

Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee Meeting

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COVID-19 Vaccine Strain Selection- Points to Consider for Manufacturing Timelines

Robert Johnson, PhD

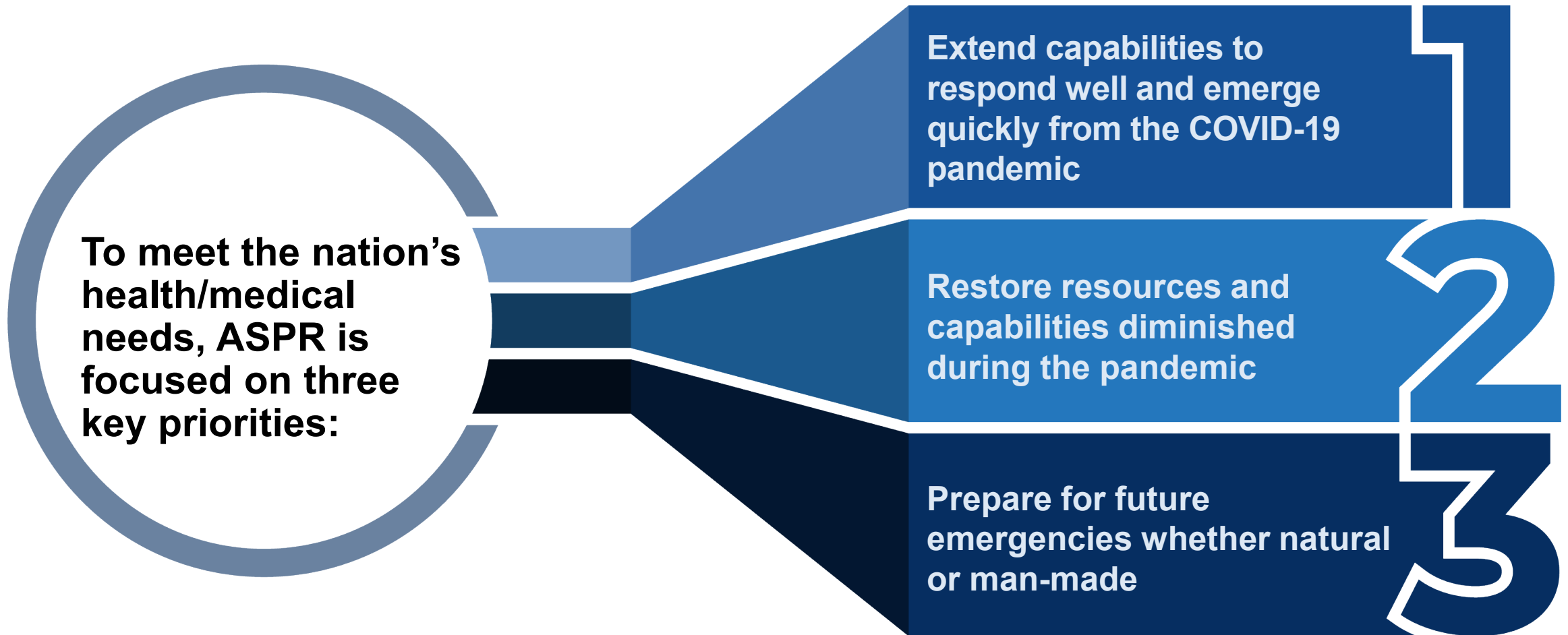
Director, Medical Countermeasure Programs

BARDA/ASPR/HHS

Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee

6 April 2022

ASPR Key Priorities



The BARDA Model

BARDA develops and makes available medical countermeasures (MCMs) by forming unique public-private partnerships to drive innovation off the bench to the patient to save lives.



