



Practical Thoughts on What a Vaccination Policy might Look Like.

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“Removing unnecessary barriers to usage”

- Varied lectures with both practical and scientific themes
- Break out groups
- Workshops

High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza Vaccination Strategies to prevent and control HPAI : Removing unnecessary barriers for usage

🕒 October 25 - 26, 2022 📍 Paris, France



What did we learn?



- Obstacles to vaccination are largely political/commercial/philosophical
- In the absence of third country trading partners or political desire to ensure HPAI remains clearly labelled as “exotic” appropriate vaccination ought to *help* control HPAI in commercial poultry
- 2 very important phrases here...



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- Obstacles to vaccination are largely political/commercial/philosophical
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Appropriate Vaccination:

I don't want to dwell on this point...

I am assured that there are commercially available vaccines which could be used successfully against prevailing H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b in commercial turkey, chicken and duck

I understand that ongoing surveillance of circulating strains would be necessary to ensure vaccines are well matched to circulating strains (I view that as a role for the state or international organisations such as Offlu)

Our experiences with COVID would suggest scientific community and big pharma have ability to rapidly respond to any changes in the nature of any predominant circulating HPAI



“Help Control”- vaccination is not a golden bullet!

I think vets innately understand this point; no vaccine offers perfect protection

Clients do not necessarily appreciate the nuances of:

- Infection pressure
- Quality of vaccine administration
- Correct vaccine choice (see previous slide)
- Effects of concurrent disease
- Etc etc etc etc

Poor vaccination in conjunction with intensive surveillance may result in greater detection of disease and ongoing disruptions to industry

Biosecurity will continue to feature as a primary control measure



So what's holding us back?

Economics....

What does HPAI current cost:

- Direct state costs (through control, surveillance and compensation)
- Direct Industry costs (loss of birds, loss of trade, licensing)
- Indirect costs (reputational cost; is poultry meat safe, is mass culling OK?)
- Riskier trading environment leading to reduced investment and growth

What could Vaccination cost:

- Direct cost of vaccination
- Cost of loss or interruption of international trade
- Cost of surveillance



So what's holding us back?

Economics....

Lets assume that commercial vaccines can be made available at a price which makes their use affordable to industry

