

# The Infectious Disease Eradication Toolbox

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Epidemiology in Practice



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# Terminology

## Control

The reduction of disease incidence, prevalence, morbidity or mortality to a locally acceptable level as a result of deliberate efforts.

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**continued intervention measures required**

## Elimination

Reduction to zero of the incidence of a specified disease in a defined geographical area as a result of deliberate efforts.

intervention measures no longer needed

## Eradication

Permanent reduction to zero of the worldwide incidence of infection caused by a specific agent as a result of deliberate efforts.

## Extinction

The specific infectious agent no longer exists in nature or in the laboratory.

# Extinct diseases

# Diseases Officially Eradicated

- Smallpox (variola virus)
- Rinderpest virus

Smallpox blisters, National Museum of Health and Medicine.



Cows Killed by rinderpest in South Africa, 1896.

# Human diseases targeted for eradication/elimination

## Viruses

- Poliomyelitis/polio (“wild” poliovirus)
- Measles virus
- Multiple sclerosis (Epstein-Barr virus)?



### CIA's fake vaccine campaign to find Osama bin Laden in Pakistan led to drop in child inoculations

Researchers' findings come amid concern that lingering suspicion from the affair may undermine a Covid-19 vaccine rollout

By Ben Farmer IN ISLAMABAD  
13 May 2021 • 4:10pm



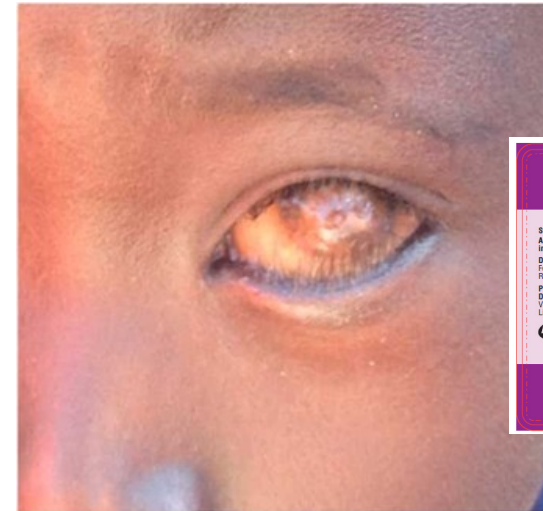
A decade after the raid, the country is still fighting a stubborn streak of anti-vaccination feeling | CREDIT: RIZWAN TABASSUM /AFP

# Human diseases targeted for eradication/elimination

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## Bacteria

- Yaws (*Treponema pallidum* subsp. *pertenue*)
- Trachoma (*Chlamydia trachomatis*)





# Human diseases targeted for eradication/elimination

## Parasites

- Malaria (*Plasmodium* sp.)
- Guinea worm disease/Dracunculiasis (*Dracunculus medinensis*)



**In FY 2020,** despite significant challenges caused by COVID-19, PMI funded and delivered commodities to protect:



**80 million**

people with mosquito nets.



**20 million**

people with indoor residual spraying.



**7.5 million**

pregnant women with preventive treatment.



**9 million**

children with preventive treatment.



**63 million**

people with rapid malaria tests.



**59 million**

people with fast-acting medicines.



worldhistory.org (Nina Aldin Thune)

