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Splash the cash – counting the spend on infectious disease research before and during the pandemic

Dr Michael Head Clinical Informatics Research Unit, Faculty of Medicine

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The Clinical Informatics Research Unit (CIRU) operates as an applied research and enterprise unit within the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Southampton. We provide clinical research solutions and services across the globe which advance data excellence, quality, management and improve research methods.

EDGE Clinical Trial Management Programme	CORE Electronic Forms & Randomisation	AXIS Data Extraction & Integration	RESIN Global Investment Analysis	KITE Bespoke Healthcare Applications
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- A long-running project that analyses funding trends in health research
- What do we spend our global health research money on?
- An analysis of \$105 billion of research funding for infectious diseases, coming from public and charitable funders





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ARTICLES | VOLUME 8, ISSUE 10, E1295-E1304, OCTOBER 01, 2020

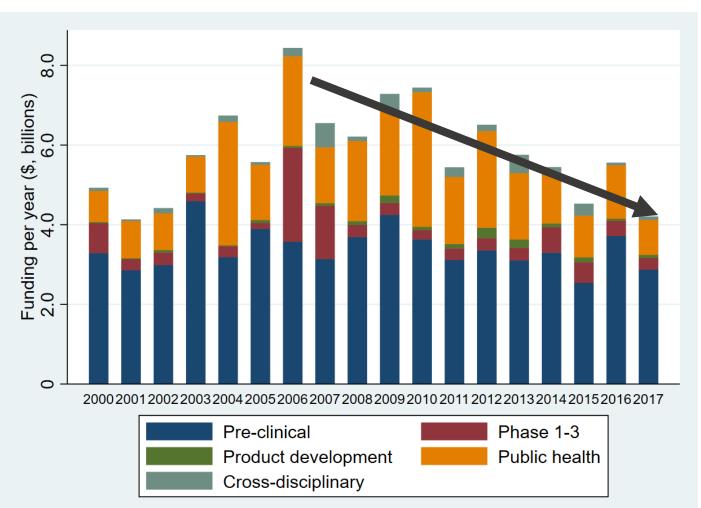
The allocation of US\$105 billion in global funding from G20 countries for infectious disease research between 2000 and 2017: a content analysis of investments

Michael G Head, PhD 🛛 😤 🖾 • Rebecca J Brown, PhD • Marie-Louise Newell, PhD • J Anthony G Scott, FRCP •

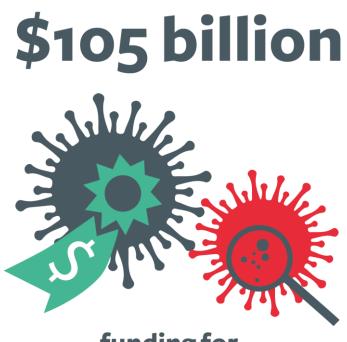
James Batchelor, BSc [†] • Rifat Atun, FRCP [†] • Show footnotes

https://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/article/PIIS2214-109X(20)30357-0/fulltext







