

Wellcome Genome Campus | Gerald_Mboowa_Future_Pandemic_Advice

Could you give about two pieces of advice for what we should do for future pandemics, for what the world should do?

So that's a nice question. So for future pandemics, what I think should be integrated in each and every nation's kind of public health responses. We need to have routine sequencing for what I can say is common pathogens, because you never know where it will come from, where the next pandemic will come from.

Will it be a mutation of one of the current pathogens that we have, or it will be a totally new kind of pathogen, the way it SARS-CoV should up on the global scene? So my recommendation would be lets integrate genomics within each and every nation's public health response, and let it be part of the routine, that you have routine programmes that are carrying out surveillance every now and then.

That way you're able to pick signals, or you should be in a position to pick these pathogens before they spread even beyond your borders. And the responses can be much more smarter if you pick them out enough, unlike when you pick them later and they are spread all over. The responses may be costed in the way that you have to deploy massive investments in trying to respond to these pandemics.