

# Vaccine Development in Canada

# Research Canada Health Research Caucus Luncheon

Paul D. Hodgson
Associate Director
VIDO-InterVac
paul.hodgson@usask.ca





### **Outline**

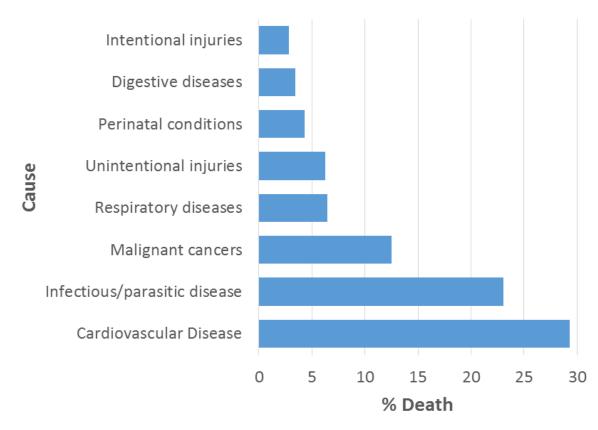
- Overview of ID
- Some Canadian context re: vaccines
- Current infrastructure
- Some general thoughts





## Infectious Diseases are Deadly



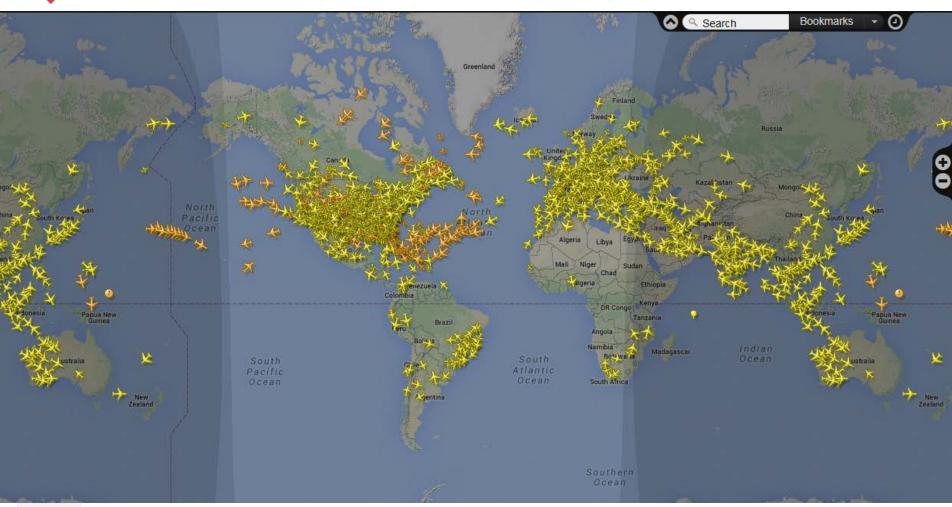


- Children from developing nation 10-fold greater chance of dying of a vaccinepreventable disease
- HIV/AIDS, diarrhoeal diseases, malaria and tuberculosis account for ~1/3 deaths in developing nations
- over 50% of deaths in children under 5 are due to infectious disease





# Infectious Diseases Spread Easily



Canadians remain at risk





## Infectious Diseases are Costly

- SARS: WHO travel advisory
- Hepatitis C: costs Canada about \$1 billion/yr
- HIV: NPV of ~\$250k/infected Canadian
- Influenza (US~\$10B in direct medical costs)
- Zoonotic & foodborne diseases







#### Some ID have a 'solution'...

- Jenner's smallpox vaccine 1797
  - Intranasal smallpox vaccine in China 1022AD
- Vaccines saved more lives worldwide than any other medical intervention
- Vaccines are the most cost-effective way of controlling infectious disease to date
- Vaccines protect more than individuals; it protects entire populations
- Our population is aging

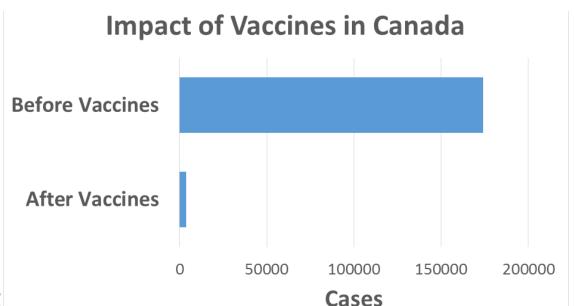




# Vaccines Protect Canadians

Preventable Disease	<b>Pre-Vaccine Peak Cases</b>	Peak Cases 2007-2011
<u>Diphtheria</u>	9,010	4
Hib	526	12
Measles	61,370	750
Mumps	43,671	1,110
Whooping cough	19,878	1,967
Poliomyelitis	1,584	0
Rubella	37,917	12
Tetanus	19	6

modified from Chief Public Health Officer's Report, 2013







# Canada has played a pivotal role in global vaccine development

- Smallpox:
  - 1st vaccination in North America in Nfld ~1800
  - leadership in smallpox eradication (recognized by WHO)
- Paralytic Polio:
  - Medium 199 & Toronto Method
  - Large scale production of polio vaccine
- 1st combined vaccine (DPT)
- 1<sup>st</sup> infant Meningitis C vaccine (NRC)
- 1<sup>st</sup> zoonotic vaccine (VIDO-InterVac)
- Ebola (NML)
- Many of these historical developments involved Connaught labs



