

Introduction to Infectious Disease Epidemiology

Steve Bellan, PhD, MPH

Center for Computational Biology & Bioinformatics

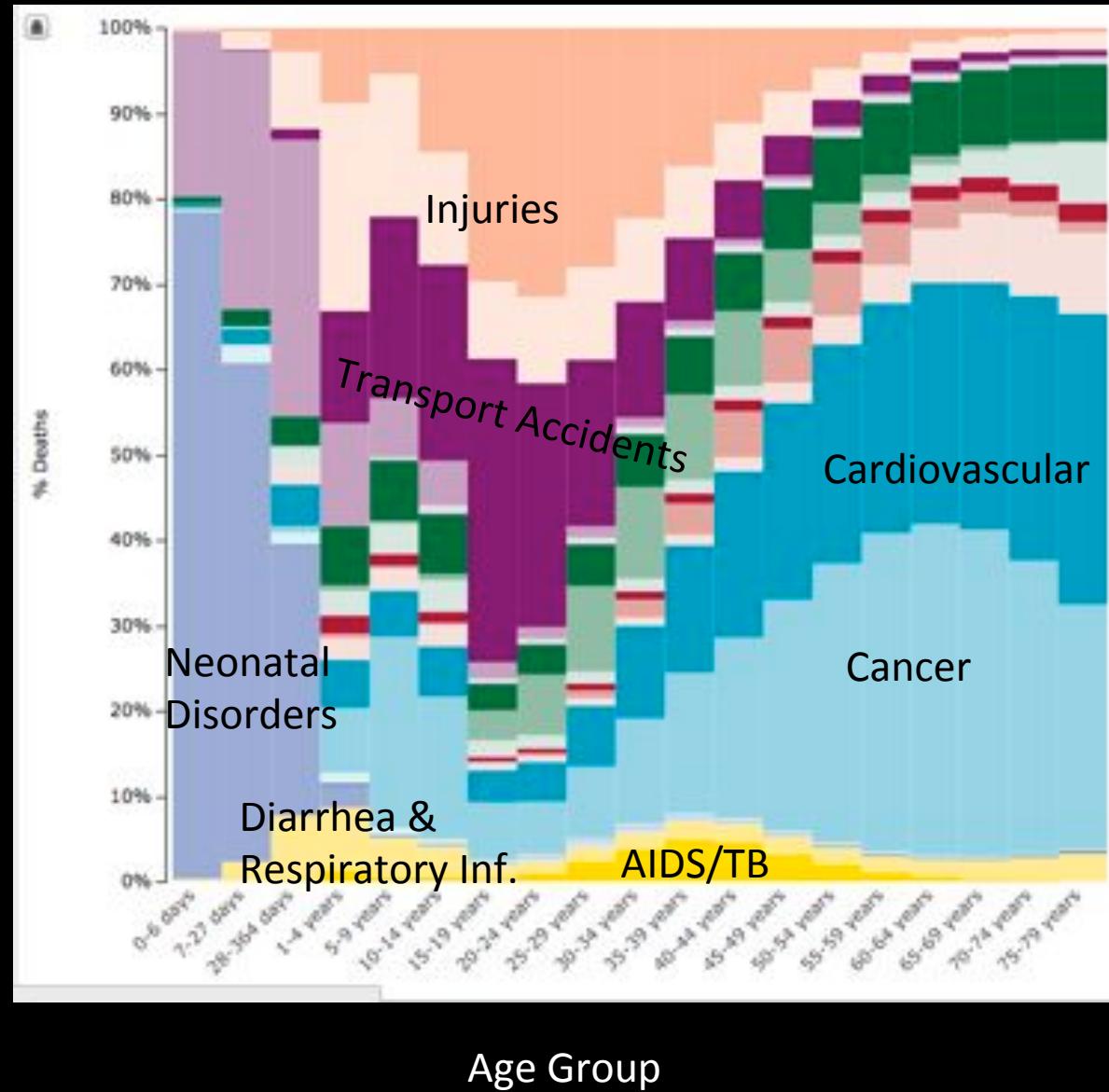
University of Texas at Austin

Computational Biology, SDS 348

May 5, 2015

USA Burden of Mortality

% of Deaths

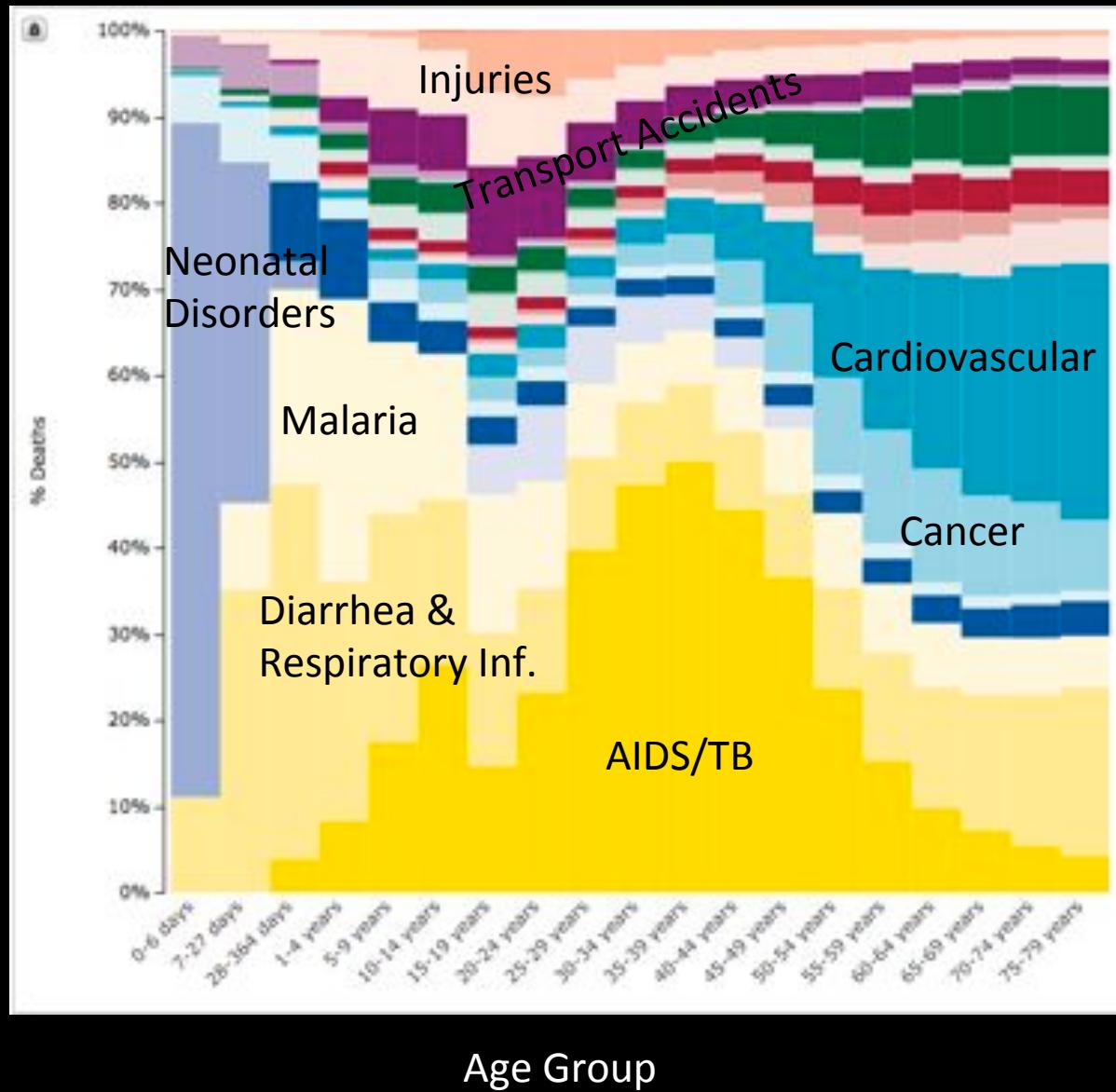


Age Group

Lozano et al.
(2012) *Lancet*

Sub-Saharan African Burden of Mortality

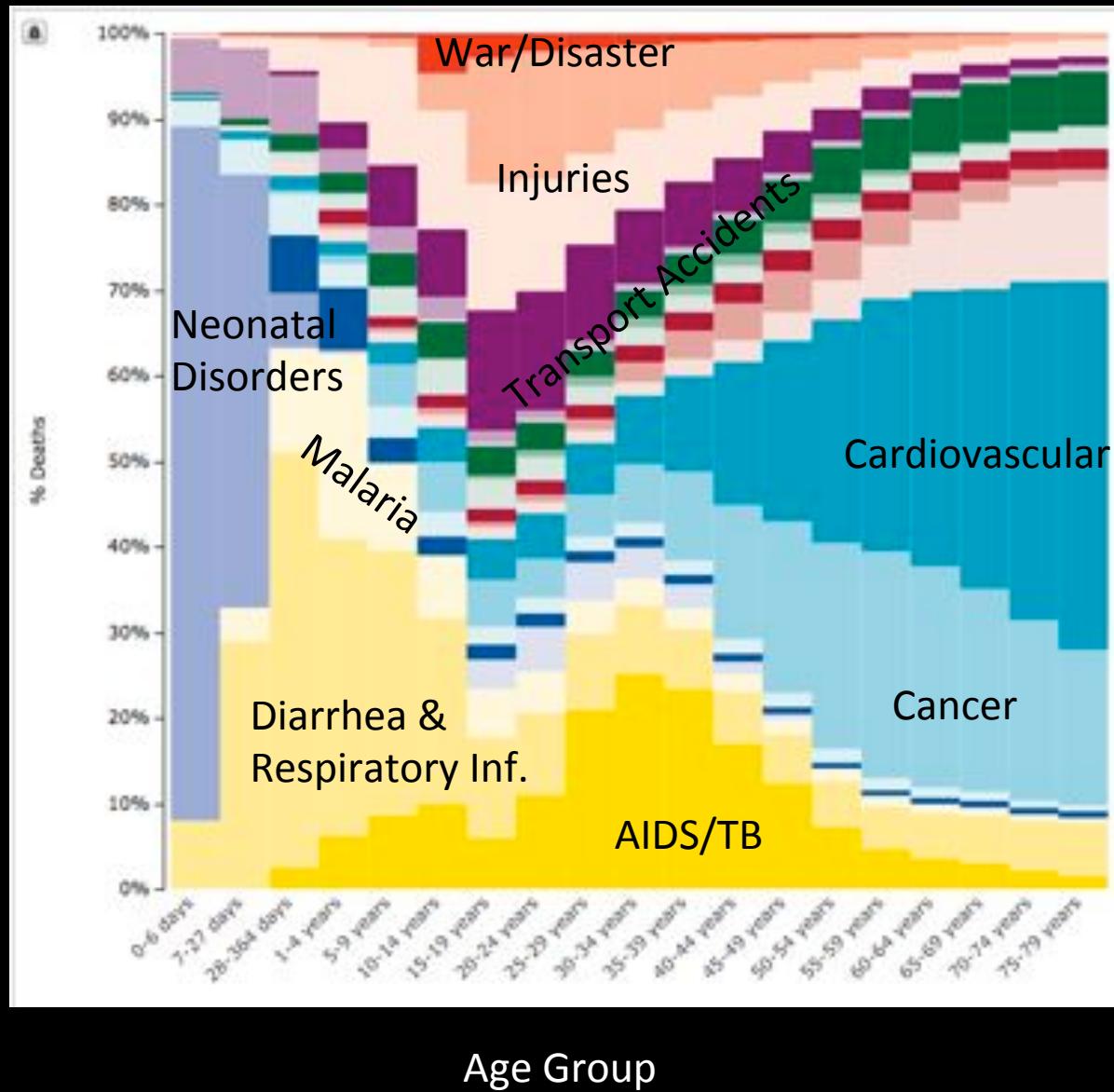
% of Deaths



Lozano et al.
(2012) *Lancet*

Global Burden of Mortality

% of Deaths



Lozano et al.
(2012) *Lancet*

Outline

- Background and Definitions
- The Basic & Effective Reproduction Numbers
- SIR Models
- Transmission-Virulence Tradeoff
- Vector-Borne Diseases
- Zoonotic Diseases & HIV Emergence
- Treatment as Prevention and HIV Control
- Designing Ebola Vaccine Trials

Defining Epidemiology

“The study of the distribution and determinants of health related states and events in populations, and the application of this study to control health problems.”

John M Last
Dictionary of Epidemiology

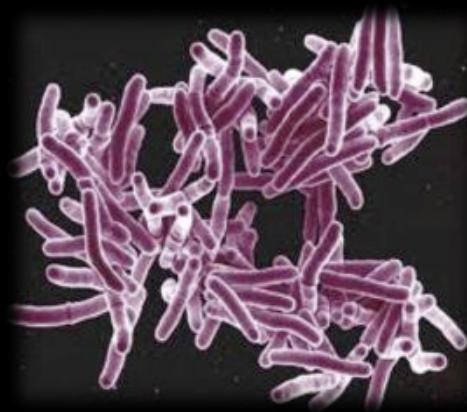


Infectious Disease Definitions

Pathogen: Microorganism that causes disease.
(virus, bacteria, parasite)



Ebola Virus



Tuberculosis Bacteria



HIV

Infectious Disease Definitions

Pathogen: Microorganism that causes disease.
(virus, bacteria, parasite)

Infection: Invasion and multiplication of pathogen inside another organism.

Disease: Change from the normal physiological status of an organism that negatively affects its survival or reproduction.

R_0 : The Basic Reproductive Number

Average # of secondary infections
an infected host produces in
a susceptible population.

R_0 = how many people each person infects before they recover/die

R_0 : The Basic Reproductive Number

Average # of secondary infections
an infected host produces in
a susceptible population.

$$R_0 = (\text{infectious contact rate}) \times (\text{duration of infectiousness})$$

$$\begin{aligned} R_0 &= (\text{sneezing on someone rate}) \\ &\quad \times (\text{probability being sneezed on leads to infection}) \\ &\quad \times (3 \text{ days sneezing}) \end{aligned}$$

R_0 : The Basic Reproductive Number

Average # of secondary infections an infected host produces in a susceptible population.

If $R_0 < 1$, disease dies out

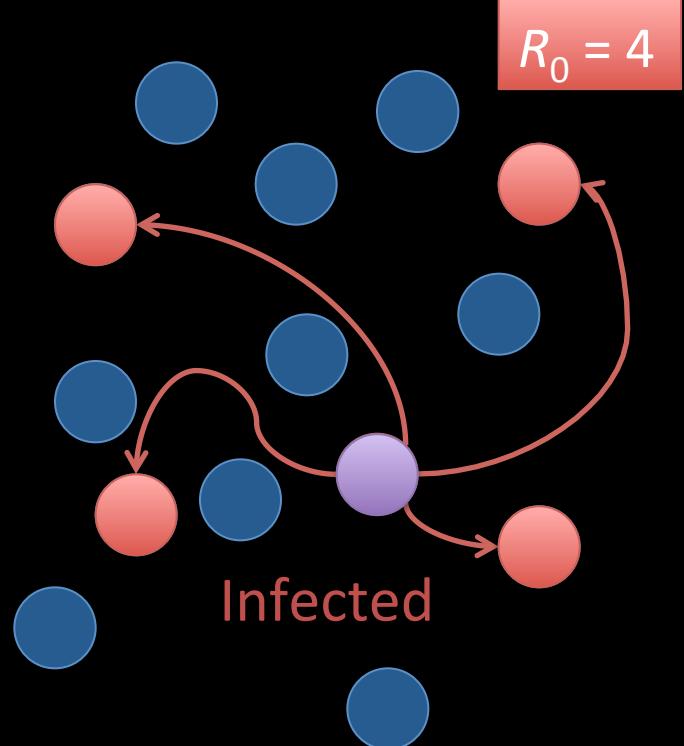
If $R_0 > 1$, disease persists

Susceptible

Infected

Recovered & Immune or Dead

$$R_0 = 4$$



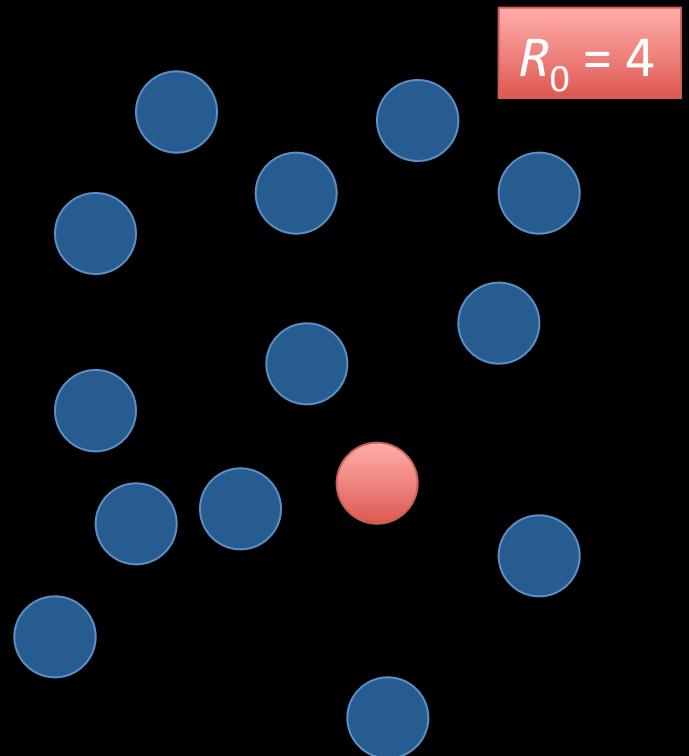
Which spreads faster:

Influenza ($R_0 = 1.5$) or HIV ($R_0 = 5$)?

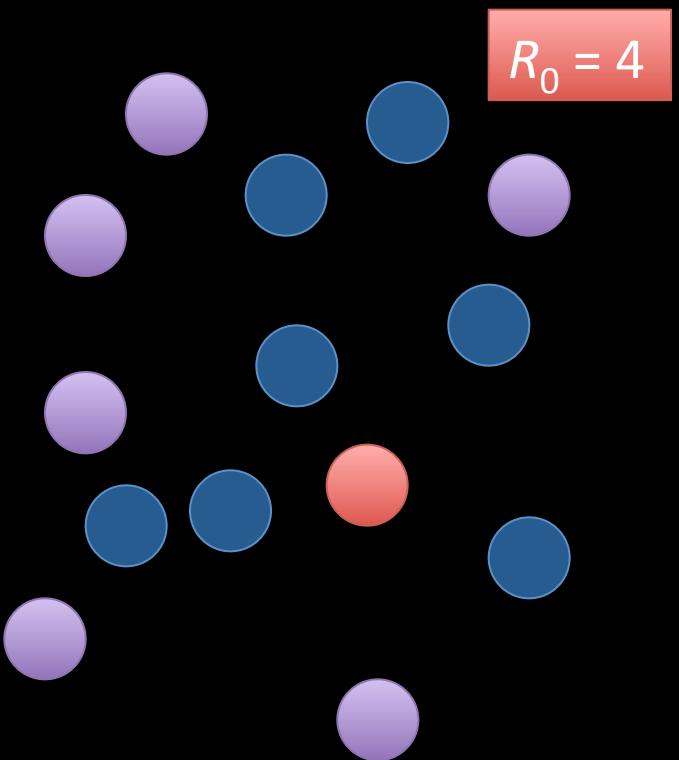
Generation Interval: Average time between infection
& infecting someone else.

R_0 & generation interval
both determine epidemic growth rate.

R_{eff} : The Effective Reproductive Number



R_{eff} : The Effective Reproductive Number



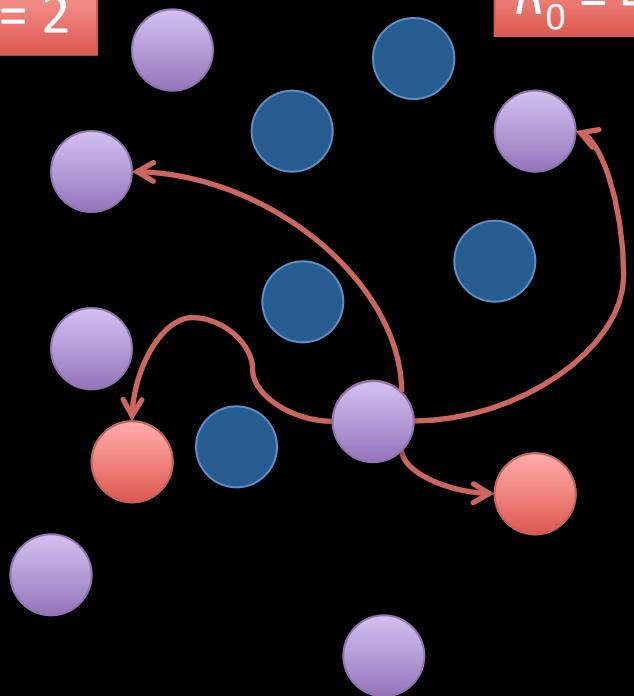
Example: 50% Recovered & Immune

R_{eff} : The Effective Reproductive Number

- The average # of secondary infections that an infected host produces in an only partially susceptible population.

$$R_{\text{eff}} = 2$$

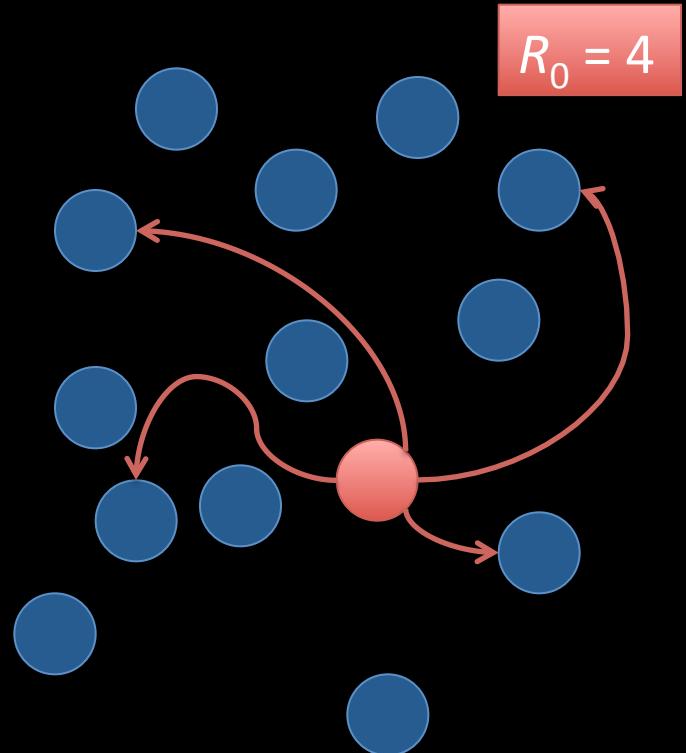
$$R_0 = 4$$



Example: 50% Recovered & Immune

Proportion to Vaccinate

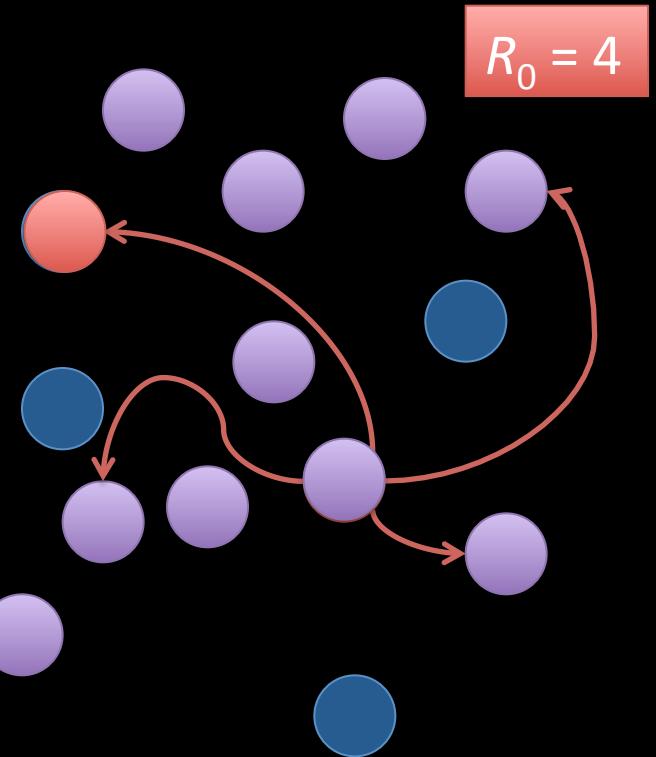
- So what % of the population must be vaccinated to eliminate transmission in a population?



