A microscopic view of numerous virus particles, likely coronaviruses, against a black background. The particles are primarily red and purple, with some appearing as bright purple spheres and others as larger, more complex red structures. The lighting creates a sense of depth, with some particles in sharp focus and others blurred in the background.

# Infectious Disease Modeling- Looking at SIR Models

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SPA DRP Winter 2021

**First a brief look at  
some main  
Biostatistics topics we  
discussed**

# Clinical Trials

**Phase I** - Trying to figure out an appropriate dosage

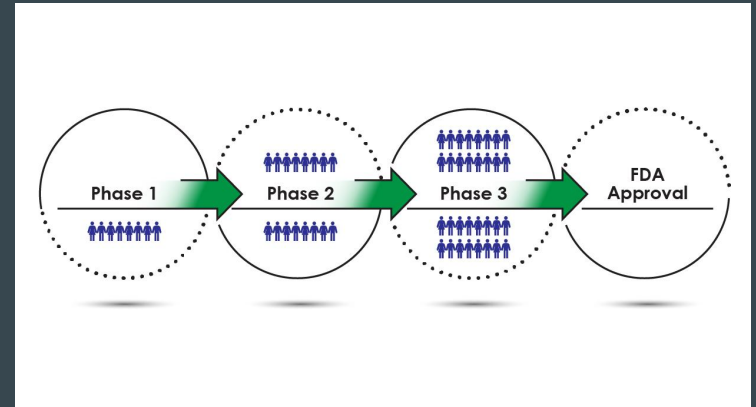
**Phase II** - Looking for immediate side effects and efficacy