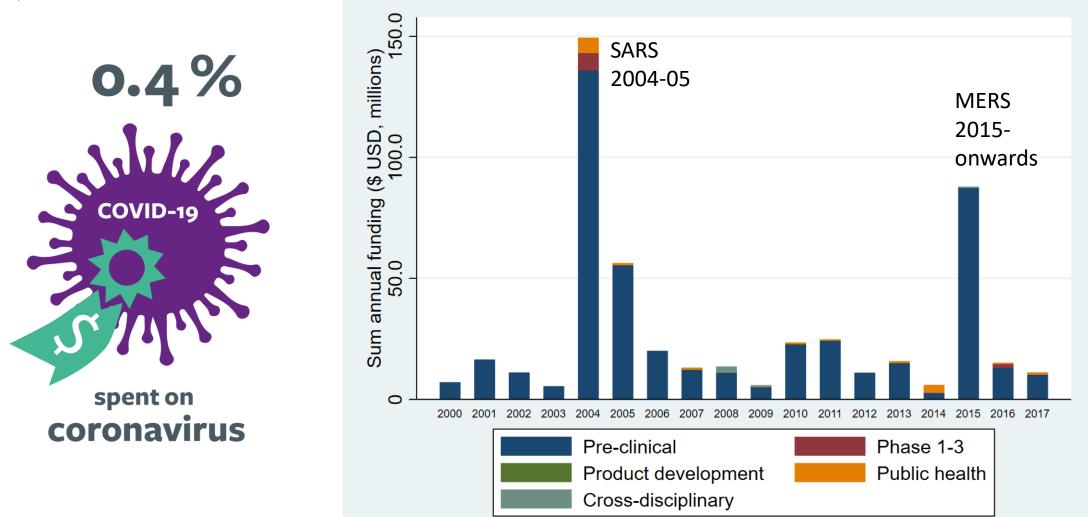


funding for infectious disease research

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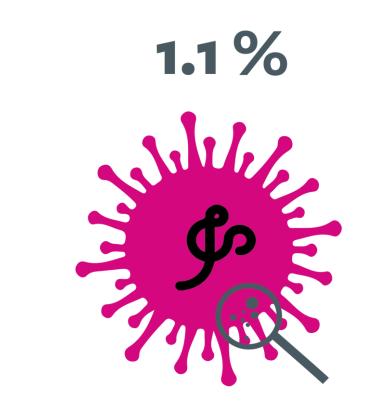




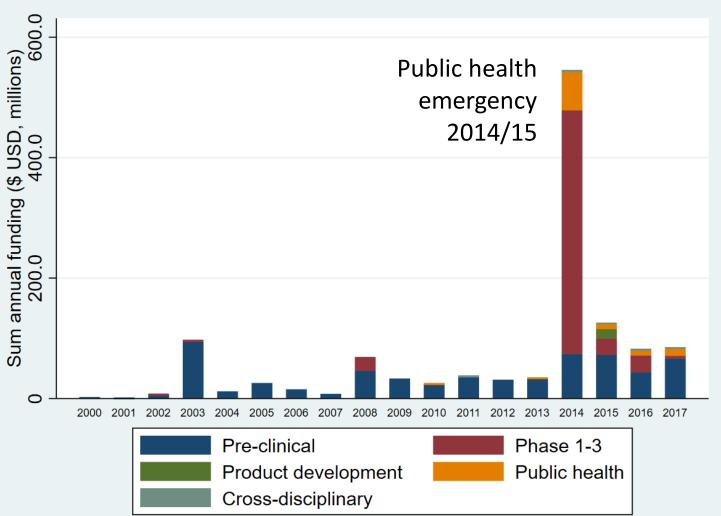
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spent on Ebola virus







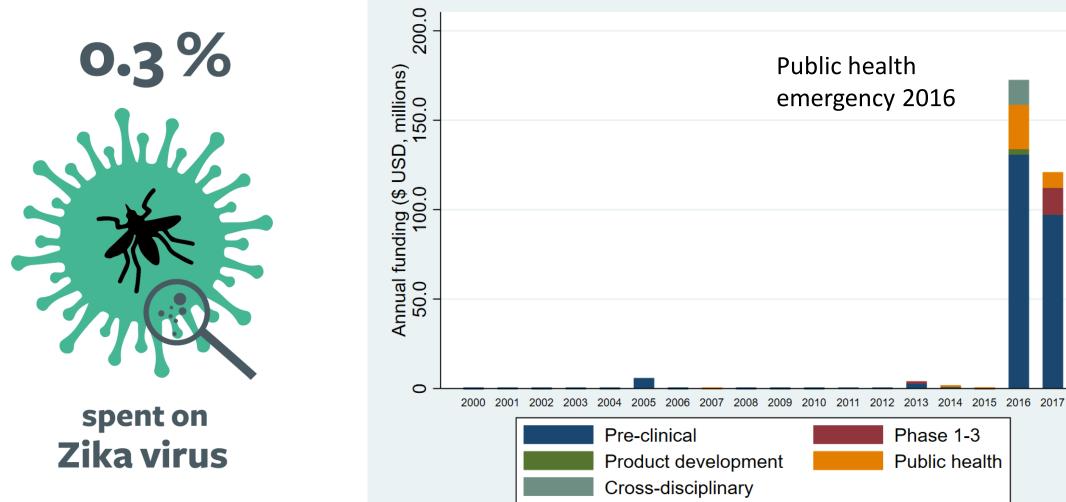
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Pandemic response research