Proportion to Vaccinate

- So what % of the population must be vaccinated to eliminate transmission in a population?

$$R_{\text{eff}} = 1$$



3/4 infections fail

Herd Immunity

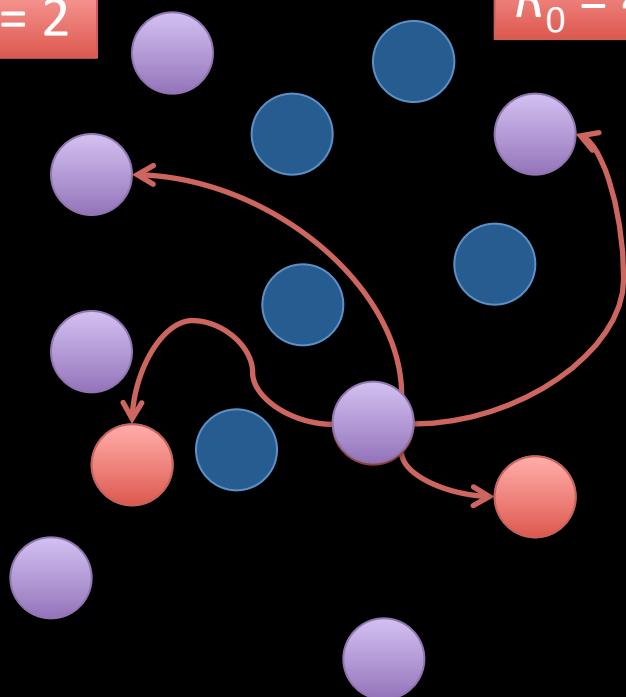
Diseases can be eliminated without vaccinating everyone!

Other Interventions Also Affect R_{eff}

If half of the population is immune,
by how much must we cut the infection
rate to eliminate the disease?

$$R_{\text{eff}} = 2$$

$$R_0 = 4$$

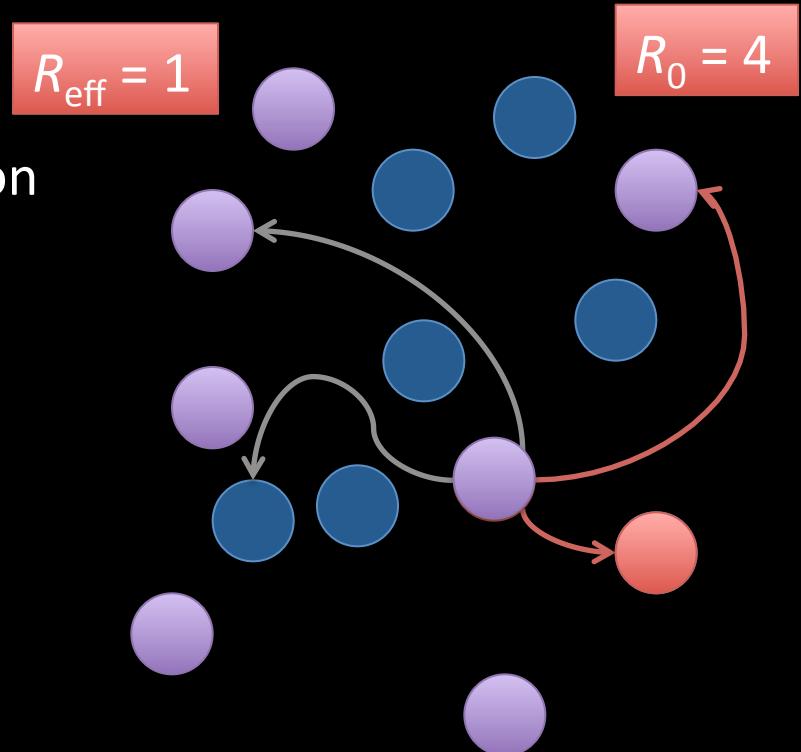


Example: 50% Recovered & Immune

Other Interventions Also Affect R_{eff}

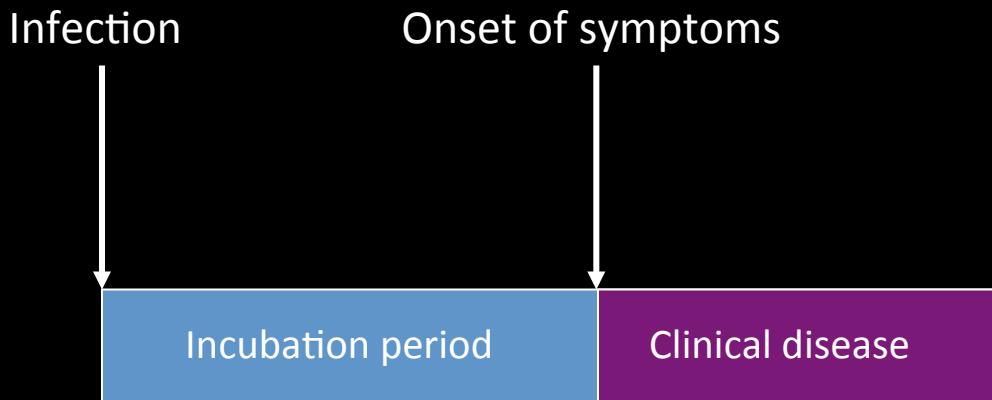
If half of the population is immune,
by how much must we cut the infection
rate to eliminate the disease?

Cut transmission by more than 50%

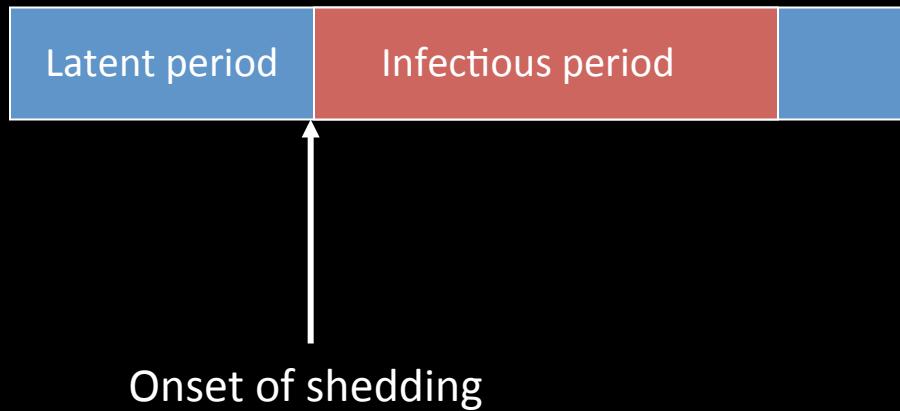


Example: 50% Recovered & Immune

Natural History of Infection

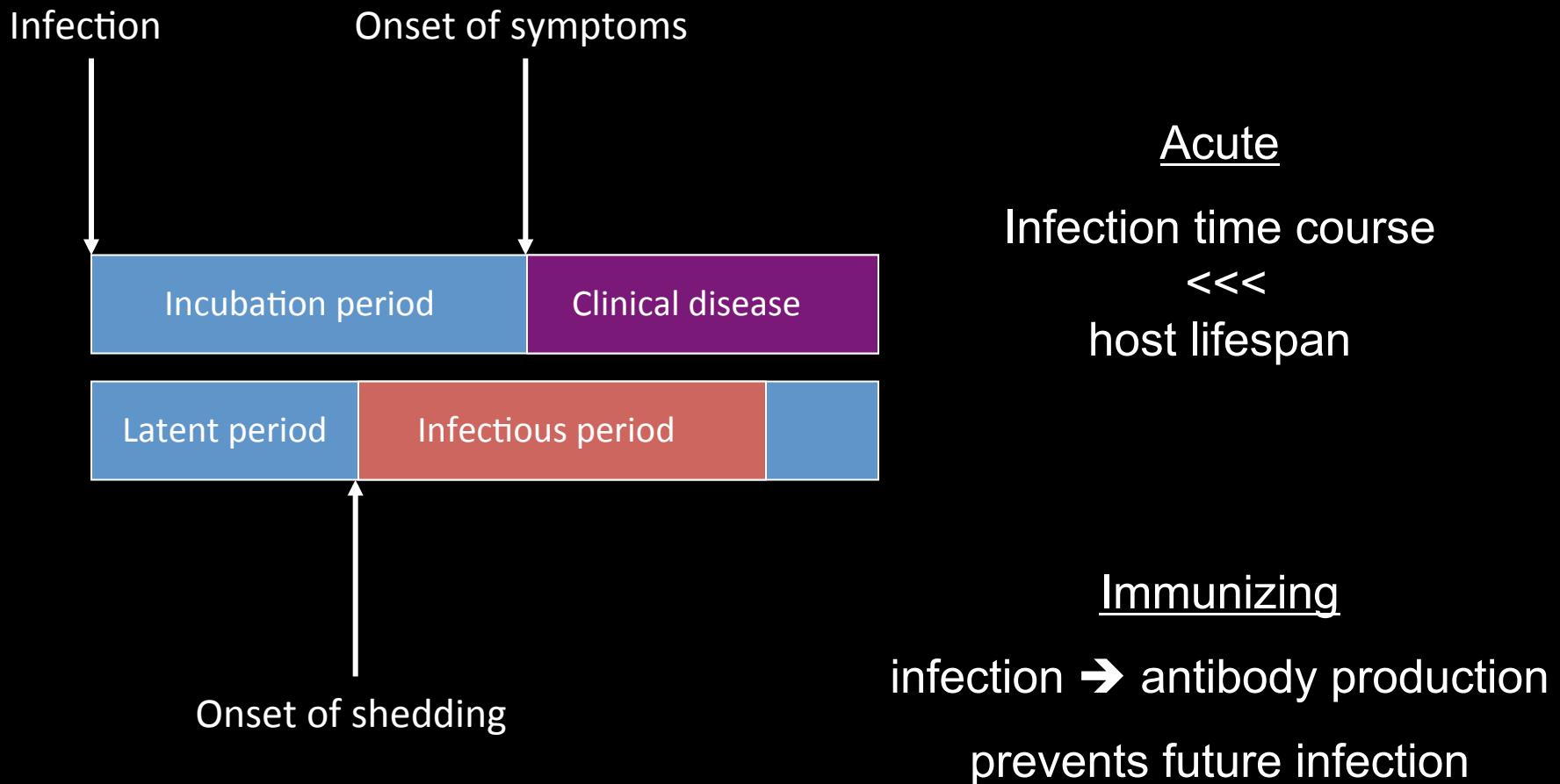


Natural History of Infection

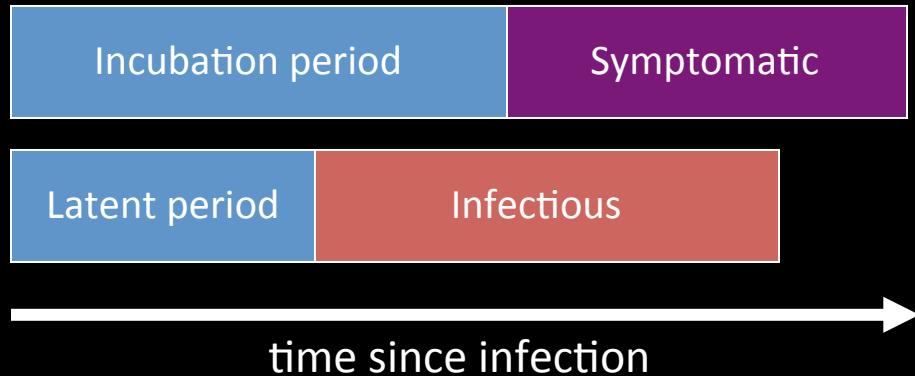


Natural History of Infection

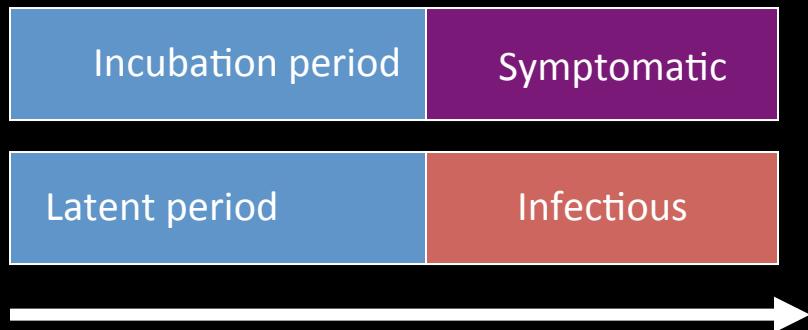
Childhood vaccine-preventable diseases = acute & immunizing



Timeline of Infection

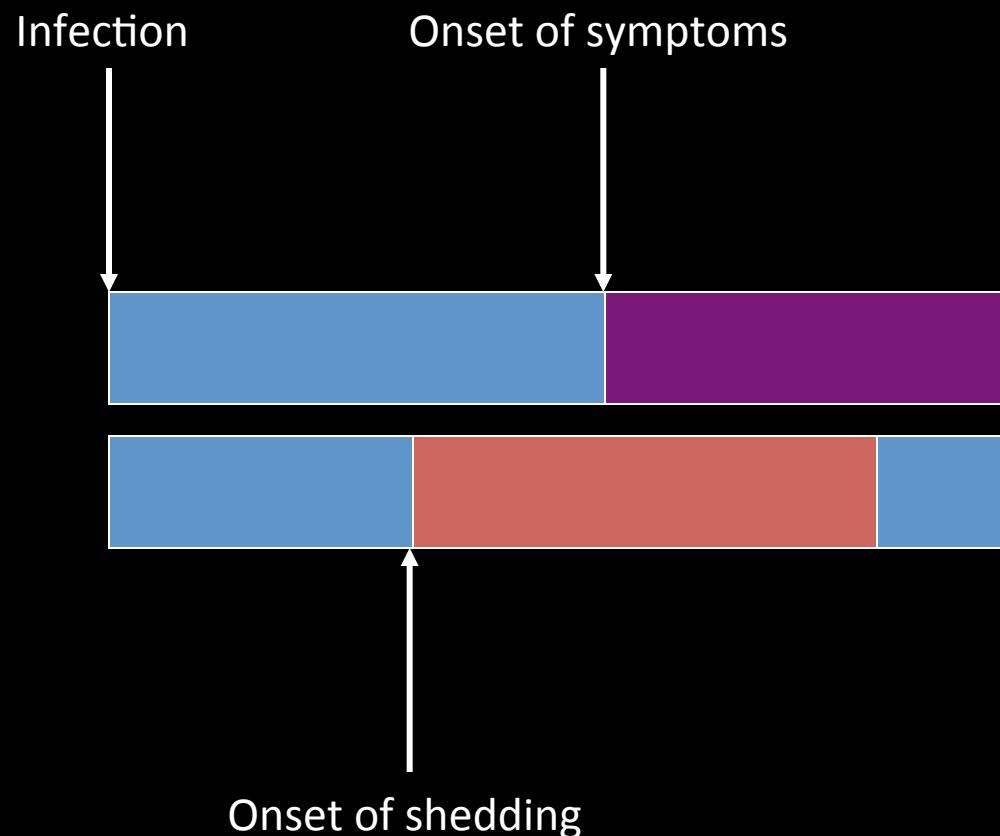
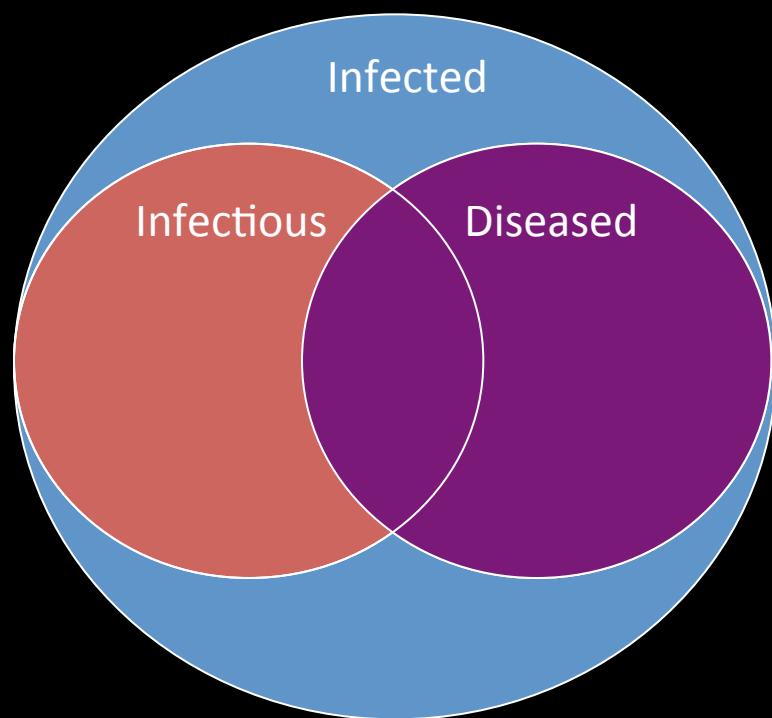


infectiousness precedes disease control = difficult.
(HIV, influenza)



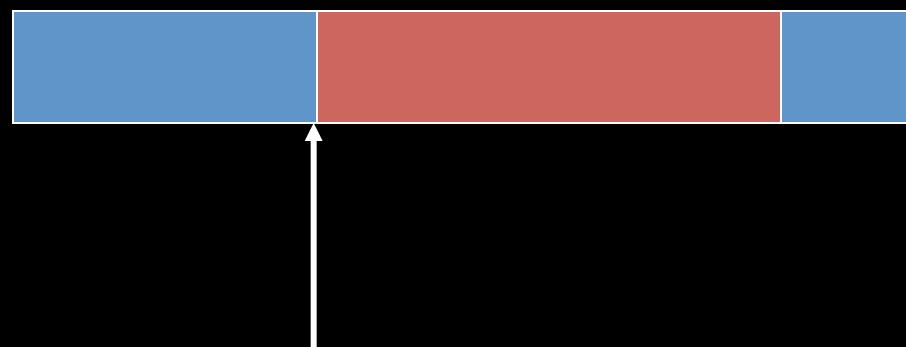
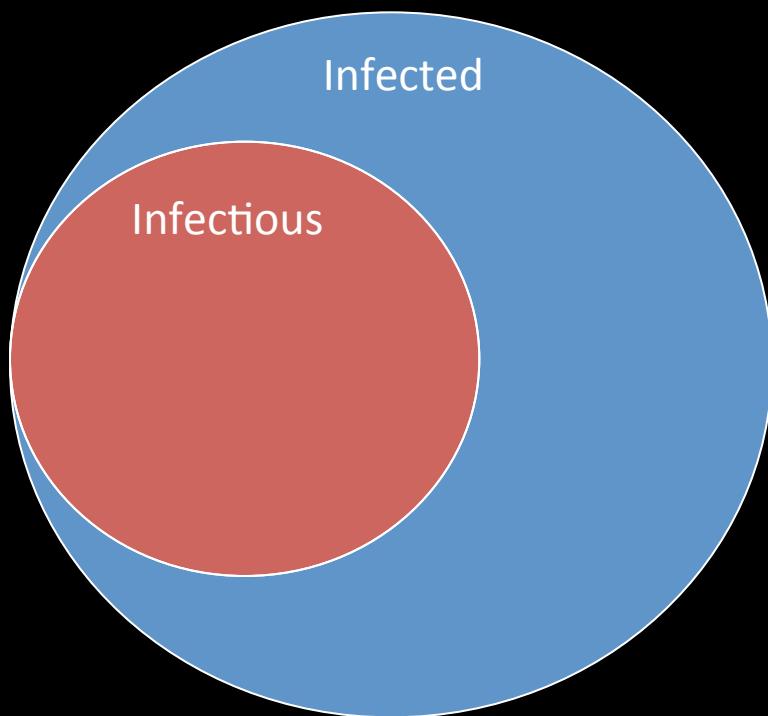
timing of symptoms and infectiousness match control = easier
(SARS, Ebola)

A simple view of the world



A simpler view of the world

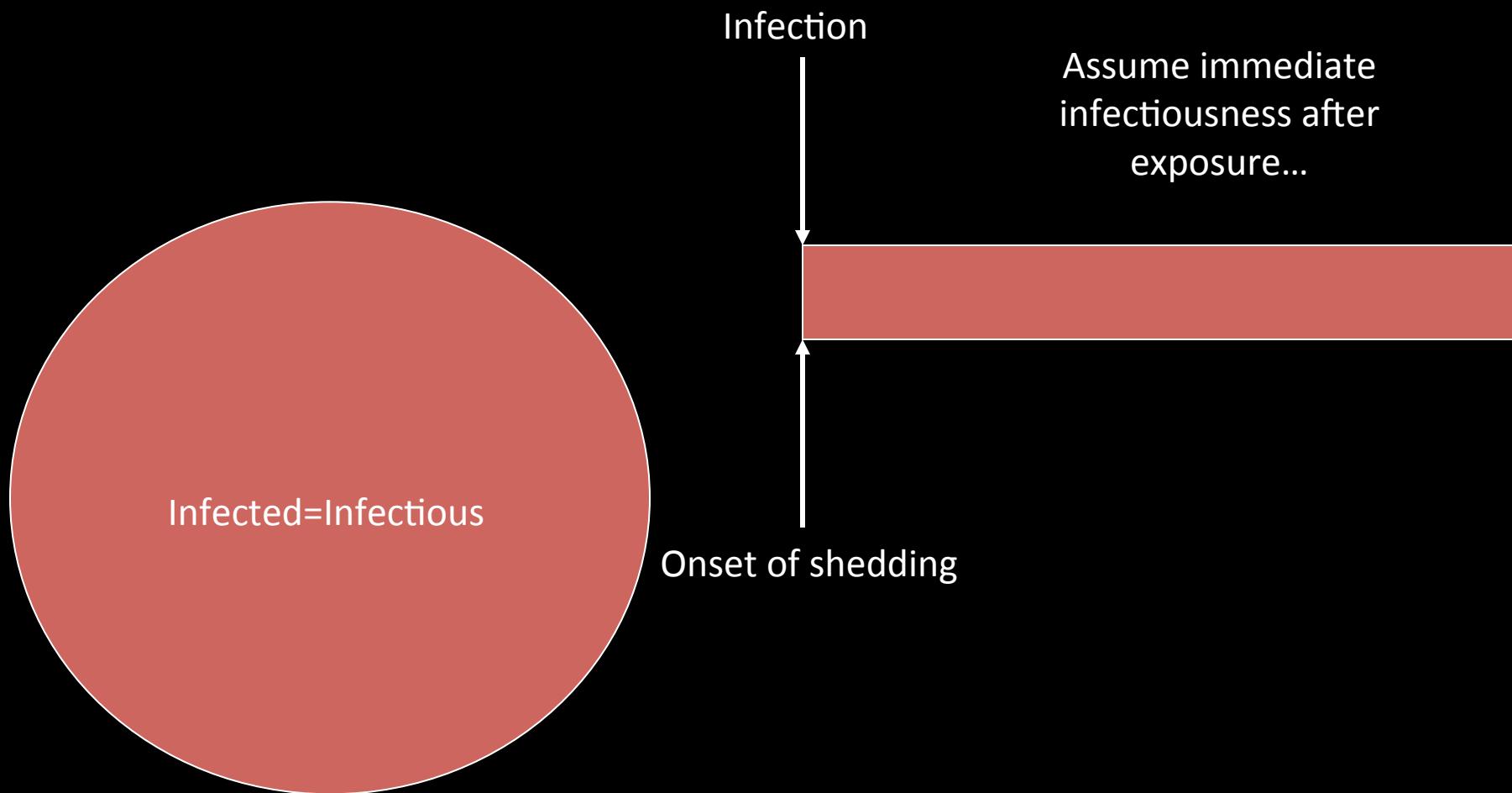
Don't worry about
symptoms and disease!