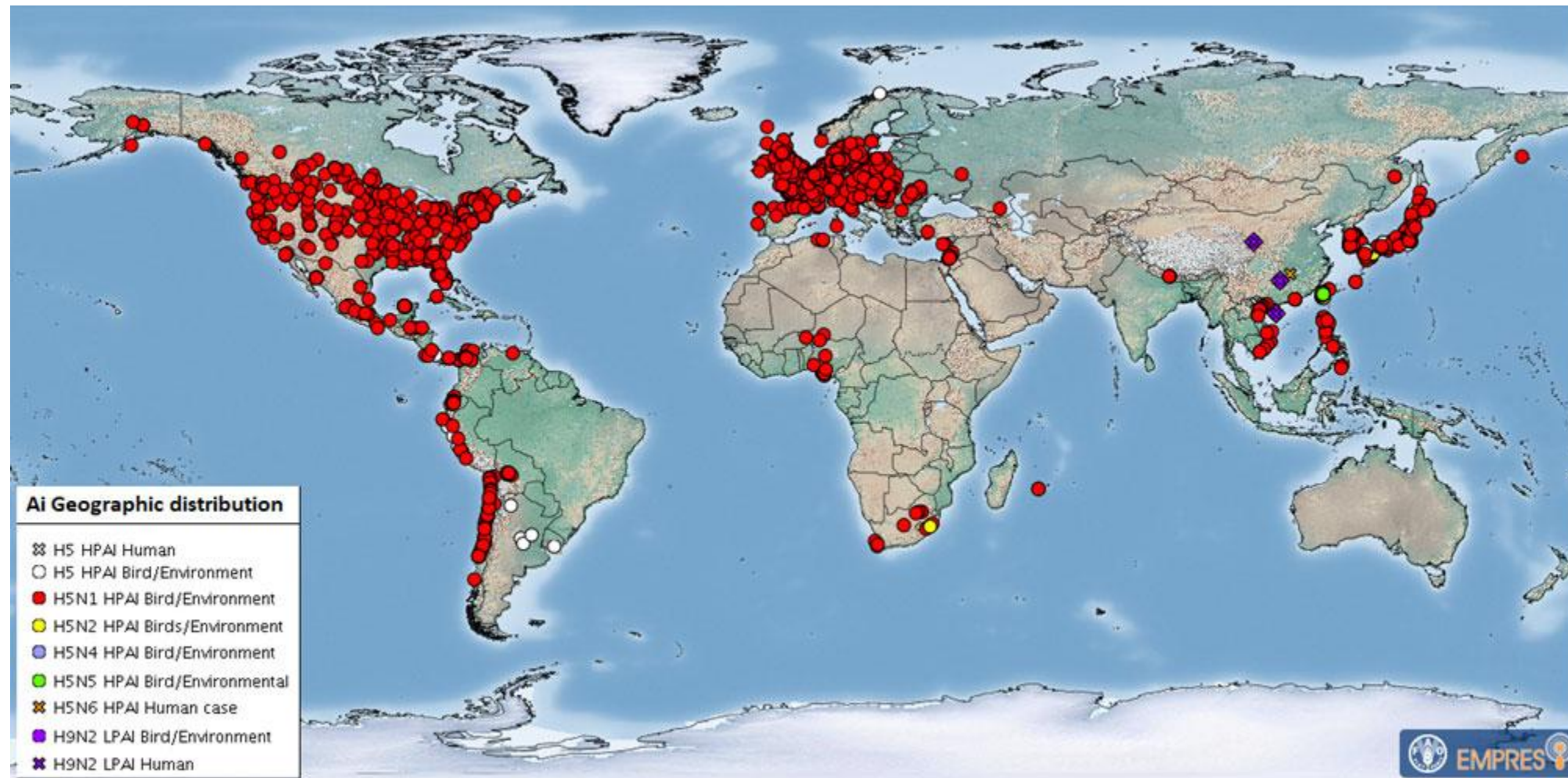
And that the cost of control to state and industry is very high...

Then the obstacles to vaccination would seem to revolve around 2 significant factors:

- Effect of vaccination on trade with third countries
- What surveillance would be required; what samples, how many, how often, by whom, where are they tested, what does it cost...

