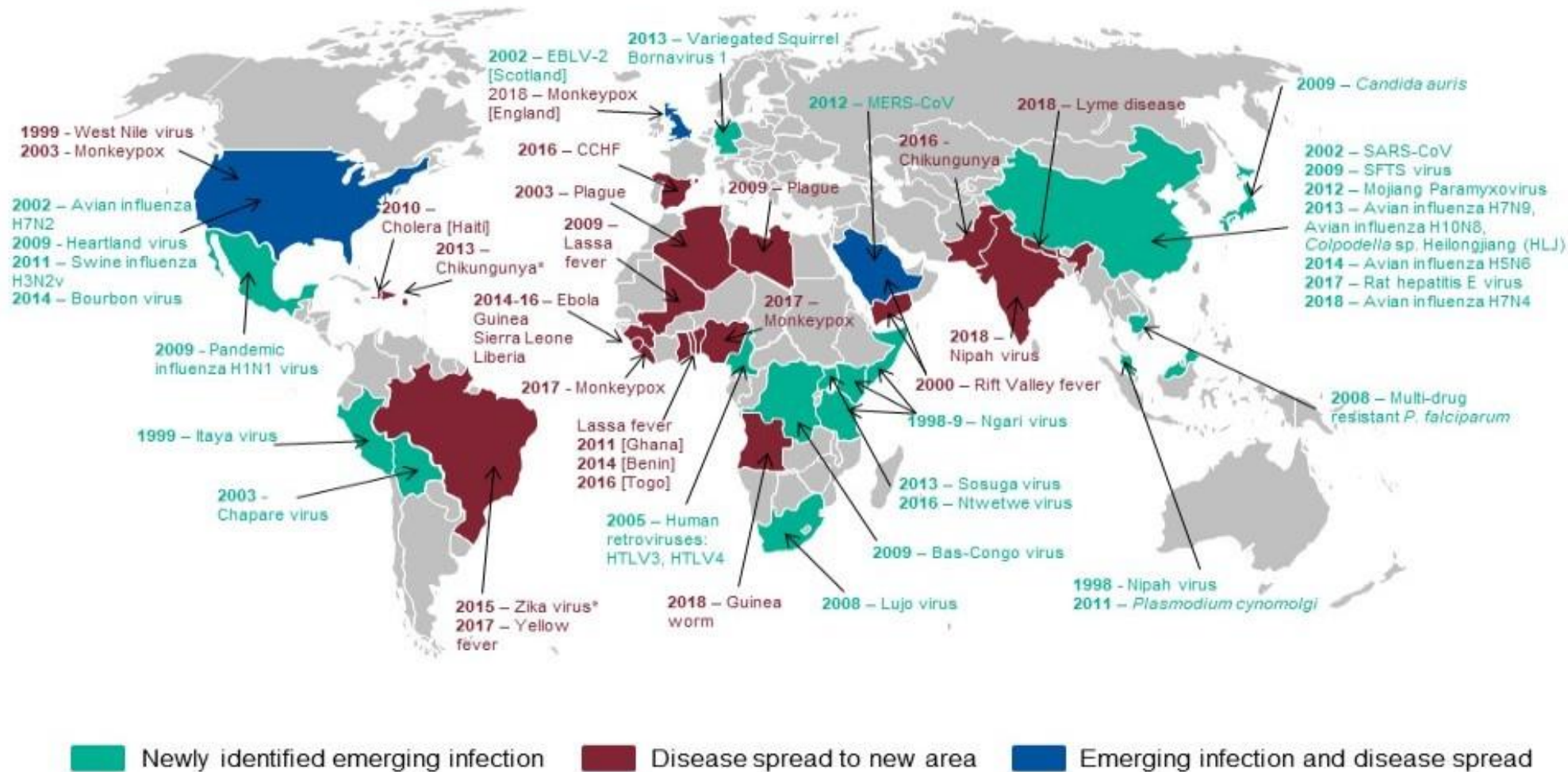
- But, in many cases, the time between recognition and resolution of the risk was a matter of years.

Nowadays, this time has been significantly decreased, largely due to advances in science and molecular biology, providing:

1. the **agent of a novel disease can now be identified in hours;**
2. and **high throughput tests for DNA / RNA can be designed and implemented in months.**



# Global map of significant and new emerging infections in humans: spread to new areas since 1998



\*Incursion followed by regional spread

**Is the agent present and transfusion-transmissible?**

# EID TRANSFUSION-TRANSMISSIBLE CRITERIA:

1. Able to establish **infection in humans** and spread within populations;
2. Presence of the **agent in blood** during the **donor's asymptomatic phase**;
3. The **agent's survival / persistence** in blood during processing and **storage**;
4. Transmissible by the intravenous route;
5. The agent must be **recognized as responsible** for a clinically apparent disease in at least a proportional of recipients.

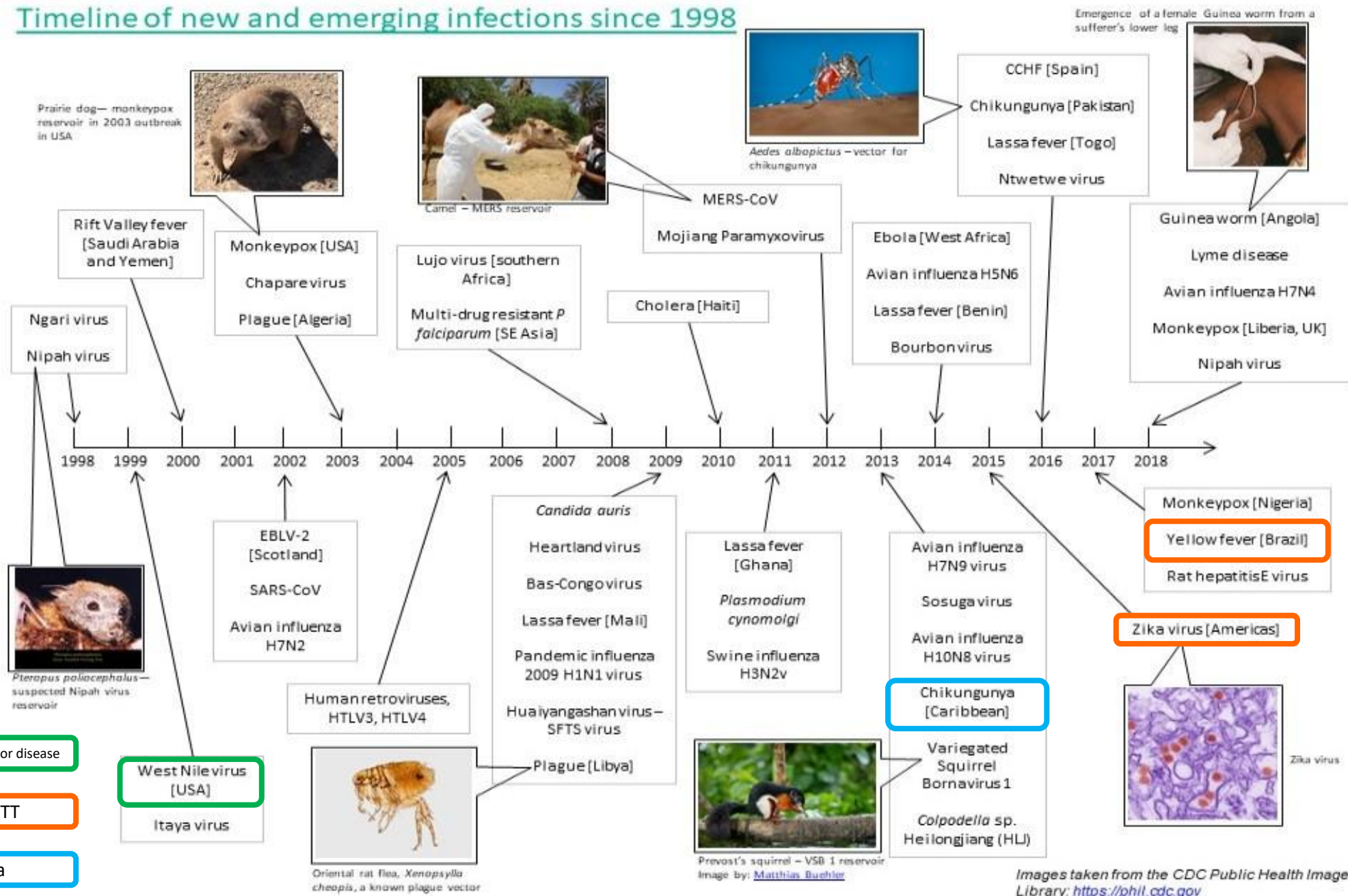
Transfusion Medicine Reviews 2017; 31: 154-164