Flexible, nimble authorities

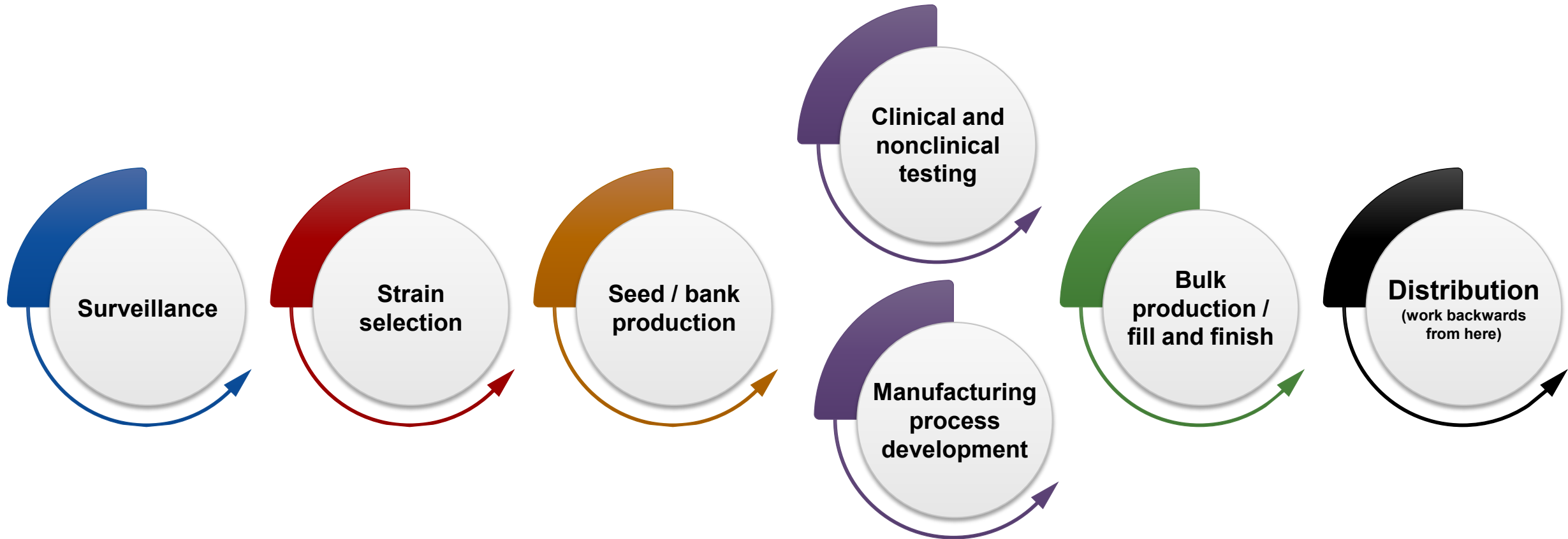
Multi-year funding

Cutting edge expertise

Facilitate partnerships

Promote innovation

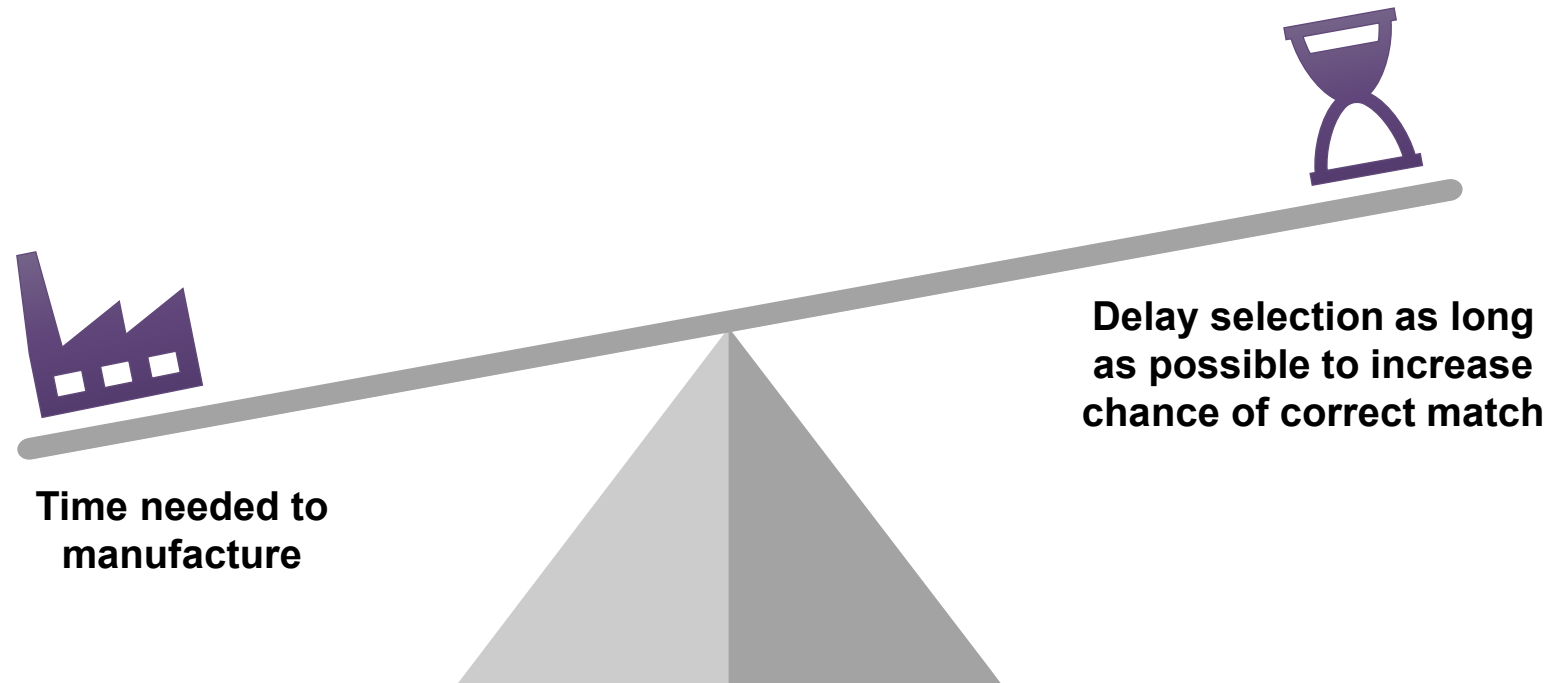
Vaccines: Multi-Valent/Strain Change Life-Cycle Steps



