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Preventing the next Aedes-borne arboviral disease epidemic

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Propositions

belonging to the PhD dissertation:

Preventing the next *Aedes*-borne arboviral disease epidemic

By Vaitiare Isaudry Cerila Mulderij-Jansen

1. Controlling *Aedes* mosquitoes is difficult. The World Health Organization recommends implementing an integrated mosquito management approach. However useful, this approach becomes challenging for countries that do not have the resources to implement and maintain this intervention. *[This dissertation, chapter 2]*
2. Multiple factors, including the volume of information, trust, experience with a similar disease, and cultural schemas, determine how people perceive and cope with risk. *[This dissertation, chapter 4]*
3. A critical barrier that needs to be addressed is the health system's and community's passive attitude toward mosquito control. The collective responsibility and collaboration between the community and the health system are required to sustain the effect of mosquito control interventions. *[This dissertation, chapter 7]*
4. The political will to prioritise and invest in *Aedes*-borne infectious diseases is key to maintain *Aedes* control program implementation. *[This dissertation, chapter 8]*
5. Mosquito elimination is challenging; a one-time implementation of even an integrated mosquito control program will not be enough to eliminate mosquitoes (all four life stages: egg, larva, pupa and adult). It needs a continued program. There will always be untreated breeding sites with eggs ready to further develop into mosquitoes. *[This dissertation, chapter 8]*
6. While physics and mathematics may tell us how the universe began, they are not much use in predicting human behavior because there are far too many equations to solve. *[Stephen Hawking]*
7. Science is not only a discipline of reason but also one of romance and passion. *[Stephen Hawking]*
8. Today's setbacks are the precise ingredients to craft tomorrow's victories. *[own experience]*
9. You do not need to know everything to be a scientist. What you need is the determination to solve the problems you are facing. *[own experience]*