Transfusion 2009; 49(Suppl. 2): 1S-29S

ISBT Sci Ser 2014; 9: 30-36

BMJ 2014; 348: g1499

# Timeline of new and emerging infections since 1998



- Viremia; TT; receptor disease
- Viremia; TT
- Viremia

- Dengue
- Hepatitis E virus
- Japanese encephalitis
- Babesia
- Plasmodium

Images taken from the CDC Public Health Image Library: <https://phill.cdc.gov>

- More recently, the **COVID-19 pandemic** illustrated the alarming speed with which an infection can spread.
  - There was little time to prepare and there were considerable difficulties in managing the blood supply,
  - even though **the agent has not been shown to be transmissible by transfusion**, even considering that viral RNA can be identified in blood.

- Currently, there is a **widespread outbreak of monkeypox**, classified as a public health emergency by the WHO, on July 23, 2022.
  - By early August 2022, the disease was present in 82 countries with over 30,000 confirmed cases.
  - **The agent is potentially transfusion transmissible since viral DNA can be recovered from blood** and spread throughout the body undoubtedly occurs via the blood route.
  - **And the Blood Establishments are considering the necessity and nature of interventions.**

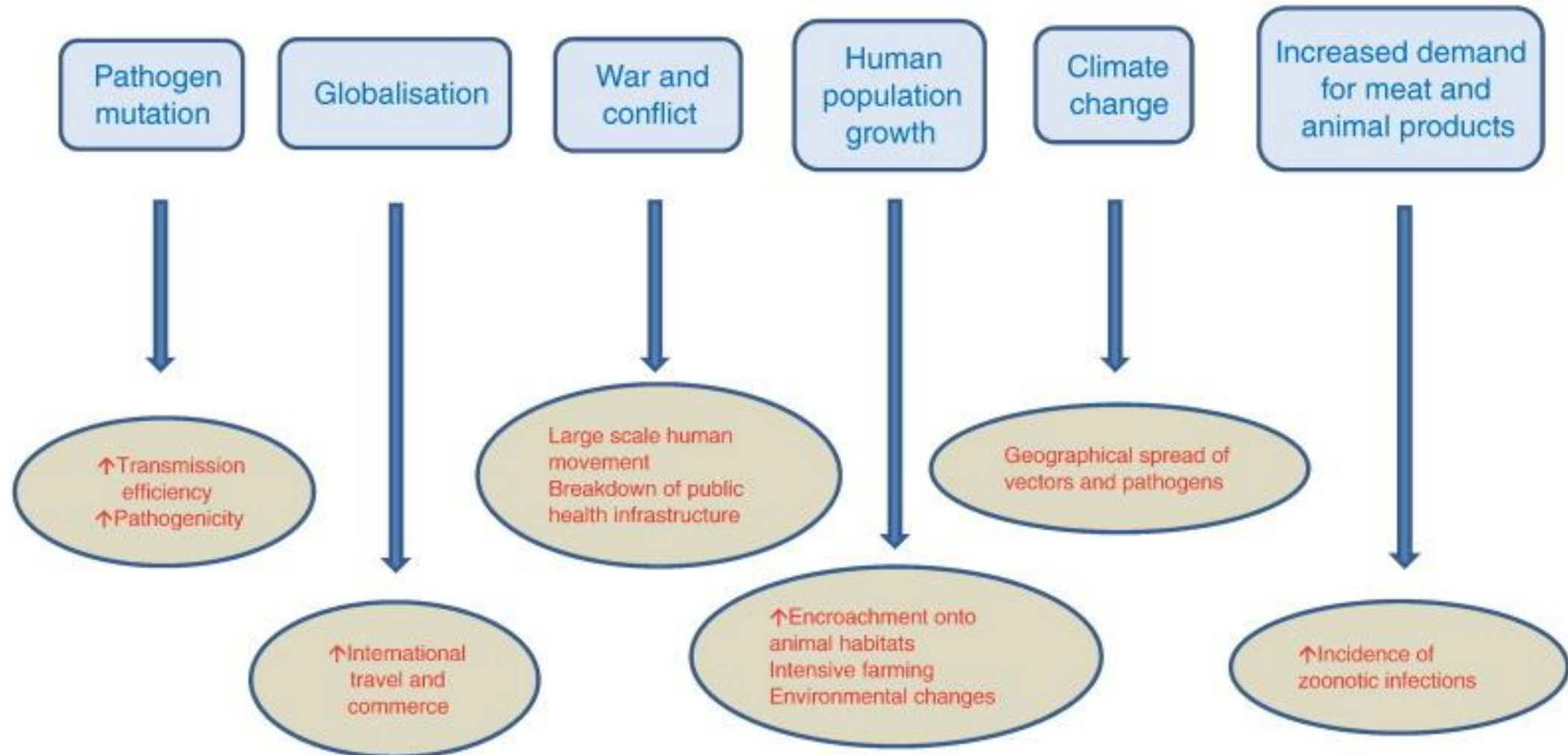


# WHY WE CAN EXPECT MORE EID OUTBREAKS

- globalization and environmental change;
- demographic drivers;
- changes in the patterns of human behavior, social organization, urbanization, agriculture & animal husbandry;
- public health system drivers.



**Once an agent has crossed the species barrier to humans, subsequent transmission may be enhanced by a number of factors, predominately related to human activity:**



**Although new emerging and re-emerging infections may not be truly predictable, there may be circumstances that can suggest a need to prepare for adverse impacts on blood safety.**

- Perhaps most promising are efforts to **assess the impact of climate change on vector-borne infections**, generally focused on the **likely expansion of areas with specific vectors for known agents**,
  - as is the case for *Aedes spp.* mosquitoes and selected flaviviruses,
  - and *Anopheles spp.* mosquitoes and the malaria parasite.