## **Asclepius**

God of medicine, healing, rejuvenation and physicians



**World Health  
Organization**



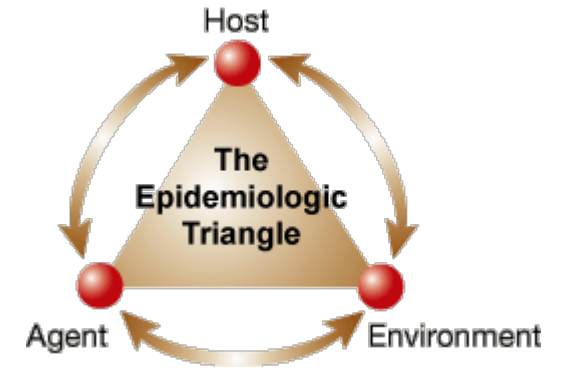
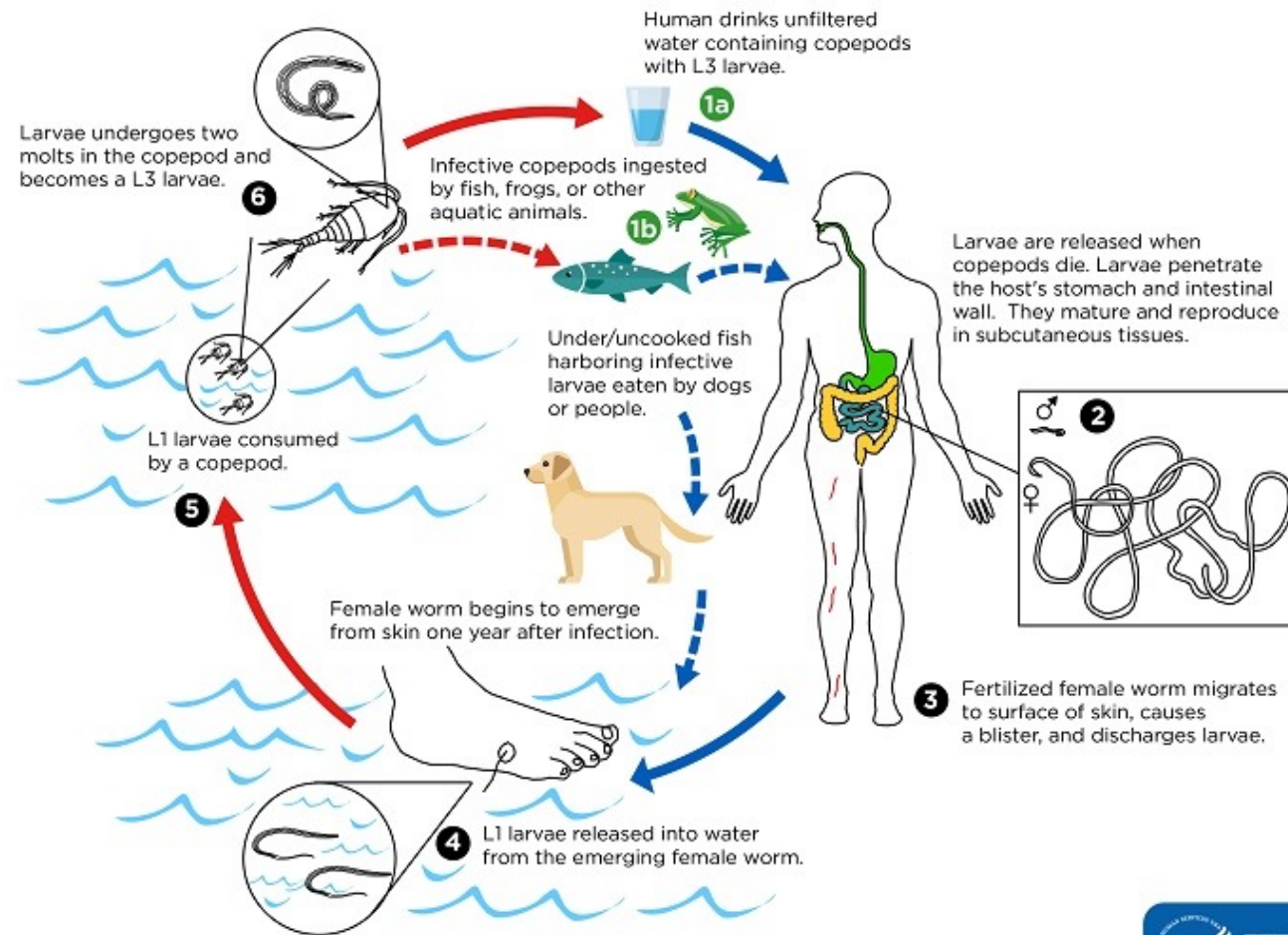
**AMA**





# Guinea Worm Disease (Dracunculiasis)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oCB1A2gFvuU>

# *Dracunculus medinensis* biology



# Epidemiological and molecular investigations of a point-source outbreak of *Dracunculus medinensis* infecting humans and dogs in Chad: a cross-sectional study

Sarah Anne J Guagliardo, PhD   • Elizabeth Thiele, PhD • Karmen Unterwegner, MPH •

Ndoyengar Narcisse Nanguita, MPH • Laurès Dossou, MPH • Philip Tchindebet Ouakou, MD • et al. [Show all authors](#)