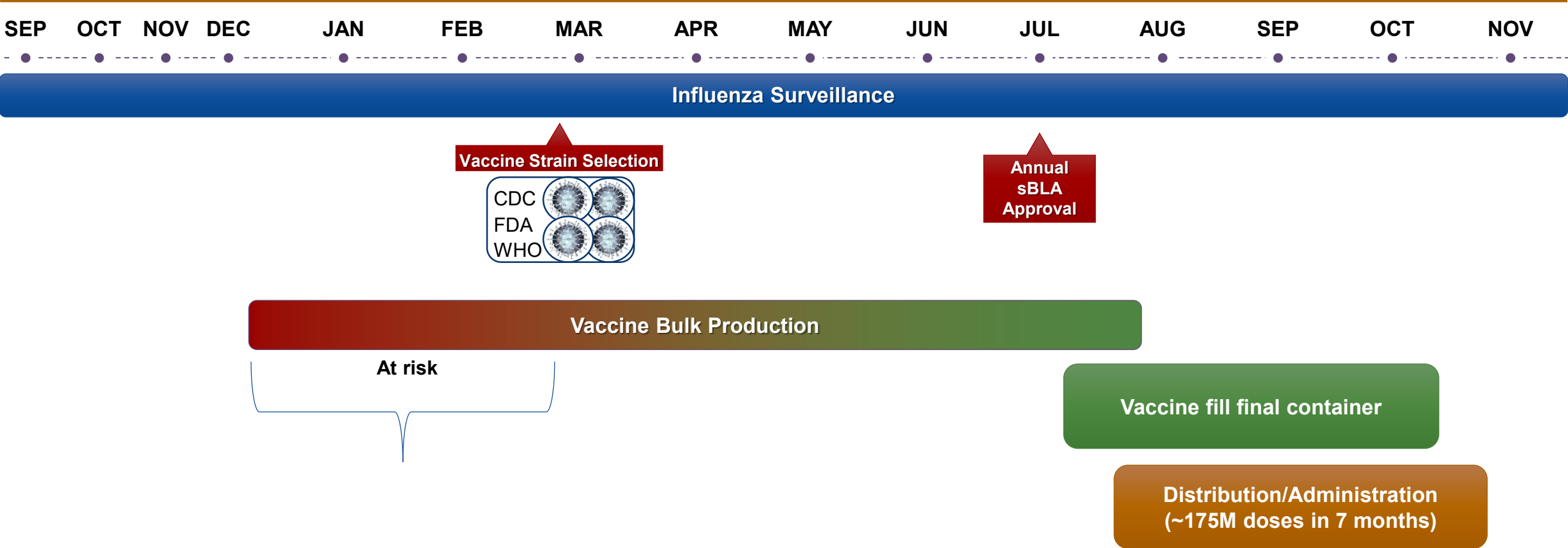
Influenza Vaccine Strain Selection

- **Influenza strain selection**

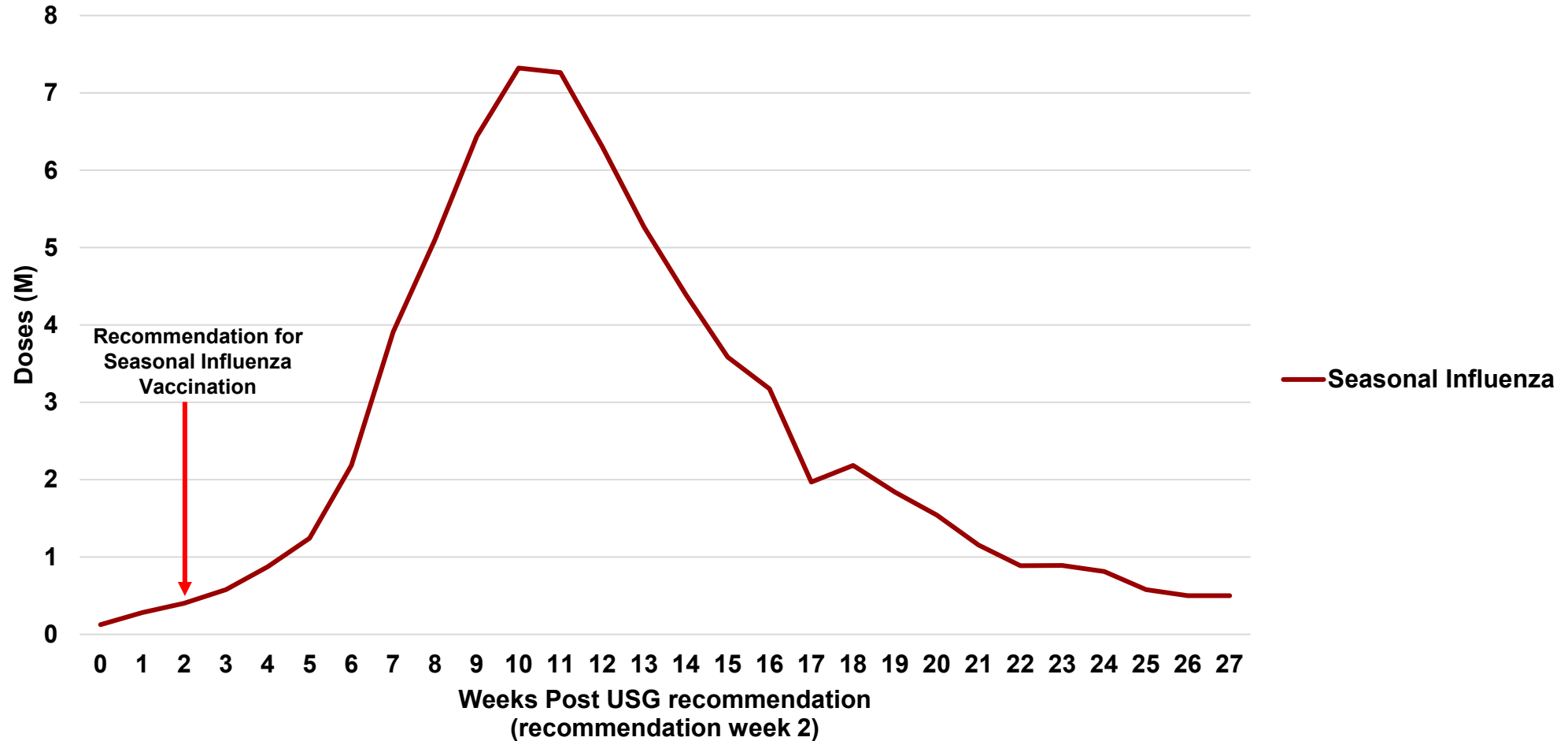
- » Occurs annually
- » Regulatory and manufacturing processes must be in sync to ensure **enough** doses are available in time-this requires making decisions well in advance -> sometimes the match between the vaccine strain and circulating strain is not optimal



Influenza Vaccine Manufacturing and Regulatory Overview (Northern Hemisphere)



Vaccine Demand Relative to Recommendation Drives Timing of Dose Requirement



Seasonal Influenza Vaccines – What Makes it Work

PRODUCTION PLATFORMS

Characteristics, production process and yield of current vaccines across strains well understood