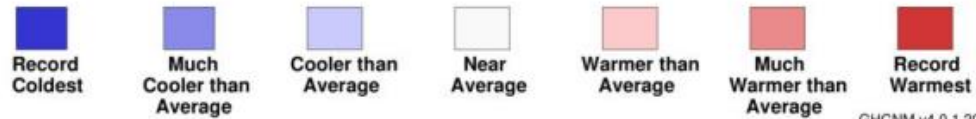
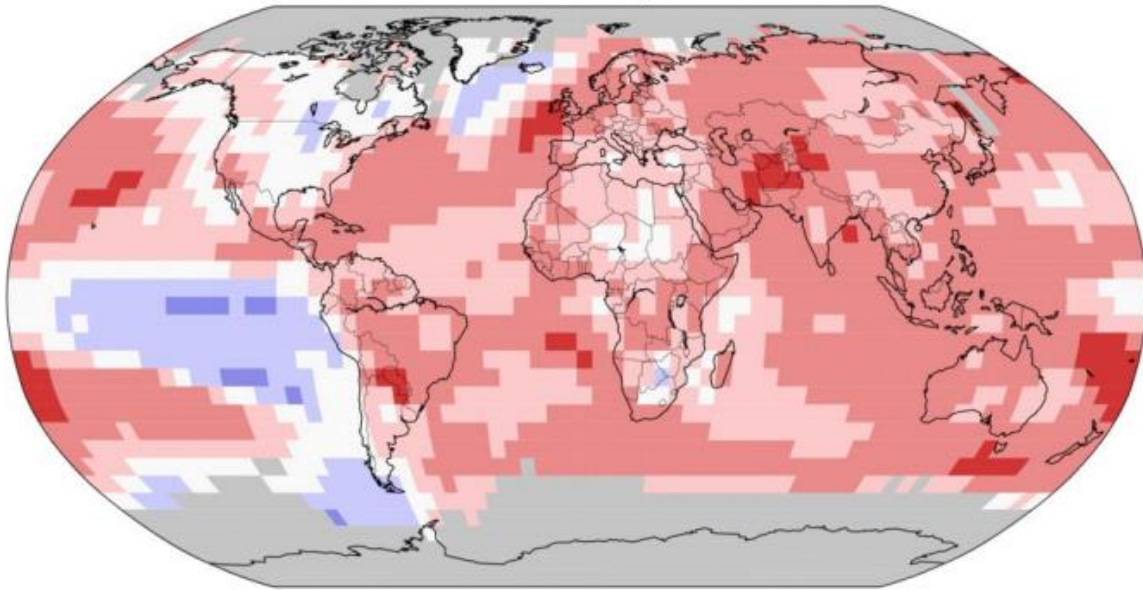
**However, such approaches do not necessarily define when, or if there will be an outbreak, but do suggest a need for enhanced surveillance.**



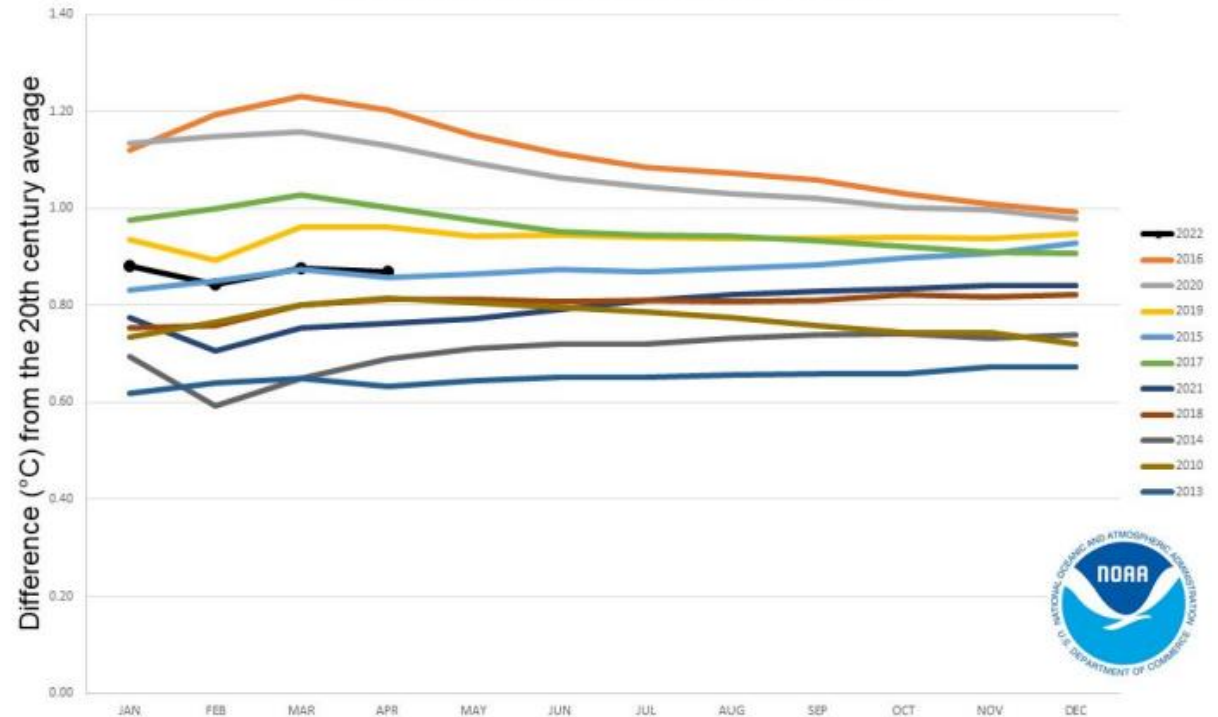


# The global temperature record dates back to 1880 (143 years)

Land & Ocean Temperature Percentiles Jan–Apr 2022  
NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information  
Data Source: NOAAGlobalTemp v5.0.0–20220508



