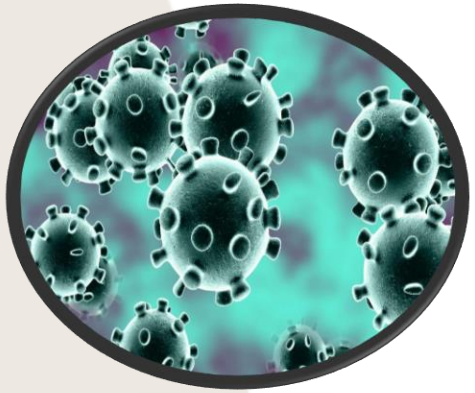

Major outcomes of discussions from the WHO working group on COVID-19 animal models

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August 29, 2022

R&DBlueprint
Powering research to prevent epidemics

To develop and standardize animal models to evaluate the potential for vaccine effectiveness and to understand the potential for enhanced disease after vaccination

+200 experts from **+20** countries and +**60** entities were convened since Feb 2020

Live deliberations on **results**

Researchers collaborating on **protocols** and processes

Live state of the art **reviews** to guide developers and researchers

Info on **global capacity** to conduct animal studies

Facilitate access to global resources for **accelerated** evaluation

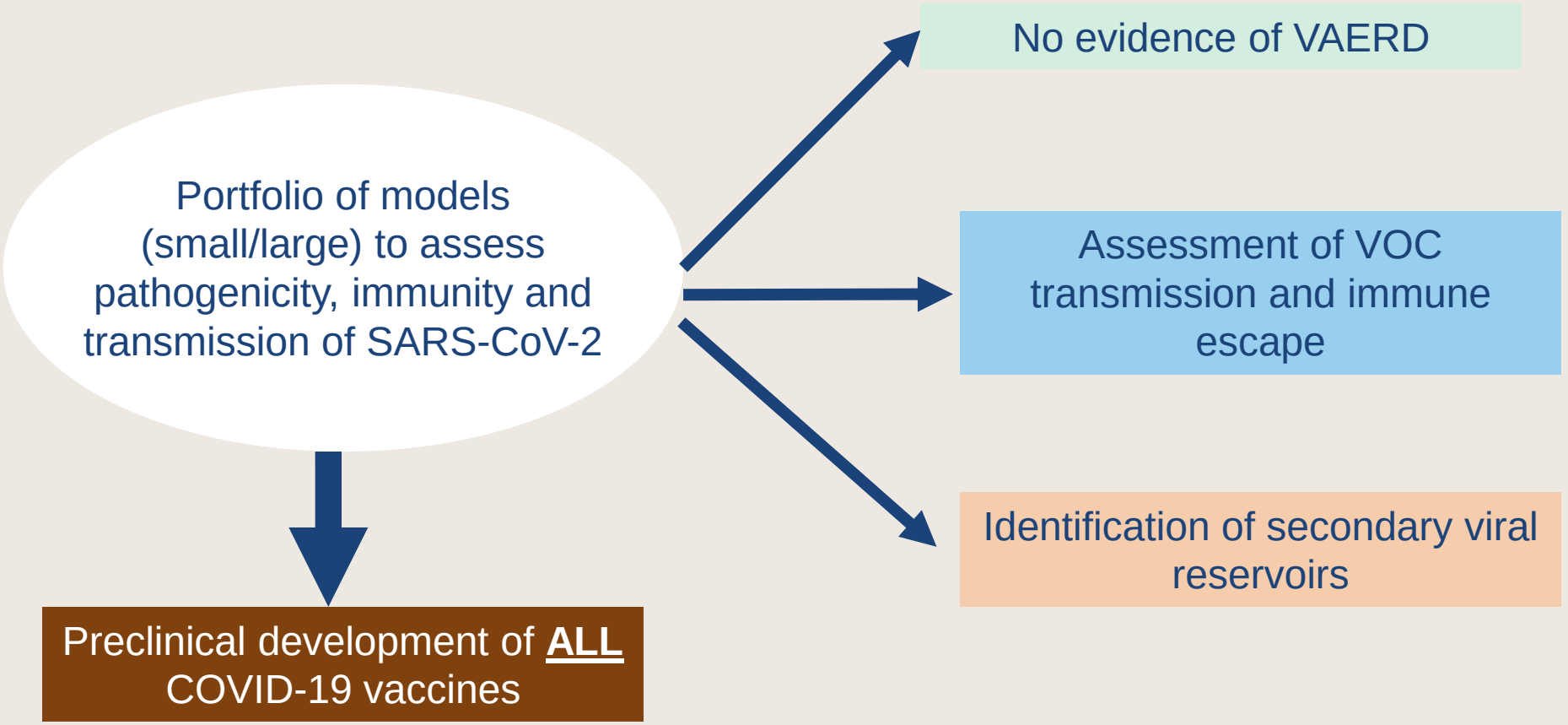
Enhanced **access** to animal laboratories for **ALL** developers

https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/global-animal-laboratories-capacities-to-support-vaccine-and-therapeutic-evaluation

R&DBlueprint
Powering research to prevent epidemics

Achievements

(Munoz-Fontela et al., Nature 2020; Munoz-Fontela et al., PloS Pathog 2021)



Lessons learned

1) Unprecedented data sharing
2) Value of pre-prints?
3) Avoiding of unnecessary repetition
4) Standardization
5) ‘Proud to be WHO’

Looking at ‘Pathogen X’

1) Experience can save time and lives (SARS-1, MERS)
2) Rapid sharing of data, ideas and models will reduce the time to develop vaccines and therapeutics
3) A good understanding of basic pathogenesis and immunology will speed vaccine testing (e. g. T cell epitopes in SARS-CoV-2 spike). Translational approach alone is not enough!

Challenges

1) Animal model repositories
2) Standardization (e. g. hamsters)
3) Lack of immune reagents
4) Animal testing protocols and euthanasia endpoints
5) Sharing, sharing, sharing…

Thank you

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World Health Organization

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