

**Subject:** Media Review on Gene Drive - Ethics Advisory Committee

**From:** Hapsa Dia <Hapsa@emergingag.com>

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**To:** "Allan Ronald (aronald@ms.umanitoba.ca)" <aronald@ms.umanitoba.ca>, "claire.divver@baesystems.com" <claire.divver@baesystems.com>, Dominic White <DWhite@wwf.org.uk>, "Fred Gould (fred\_gould@ncsu.edu)" <fred\_gould@ncsu.edu>, "Paul Ndebele (ndebele@gmail.com)" <ndebele@gmail.com>, Paulina Tindana <ptindana@gmail.com>, "Rashmi Narayana (rashmi@umotif.com)" <rashmi@umotif.com>, Paul Ndebele <pndexas@yahoo.com>, Laurie S Zoloth <lzoloth@northwestern.edu>

**CC:** "Stephanie James PH. D. (sjames@fnih.org)" <sjames@fnih.org>, "Thizy, Delphine C" <d.thizy@imperial.ac.uk>, "Logan, Karen E" <kelogan@imperial.ac.uk>, "Clark, Lorna" <lorna.clark2@imperial.ac.uk>, Isabelle Coche <Isabelle@emergingag.com>, "Burt, Austin" <a.burt@imperial.ac.uk>, Stefanie Hyde <Stefanie@emergingag.com>, "Benjamin Robinson" <Ben@emergingag.com>, Tilly MacRae <tilly@emergingag.com>, "Majorin, Olivia M" <o.majorin@imperial.ac.uk>



A Vector Control Research Alliance

**Ethics Advisory Committee  
Media Review on Gene Drive**

*Dear members of the Ethics committee, please find below a selection of the best and most significant articles on issues related to gene drive, malaria and other relevant topics to Target Malaria. It covers the period of May to mid-June 2017.*

**[Malaria elimination project wins \\$17.5m funding boost](#)**

Target Malaria, an international consortium led by Imperial, has received a \$17.5 million grant to help develop ways to control the spread of disease. The grant comes from the Open Philanthropy Project, whose mission is to identify outstanding giving opportunities and to openly share the results so that anyone can benefit from them. It makes grants and advises philanthropists on how to maximize the impact of their giving.

**[Imperial academic puts community at the heart of malaria elimination project](#)**

Professor Austin Burt has been awarded a President's Medal for his work engaging the public in malaria-control projects across sub-Saharan Africa. The accolade is given out as part of the College's annual President's Awards for Excellence in Societal Engagement.

**[Crispr Creator Jennifer Doudna on the Promises—and Pitfalls—of Easy Genetic Modification](#)**

For \$150, you can buy a Crispr kit online and use it to engineer heartier gut bacteria in your kitchen. That's thrilling, but the technology is giving Jennifer Doudna, an inventor of the gene-editing method, nightmares. Easy genetic modification could mean cures for cancer (yay!), kitty-sized pigs (squee!), and, yes, designer babies (ack).

### [Nathaniel Comfort finds heroism but little nuance in Jennifer Doudna's account of her co-discovery.](#)

The prospect of a memoir from Jennifer Doudna, a key player in the CRISPR story, quickens the pulse. And *A Crack in Creation* does indeed deliver a welcome perspective on the revolutionary genome-editing technique that puts the power of evolution into human hands, with many anecdotes and details that only those close to her may have known.

### [Eliminating malaria in Africa by 2030 by reducing mosquito populations](#)

[...] On 1 June 2017, a team of experts from NEPAD Agency led by Prof Aggrey Ambali, Head of Industrialization, Science, Technology and Innovation paid a courtesy call on the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU/UEMOA) Secretariat in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso to facilitate dialogue towards concerted efforts in building regulatory capacities to effectively manage the genetic engineering innovation.

### [Aadhaar model has powerful lessons for Africa: Mark Suzman](#)

Mark Suzman, President of The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, on a visit to India for the African Development Bank summit tells Sai Manish that India's Aadhaar model is generating significant interest among nations across the world. Here are excerpts from an interaction with Suzman held at the foundation's office in New Delhi.

### [Is this the final offensive?](#)

[...] While developed countries have successfully eliminated malaria, Nigeria and other developing countries are still suffering from malaria. According to World Health Statistics, malaria mortality rate for Nigeria is 156 per 100,000 populations because despite the human and economic costs of malaria, most Nigerians remain uninformed about both prevention and treatment of the disease.

### [An MIT transparency advocate shakes up genetic engineering](#)

As biology advances at breakneck speed and international debate rages about the ethics and politics of releasing genetically engineered animals, Esvelt has emerged as a respected leader. He was one of the first scientists to build a "gene drive" that uses the new CRISPR gene-editing technology.

### [085 – Biotech, Forest Restoration and Conservation \[AUDIO\]](#)

Dr. Ellen V. Crocker is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Kentucky. She talks about the current threats to forests including sudden oak death, chestnut blight and the emerald ash borer. She also discusses efforts in integrating new biotech tools in forest improvement, including genetic engineering, speed breeding, and gene drive approaches.

### ["Target Malaria": un laboratorio per modificare le zanzare \[VIDEO\]](#)

Terni lab, open day.