**Phases III** - Looking at efficacy and adverse reactions

**Phase IV** - Long term side effects and efficacy

Efficacy vs effectiveness

Ethical considerations: clinical equipoise

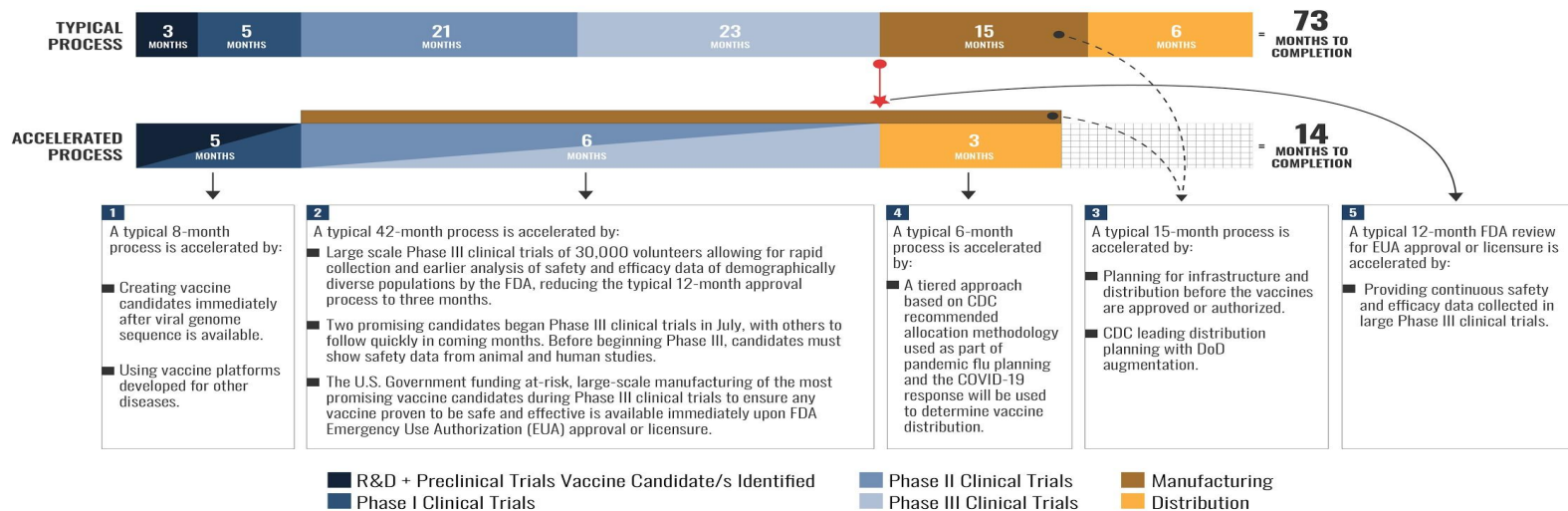


# Clinical Trials for COVID-19 Vaccine



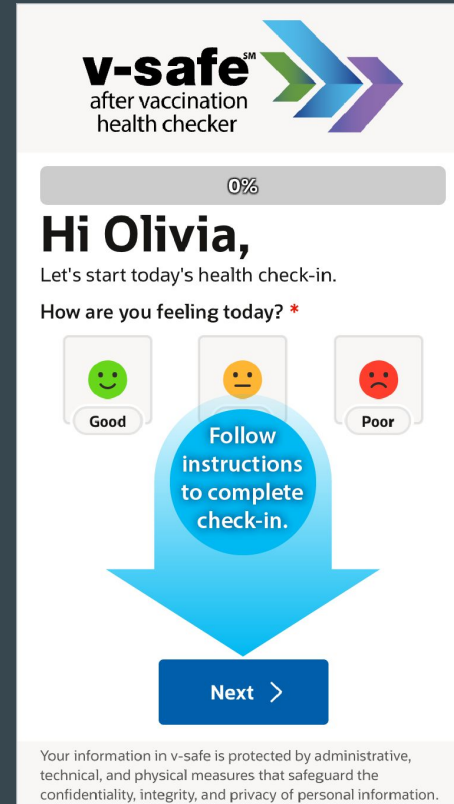
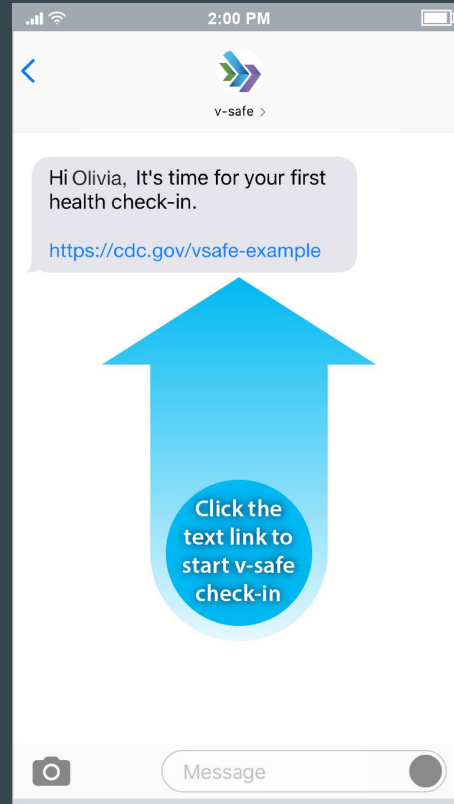
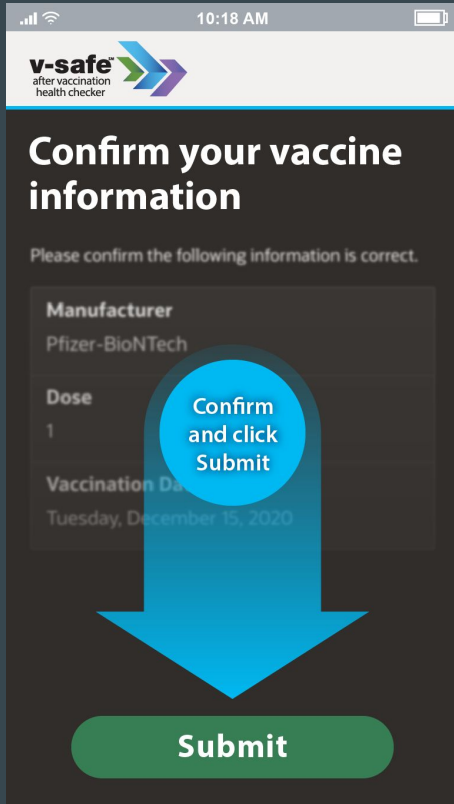
## OPERATION WARP SPEED ACCELERATED VACCINE PROCESS