Currently licensed vaccines are all capable of containing antigens from multiple influenza strains

Each manufacturer customizes initiation of production based on their capabilities, capacity, and estimated demand

ABILITY TO MATCH SUPPLY WITH DEMAND

Predictable vaccine demand-allows manufacturers to right-size production capacity

Comprehensive surveillance strategy and reporting allows production to begin at risk for some strains prior to formal regulatory decision

Multiple manufacturers allows flexibility unexpected demand and/or production problems at one manufacturer

REGULATORY PATHWAY

Well defined process and timelines for strain selection allows advanced planning/scheduling by manufacturers

Known requirements for clinical, non-clinical, and any in vitro testing, as well as vaccine lot release testing

FDA determines strain selection, but manufacturers decide number of strains (three or four) in the vaccine

Vaccine label/recommendation is to prevent influenza disease- irrespective of manufacturer or timing of previous vaccination

How is the COVID-19 Vaccine Process Different – and What Drives the Timeline for Making a Decision

DIFFERENCES ACROSS DIFFERENT PLATFORMS

Time to create construct

Time to make and release master and work banks

Feasibility of multivalent vaccine

DIFFERENCES WITHIN SAME PLATFORM

Each manufacturer has a different production capacity

Vaccine yield varies greatly between vaccine manufacturers

Different manufacturers are using a different dose

Global commitments-dictates how much production can be targeted for the US

OTHER FACTORS THAT WILL DRIVE PRODUCTION TIMELINES

Level of testing to support new strains- for example, purification process development, or clinical trials

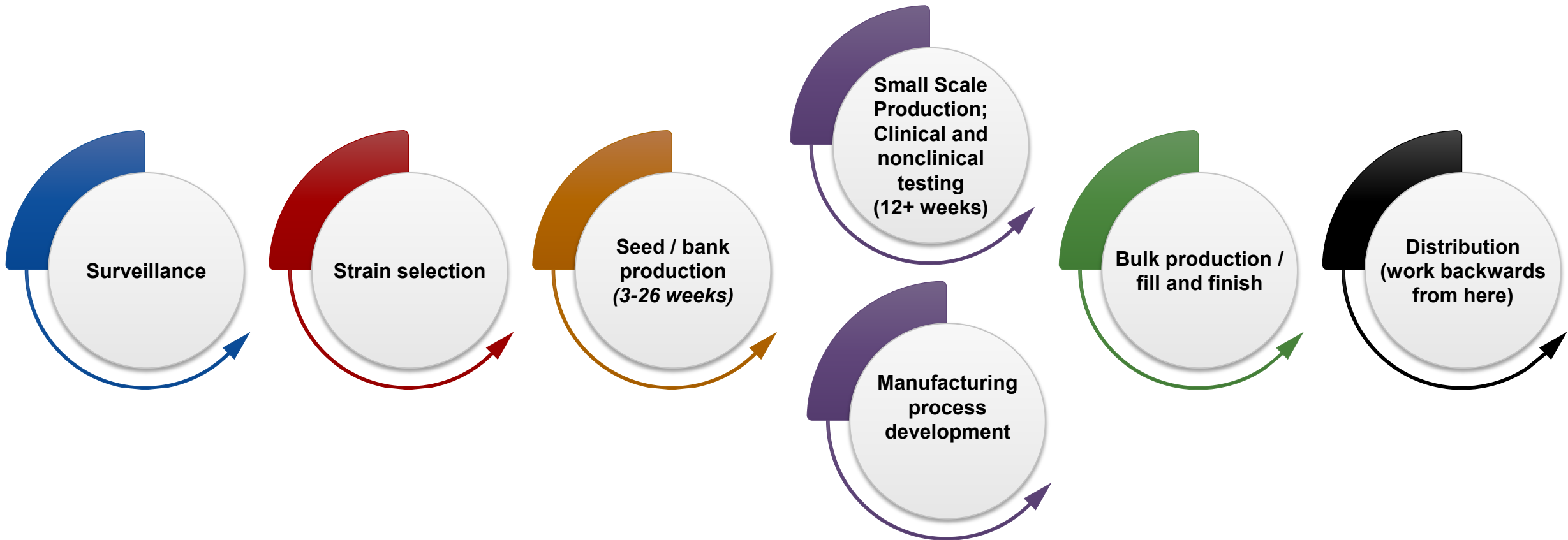
Does the manufacturer have seed banks available for selected strains