**NO treatment**  
**NO vaccine**  
**NO diagnostic test**

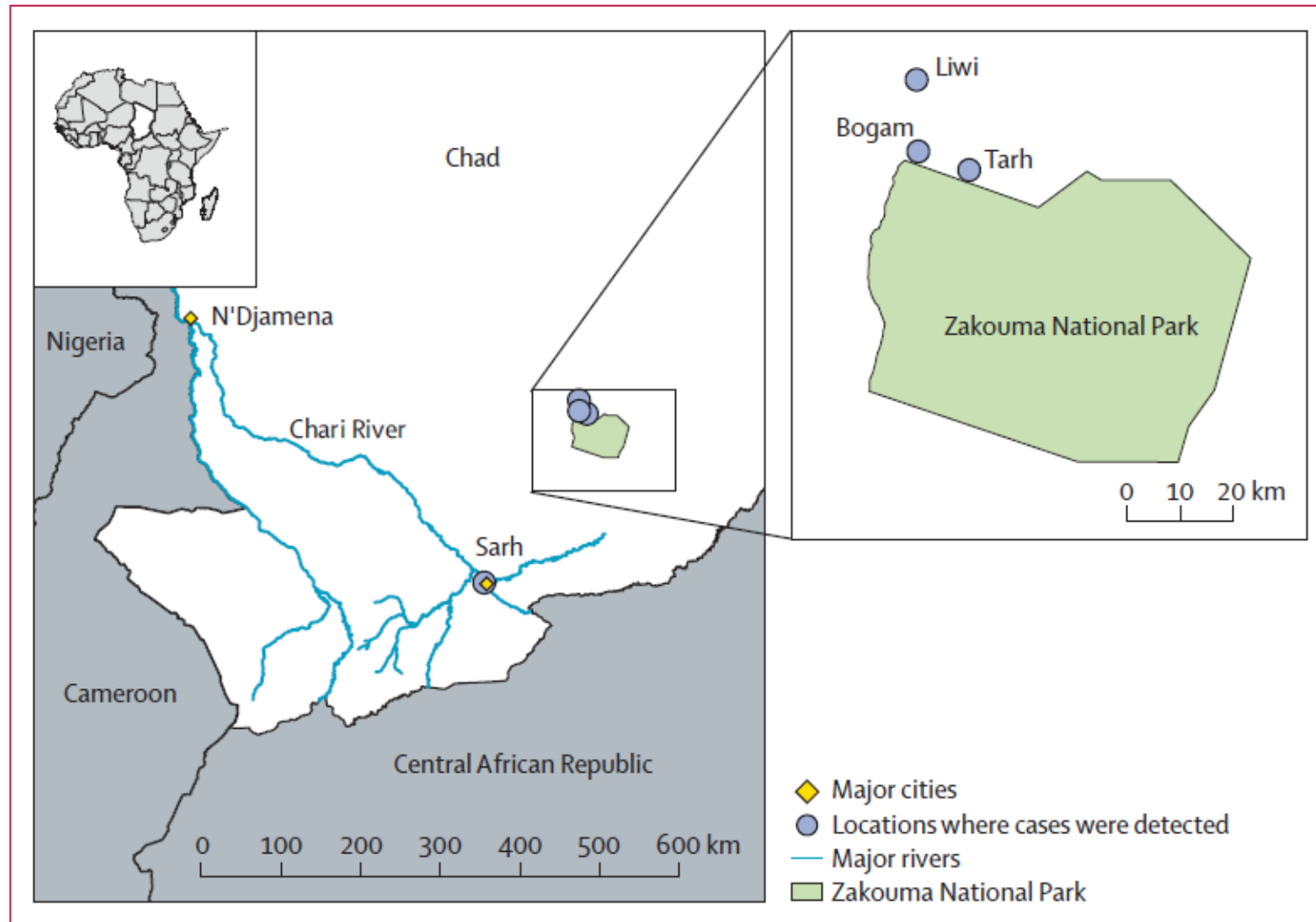
Ongoing active and passive surveillance

Vector control

Community education

