

FIND'S WORK ON PANDEMIC THREATS

WHY IT MATTERS

There is strong evidence that disease emergence from animal reservoirs – known as zoonotic spillover – has increased over recent decades. Of the 20 viral pathogens recently prioritized by WHO for their potential to cause Public Health Emergencies of International Concern (PHEICs), 13 caused outbreaks over the past year. In 2022, it was estimated that the chance of a new pandemic, with an impact similar to that caused by COVID-19, is about 1 in 50 in any year – and rising rapidly. This means that the lifetime probability of experiencing a pandemic similar to COVID-19 is about 38 percent. This probability should be a compelling warning of the absolute urgency of global preparedness for future pandemic threats.

FIND plays a pivotal role in global health security by advancing diagnostics as essential tools for outbreak detection, response, and disease surveillance. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the vital role that diagnostics play as the first line of defence in tempering the catastrophic impact of an epidemic or pandemic threat.

OUR WORK TO DATE

FIND supports this mission by accelerating the development of novel diagnostic platforms, including multiplexed tests that improve efficiency and differential diagnosis. We also lead efforts to build a prototype diagnostic library for high-priority pathogens, to streamline evidence generation and regulatory approval, and to establish clinical reference standards, biobanking systems; and a global clinical trial and product evaluation network.

We are actively involved in evaluation and innovation efforts, establishing and strengthening a Test Evaluation Network to independently assess point-of-care (PoC) tests for diseases such as Ebola, Mpox, Lassa, Nipah, and COVID-19 globally. Our programme is developing open cartridge platforms and advancing three true POC tests for diseases like Mpox and Lassa fever. Genomic sequencing is being integrated into surveillance workflows to identify novel threats early. To support access to testing, we are expanding a global biobanking network to standardize clinical samples for R&D, while deploying digitally connected diagnostic hubs in LMICs to enable real-time data sharing.

Our work directly strengthens the implementation of the 7-1-7 framework, a framework that calls for detecting outbreaks within 7 days, notifying within 1 day, and responding within 7 days. Achieving this standard is especially difficult in low-resourced health systems, where access to reliable laboratories is limited. FIND works to address these challenges by strengthening national laboratory systems, investing in community-based testing infrastructure, and supporting the normalization of point-of-care testing. These efforts are reinforced by a strong emphasis on digital connectivity, enabling diagnostic data to support both real-time surveillance and improved patient care.

» As a convenor, funder, and technical leader, FIND is a key contributor to the 100 Days Mission,

an ambitious global initiative aimed at ensuring that diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines are available within 100 days of identifying a new pandemic threat. The 100 Days Mission has equity at its core, aiming to swiftly defend those at the highest risk from emerging viral threats. The faster diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines can be deployed, the smaller the outbreak is likely to be.



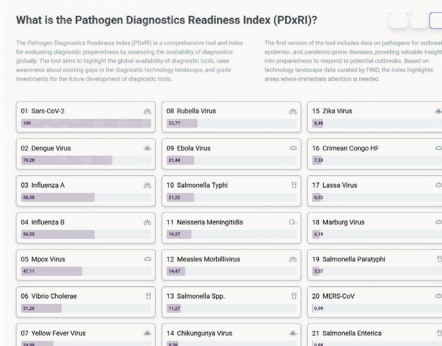
FIND has also led the creation of tools that guide policy and operational decision-making. The Outbreak Disease Test Directory (ODTD) was developed as a strategic resource to provide stakeholders with a clear view of available diagnostic tests for priority pathogens. This tool is used for strategic planning, procurement, and deployment during outbreaks, allowing partners to identify approved, available diagnostics for rapid use in surveillance and response. The Directory is regularly reviewed and updated by FIND to reflect the evolving diagnostic landscape. To support R&D, FIND conducts biannual analyses of the ODTD to assess gaps in diagnostic coverage against target product profiles (TPPs). These analyses help guide innovation, prioritize funding, and advocate for the development of new tests where gaps exist.

FIND also developed the Pathogen Diagnostics Readiness Index (PDxRI). While the Test Directory focuses on the availability of specific tests, the PDxRI provides a comprehensive, global overview of diagnostic preparedness across outbreak-, epidemic-, and pandemic-prone pathogens. The PDxRI highlights gaps in availability, raises awareness of weaknesses in the global diagnostic landscape, and informs strategic investments to strengthen readiness. Based on curated landscape data developed by FIND, the PDxRI helps global health actors understand where diagnostic tools are available and where urgent action is needed.



Outbreak

Pipeline of tests in development and commercialised tests for the following Outbreak-prone diseases: Cholera, COVID-19, Dengue, Ebola virus disease, Lassa, Marburg virus disease, Measles, Meningitis, Mpox, Nipah virus disease, Rubella, Typhoid fever, Yellow fever.



OUR STRATEGY

These tools reflect FIND's broader strategy to ensure diagnostic readiness at national, regional, and global levels. This includes promoting regional manufacturing hubs, establishing a warm base for diagnostic production, and supporting reliable pull mechanisms to incentivize market sustainability beyond emergencies.

OUR PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES FOCUS ON PLUGGING KEY GAPS THROUGH INNOVATION:

» Multiplex Testing

Single tests detecting multiple pathogens (e.g., pan-family assays for viral families like Filoviridae).

» Digitally Connected Diagnostics

AI-enabled platforms for real-time data sharing and outbreak mapping (e.g., Surveillance Digital Toolkit).

» Linkage to Care

Integrating diagnostics with treatment pathways to ensure timely interventions, especially in humanitarian crises.

» Operationally, FIND is a key actor in global outbreak response.

It mobilizes and deploys diagnostics, provides technical and training support, and monitors diagnostic performance in real time. Whether through emergency partnerships or long-term system strengthening, FIND ensures that diagnostics are a central component of health security strategies.

» In summary, FIND's work

– spanning test and tool development, laboratory strengthening, data integration, support to regional manufacturing, policy guidance and outbreak response – is crucial to equipping the world not only to respond faster to today's outbreaks, but also to prepare smarter for future infectious disease threats.

About FIND

Established in 2003, FIND is a global nonprofit dedicated to ensuring equitable access to diagnostics, based in Geneva, Switzerland, but also has regional offices in India, Kenya, South Africa, and Viet Nam.

We connect countries and communities, funders, decision-makers, healthcare providers and developers to spur diagnostic innovation and make testing an integral part of sustainable, resilient health systems.

For more than 20 years, FIND has been at the forefront of revolutionizing diagnostics, particularly in the realm of infectious diseases, bringing lower-cost, quality diagnosis to those who need it as an essential component of universal health care while also leading efforts in pandemic preparedness, and driving access to essential tools as a recognized thought leader.