Ongoing need to produce prototype vaccine to vaccinate naïve individuals

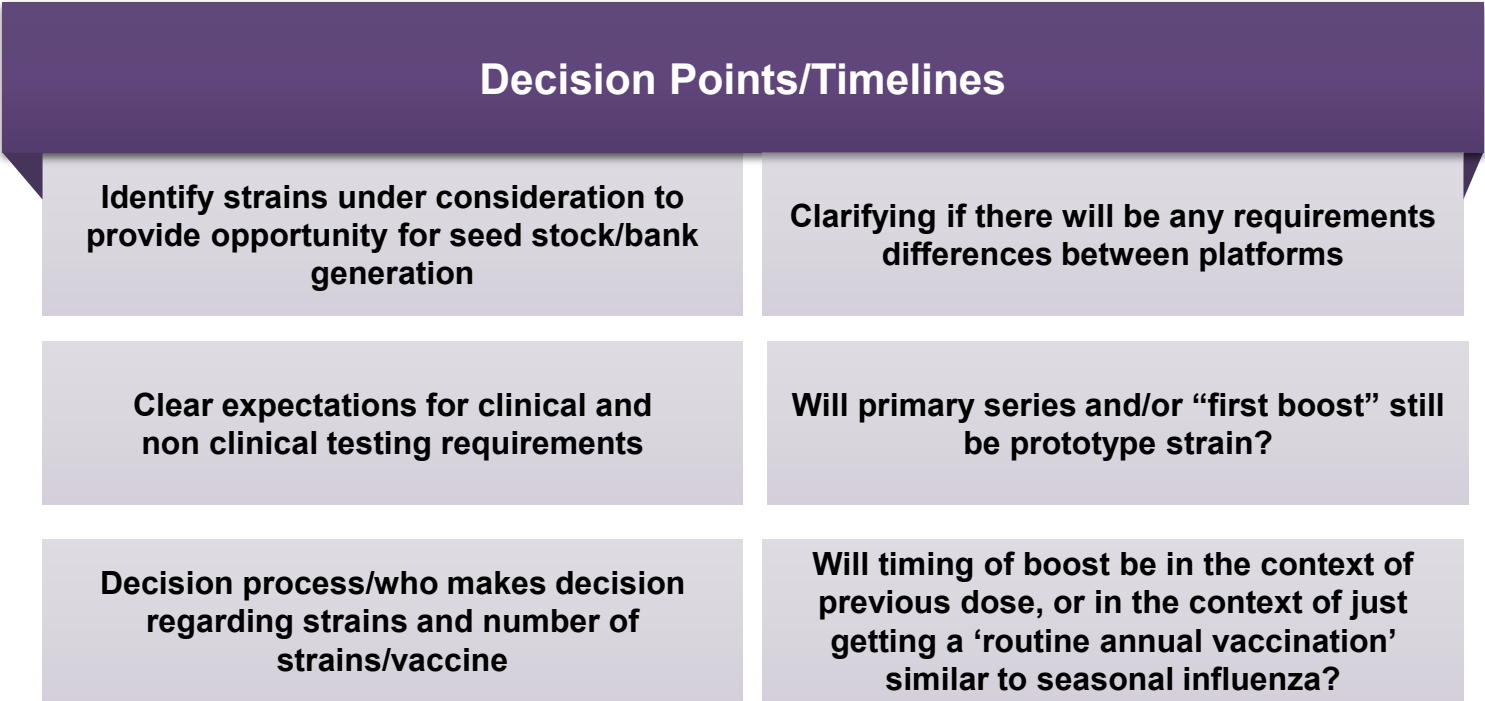
How much 'at risk' production will manufacturers do prior to regulatory decisions and known demand

- » For all vaccines, ability to produce sufficient doses by a set time will depend in part on whether the vaccine is monovalent or multi-valent, and if monovalent, if it is the current 'prototype' strain or a different strain
- » Every manufacturer will have a different 'cut-off' date for producing a certain number of doses by a certain date

Multi-strain/Strain Change Life-Cycle Steps



Regulatory Factors Beyond Strain Selection that Will Determine Vaccine Availability by a Given Date



Vaccine Demand Relative to Recommendation Drives Timing of Dose Requirement