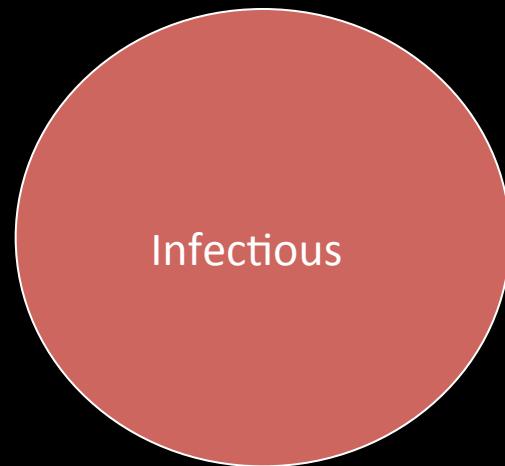
Onset of shedding

An **extremely simple** view of the world

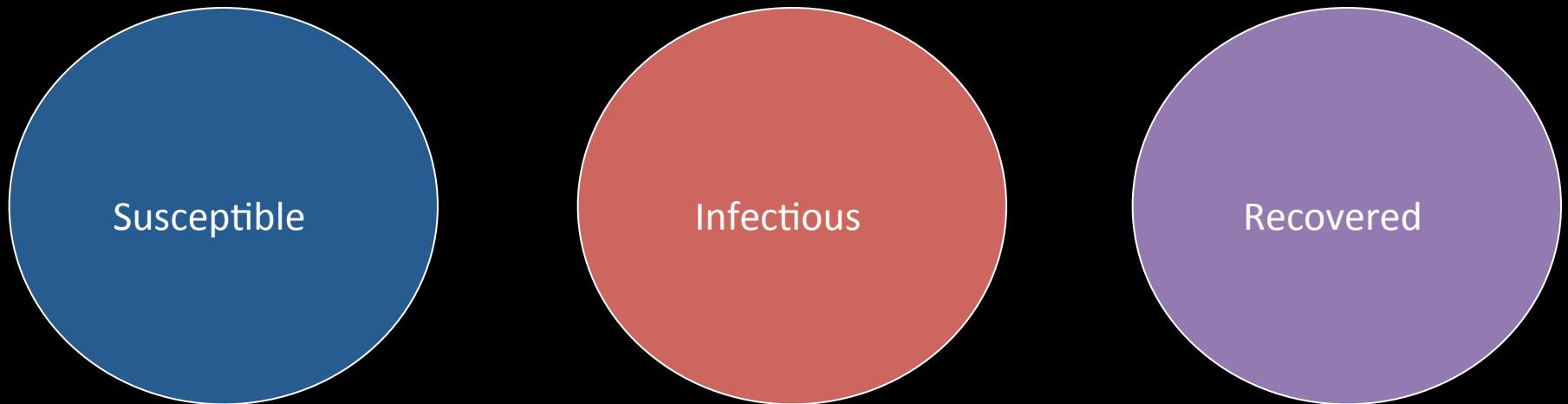
Don't worry about
symptoms and disease!



An **extremely simple** view of the world



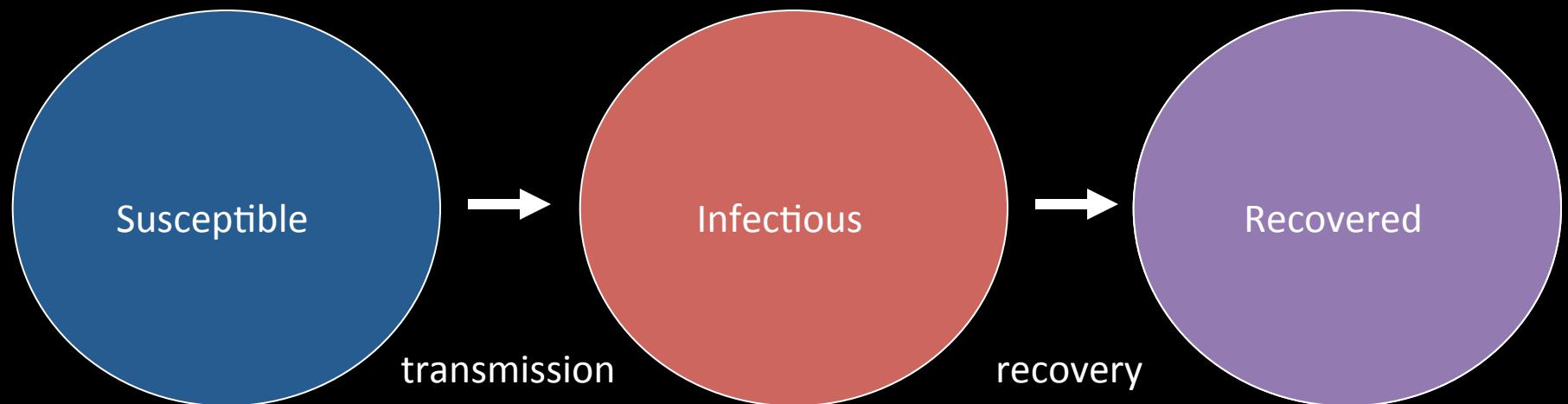
An **extremely simple** view of the world



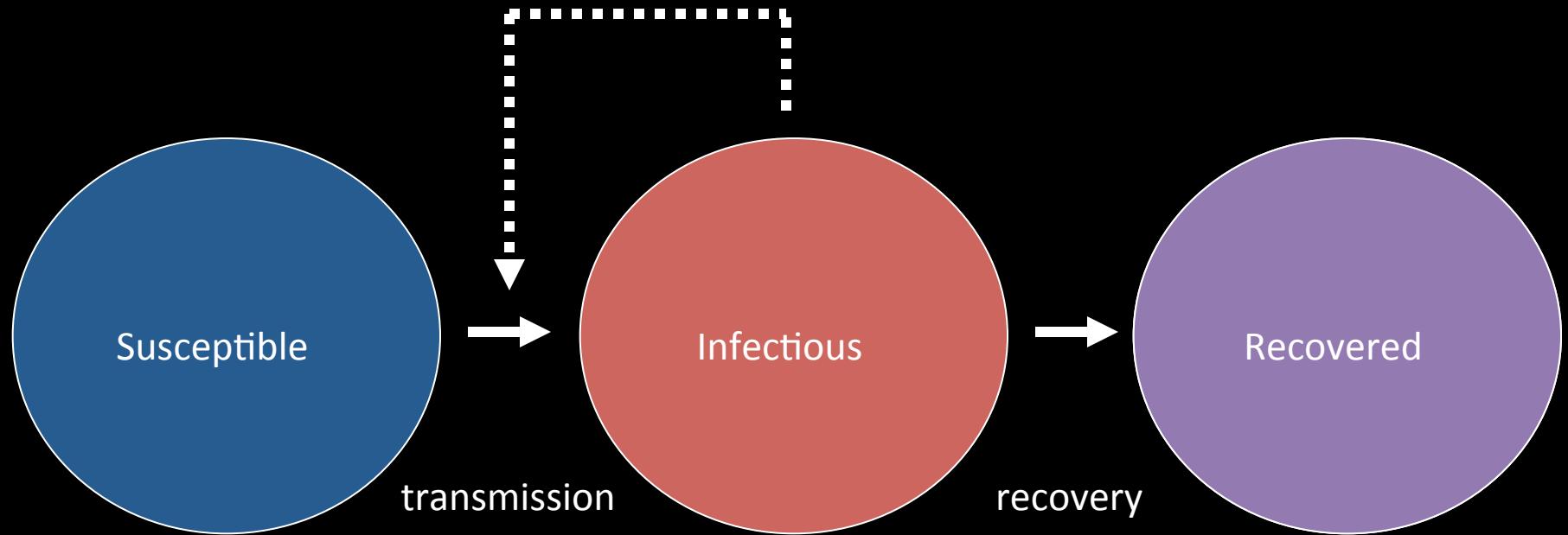
An **extremely simple** view of the world



An **extremely simple** view of the world

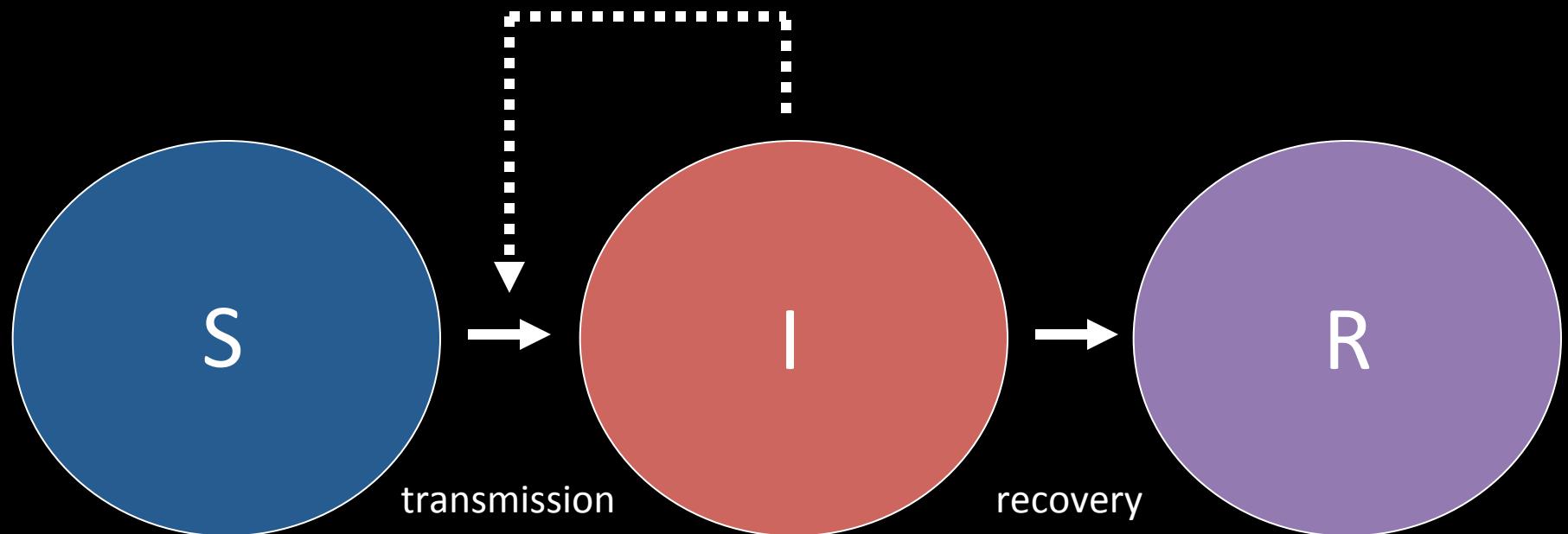


Susceptible-Infected-Recovered Model

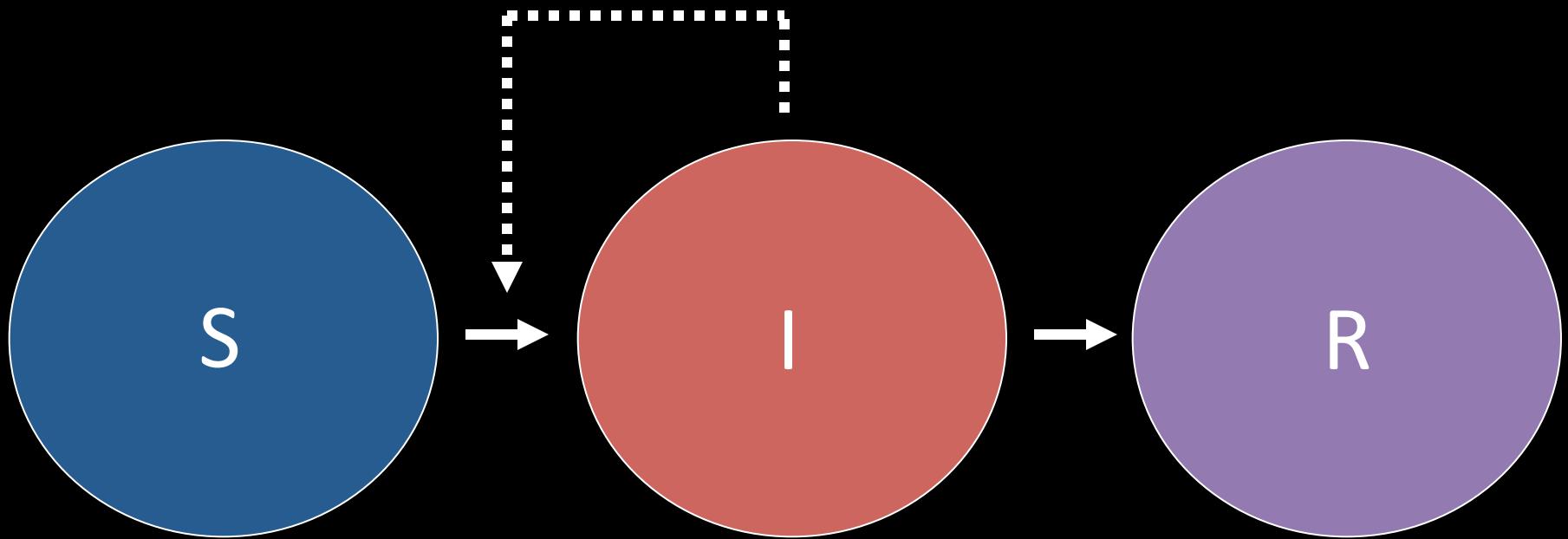


The rate at which susceptible individuals become infected depends on how many infectious people are in the population

SIR Model

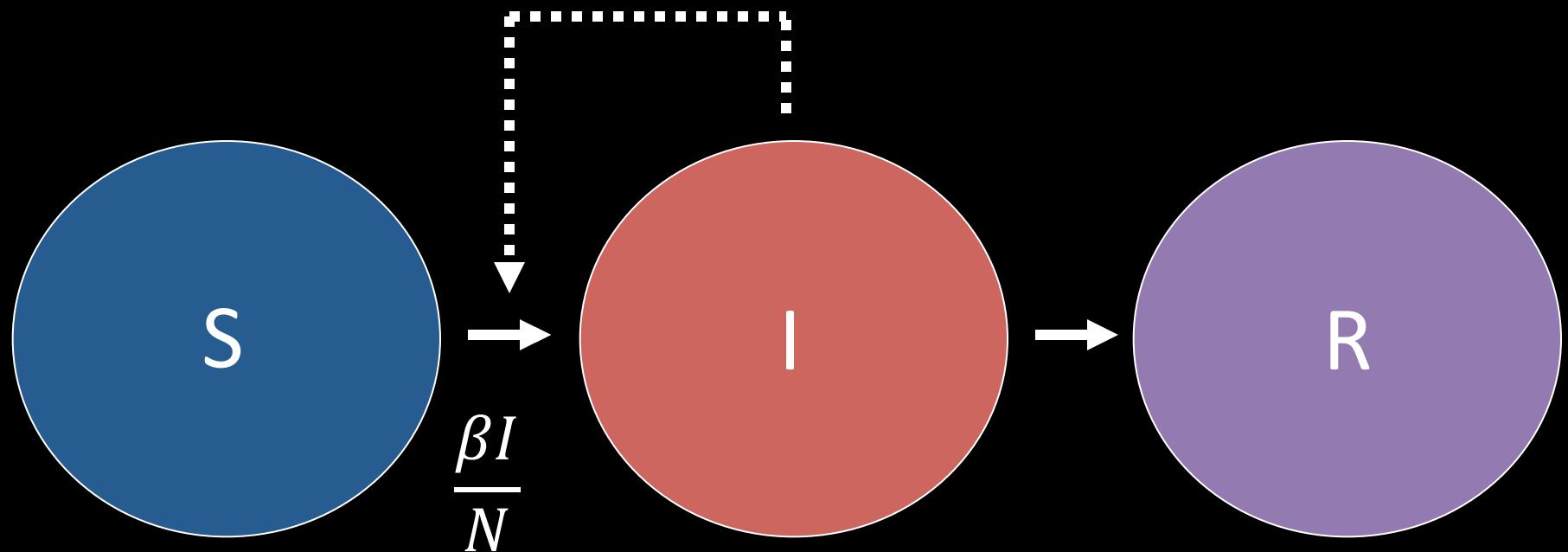


SIR Model



We can use equations to describe the rate at which individuals flow between states

SIR Model

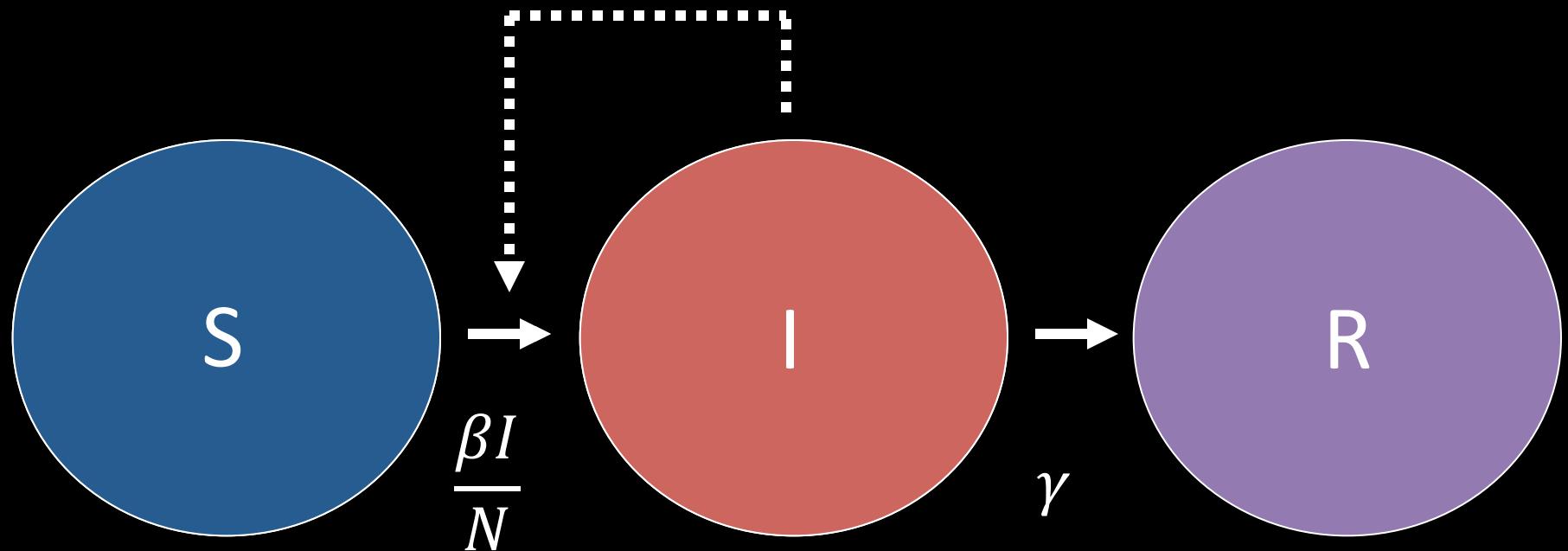


β = infectious contact rate

(for example, sneezing, sex, touch, etc...
depending on the pathogen)

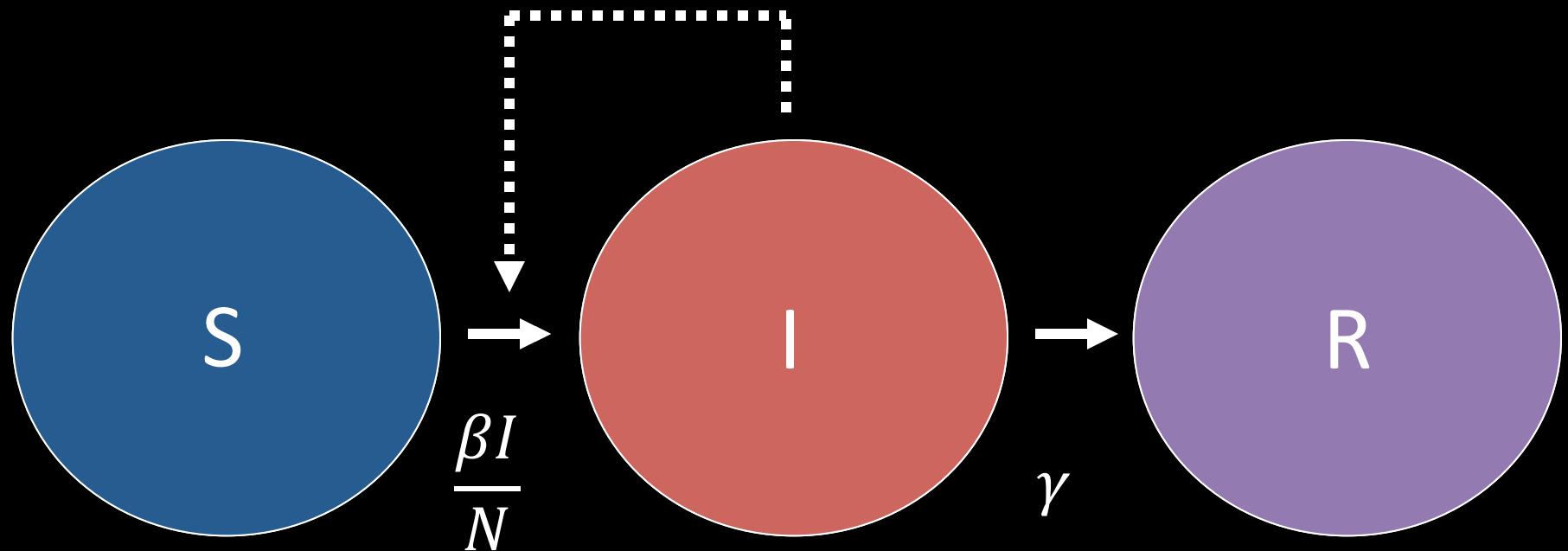
$\frac{I}{N}$ proportion of
contacts that are
with an infectious
individual

SIR Model



Recovery rate tells us how long people stay infectious

SIR Model



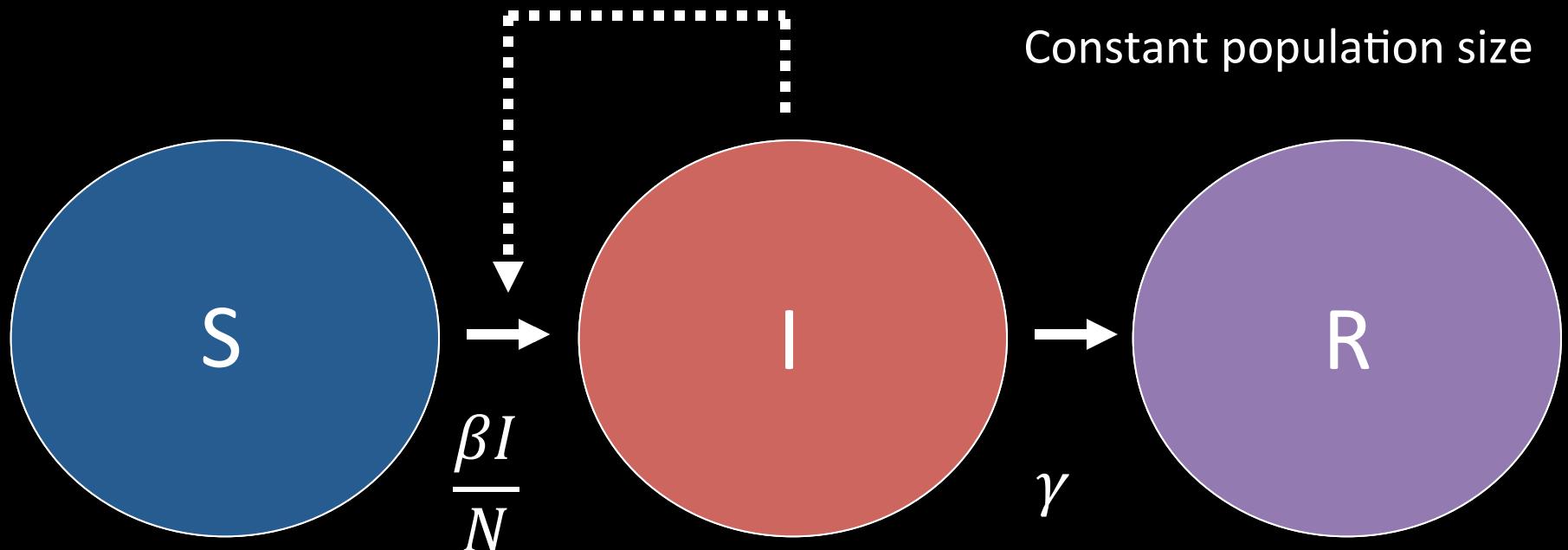
$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\frac{\beta SI}{N}$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \gamma I$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \gamma I$$