#### CONNAUGHT ANTITOXIN LABORATORIES

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

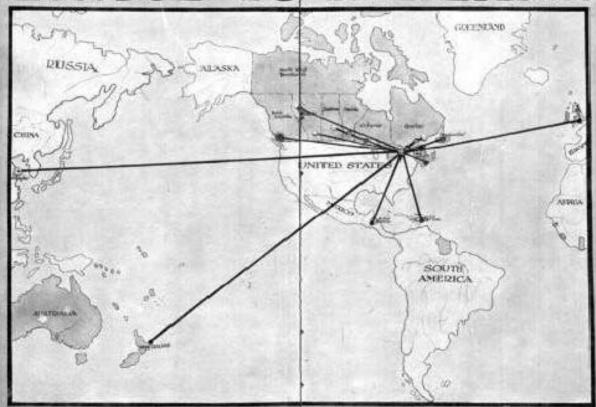
Established for research investigation in Preventive Medicine and for the production and distribution of all Public Health Biological Products at Minimum Prices...

#### SERVICE TO THE EMPIRE



For Prevention

**SMALLPOX** TYPHOID FEVER WHOODING COUGH HYDROPHOBIA





SERUMS

For Prevention or Cure of

DIPHTHERIA

LOCKJAW (TETANUS)

PNEUMONIA (CERTAIN CASES)

**EPIDEMIC** MENINGITIS



This map shows the success of the effort to prepare and distribute these life saving products at minimum prices.

BY THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO.



#### ...others do not

- The 'easy diseases' are done
- Emerging diseases and several known diseases are proving challenging
- Most of the emerging diseases require special infrastructure – CL3
- Challenge: money less important when you are sick, current vaccines are preventative
- Need to improve on the translational aspects of vaccine development



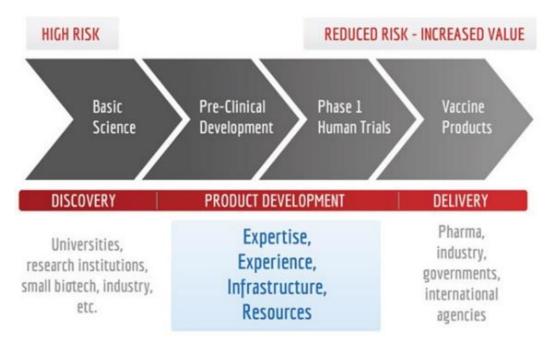


### Canadian Landscape Examples





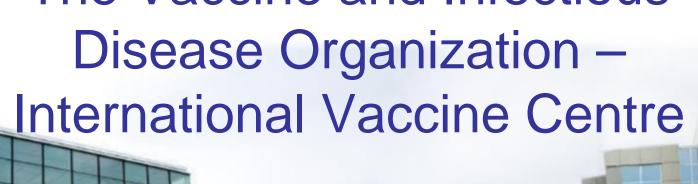




- A not-for-profit corporation funding from NCE CECR
- Goal to help with translation/accelerate vaccines to the marketplace
- 3 nodes: BC, SK, NS
- Currently 5 vaccine candidates in the pipeline



## The Vaccine and Infectious









#### VIDO-InterVac





- 165 personnel
- ISO9001 Certified
- Expertise in large animal models of disease
- 8 commercialized vaccines; 6 world firsts
- >\$200 million in state-of-the-art infrastructure
- CL2 (VIDO)
  - ~100,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of labs + 20,000 ft<sup>2</sup> animal isolation
  - 160 acre research station
- CL3 (InterVac)
  - 150,000 ft² (~13 hockey rinks)
  - 18 animal holding rooms; 6 laboratories
  - Select agent lab
  - Aerobiology challenge capability (e.g., Flu, TB)





# Officially 'hot'





- Canadians should be proud of our role in international vaccine development
- Our scientific personnel for vaccine research and discovery are world class; but...
- Infrastructure including manufacturing capacity is fundamental
- Continued research and development remains essential to tackling new diseases
- Consider vaccines as a cost saver to public health and convince modern society to invest in prevention

# IF YOU THINK RESEARCH IS EXPENSIVE YOU SHOULD TRY DISEASE