**MISSION:** Deliver 300 million doses of safe and effective vaccine by 1 January 2021.



Source: <https://www.defense.gov/Explore/Spotlight/Coronavirus/Operation-Warp-Speed/>

# Phase IV for COVID-19 Vaccines



- Voluntary
- Could lead to response bias
- Is it also biased towards young tech-savvy people?

# Survival Analysis

Time to event data, calculating risk of a certain outcome

- Event of interest is usually death
- Given that you've survived until time  $x$ , what is the probability that you survive until time  $y$


Censoring - when a participant is lost to follow-up, drops out

Competing risk - when a different event (that conflicts somehow) occurs before event of interest

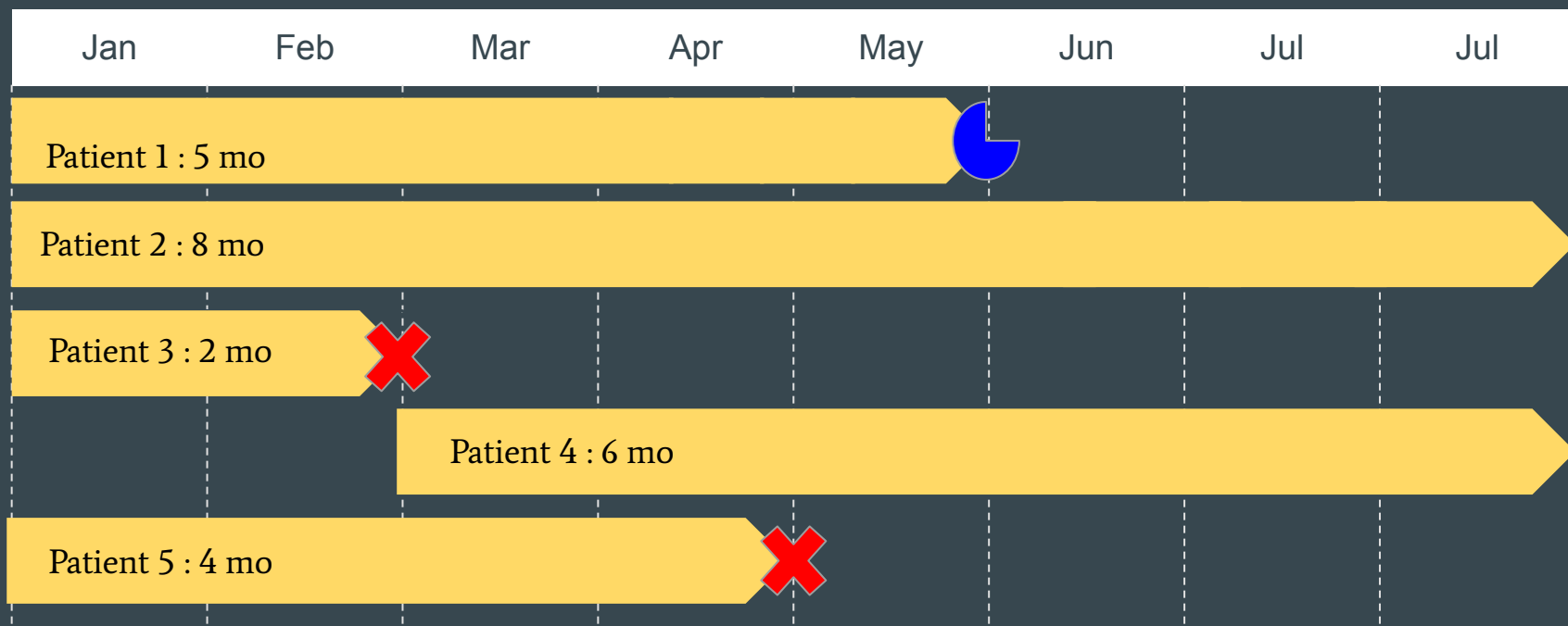
- ex| death due to cancer vs death due to heart disease

