

Global health leaders call for global biomedical R&D fund, mechanism

May 11 2015

In advance of this month's World Health Assembly and the G7 summit in June, world leaders should consider the establishment of a global biomedical research and development fund and a mechanism to address the dearth in innovation for today's most pressing global health challenges, according to Bernard Pécoul, from the Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative, Geneva, Switzerland, and colleagues in an Essay published in this week's *PLOS Medicine*.

The Essay, which is authored by an international group of leaders of public and private research institutions, non-governmental organizations, and academic groups from Europe, China, India, and South Africa, highlights how a market-led [research and development](#) system has failed to deliver innovative new tools to respond to major health challenges, including emerging infectious diseases such as Ebola, anti-microbial resistance, and neglected diseases.

The authors note that while large, international, multi-lateral funds exist for [global health](#) delivery, there is no significant pooled funding mechanism for research and development to complement existing but limited R&D funding for a wide range of diseases.

The authors note, "The devastating loss of human life from the Ebola outbreak of 2014 must not be in vain. It must prompt serious changes to our joint international systems for stimulating innovation and ensuring access to health technologies for those who need them."

The authors conclude: "These issues must be on the agenda for the evaluation panels established in the aftermath of Ebola, at the World Health Assembly and UN levels. It must also be a key priority at the G7 summit in June 2015... We call for one of their recommendations to be the establishment of a global biomedical R&D fund and mechanism for innovations of public [health](#) importance."

More information: Balasegaram M, Bréchet C, Farrar J, Heymann D, Ganguly N, et al. (2015) A Global Biomedical R&D Fund and Mechanism for Innovations of Public Health Importance. *PLoS Med* 12(5): e1001831. [DOI: 10.1371/journal.pmed.1001831](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1001831)

Provided by Public Library of Science

Citation: Global health leaders call for global biomedical R&D fund, mechanism (2015, May 11) retrieved 26 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2015-05-global-health-leaders-biomedical-fund.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.