SIR Model

$$N = S + I + R$$



$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\frac{\beta SI}{N}$$

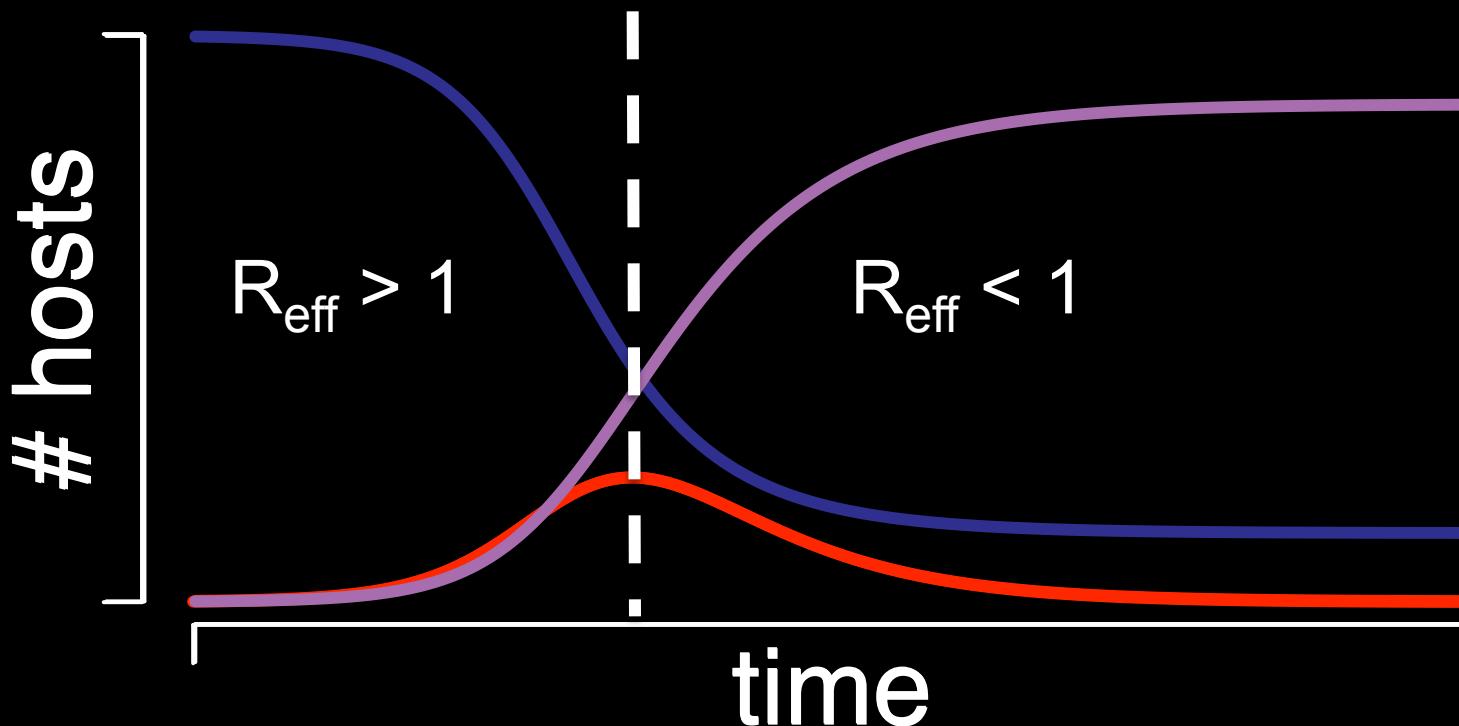
$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \frac{\beta SI}{N} - \gamma I$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \gamma I$$

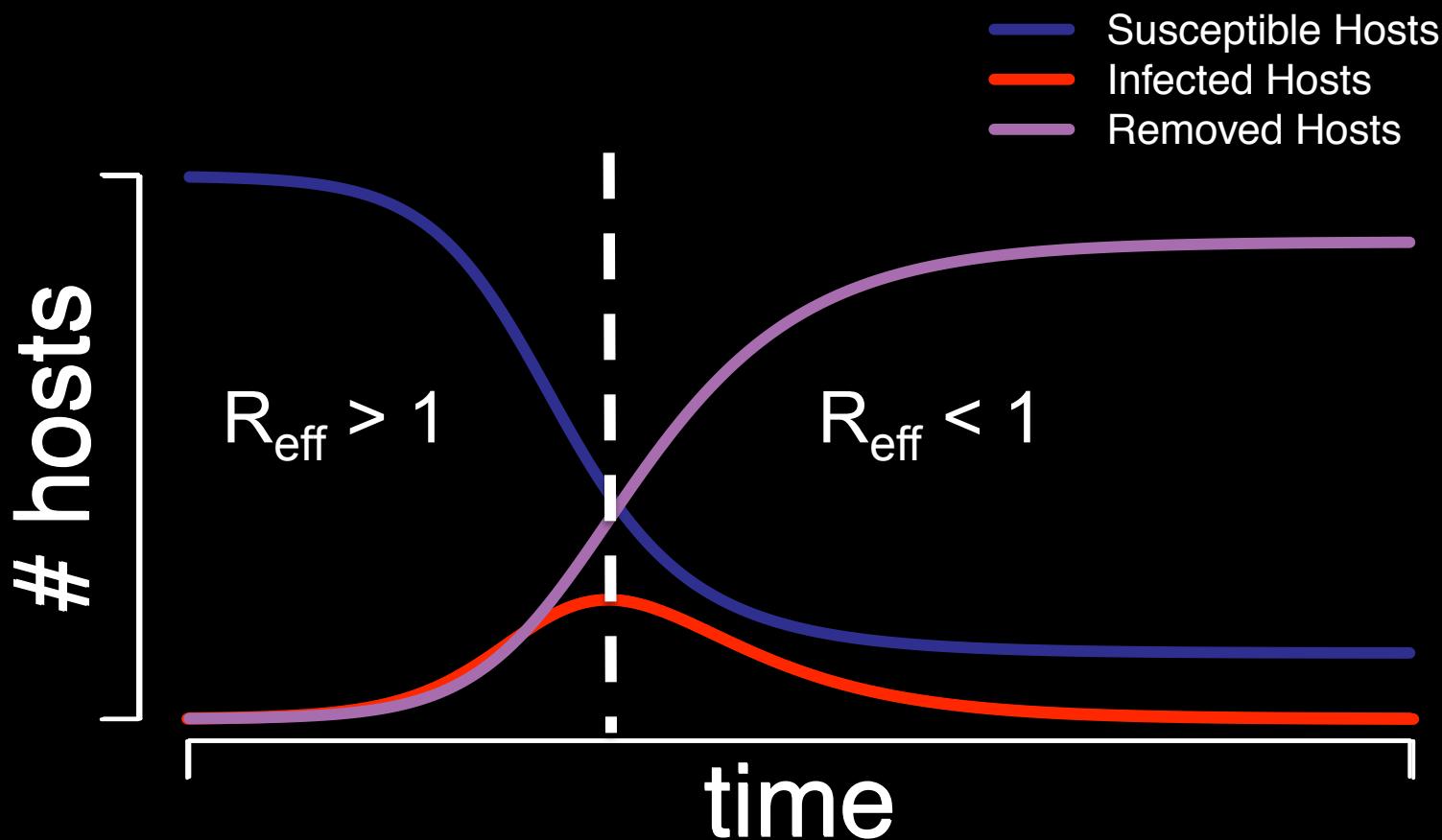
Why do epidemics peak?

Susceptible population declines over course of an outbreak
(death, immunity)

— Infected Hosts

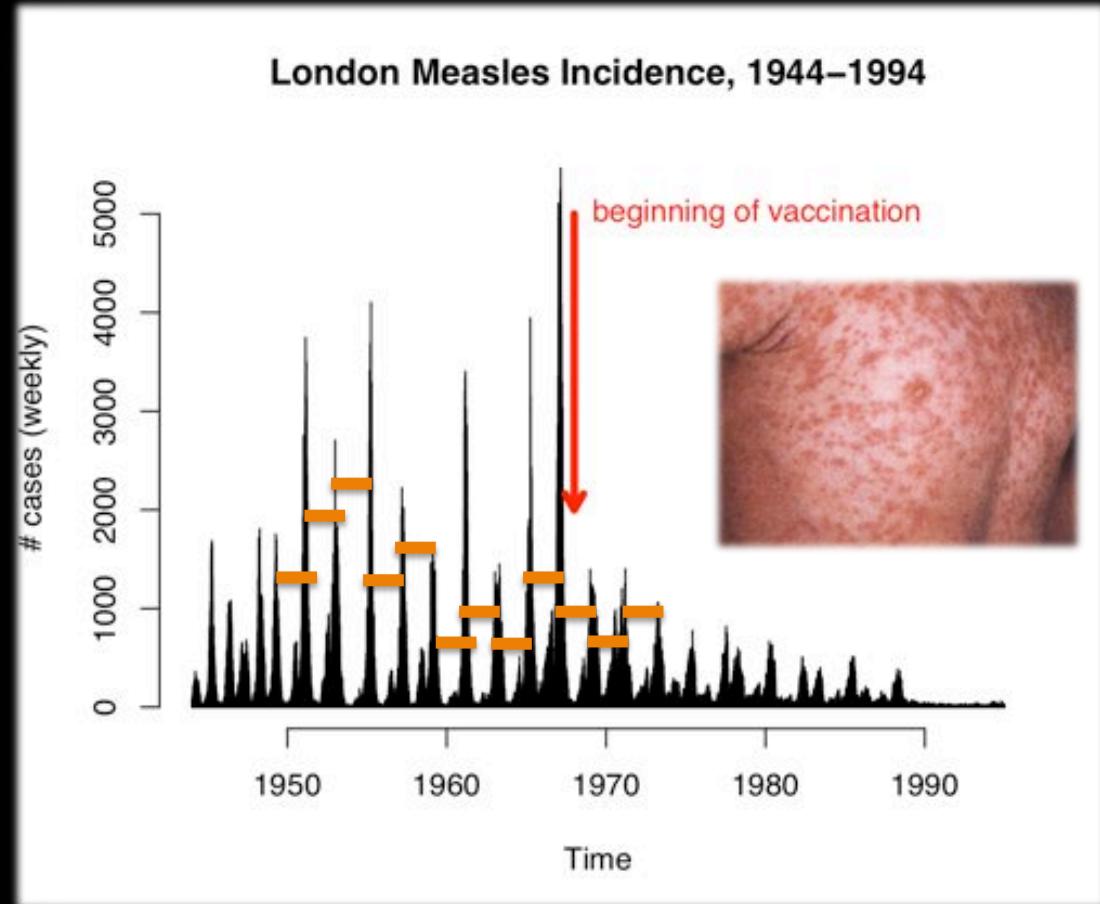


Single Peak Epidemic



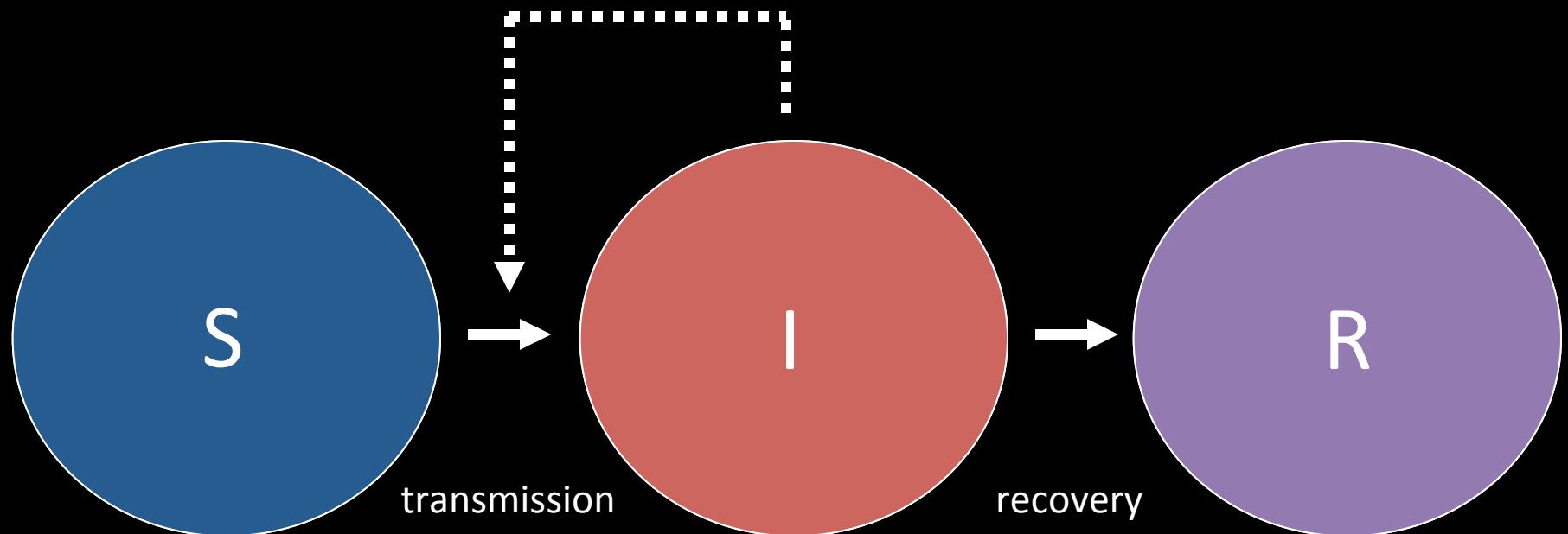
What accounts for epidemic cycles?

2 year cycles! WHY?

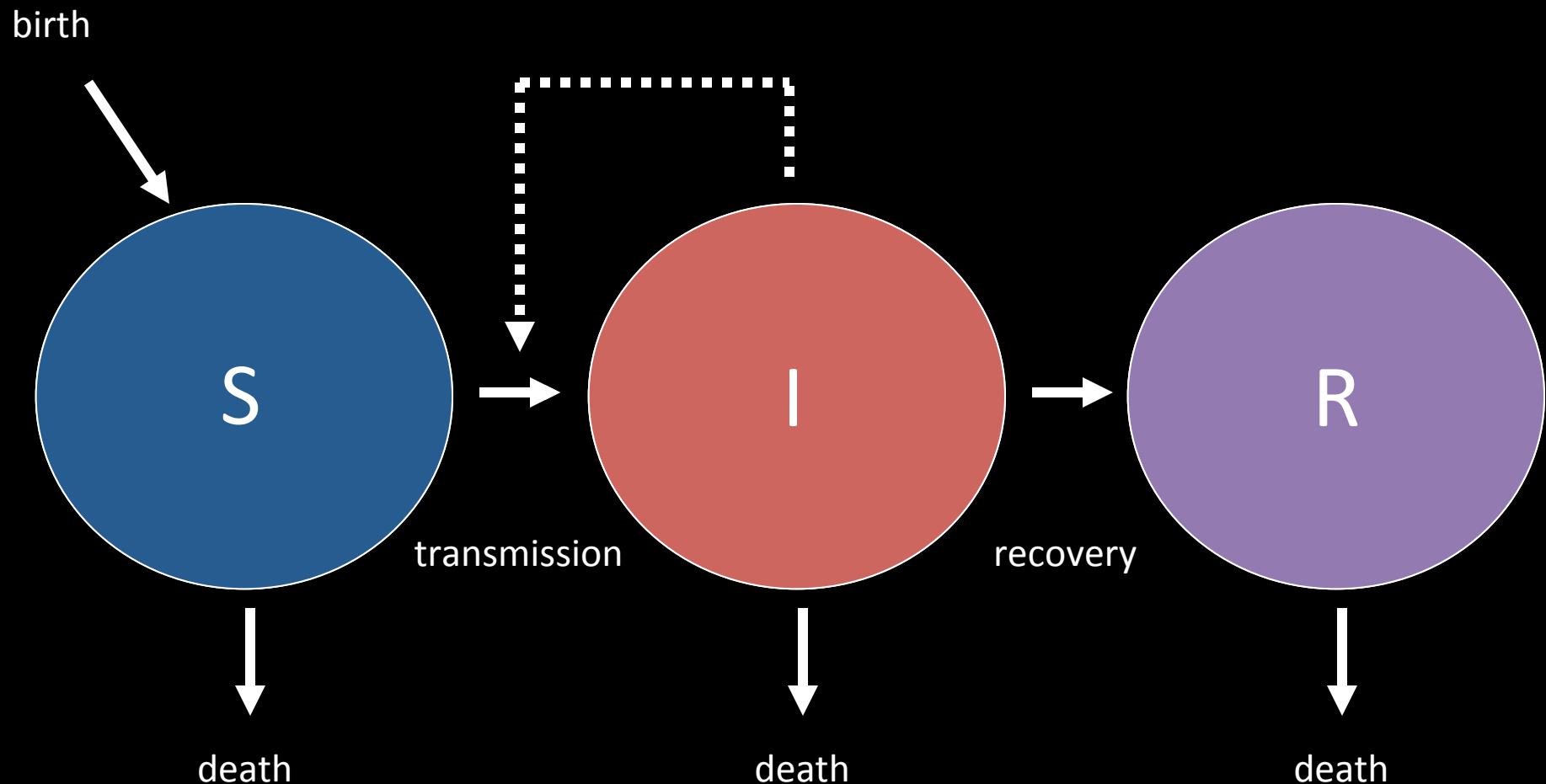


Earn et al. 2000. *Science*.

SIR Model

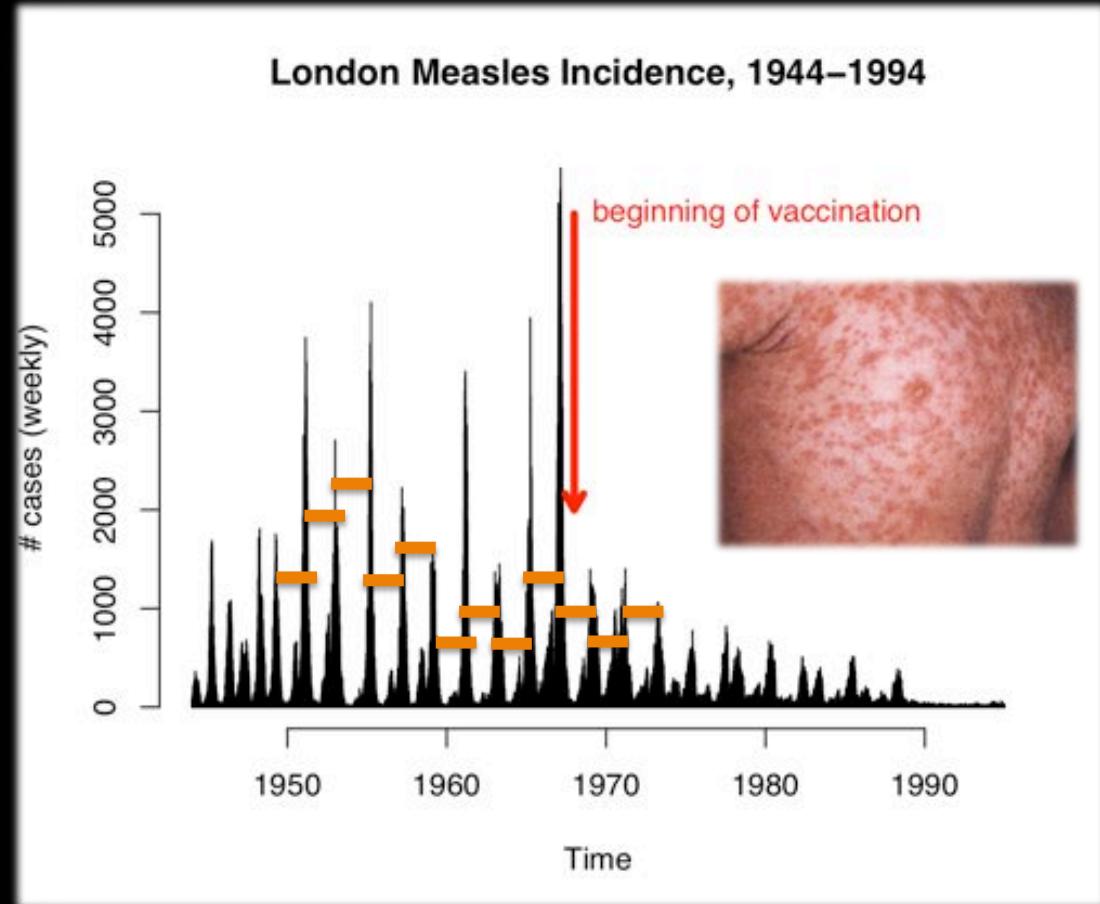


SIR Model with Birth & Death



What accounts for epidemic cycles?

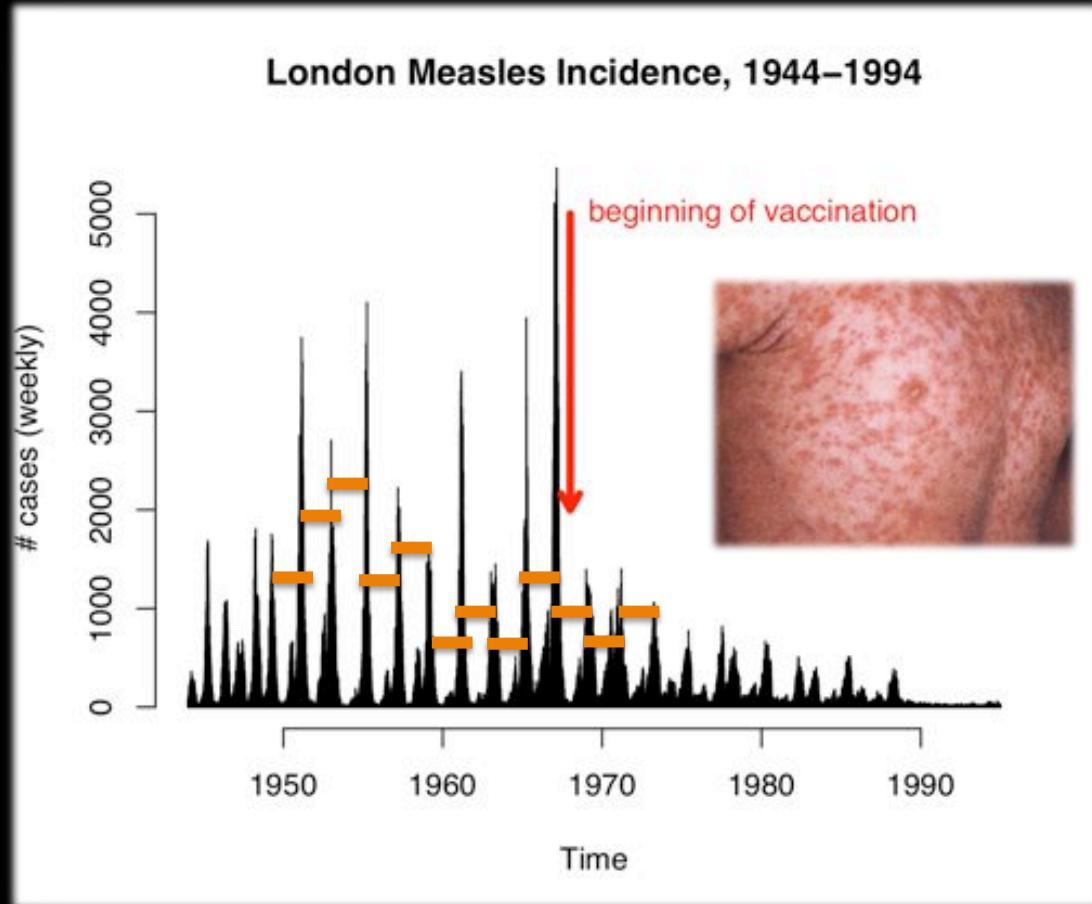
2 year cycles! WHY?



Earn et al. 2000. *Science*.

What accounts for epidemic cycles?

- Susceptibles depleted from an epidemic
- Disease does not completely die out (or is reintroduced).
- Susceptibles replenished through birth or loss of immunity, epidemic occurs.



Earn et al. 2000. *Science*.