Traditional survival methods assume that competing risks are independent/absent, but this is not always the case

# Survival Analysis Example

 = censored

 = event of interest (death)



Can be complicated due to censoring (i.e. patient dropping out of study), people enrolling at different times, competing risks and some people not having the event of interest at all

# Infectious Disease Models That We Discussed

- Wanting to play out the different courses disease spread could take
- Some main models
  - SIR Model\*
  - Traveling Wave Solution
  - SIR Incubation Model



# What does SIR stand for?

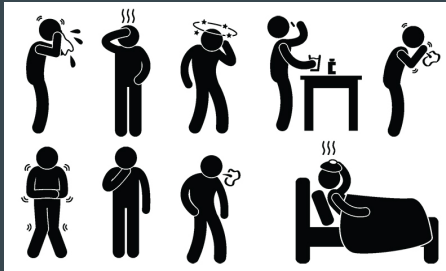
## Susceptibles

Those in the population who are at risk of contracting the disease



## Infectious

Those who have the disease and are actively contagious



## Removed/Recovered

People who have already had the disease (or have been vaccinated) and cannot get it again

Could be due to antibodies or death

\*sometimes removed can go back to susceptible\*

# Assumptions of an SIR Model

- The population of interest remains constant
- The rate of infection is proportional to the number of contacts
- There is a constant rate of death or recovery
  - Infectives recover/die at a constant rate

# Key variables in SIR Model

$R_0$  - basic reproductive ratio

Looking at the number of secondary infections from a primary infection

Anything above 1 is considered an epidemic

$R_0$  for some diseases

Flu: 1.9-2

COVID-19: 3-4

Measles: 12-18

$q$

Contact ratio

Proportion of population that comes into contact with an infectious individual, while the individual is infectious

Reducing  $q$  in the equations involved in SIR model is key to controlling the spread of a disease

# **Project objective:**

**Create an SIR model in R to  
simulate different viral outbreaks**

# Some parameters to consider in our model

## So what affects the transmission of a disease throughout a population?

- Are people wearing masks?
  - Those infected vs not infected wearing masks
- How far can the virus travel?
- What is the number of days someone is infected for?
- What is the general infection probability?
  - How inherently infectious is a virus?
- How many people are starting with the disease?

# We had to code up our model...

## Obstacle 1

When we randomly move our 100 “people” we needed them to stay within the bounds of the graph (0, 1)

## Obstacle 2

After moving the people, we had to create a new way to store that information without overriding the original information

## Obstacle 3

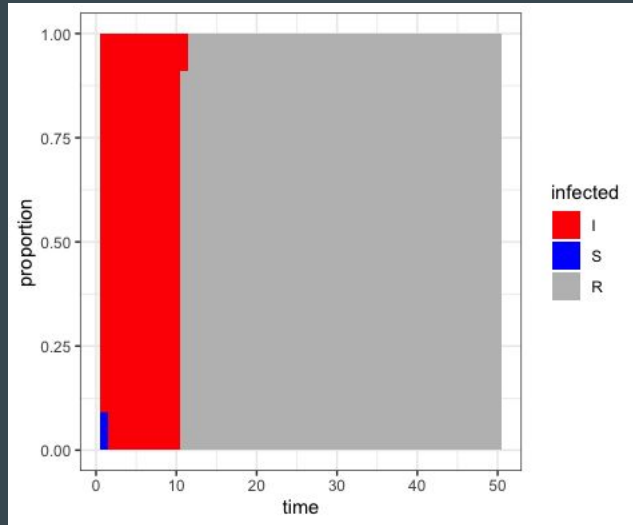
Including probability of transmission/infection based on mask usage

