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WHO focuses on re-emerging pathogens of epidemic & pandemic potential

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Call for experts to join Scientific Advisory Group for the Origins of Novel Pathogens



The World Health Organization (WHO) has issued an open call for experts to serve as members of the new WHO Scientific Advisory Group for the Origins of Novel Pathogens (SAGO).

The SAGO will advise WHO on technical and scientific considerations regarding the origins of emerging and re-emerging pathogens of epidemic and pandemic potential, and will be composed of a wide range of experts acting in their personal capacity. SAGO will also guide WHO on next steps for understanding the SARS-CoV-2 origins.

In its capacity as an advisory body to WHO, the SAGO will advise on the development of a WHO global framework to define and guide studies into the origins of emerging and re-emerging pathogens of epidemic and pandemic potential.

It will also focus on prioritizing studies and field investigations into the origins of emerging and re-emerging pathogens of epidemic and pandemic potential, in accordance with the WHO global framework; and provide information and views to assist the WHO Secretariat in the development of a detailed work plan of the SAGO.

The body will provide additional advice and support to WHO, as requested by the WHO SAGO Secretariat, which may include participation in future WHO-international missions to study the origins of SARS-CoV-2 or for other emerging pathogens.