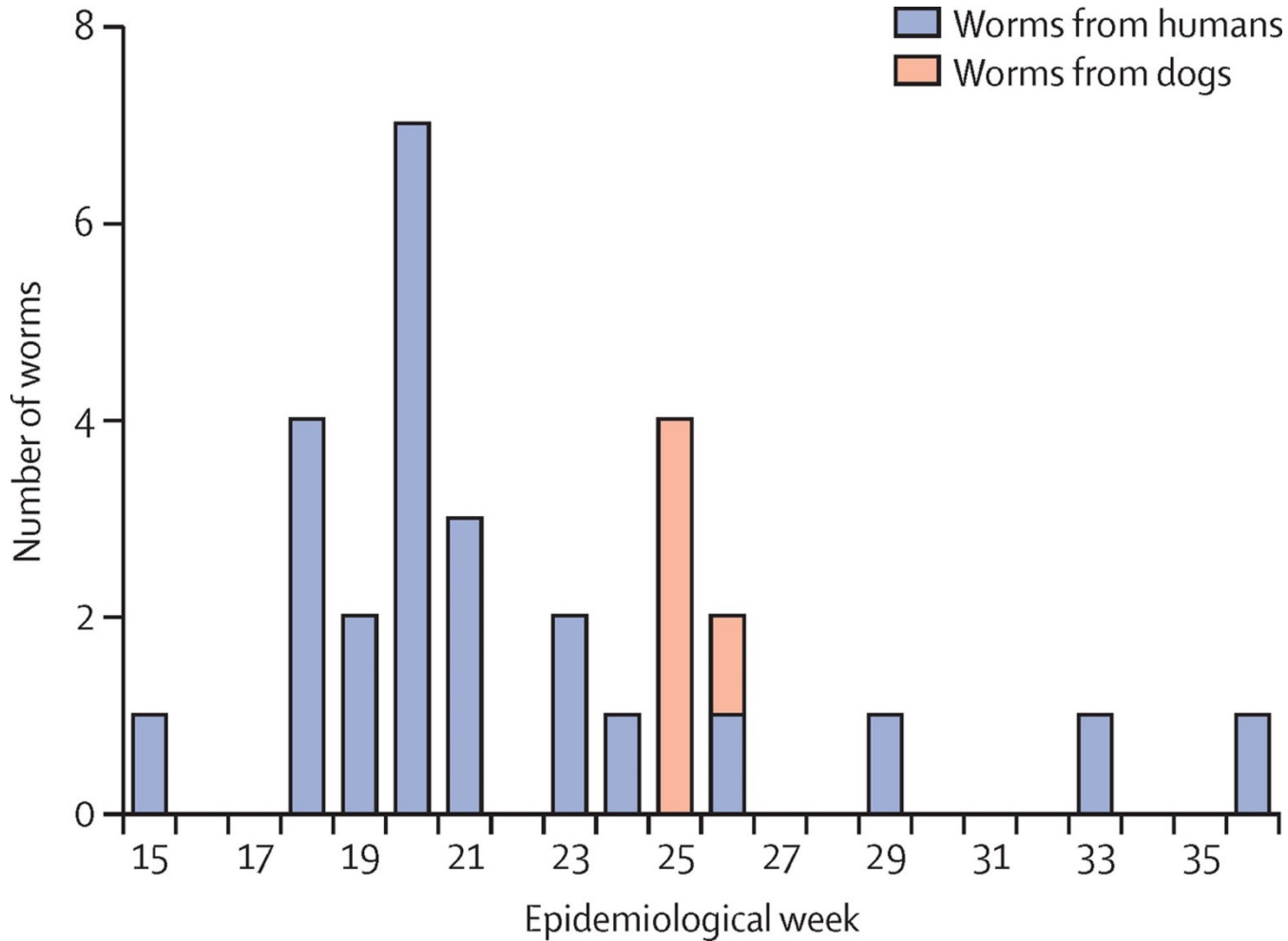
Outbreak investigation (cross-sectional field study)

- household case searches
- informal group interviews
- mapping
- genetic analysis of worms