Year-to-date Global Temperatures  
for 2022 and the ten warmest years on record

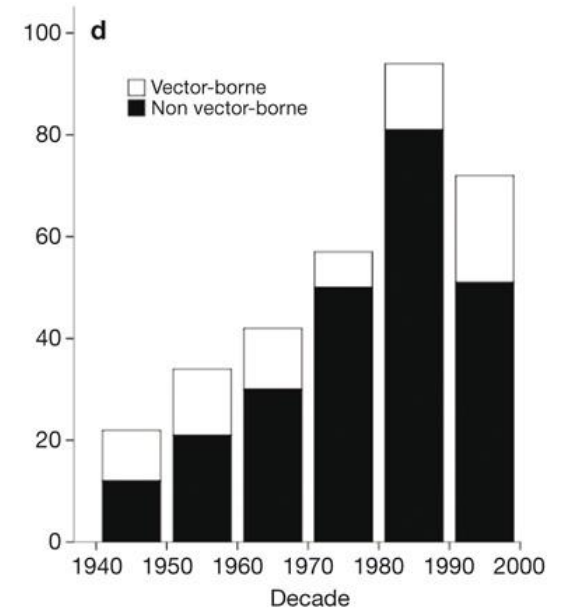
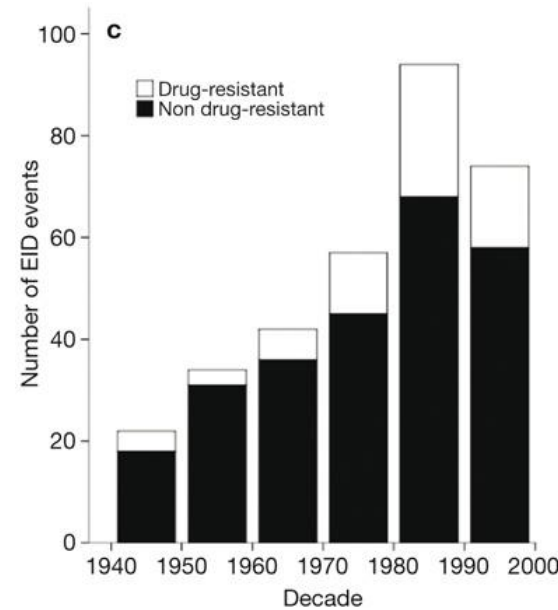
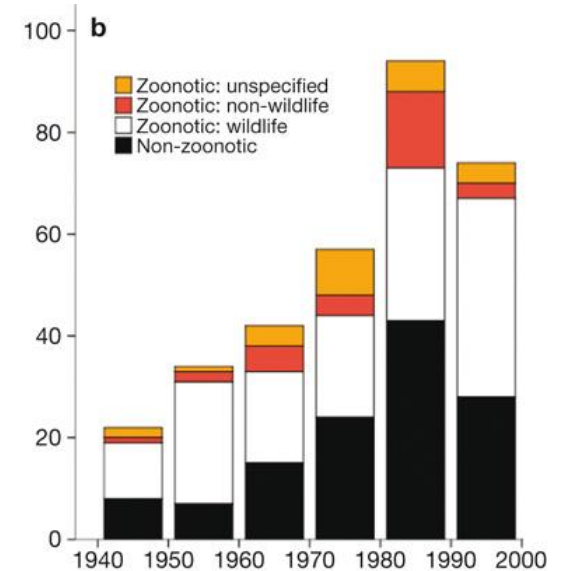
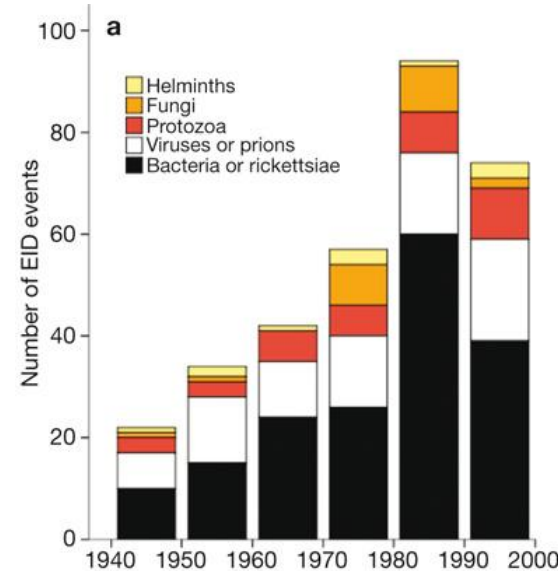


- **Global Land & Ocean: +0.87°C / +1.57°F**, the fifth-highest for Jan-Apr period on record.



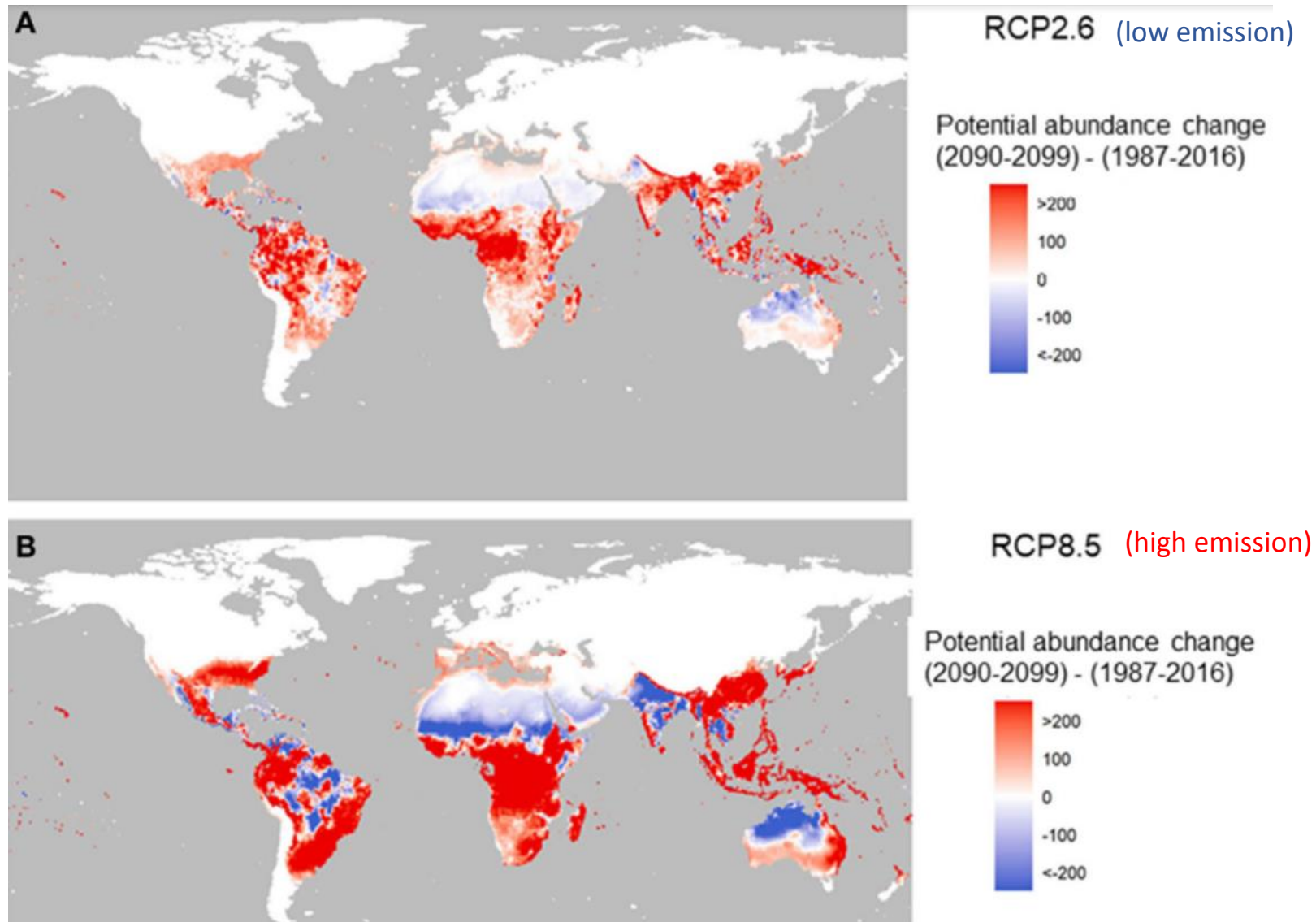
## Climate change – possible mechanism of acting on zoonotic and vector borne diseases (60-70% of the EID)

- Changes in the prevalence of pathogen in the host or vector population
- Changes in the pathogen load:
  - changes in the rates of pathogen reproduction, replication, or development in hosts or vectors
- Increased contacts of infected animal hosts and vectors with humans or with other hosts and vectors