If sick but wearing a mask, probability of transmission reduced by 70%

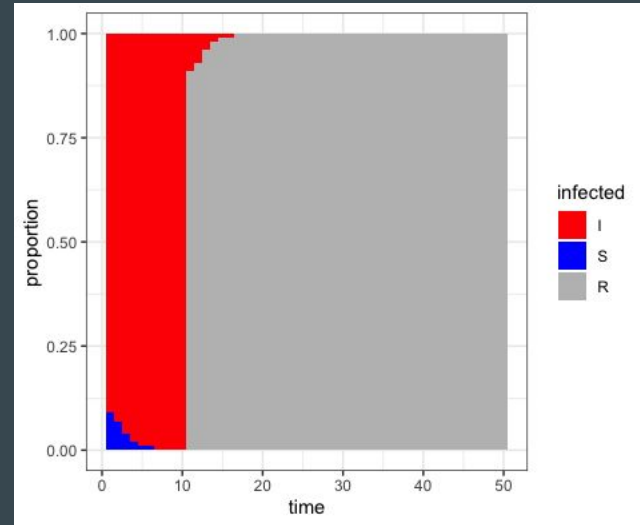
If not sick and wearing a mask probability of infection is reduced by 80%

Trying to make the  
**worst** possible scenario

# First let's compare mask usage



Red = infected  
Blue = susceptible  
Gray = removed



**Mask usage - 5%**, Starting # infected - 15, Number of days infected - 10, Infect probability - 0.95, Virus can travel a distance of 0.1 units

**Mask usage - 50%**, Starting # infected - 15, Number of days infected - 10, Infect probability - 0.95, Virus can travel a distance of 0.1 units

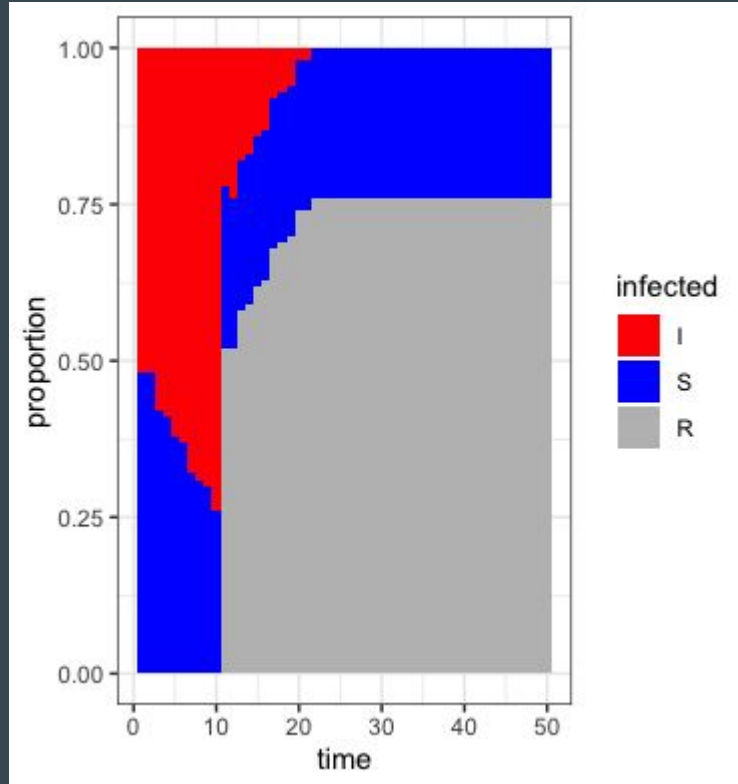
Masks seem to help slow the spread... slightly