100 years of Infectious Diseases in the US

Project Tycho Video:

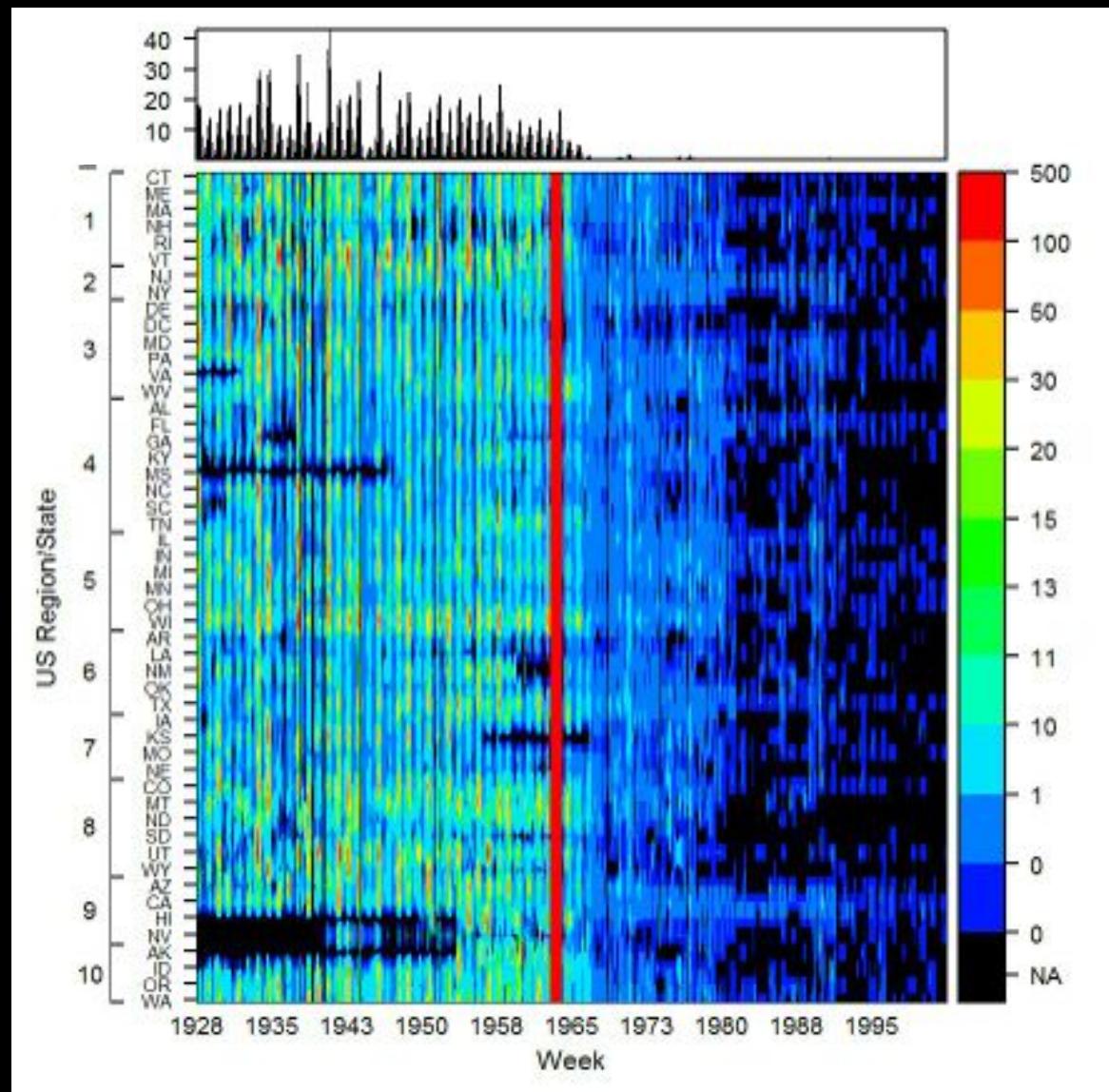
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kn9OJy1BPDo>

Project Tycho Website:

<https://www.tycho.pitt.edu/>

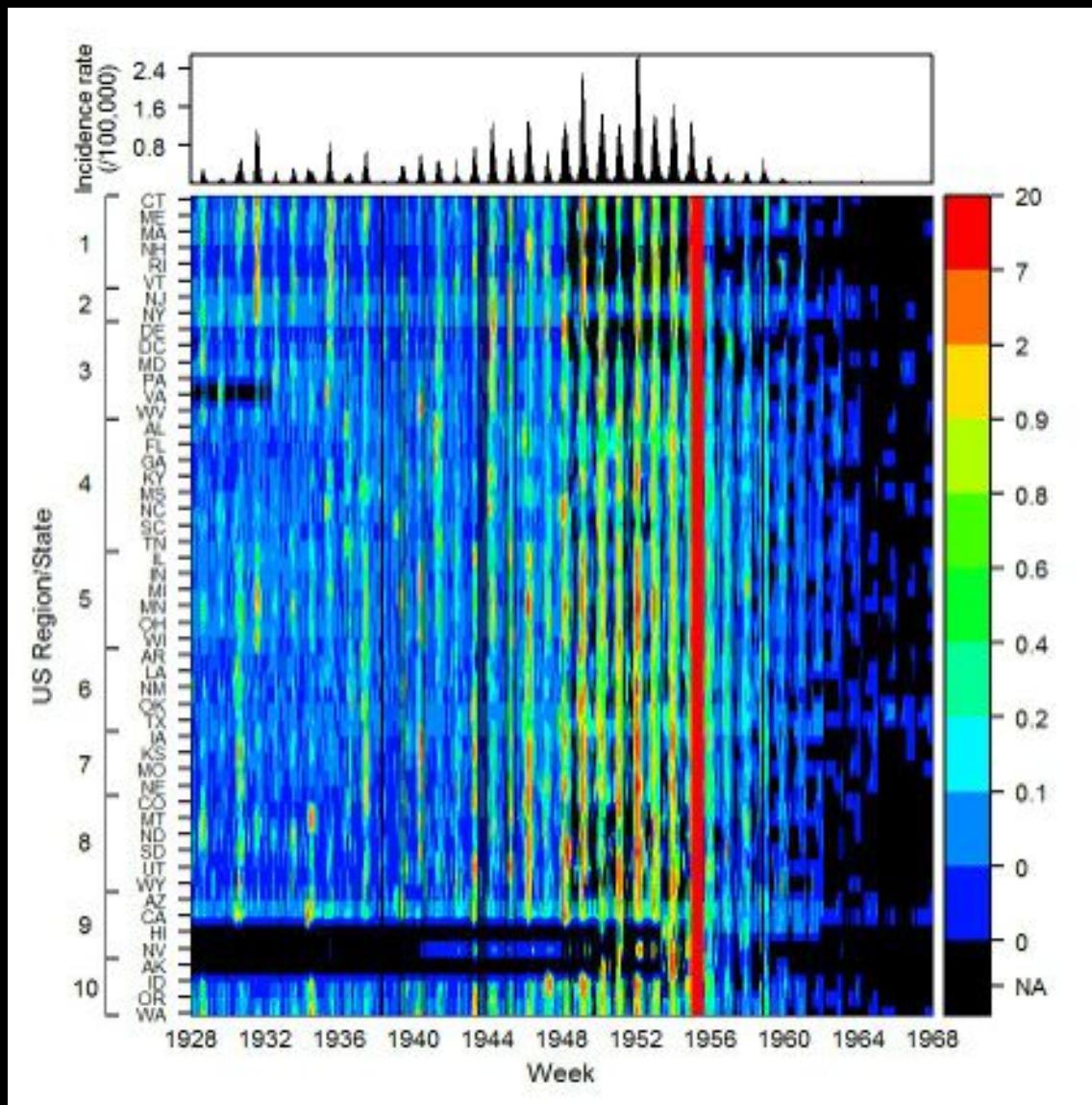
Measles Cases in the US

Cases per 10,000
per year



Polio Cases in the US

Cases per 10,000
per year



What makes a disease easy/hard to control?

- A small R_0
- Do infectious individuals know they're infectious?
- Reservoir (environment or another species)
- Vector-borne transmission
- Available interventions (vaccine, treatment, etc..)

Vaccine-Preventable Pathogens

- Tend to already confer natural immunity
- Usually childhood diseases
- Low strain variability

Why do pathogens cause disease?

~~They hate humans.~~

Evolutionary Consequences



Why do parasites cause disease?

Transmission-Virulence Tradeoff

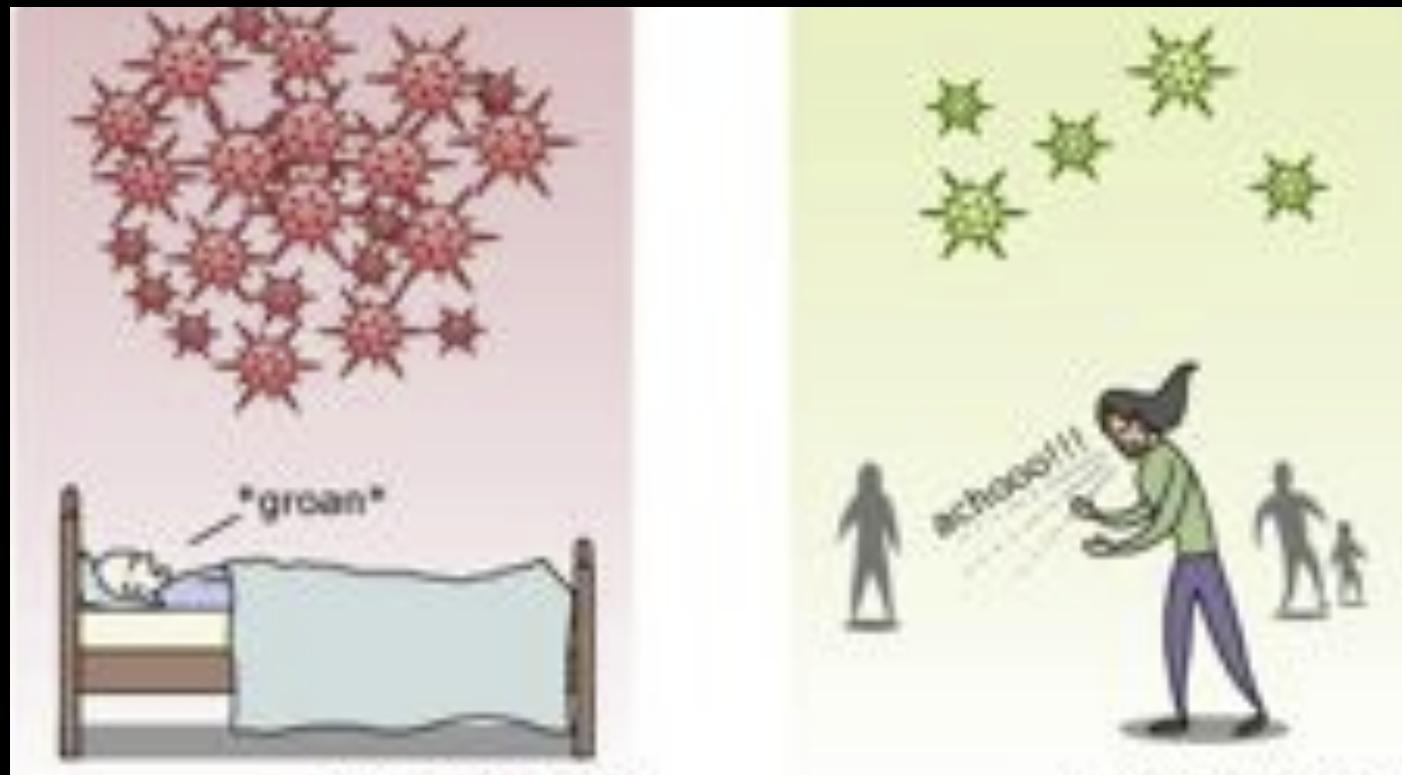
- Successful pathogens are successful at spreading.
- Mechanisms of spread are often linked to disease.



Coughing spreads whooping cough (pertussis).

Why do parasites cause disease?

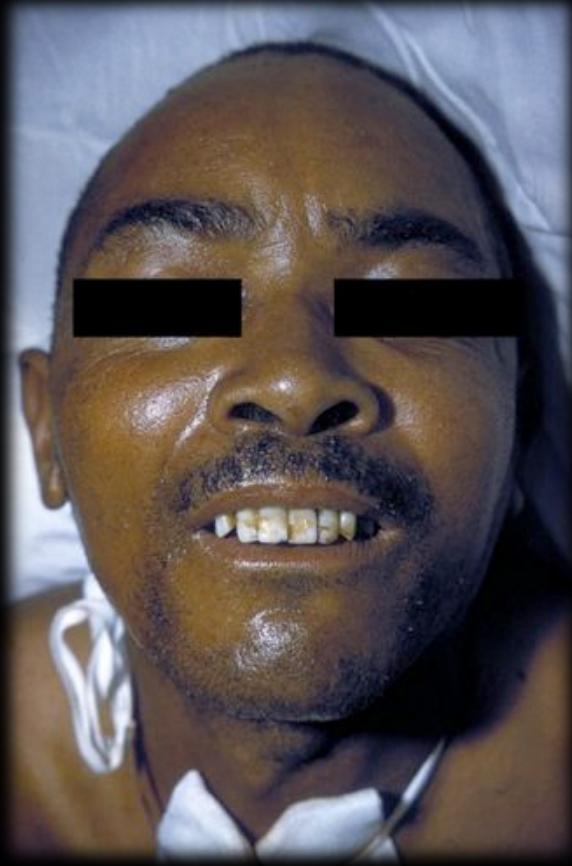
Transmission-Virulence Tradeoff



Why do parasites cause disease?

Accidental

- Toxins adapted for other causes.
- We may be a dead end host.

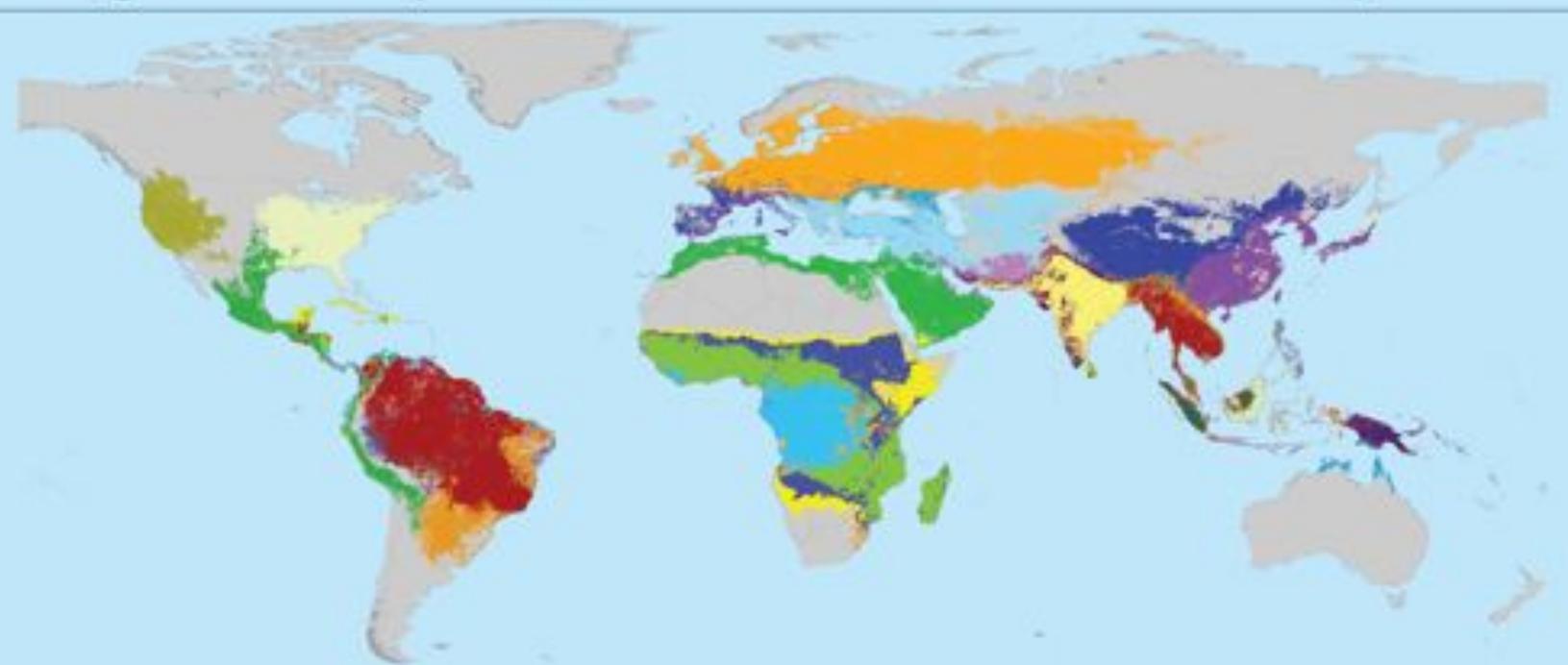


Tetanus caused by the soil-dwelling
bacterium *Clostridium tetani*.

Vector-Borne Diseases

- Malaria (*Plasmodium spp.*)
- Dengue
- Chikungunya
- Yellow Fever

A global map of dominant malaria vector species



The Americas

- An. darlingi
- An. aquasalis
- An. albimanus s.l.
- An. marajoara
- An. nuneztovari s.l.
- An. pseudopunctipennis
- An. albimanus
- An. quadrimaculatus s.l.
- An. freeborni

Euro. & M.East

- An. superpictus
- An. sergenti
- An. sacharovi
- An. messeae
- An. lebranchiae
- An. atroparvus

Africa

- An. arabiensis
- An. funestus
- An. gambiae
- An. arabiensis
- An. funestus
- An. funestus
- An. gambiae
- An. funestus
- An. arabiensis

India/Western Asia

- An. culicifacies s.l.
- An. stephensi
- An. fluviatilis s.l.
- An. fluviatilis s.l.
- An. stephensi
- An. culicifacies s.l.

South-East Asia & Pacific

- An. fassoni s.l.
- An. koliensis
- An. punctulatus s.l.
- An. dirus s.l.
- An. minimus s.l.
- An. lesteri; An. sinensis
- An. balabacensis
- An. barbirostris s.l.
- An. dirus s.l.
- An. fassoni s.l.
- An. barbirostris
- An. kolensis
- An. lesteri
- An. leucosphyruslatens
- An. maculatus
- An. minimus s.l.
- An. punctulatus s.l.
- An. sinensis
- An. sundanus s.l.

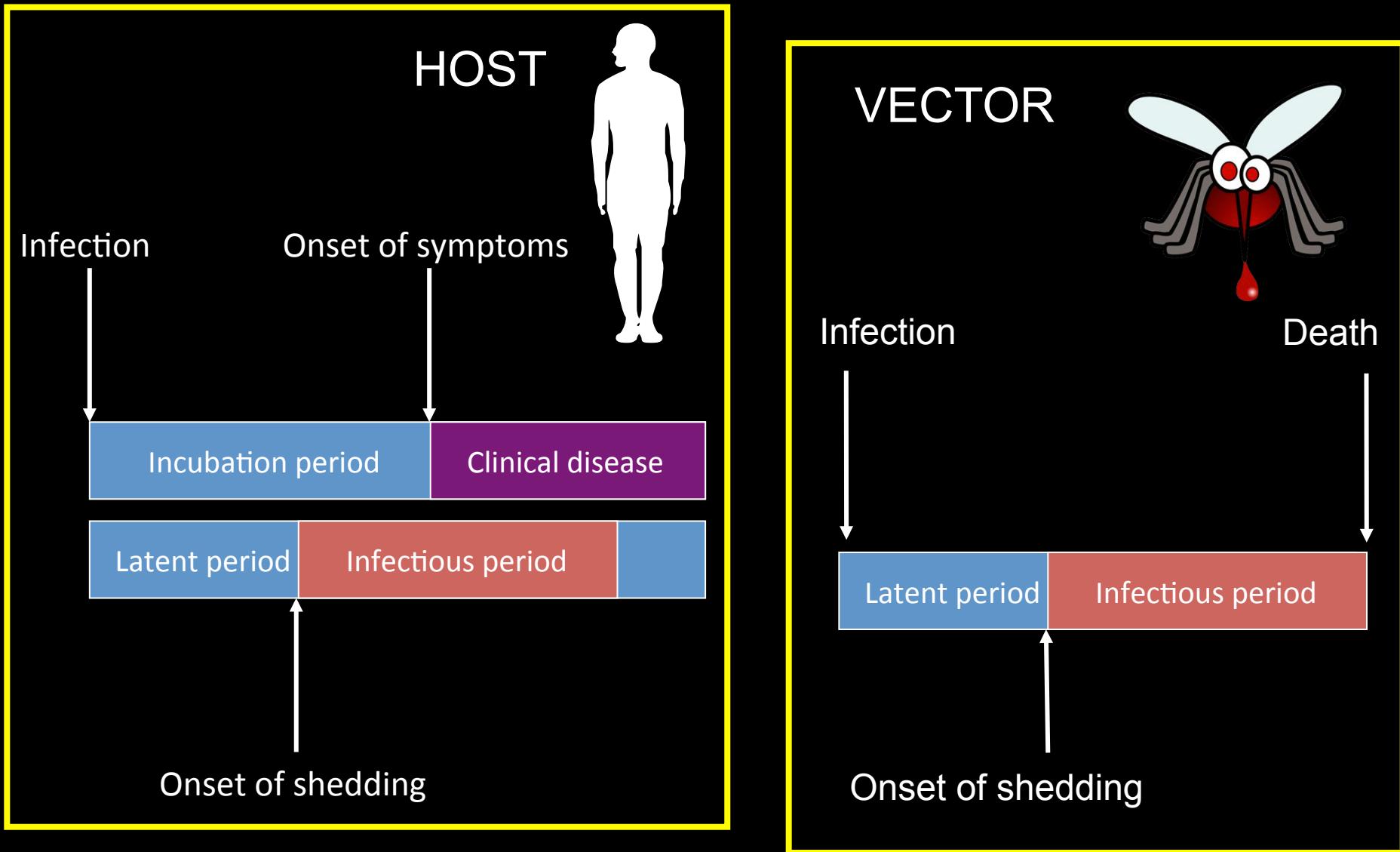


Expansion of the Asian Tiger Mosquito



Vector of dengue virus, yellow fever virus, chikungunya virus

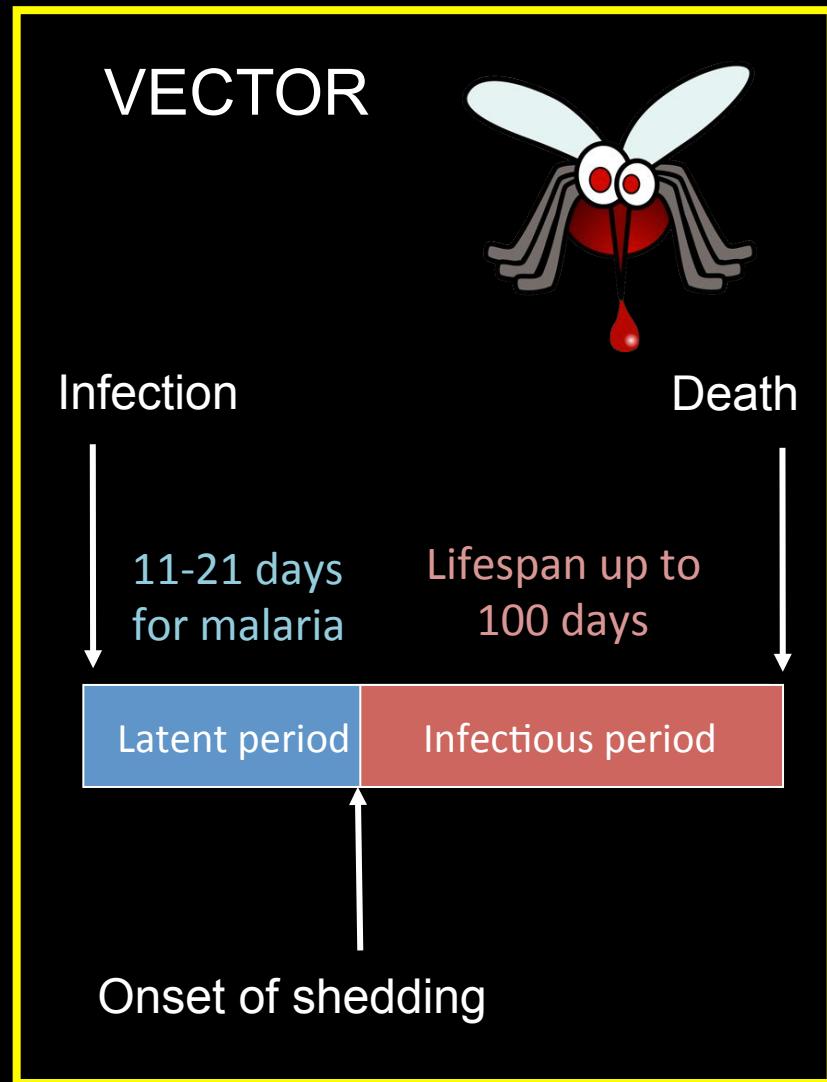
Vector-Borne Diseases



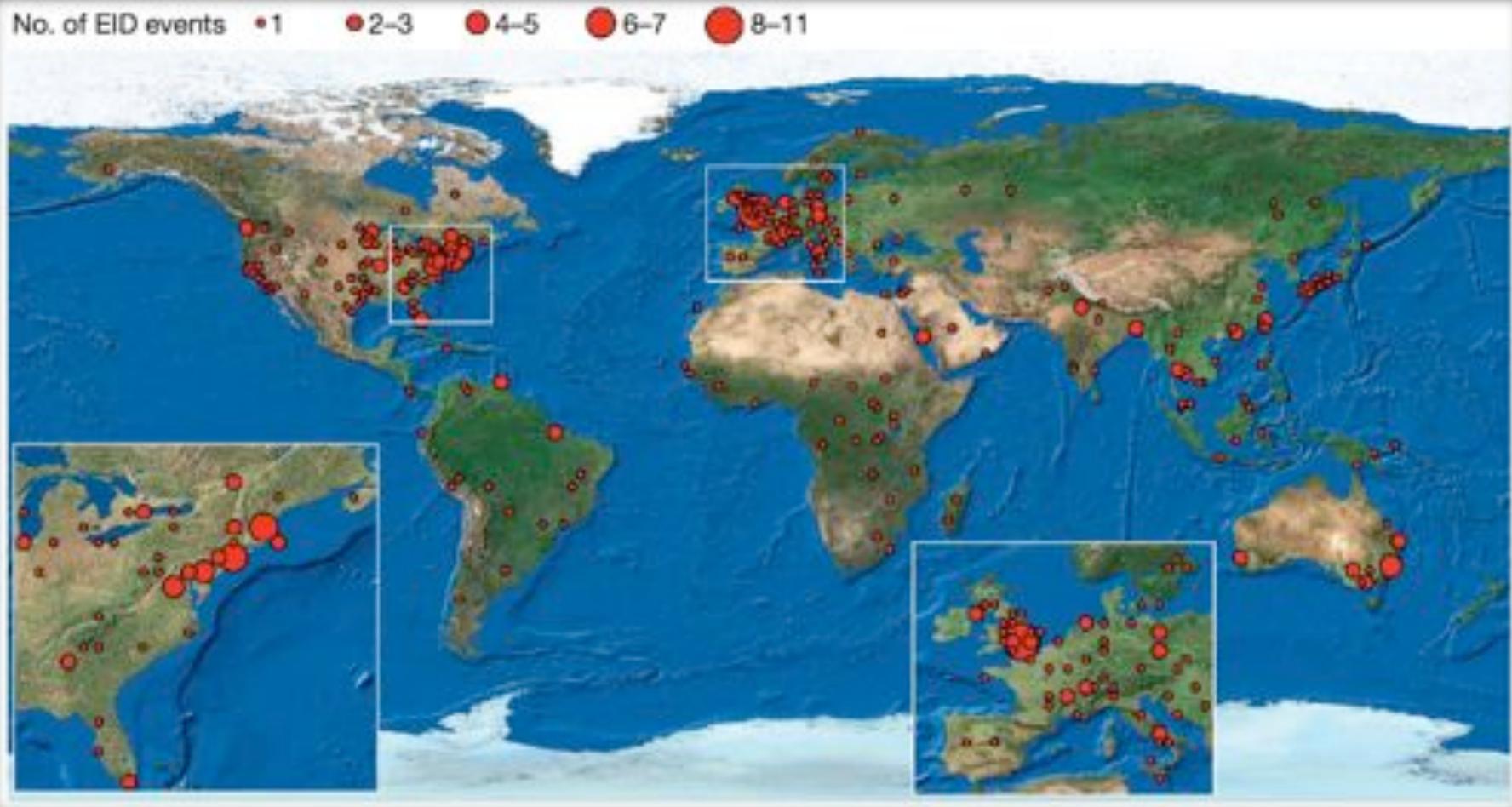
Vector-Borne Diseases

Why does mosquito control work?