# Change in the potential abundance of *A. aegypti* (per larval site) over the twenty-first century

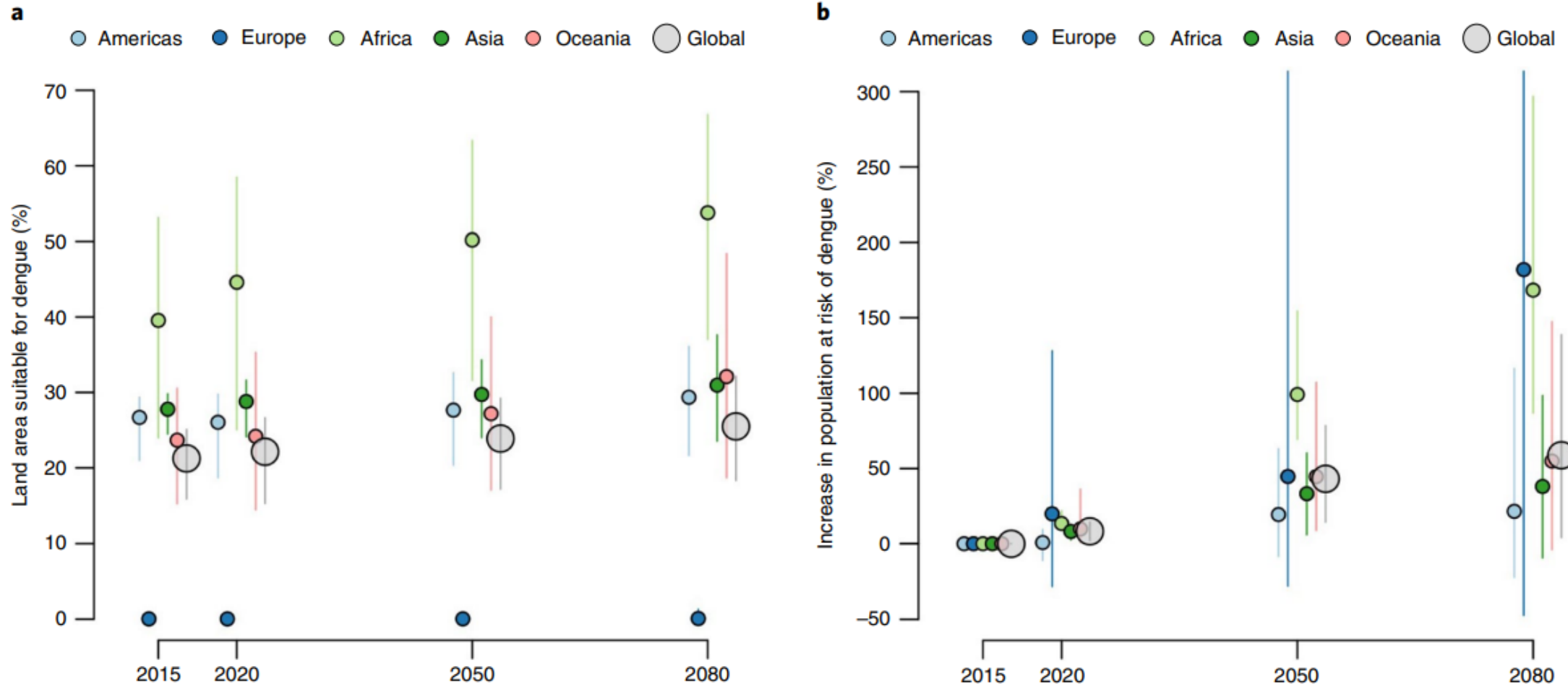
(2090–2099 relative to 1987–2016). The two panels correspond to two carbon emission scenarios: RCP2.6 (a) and RCP8.5 (b).



# Projected changes in the risk of dengue occurrence.

There are predicted changes in the land area (a) and population (b) at risk of dengue in the future.

Mean and 95% credible intervals are shown for each ensemble.



In this scenario, with the explosive outbreaks of arboviruses, a high rate of asymptomatic subjects and with a short-term viremia...

It's important to :

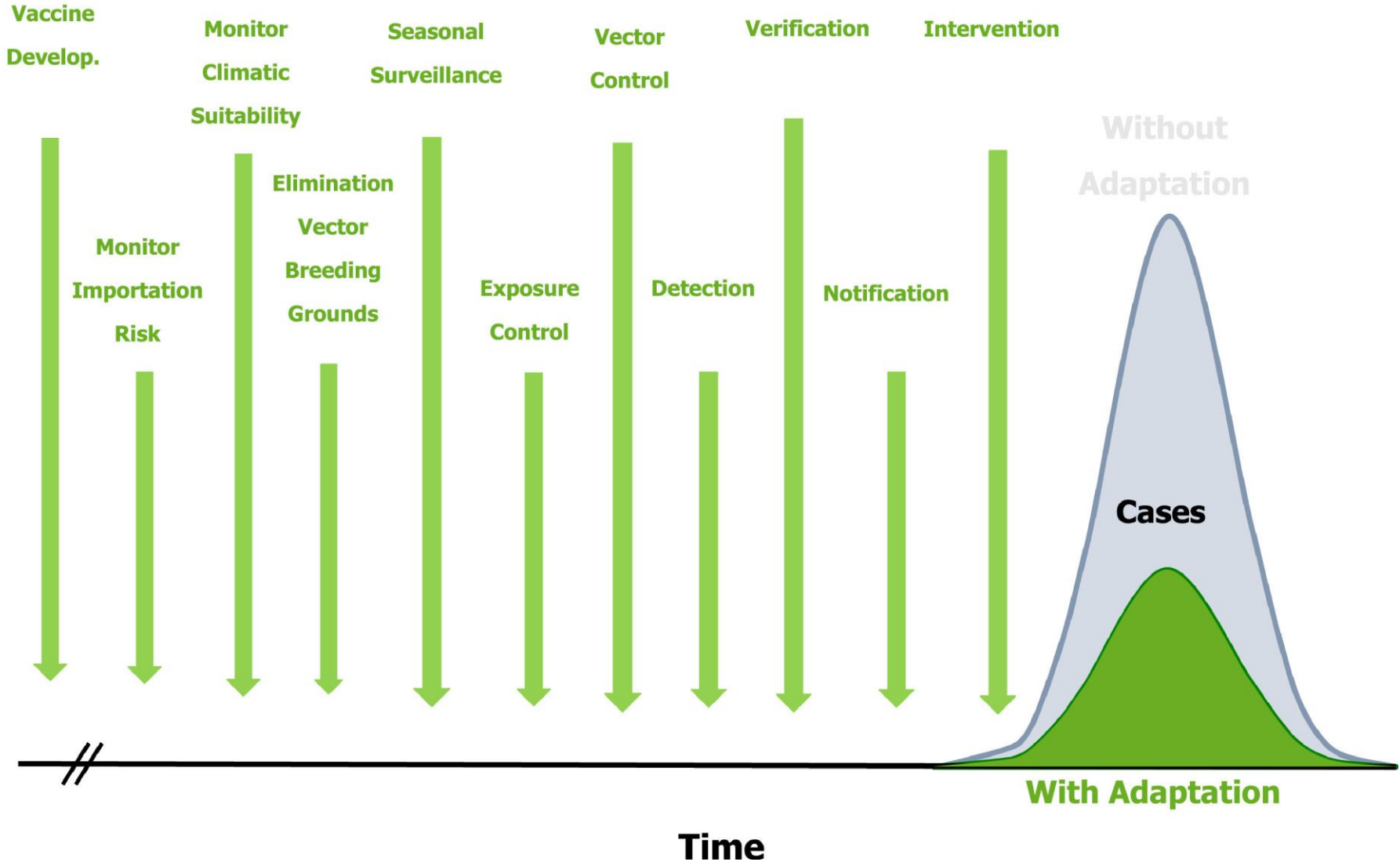
- I. Discuss the **epidemiological surveillance strategies** to **identify emerging infectious diseases** that might threaten blood safety worldwide;
  - There have been suggestions that blood donations should be **routinely tested for selected agents**, but this seems impractical and there is not yet an effective way to choose the target agents.
  