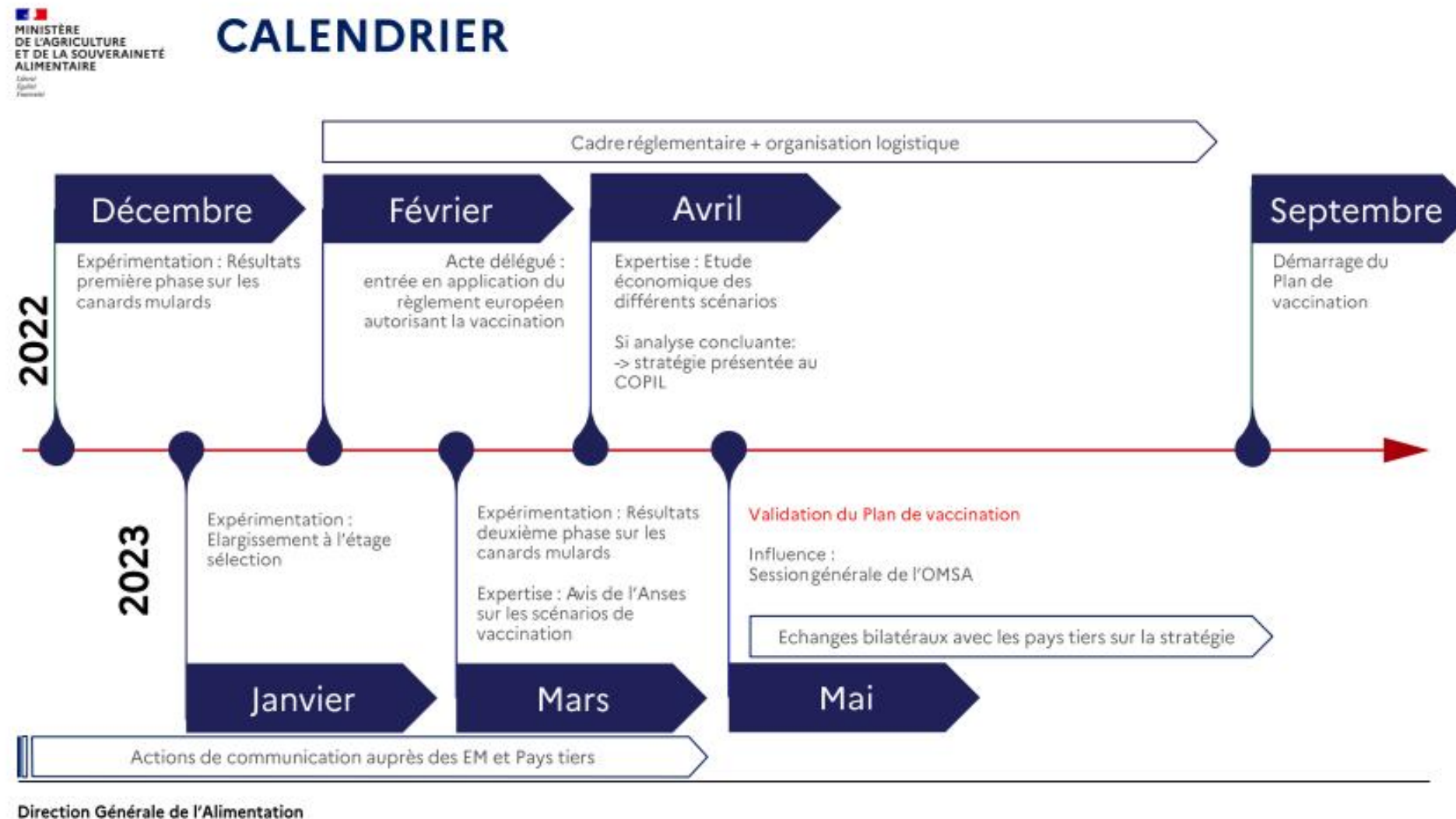


We are not alone!





And we must be wary of being left behind...





So, who could vaccinate?

Probably benefit from vaccination	Probably wouldn't benefit from vaccination
Meat Turkeys	Standard Broilers
Breeder Turkeys	Layer Breeders
Meat Ducks	Primary Breeders
Breeder Ducks	
Free Range Layers	
Other long lived layers?	
Broiler Breeders?	
Long lived broilers	
Gamebirds??	



Should and Could Vaccinate OR Shall and Must Vaccinate?

Ordinarily I would counsel for minimal state intervention...

However once preventative AI vaccination is sanctioned there are consequences (in terms of trade and surveillance) which affect the whole industry.

Therefore there will need to be some degree of state supervision:

- Which vaccines are suitable/available (reference laboratory + VMD)
- Availability of vaccines (vaccine bank??)
- If vaccination compulsory how is this policed
- If vaccination voluntary what checks and measures?
- Surveillance; what samples, how many, how often, by whom, where are they tested, what does it cost...