- Fewer mosquitoes
- Shortens mosquito lifespan, reducing
 1. Proportion living long enough after becoming infected to become infectious
 2. # days mosquitoes live once infectious



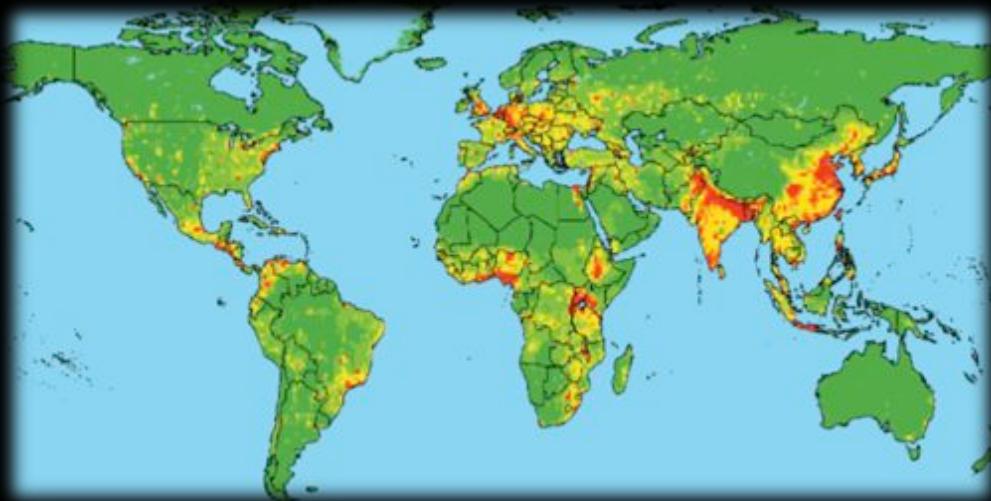
Emerging Infectious Disease Events 1940-2004



Jones et al. (2008) *Nature*

EID risk from animals

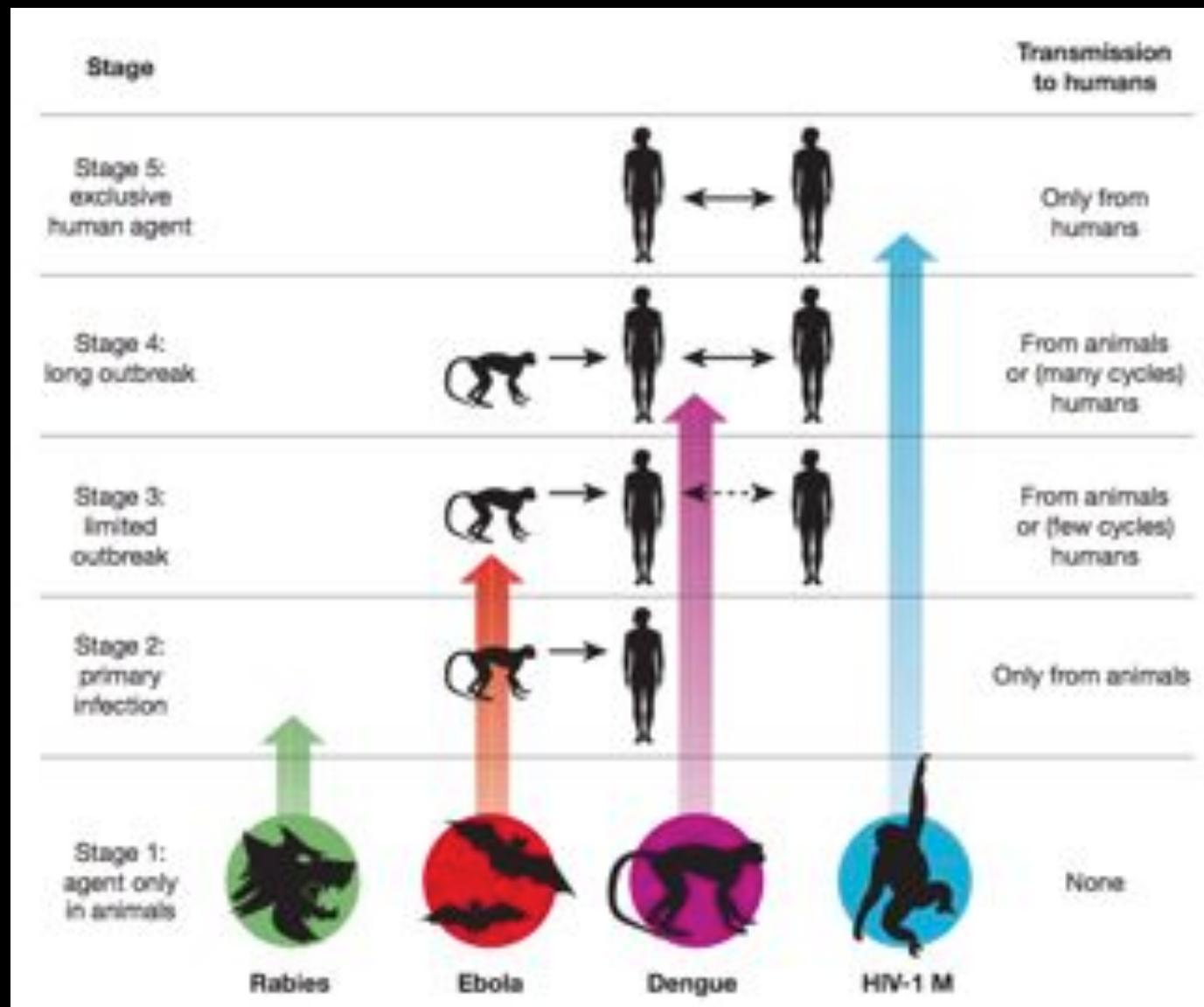
from wildlife



from domestic animals

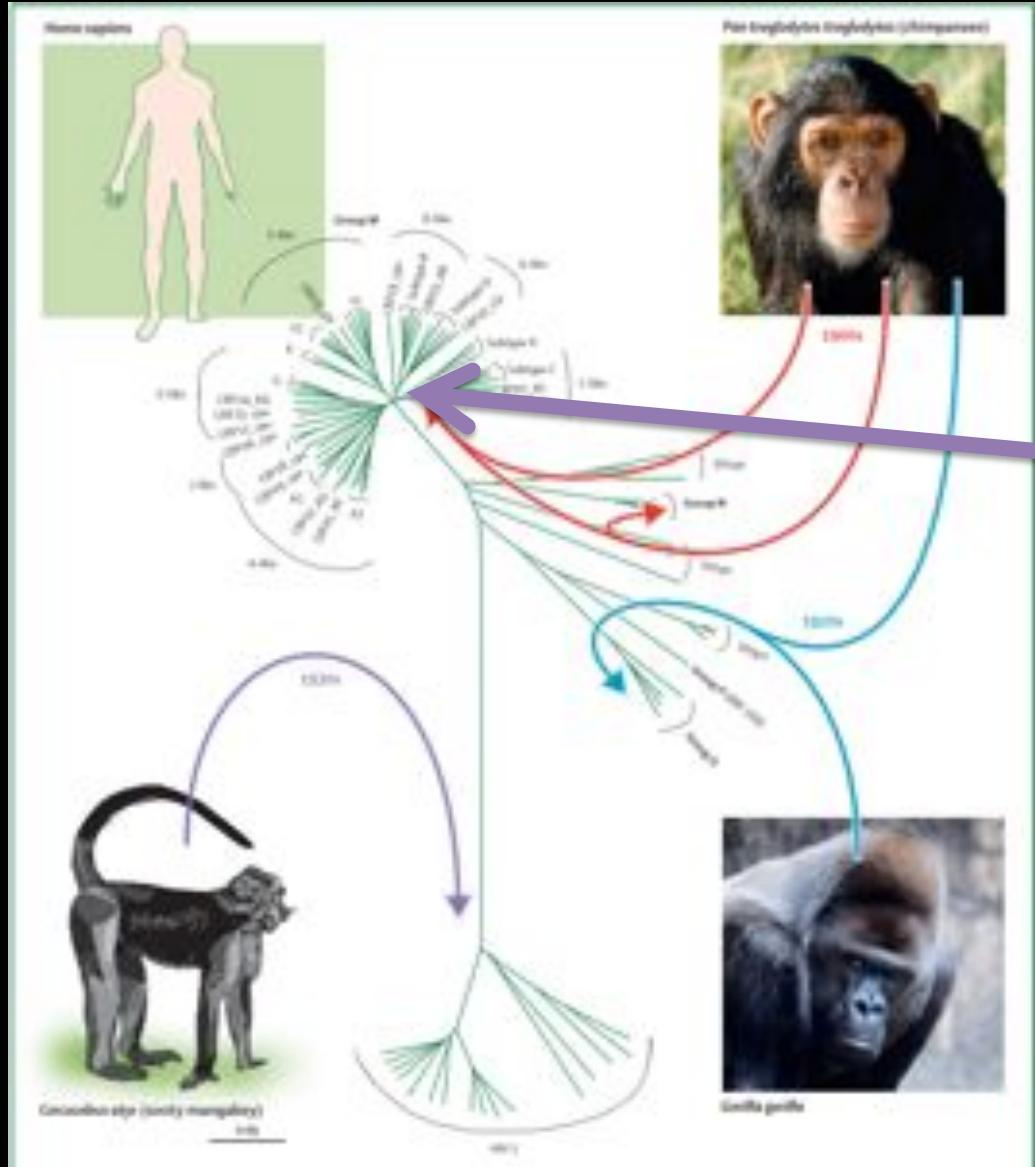


Stages of Zoonotic Pathogens



Wolfe et al. (2007) *Nature*

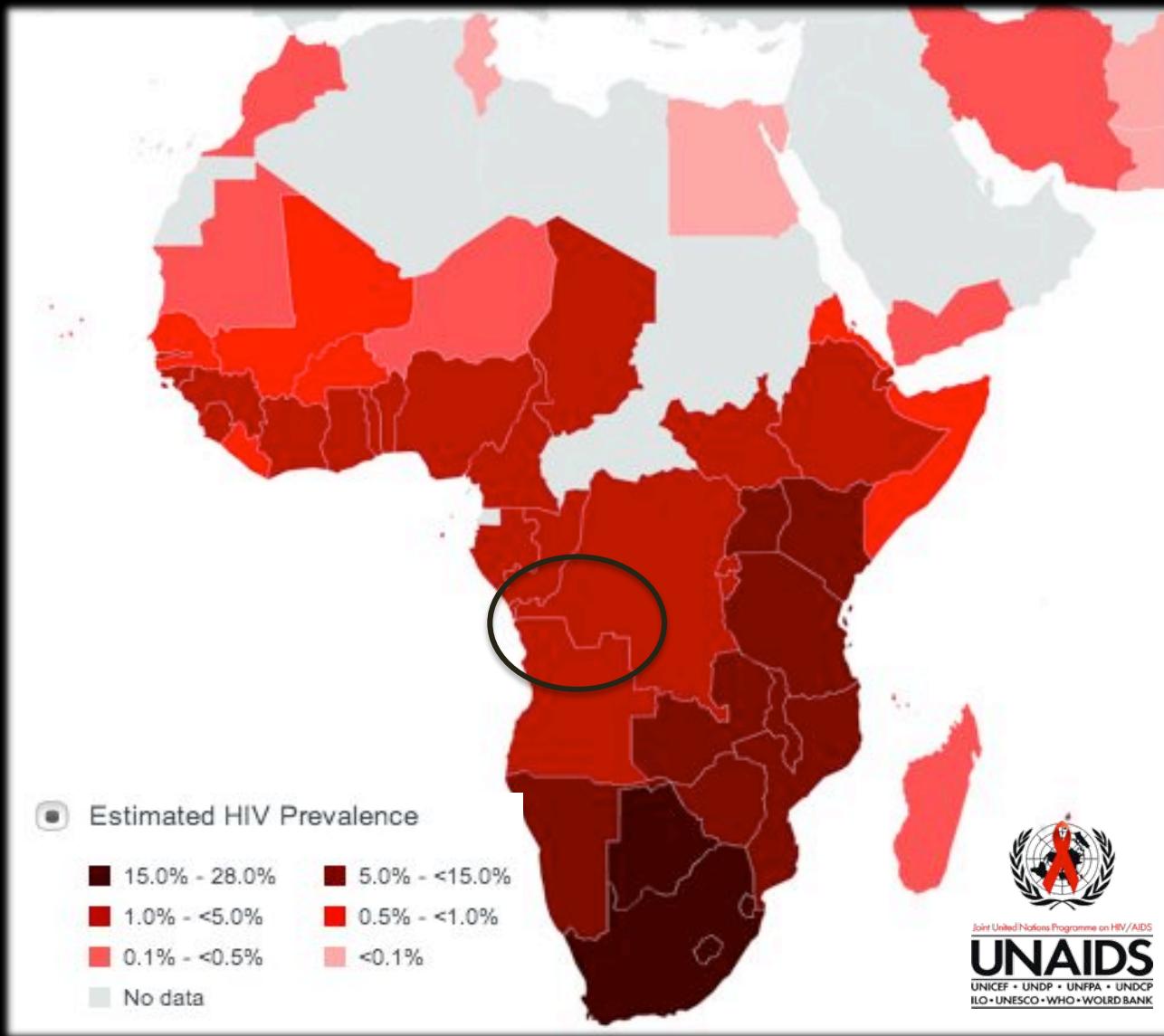
HIV Emergence



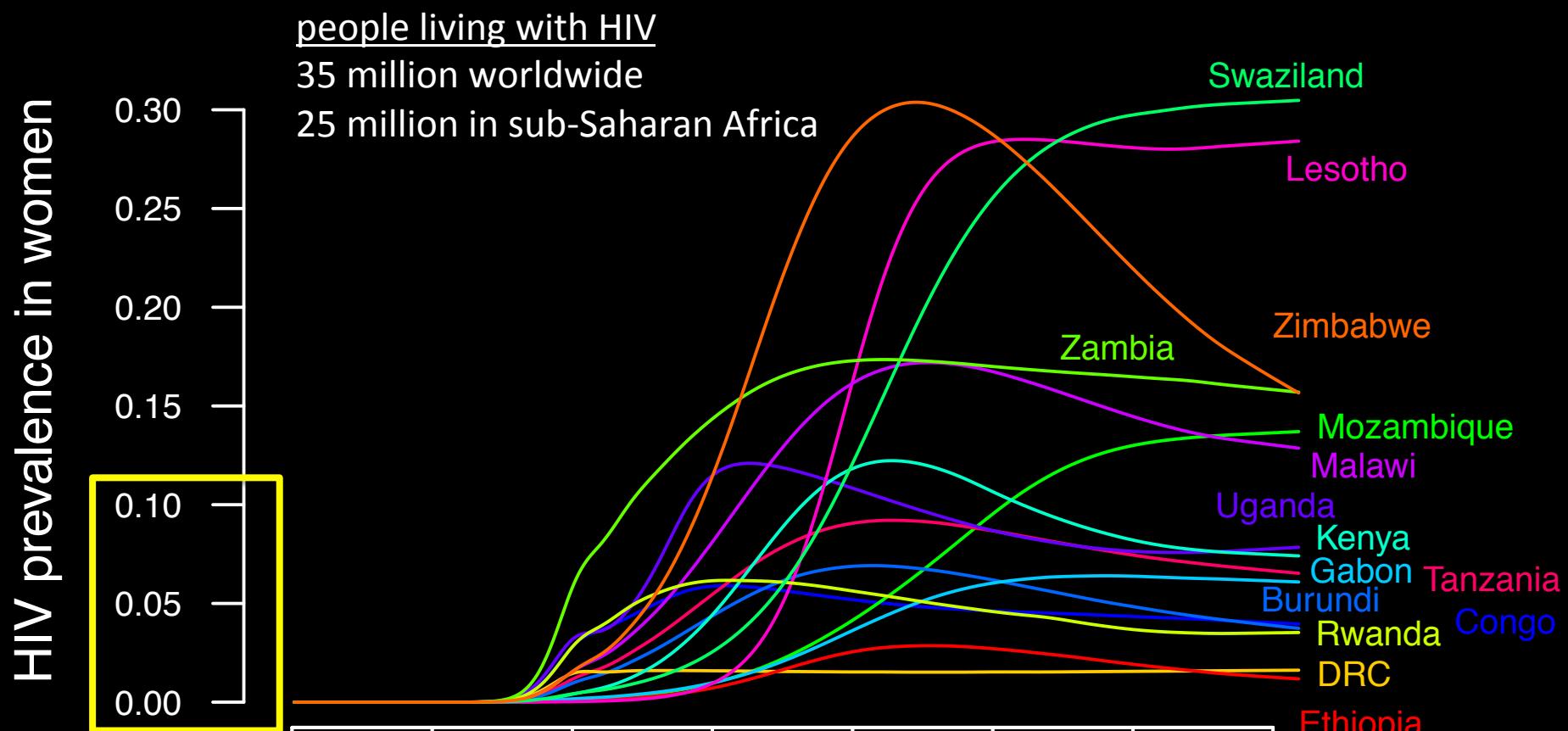
Most recent common ancestor around 1900.

But HIV only discovered in 1981!