**Takeaway: Very infectious virus is difficult to contain, even with strong mitigation practices in place**

Trying to make the **best**  
possible scenario

# Trying to create better scenarios



Mask usage - 95%

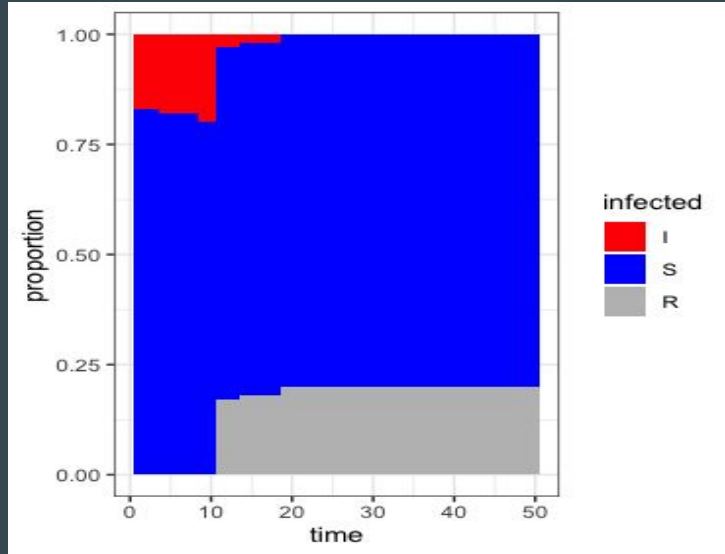
Starting # infected - 15

Number of days infected - 10

Infect probability - 0.50

Virus can travel a distance of 0.1 units

# Changing a few parameters....

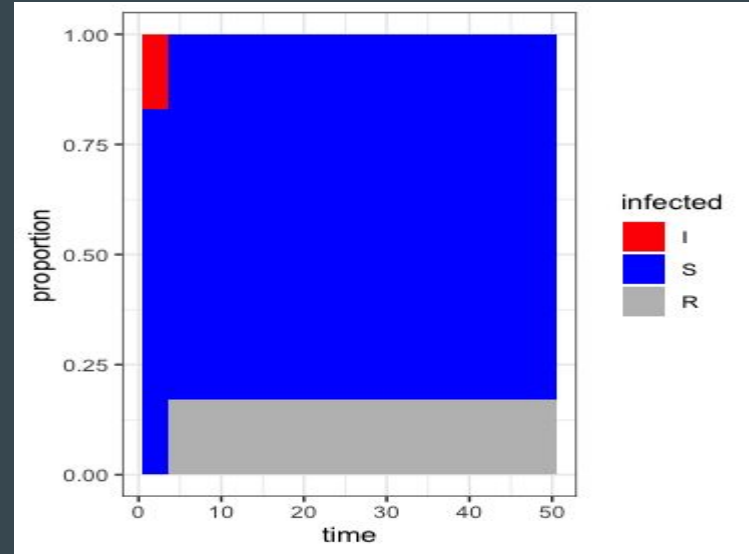


Mask usage - 95%

Starting # infected - 15

Number of days infected - 10

Infect probability - 0.10



Mask usage - 95%

Starting # infected - 15

Number of days infected - 3

Infect probability - 0.10

**Takeaway:** Decreasing number of days infected helps to control the number of people infected

# What we learned

For a worse case scenario:

- Increasing the distance a virus can travel
- Low mask usage
- High infection probability

Leads to the most infections in the population

For a best case scenario:

- High mask usage
- Low infection probability
- Small number of days infected
  - i.e. quarantining = less people infected

Leads to a more controlled outbreak, less total infections in the population

# Questions?

Shoutout to Taylor for all the help and guidance along the way :)