**Figure 1: Detected cases in Chad**

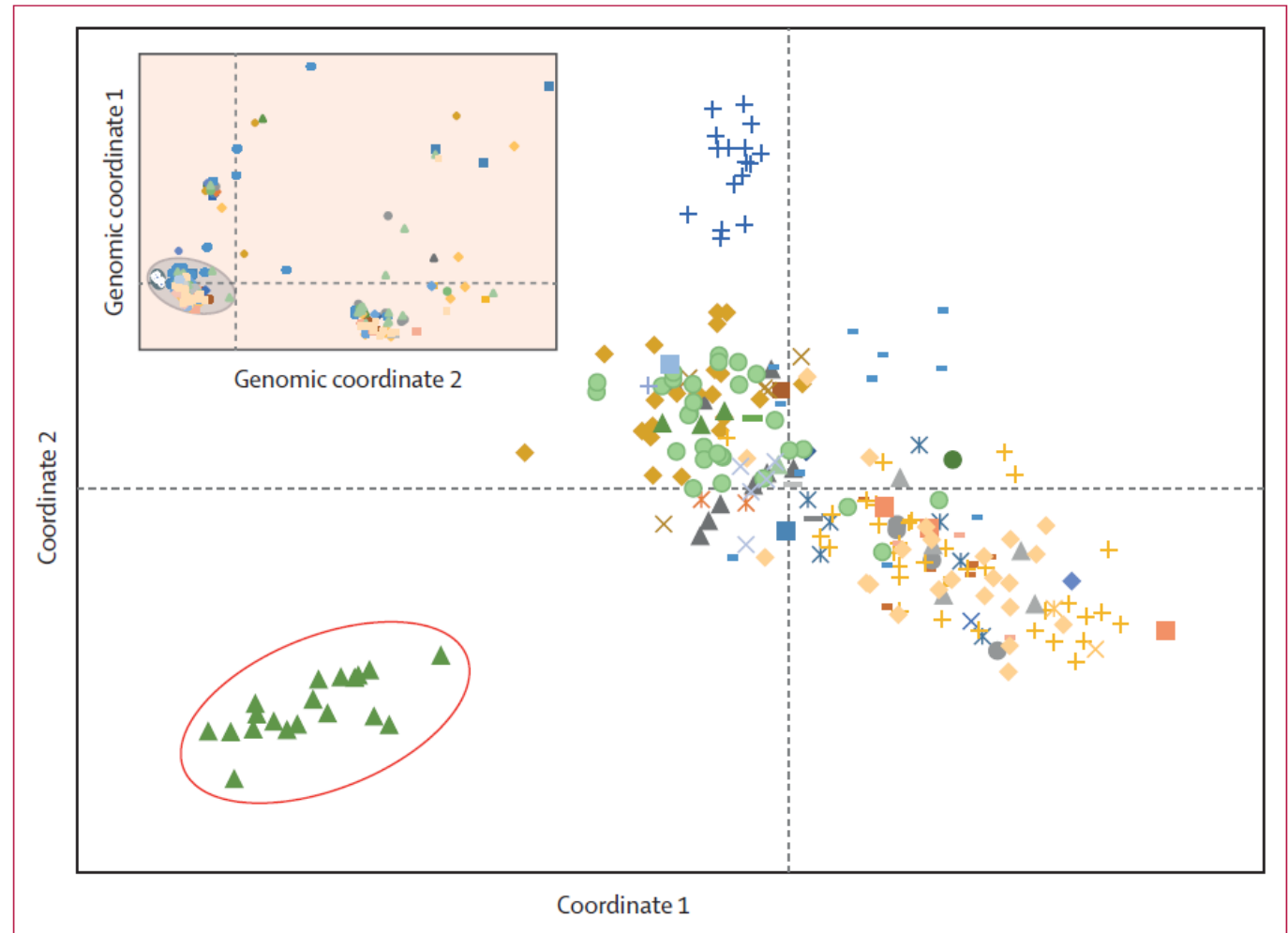
Human and canine cases were detected in Bogam, Liwi, Tar, and Sarh. The case-patient detected in Sarh (case-patient number 20) was identified via routine surveillance. This individual had been in Bogam during the period of infection and later travelled to Sarh.



- What was the case definition?
- What type of outbreak does this curve suggest?
- Why were these axis labels chosen and what do they mean?



# Molecular Epidemiology findings



**Figure 3: Principal coordinates analysis of microsatellite genotype data**

Analysis of all currently available genotype samples from Chad during 2013–19 (inset graph) and a focused analysis of a cluster of samples including the Bogam-associated worms (main graph, analysed cluster is shown by the light grey shaded oval in the inset graph). Each point represents a single *Dracunculus medinensis* sample. Point shape and colour reflect mitochondrial haplotype of the sample. The red ellipse (larger graph) and dark grey oval (inset graph) show the samples that, based on kinship analysis, form a probable family cluster and are linked to Bogam village by epidemiological data.

# Take home points

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- An integrated One Health approach can overcome lack of other basic tools
- Data science benefits field efforts
- Clear, measurable, and universal goals are needed
- Community education and trust in science is critical