- II. Describe **mitigation strategies** based on mathematical modelling to **ensure blood safety**;
  - **Broad blood donor screening may not be sufficiently timely** to prevent the early spread of a transfusion-transmissible agent.





# Climate change adaptation options for vector-borne diseases in Europe. Note: Time scale is relative.

Source: Adapted from: Semenza JC. Cascading risks of waterborne diseases from climate change. *Nature Immunol* 2020;**21(5)**:484-487.



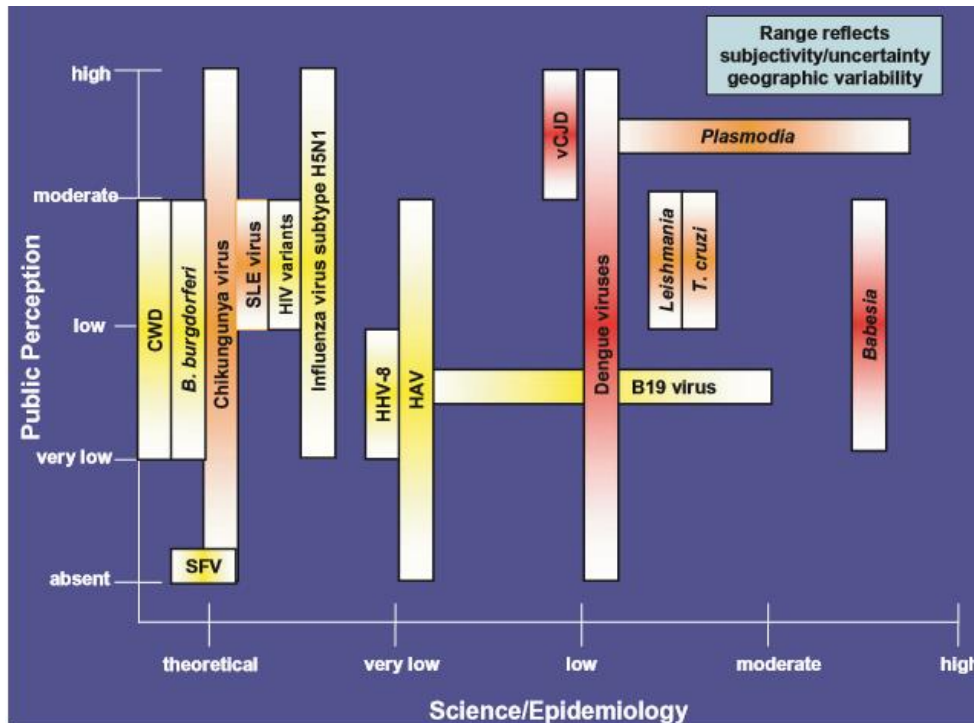
# Predicting the emergence of a novel human pathogen is inherently challenging.

**There is no established proactive approach to projecting the impact of EIDs on blood safety and availability.**

- The AABB has generated some tools, including a listing of agents potentially transmissible by transfusion, but this process is based upon voluntary, unsystematic activities.

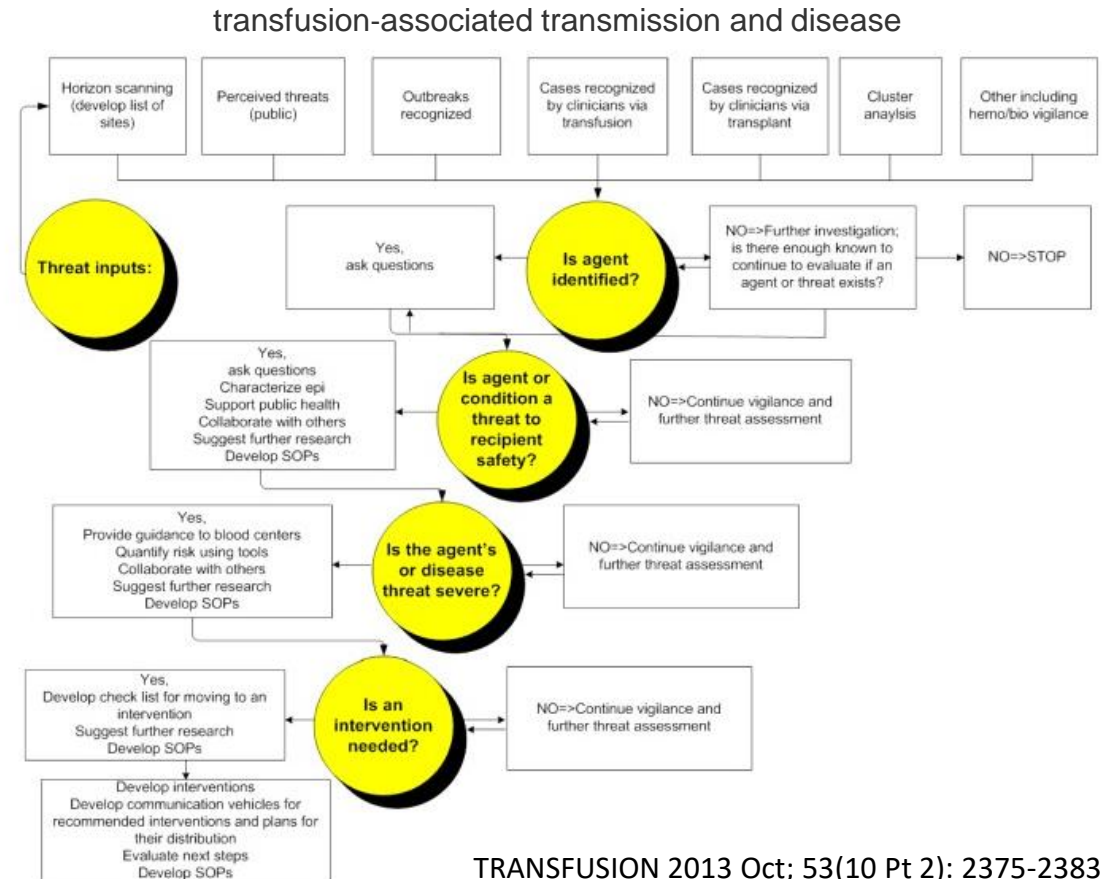
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Emerging infectious disease agents and their potential threat to transfusion safety



doi: 10.1111/j.1537-2995.2009.02279.x TRANSFUSION 2009;49:1S-29S.

Outline of AABB EID subgroup's toolkit including the framework for recognition, assessment, and management of EID agents for risk of transfusion-associated transmission and disease



TRANSFUSION 2013 Oct; 53(10 Pt 2): 2375-2383.

To ensure the early identification of a new EID with risk for TT

**Are there consistent patterns to potential TT-EIDs?**

Traditional Disease/Agent ↓ Emerging Infectious Disease/Agent

Patterns of key characteristics of transfusion-transmissible EID agents.

Disease Agent Attribute	Syphilis	HBV	HCV	HIV	HTLV	SARS	HHV-8	CMV	Malaria	Chagas	Leishmania	Babesia	HEV	DENV	WNV	vCJD	SFV	HAV	Parvovirus
Viral agent		■	■	■	■	■	■	■					■	■	■		■	■	■
Chronic, persistent infection	■	■	■	■			■		■	■	■	■				■	■		■
Detectable in plasma		■	■	■									■	■	■	■		■	■
Transmitted sexually	■		■		■		■												■
High incidence/transmission in MSM	■	■	■	■			■											■	■
High incidence/transmission in IDU		■	■	■	■		■											■	
Vector-borne									■	■	■	■		■	■				

# The Major Transfusion-Relevant Viruses and EID Agents: What are the Differences?

○ While the **major transfusion-relevant viruses** are transmitted human-to-human **without vectors or host reservoirs** and have an endemic **worldwide distribution**,

○ a number of **EID agents** known to be transfusion-transmissible, including DENV, WNV, Plasmodium spp. and T. cruzi, are primarily **vector-borne** and have a defined **geographical distribution**.