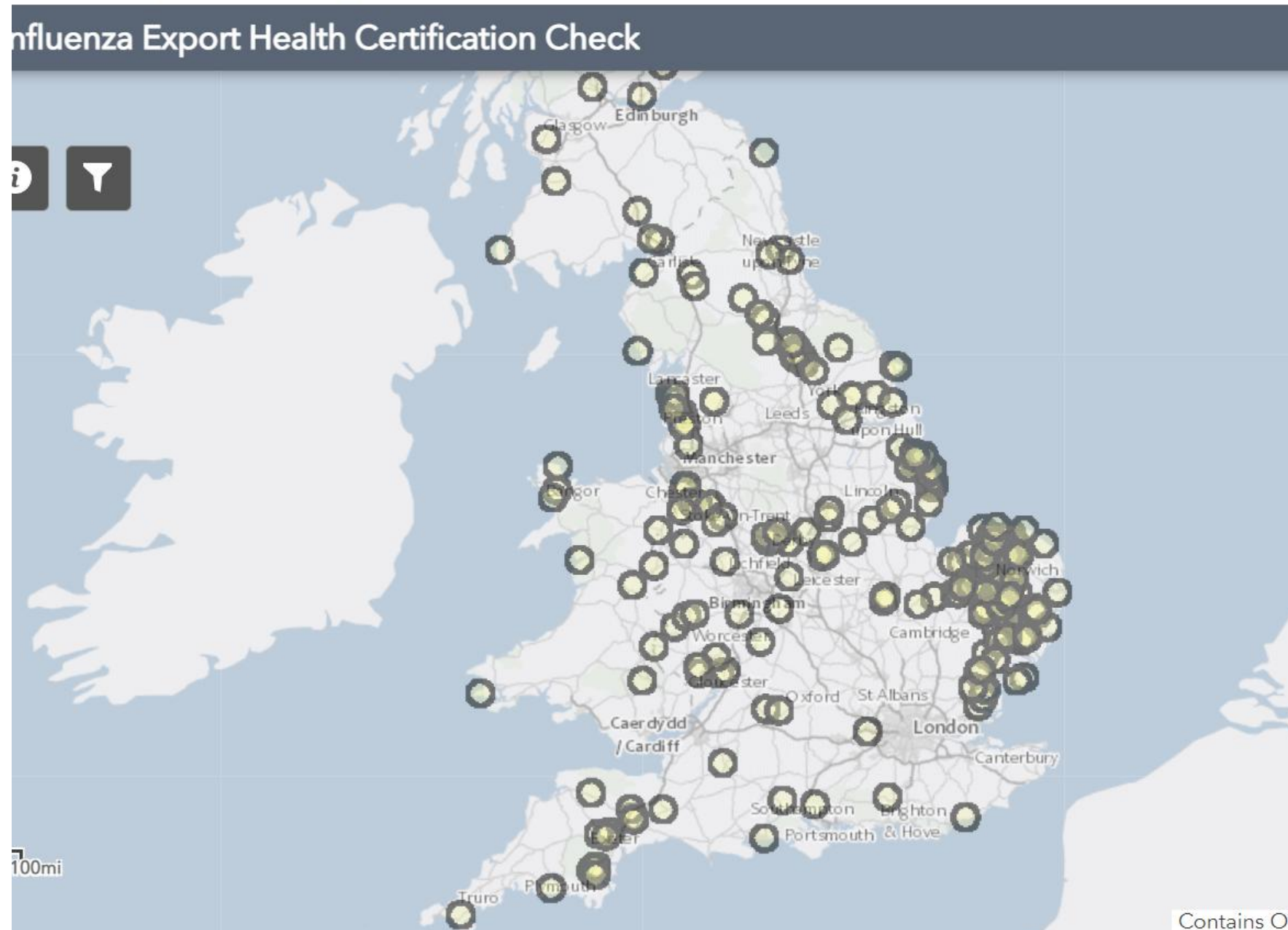
Overcoming immediate barriers to vaccination... 1 of 2

TRADE:

- I cannot envisage a situation where vaccination is permitted before the impacts on trade have been resolved.
- John Clifford (ex USDA Chief Veterinary Officer) was very vocal in his opinion that the USA would not vaccinate if there would be any risk to trade in poultry
- This is not insurmountable... but it is challenging and requires immediate attention
- DEFRA trade teams need to urgently review existing certificates; ranking them by value of goods traded and (on assumption of a 90:10 rule) identify the trading partners where negotiations would be required

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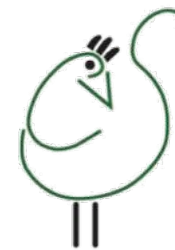
Overcoming immediate barriers to vaccination... 2 of 2

SURVEILLANCE:

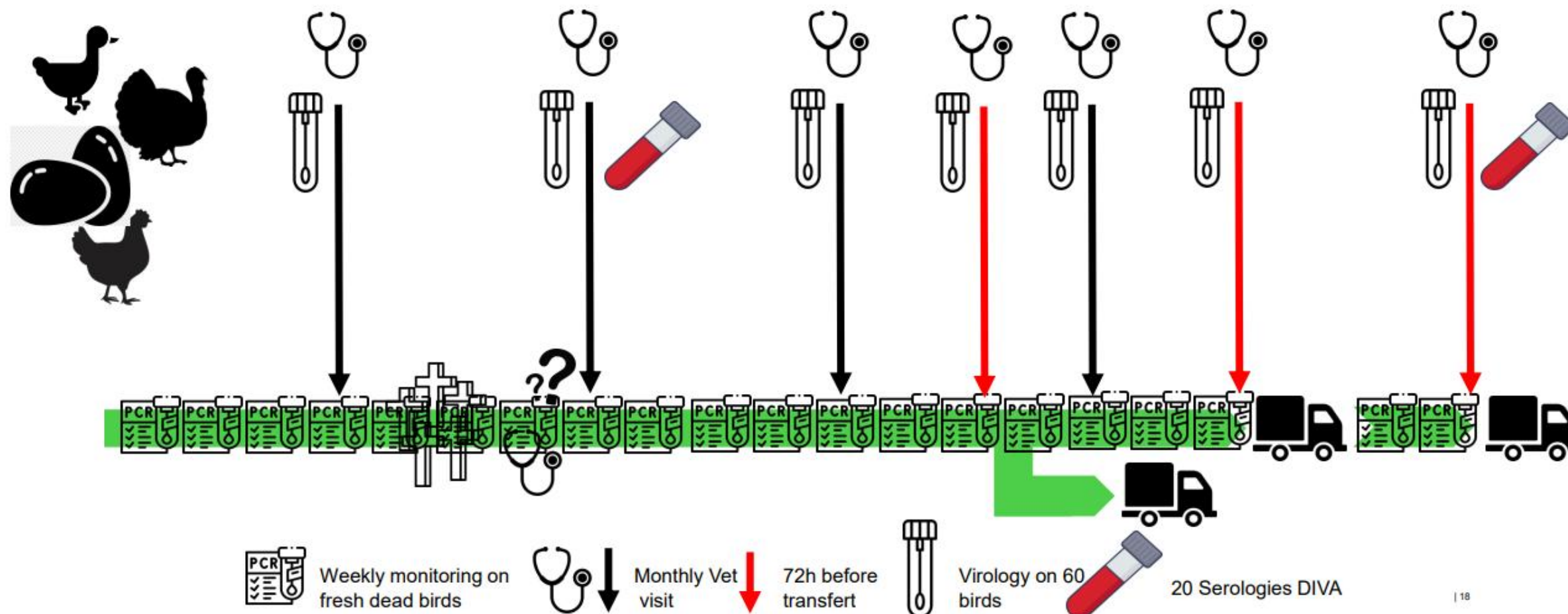
- Industry need to be aware of what this might look like... what samples, how many, how often, by whom, where are they tested, what does it cost.
- My view is that APHA ought to be able to offer a view on what effective surveillance program in a partially vaccinated commercial population might look like.
- This could then be adjusted according to what European Commission, USA other countries decide. (But we have to start somewhere)
- Depending on the likely approach do we have sufficient personnel or laboratory capacity to conduct this testing?
- Who will fund it and if industry will they stomach it... otherwise the rest of the conversation is meaningless.

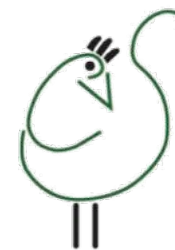
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Monitoring : a synthesis





So to Summarise:

Practical Thoughts on What a Vaccination Policy might Look Like

- **Clinically there seem to be few obstacles; there are vaccines available to offer acceptable levels of protection available for the poultry sectors where vaccination is being most loudly demanded**
- **We urgently require an understanding of what vaccination might do for trade**
- **We urgently require an understanding of what surveillance might look like (even if this changes as the situation evolves)**

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