HIV Prevalence



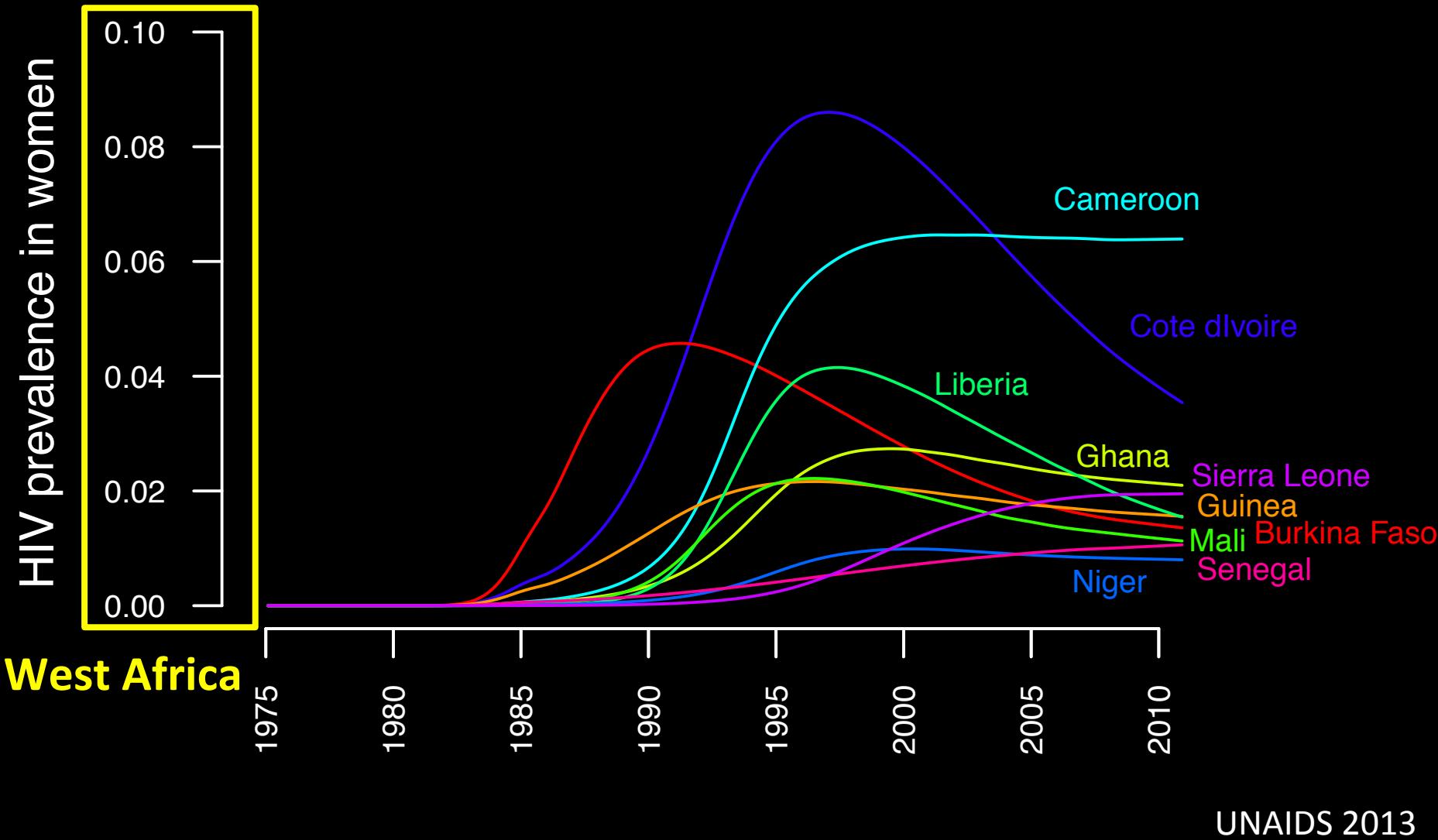
HIV prevalence in Africa



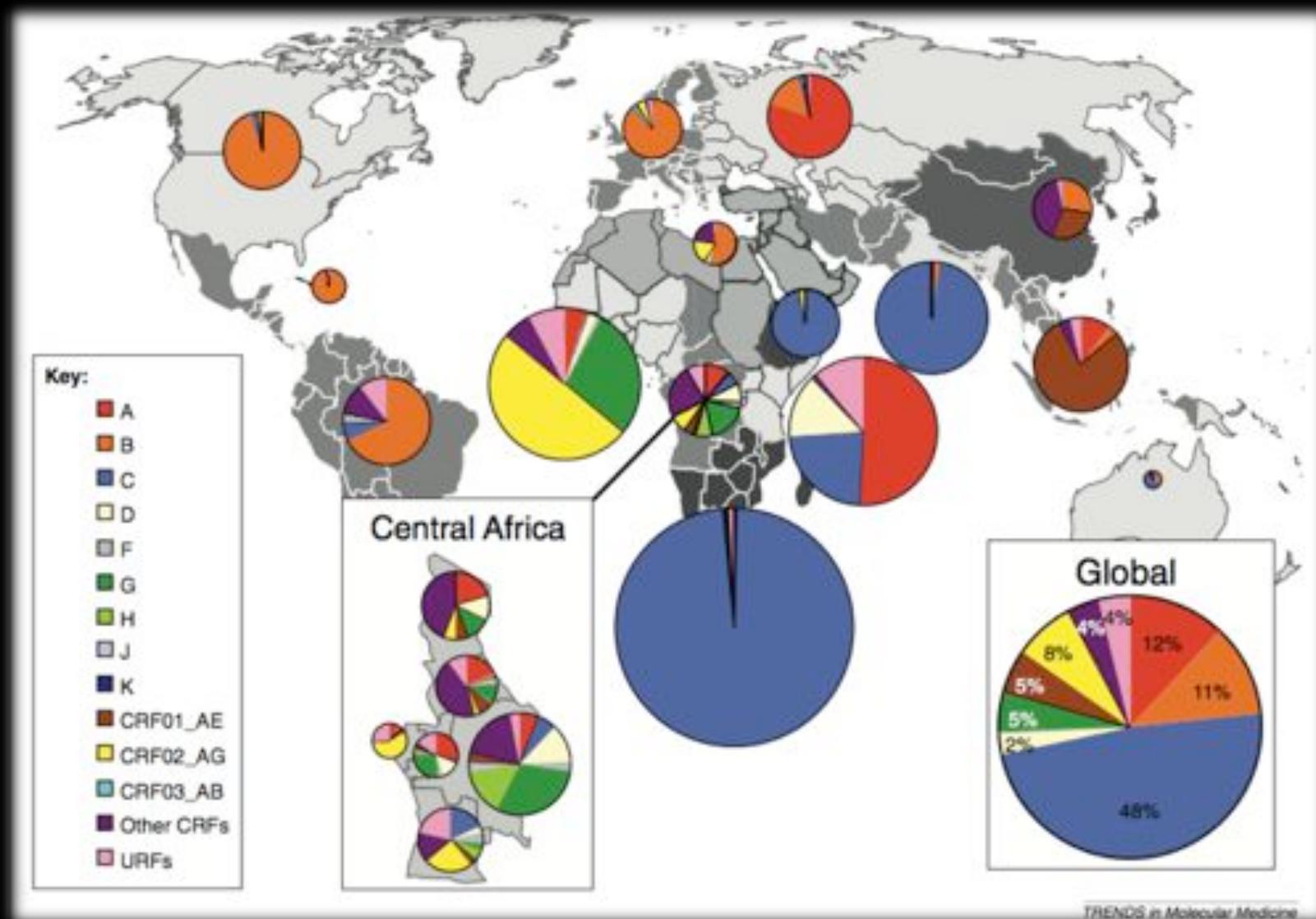
West Africa

UNAIDS 2013

HIV prevalence in Africa



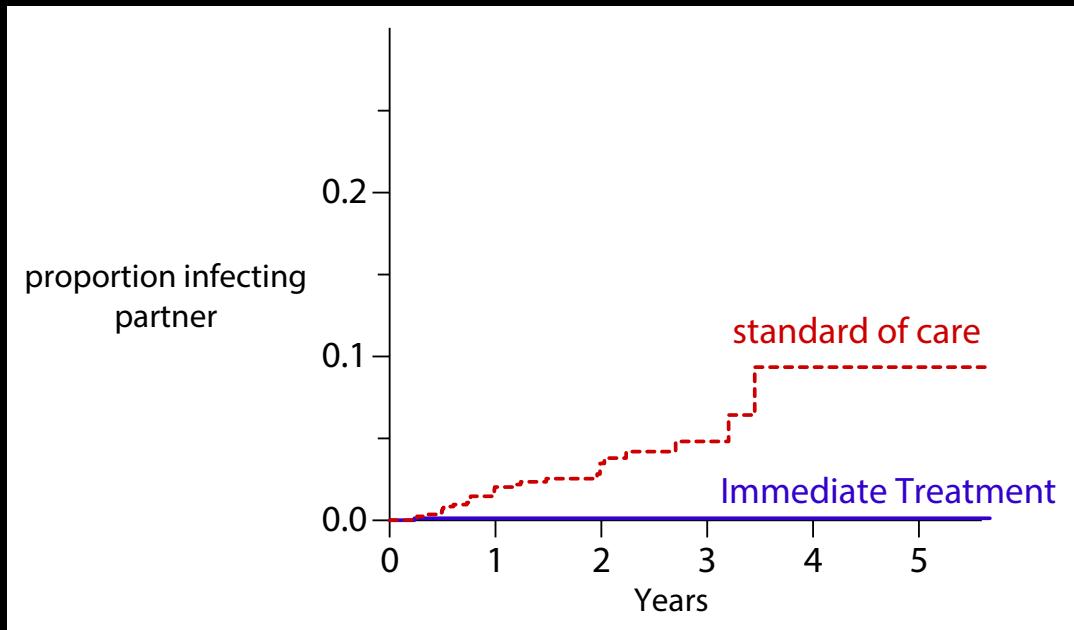
HIV Diversity Indicates its Origin



TRENDS in Molecular Medicine

Hemelaar et al. 2012

Treatment as Prevention (TasP)

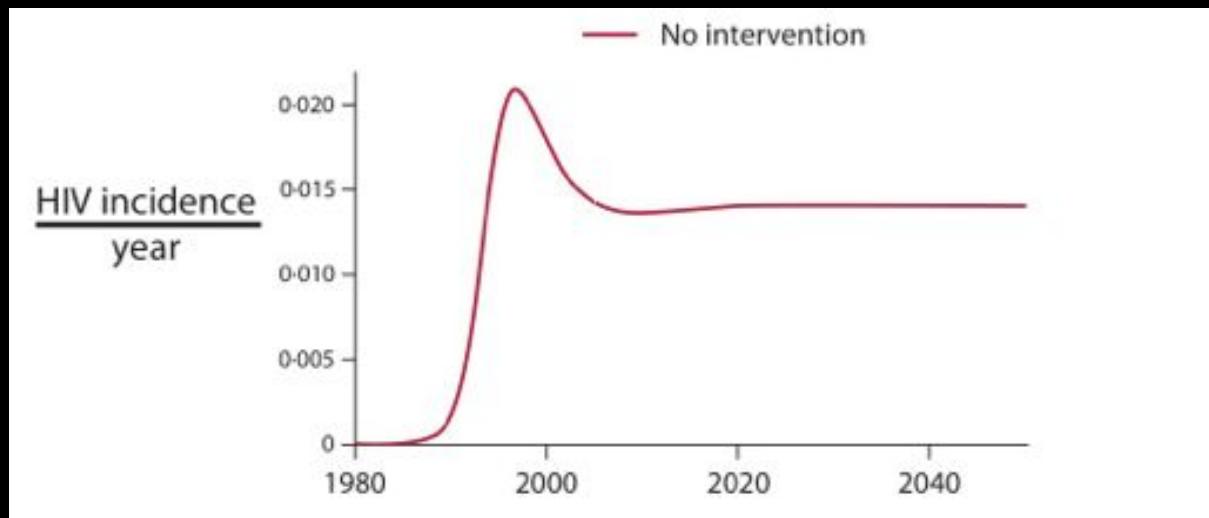


Cohen et al. (2011). *NEJM*.

Antiretroviral therapy
suppresses HIV viral load
& reduces transmission

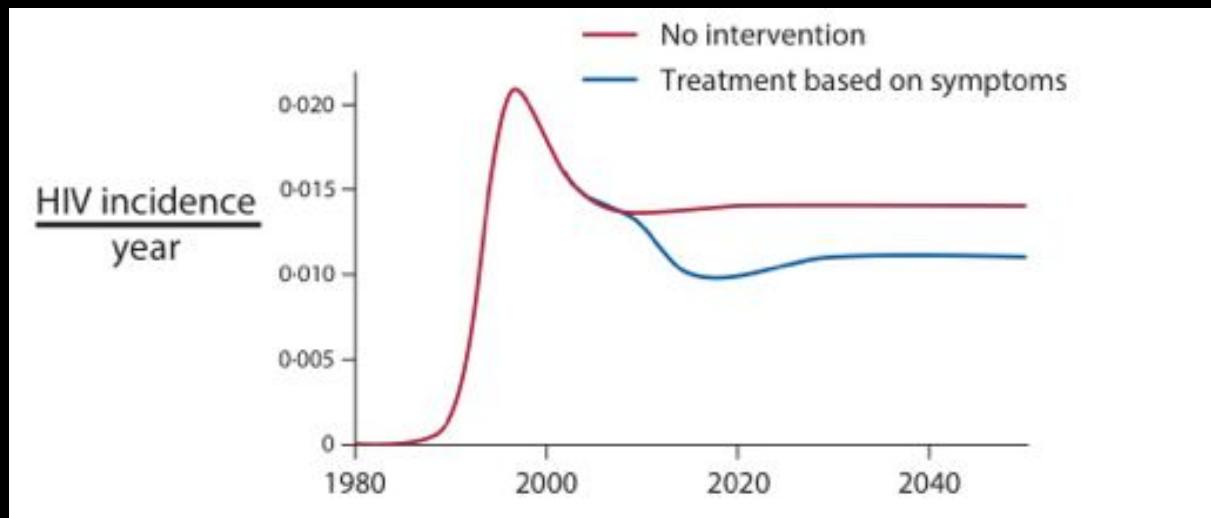
96% reduction in
transmission

Universal “Test and Treat”



Granich et al. (2009). *Lancet.*

Universal “Test and Treat”



Granich et al. (2009). *Lancet.*

Universal “Test and Treat”

Test
annually

↓

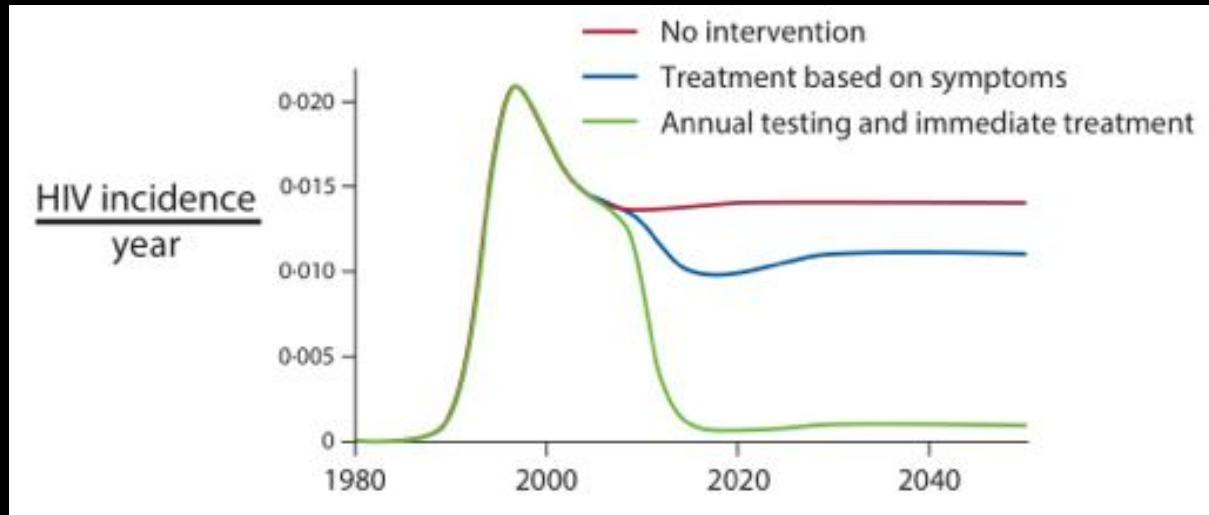
Treat immediately

↓

Reduce transmission

↓

Eliminate HIV



Granich et al. (2009). *Lancet.*

cluster randomized controlled trials underway

Will “Test and Treat” work?

- Logistics
- Uptake and adherence
- Drug Resistance
- Early Transmission

OPEN ACCESS Freely available online

PLOS MEDICINE

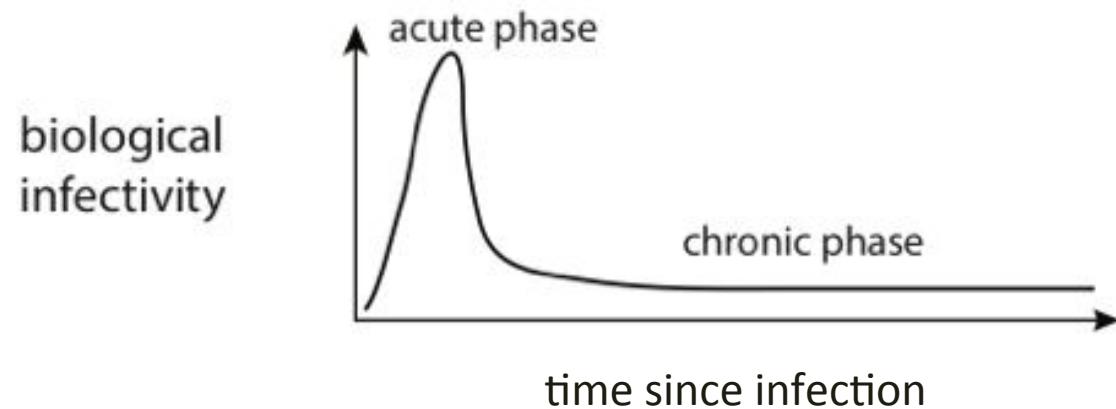
Review

HIV Treatment as Prevention: Debate and Commentary—Will Early Infection Compromise Treatment-as-Prevention Strategies?

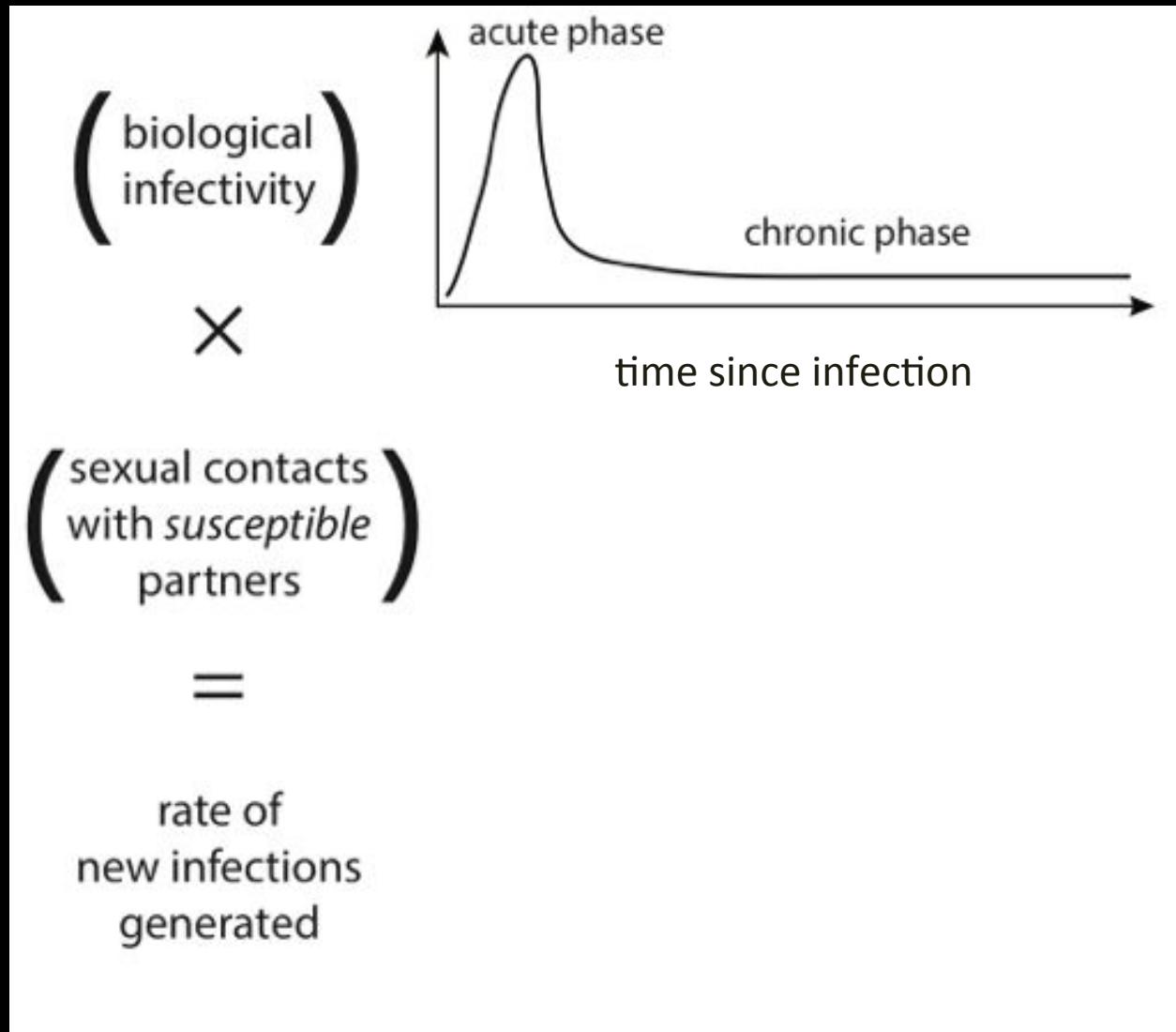
Myron S. Cohen^{1,2,3*}, Christopher Dye^{4*}, Christophe Fraser^{5**}, William C. Miller^{2,3†}, Kimberly A. Powers^{2,3†}, Brian G. Williams^{6**}

How much transmission happens before diagnosis and treatment?

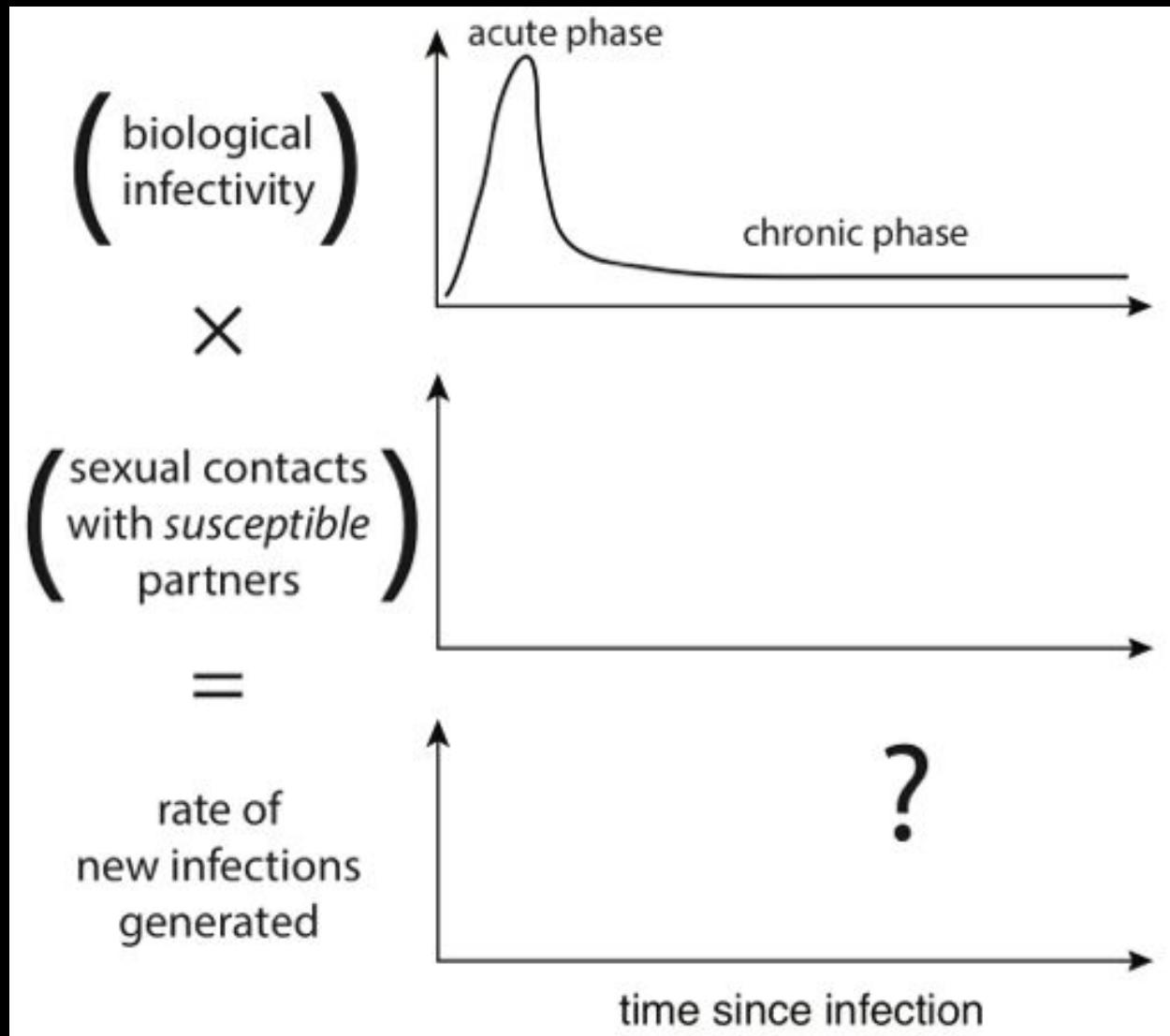
What proportion of transmission occurs early?



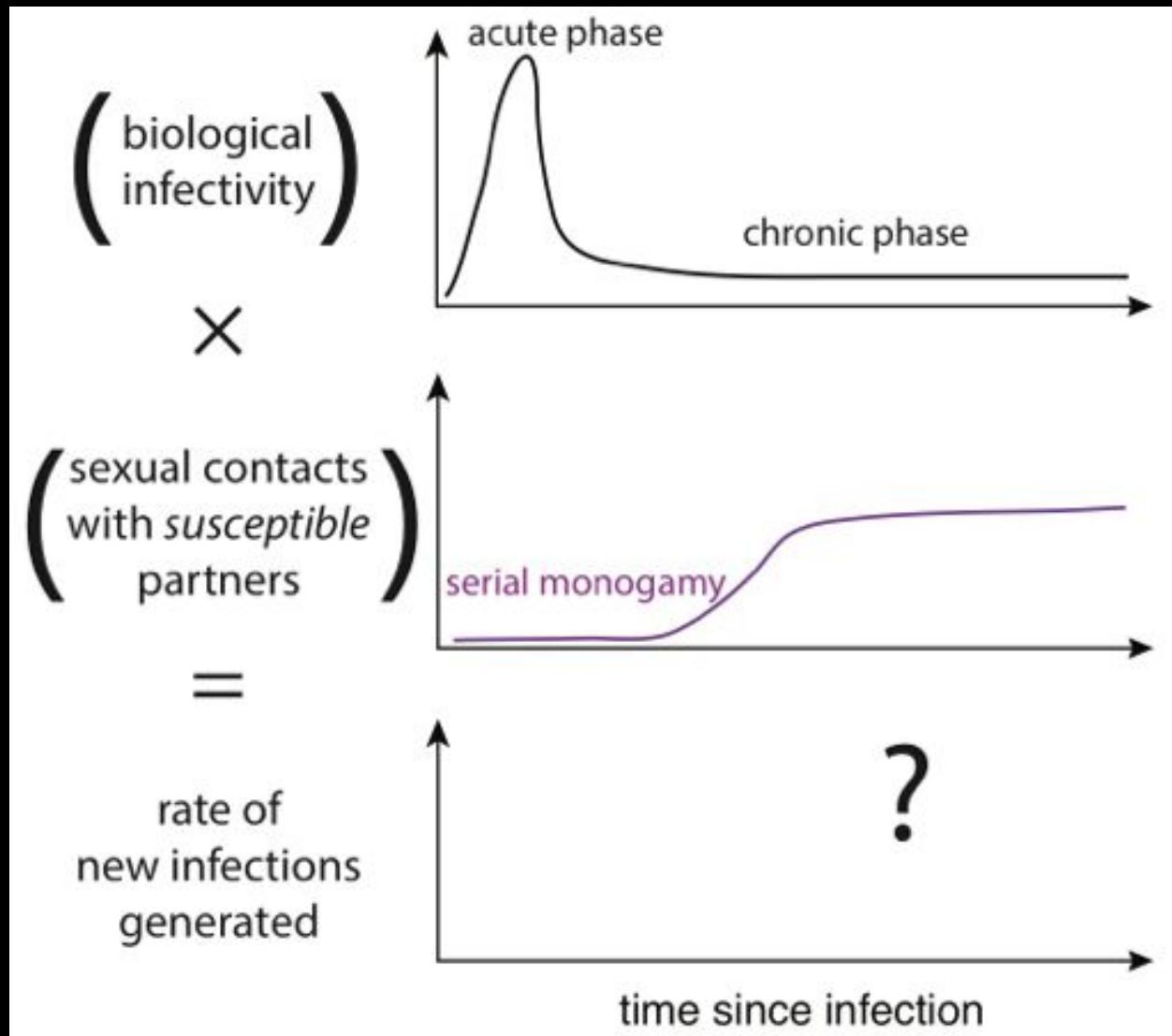
What proportion of transmission occurs early?