Traditional  
Disease/Agent

Emerging Infectious Disease/Agent

Disease Agent Attribute	Syphilis	HBV	HCV	HIV	HTLV	SARS	HHV-8	CMV	Malaria	Chagas	Leishmania	Babesia	HEV	DENV	WNV	VCD	SFV	HAV	Parvovirus
Viral agent		█	█	█	█	█	█	█					█	█	█		█	█	█
Chronic, persistent infection	█	█	█	█			█		█	█	█	█				█	█		█
Detectable in plasma		█	█	█									█	█	█	█		█	█
Transmitted sexually	█		█		█	█													█
High incidence/transmission in MSM	█	█		█		█												█	█
High incidence/transmission in IDU		█	█	█	█	█												█	
Vector-borne									█	█	█	█	█	█	█				



## The Major Transfusion-Relevant Viruses and EID Agents: What are the Differences?

- While the major transfusion-relevant viruses are transmitted human-to-human without vectors or host reservoirs and have an endemic worldwide distribution,
- a number of EID agents known to be transfusion-transmissible, including DENV, WNV, Plasmodium spp. and T. cruzi, are primarily vector-borne and have a defined geographical distribution.
- Due to the focus on the major transfusion-relevant viruses in the 1980s and 1990s, sensitive and specific assays for **universal donor screening** have been developed and implemented in most countries, and
- **TT risks can be estimated by risk models.**
- In contrast, donor screening is not possible for most EID agents as suitable assays have only been **developed and approved for a limited number of agents** (WNV, T. cruzi, HAV, human parvovirus B19, DENV and Plasmodium spp).
- Even when a suitable assay is available for an EID agent, **universal donor screening is not always implemented** as it may not be mandated or not feasible due to inadequate resources.

# Transfusion-Transmission Risk Modeling

- Estimating TT risk is well established using models based on **two key parameters**:
  - the **incidence of infection** in the donor population (which is known due to universal donor screening) and
  - the **infectious window period** (the period during which an acutely infected donor may be infectious but not detectable by the screening assay).
- However, modeling based on **incident window period methodology is not applicable to EID agents** for which **donor screening has not been implemented** as the **incidence of infection in the donor population is not known** and an assay window period is not applicable.
- Therefore, **alternative risk models** have been developed which included estimating the EID incidence in the blood donor population based on the **observable (i.e. reported) incidence in the general population**.

## The Biggerstaff-Petersen Model:

To estimate the risk of collecting an infectious donation from an asymptotically infected donor during the period of observation

$$\text{Average risk} = \frac{D_{\text{asym}}}{T} * R * I_p$$

$D_{\text{asym}}$  is the mean duration of asymptomatic viraemia,

$T$  is the period of observation,

$R$  is the ratio of total infections/reported cases and

$I_p$  is the population incidence of reported (ie, symptomatic) infections

In 1999, the BP model used the reported incidence of **WNV neurologic disease** → to derive an **estimate of the incidence of asymptomatic infection in the general population** which was used → to **estimate the proportion of donors who were asymptomatic and viraemic** → which in turn was interpreted as the **TT risk**.

## The European Up-Front Risk Assessment Tool

### (EUFRAF): The Risk of Transmitting Infection

- The first step estimates the **risk of a donor being infectious at the time of donation** which is assumed to be proportional to the prevalence of infection in the general population.
- The second step estimates the **number of donations derived from infectious donors** and incorporates the prevalence of infection in the donor population (from step 1), the mean donation frequency and the probability that an infected donor will be interdicted by a predonation assessment procedure.
- The third step estimates the number of infected donations released for processing into blood components and **infected end products** based on pathogen removal or inactivation due to the blood processing procedures and, if implemented, the effectiveness of donor screening and pathogen reduction technology.
- The final step is an estimate of the **risk of recipients becoming infected** following transfusion which will depend on the **TT efficiency of the agent** and the proportion of **recipients who are immune** to the agent.

Applications of the Biggerstaff-Petersen model for estimating transfusion-transmission risk

Pathogen	Country (date of outbreak)	Formula/resampling <sup>1</sup>
Chikungunya virus (CHIKV)	La Reunion Island (2005–2007)	Formula
Dengue virus (DENV)	Australia (2004)	Formula
Dengue virus (DENV)	Australia (2008–2009)	Formula
Chikungunya virus (CHIKV)	Italy (2007)	Resampling
Hepatitis A virus (HAV)	Latvia (2008)	Formula
Chikungunya virus (CHIKV)	Thailand (2009)	Formula
Ross River virus (RRV)	Australia (2004)	Formula
Ross River virus (RRV)	Australia (2013–14)	Formula

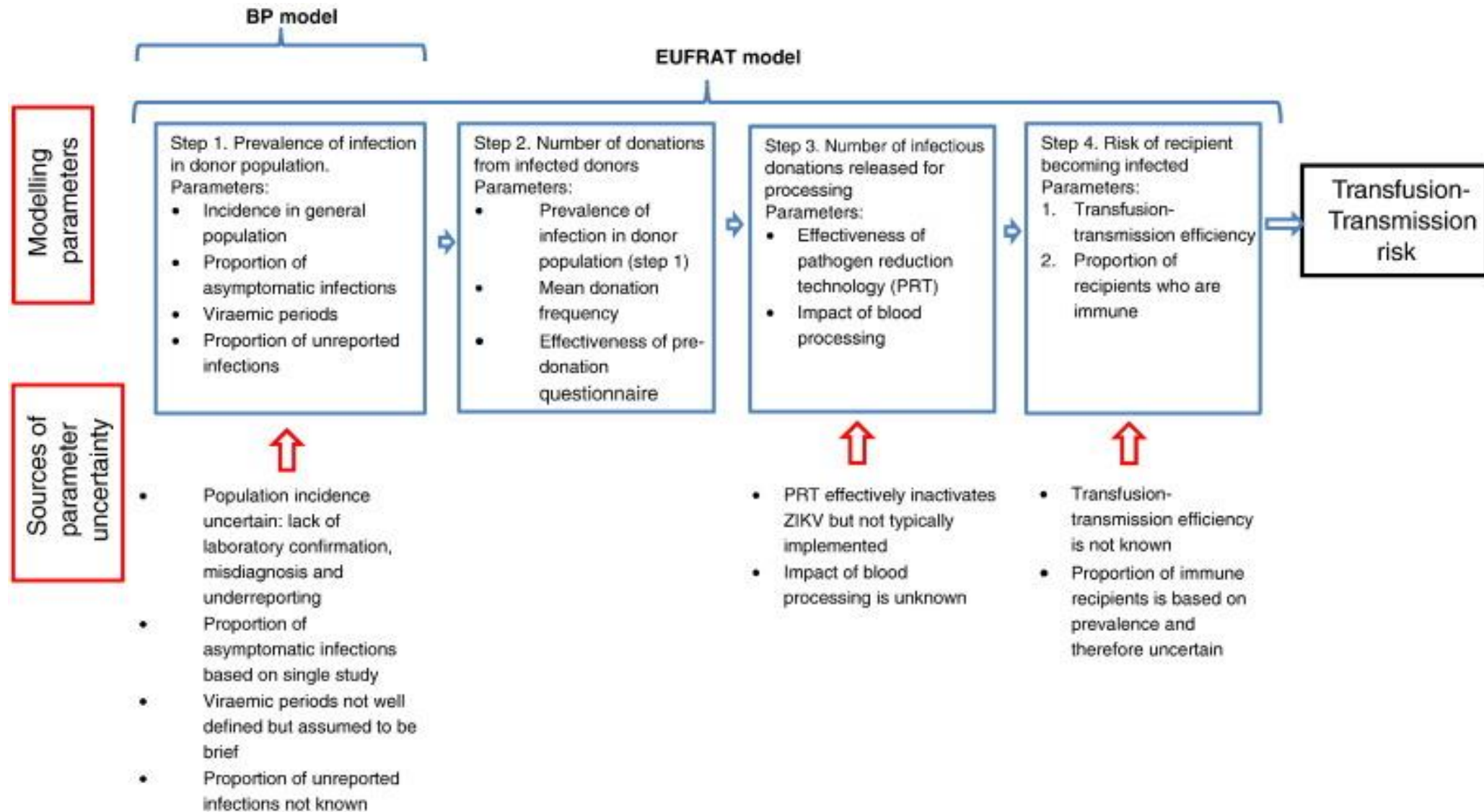
1. Refer to text for details.