\$3.3 billion (USD) across 2282 awards for COVID-19 research More funding than all TB/HIV / malaria research combined in 2017

\$2.2b for vaccine research, \$0.2b for drug development

\$0.1b for behavioural and social science research

https://www.the-ciru.com/resin-covid19

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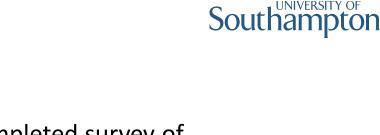
Summary of RESIN We in the global health world are reactive. For example - funding is pumped in when there's a problem, not before.

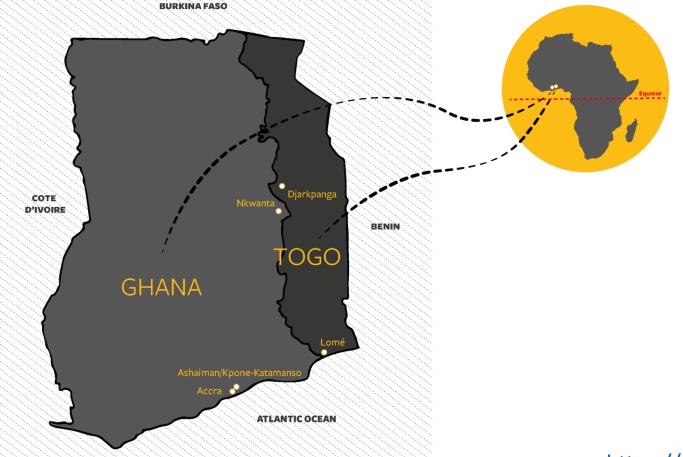
Pandemics provide some fantastic opportunities for researchers to step up (for example, see all my fellow speakers here!)

Ultimately, a more proactive horizon-scanning approach about "what's coming next" is crucial

Preparedness – that's the key word, and preparedness includes research

Ghana, Togo and COVID-19 research



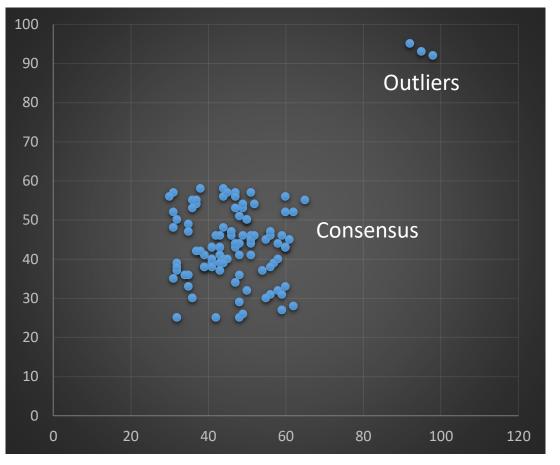


- Completed survey of knowledge/attitudes of Ghana population to COVID-19
- Ongoing survey in Togo
- Conversations with decision-makers around their priorities/challenges
- Soon to start reporting of COVID-like symptoms from mobile phone using appropriate technology
- More later from Dr Ken Brackstone!

https://www.the-ciru.com/resin-global-health-pandemic

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Working with media and the public countering misinformation



- Herd immunity being reported in some places as a 'split' between scientists
- Not so consensus is pretty clear, herd immunity not a viable strategy, just a few 'outlier scientists' promoting this view
- Outliers are interesting, but rarely useful for implementing policy and practice
- "Attempts to reach 'herd immunity' through exposing people to a virus are scientifically problematic and unethical." (WHO, October 2020, link below)

https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/herd-immunity-lockdowns-and-covid-19

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- All at CIRU (esp Beth Caruana, Gela Jenssen, Tim Gibbons, Bal Gill, Gary Schwarz)

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