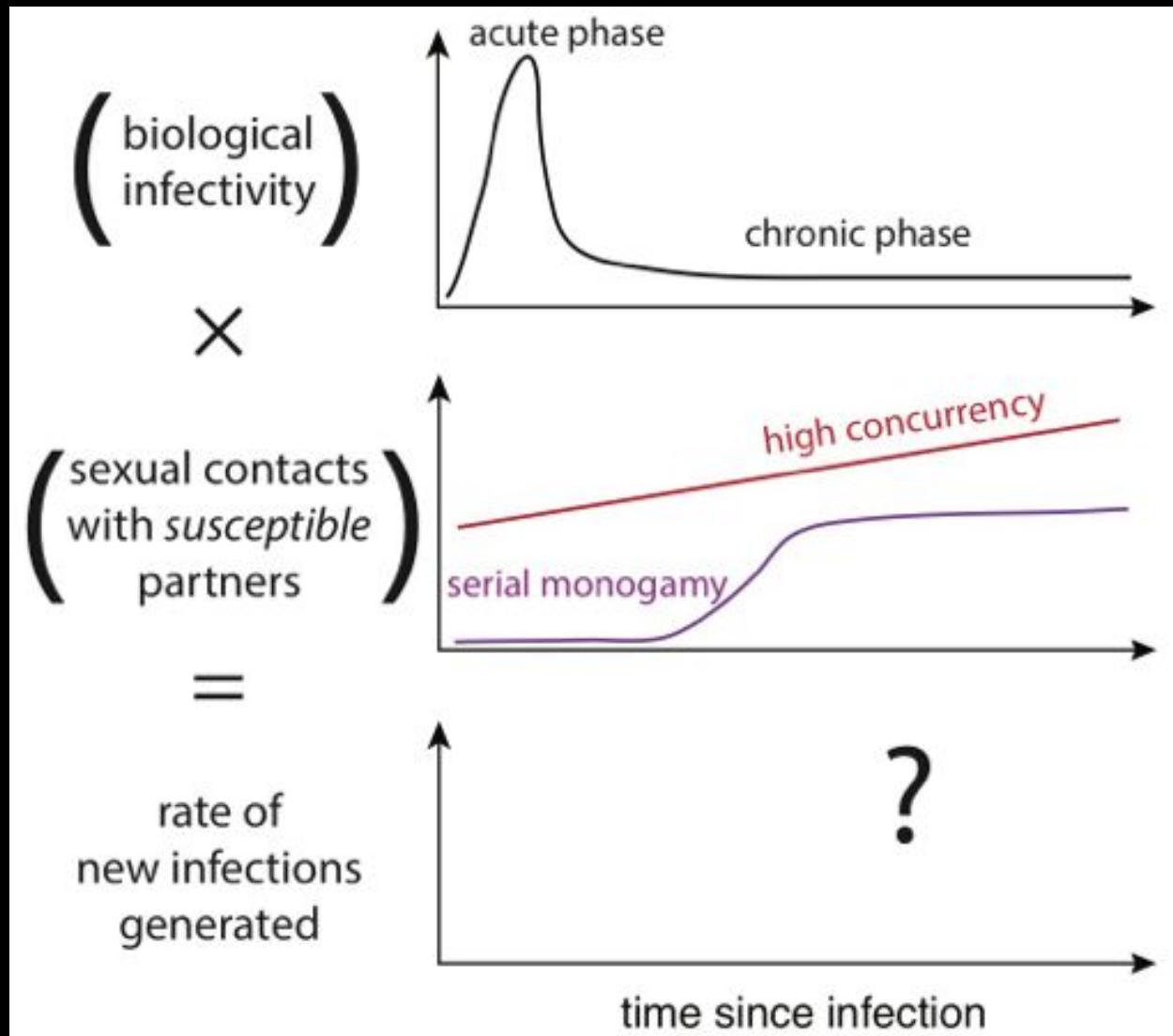
What proportion of transmission occurs early?



What proportion of transmission occurs early?

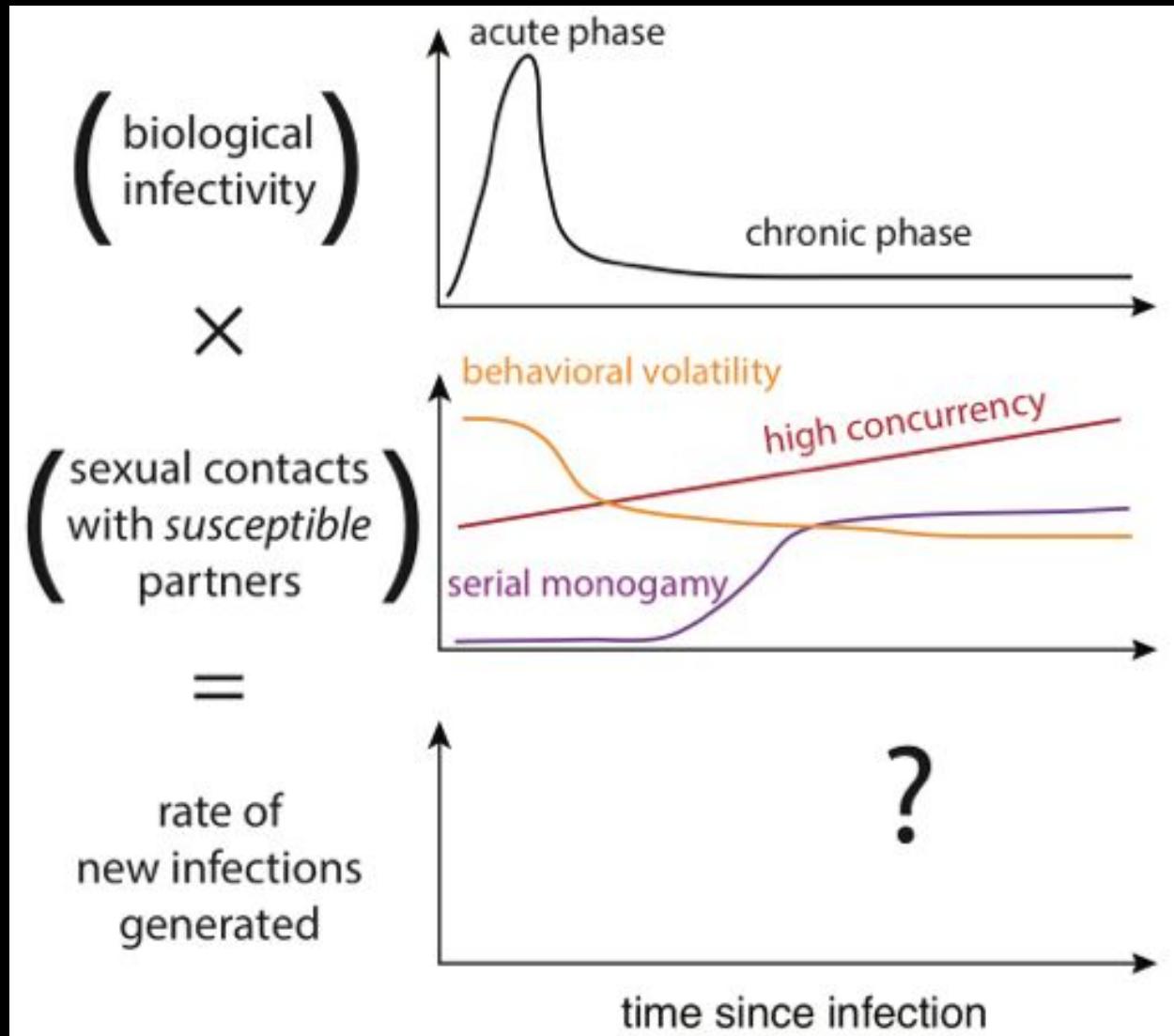


What proportion of transmission occurs early?



Eaton et al. 2011.
AIDS & Behavior.

What proportion of transmission occurs early?

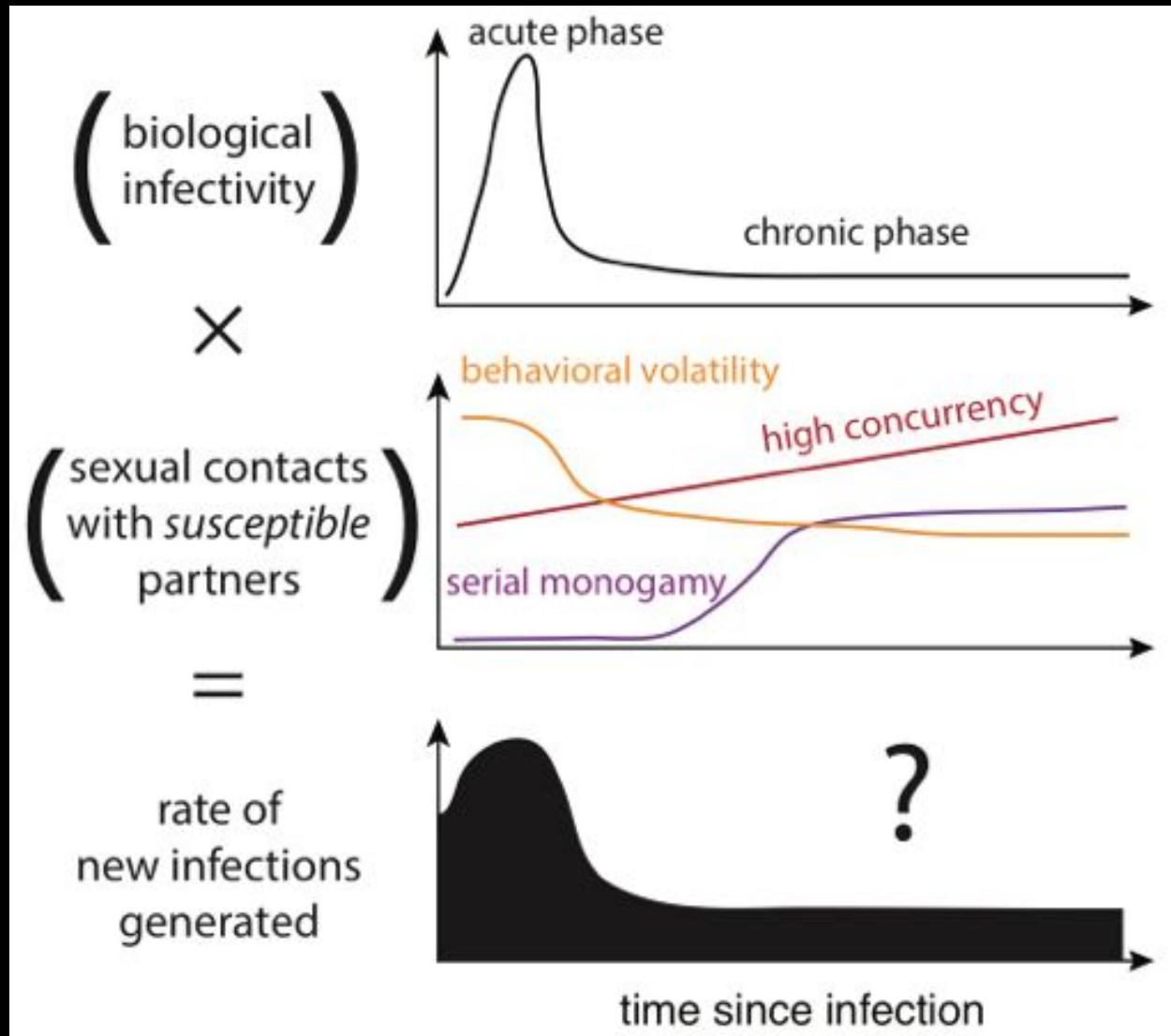


Eaton et al. 2011.
AIDS & Behavior.

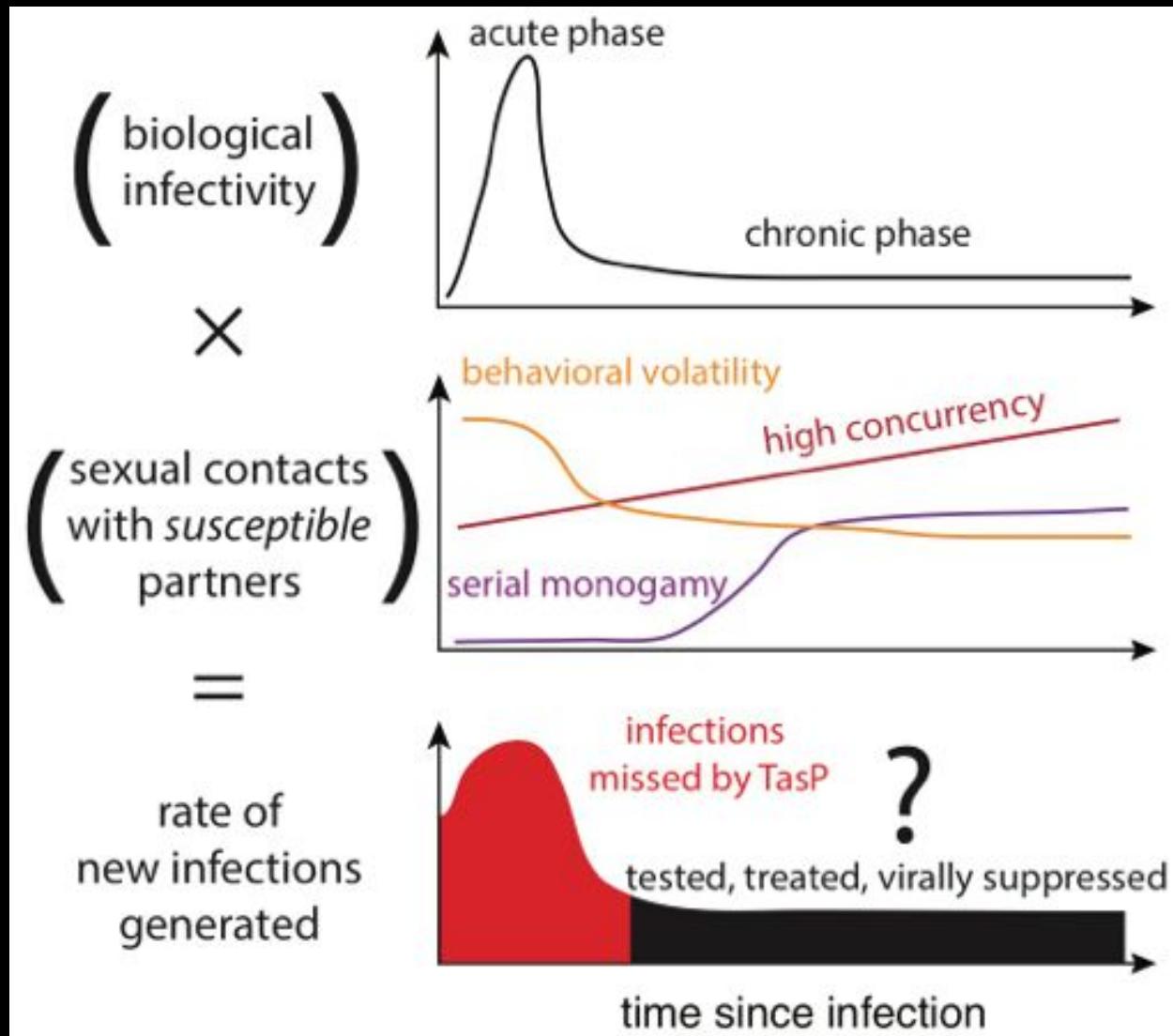
Alam et al. 2013.
Epidemics.

Romero-Severson et al.
2013. *Epidemiology.*

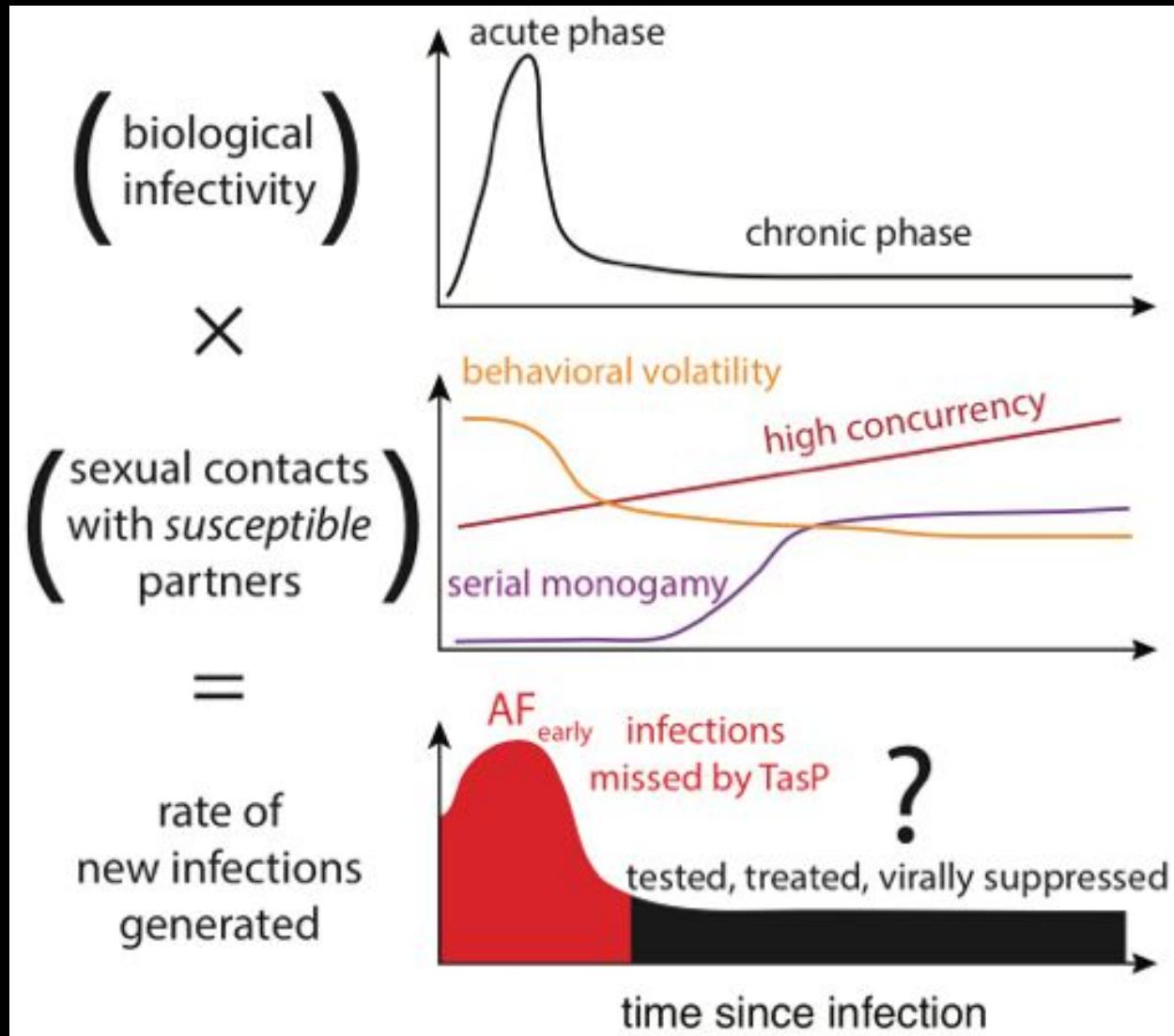
What proportion of transmission occurs early?



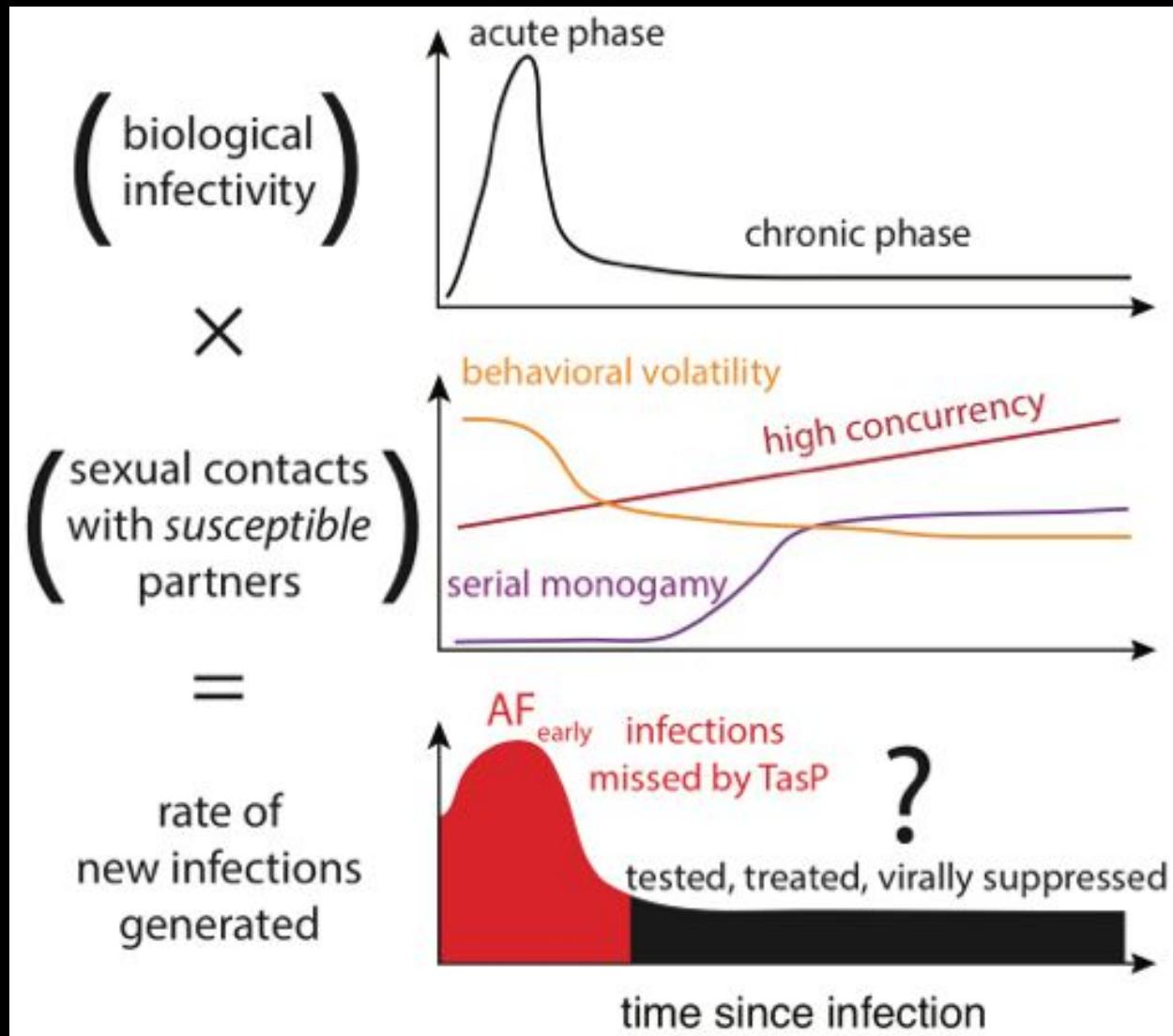
What proportion of transmission occurs early?



What proportion of transmission occurs early?



What proportion of transmission occurs early?



Bellan et al. 2015.
PLOS Medicine.