Applications of the EUFRAT model

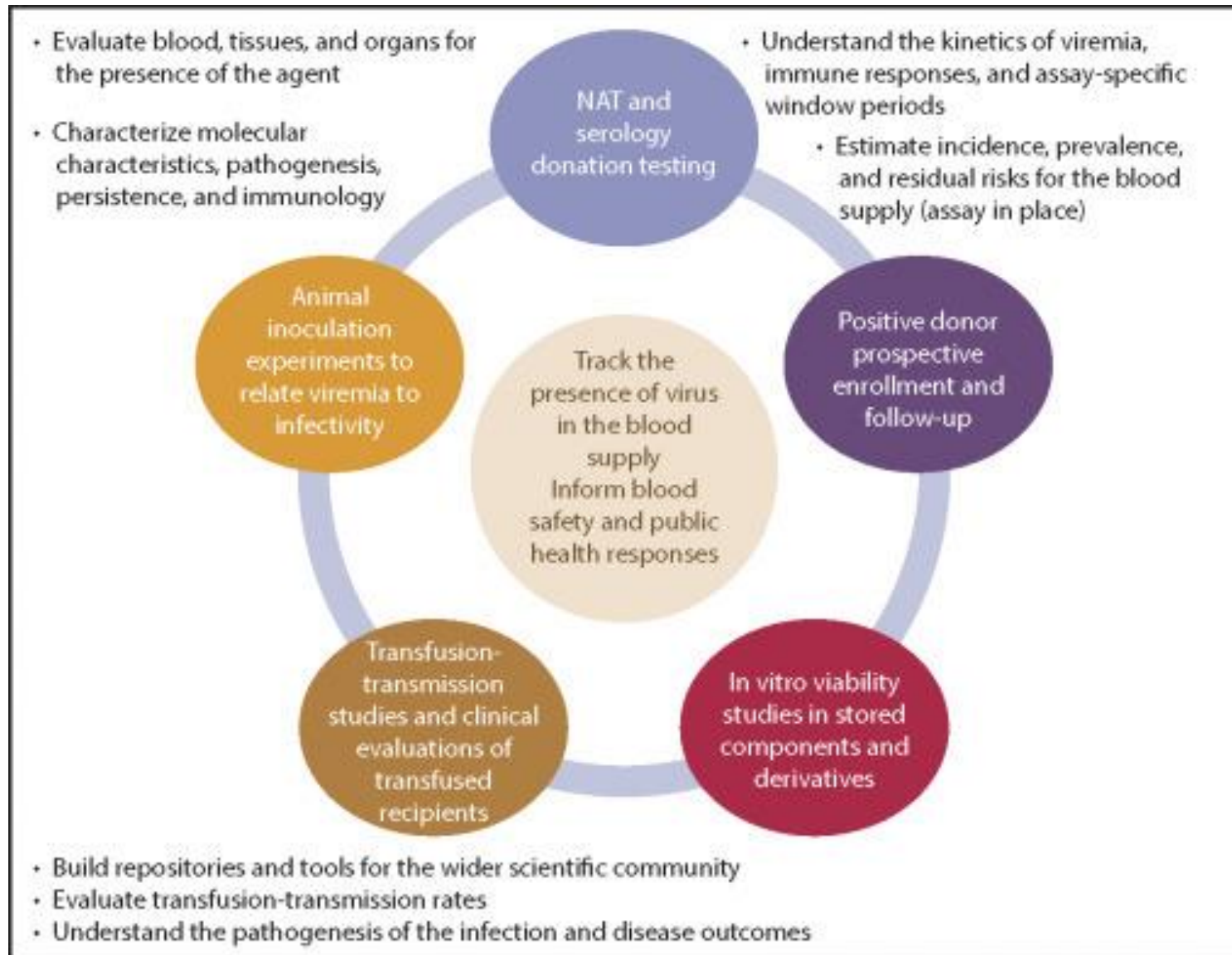
Pathogen	Country (date of outbreak)
Chikungunya virus (CHIKV)	Italy (2007)
Dengue virus (DENV)	Dutch donors returning from Suriname and Dutch Caribbean (2011–11)
Chikungunya virus (CHIKV), <i>Coxiella burnetti</i> (Q fever)	Italy (2007), Netherlands (2007–09)
<i>Coxiella burnetti</i> (Q fever)	Netherlands (2007–09)
Ross River virus (RRV)	Australia (2013–14)



# ZIKV risk modeling parameters and sources of uncertainty



**Modeling the TT risk of EID agents can be an important part of decisions regarding when risk mitigation strategies should be implemented and which strategies are the most appropriate.**



## Conclusion

- If the expert consensus is correct then **EID outbreaks will continue to occur** during the course of the 21st century and pose an ongoing challenge for maintaining the safety of the blood supply.
- So that **health authorities are able to anticipate and respond quickly to EID outbreaks and potential threats to blood safety**, intense ongoing surveillance, epidemiological modeling and risk assessments are essential.

### Testing is central to the response to EIDs...

- **Proactive detection of EID agents** is necessary to understand their potential threat to blood safety before substantial numbers of recipients are exposed.
- Further, there is a need to integrate new tests into current algorithms with a view to reduce redundancy in donor screening (**multiplexed technologies and rapid high-volume sequencing**).

### Additionally, pathogen reduction !

- A reasonable expectation is that pathogen reduction will continue for platelets and plasma and expand to red cells and/or whole blood, so that the availability of pathogen-reduced blood and blood components will be the norm and will greatly simplify the currently overly complex processes of donor qualification and testing.

*“Obviously, while infectious agents will continue to emerge, we do not know what future transfusion needs will be required, and we do not even know how stable the blood supply will be.*

*Nevertheless, our current understanding of blood safety is good by experience with many diverse disease agents; we appear to be well-equipped to maintain and continue to improve the current levels of safety in cost-effective and efficient ways.”*





Data Analytics can be key to **propose associations** that could help make better health care decisions or **identify and predict patterns and trends** that were previously unknown and inform **future studies and interventions**.



**Gracias por la atención!**

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