

The Path Forward: NSABB's Deliverable 2

Susan M. Wolf, J.D.

Joseph E. McDade, Ph.D.

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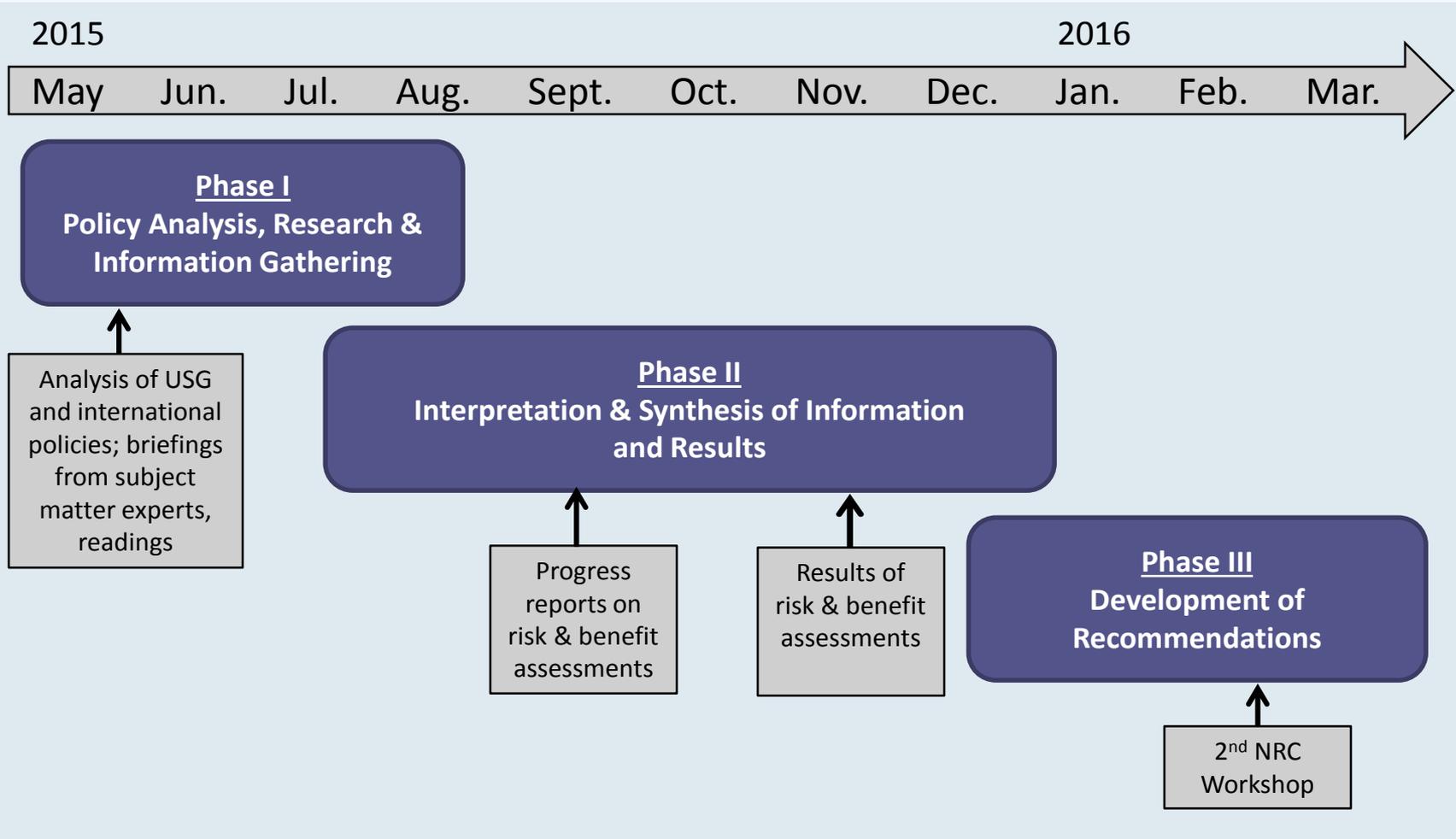
NSABB Deliverable 2: Approach

Deliverable 2: Formal recommendations on a conceptual approach to the evaluation of proposed GOF studies

Key questions to consider:

- What does the risk/benefit analysis tell us about the relative risks and benefits associated with the GOF studies involving pathogens with pandemic potential?
- Are there particular GOF studies that raise significant concerns?
- What are the ethical and policy considerations that should guide decisions about GOF studies?
- Do current policies, regulations, and guidelines adequately address & mitigate the potential risks of GOF studies involving pathogens with pandemic potential? Is additional oversight needed?
- How does GOF research fit into the overall scientific research and public health endeavor?

NSABB Deliverable 2: Proposed Process for NSABB Deliberations



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Conduct of risk & benefit assessments

Informing NSABB Deliberations

- What additional key inputs, sources of information, and areas of consideration will be important for NSABB’s ongoing deliberations?

Topic	Input
Policy (US)	Review of USG policies relevant to DURC, GOF, and oversight of research involving pathogens (e.g. HHS Framework, USG DURC policies, biosafety guidelines, select agent regulations)
Policy (International)	International (WHO, EU etc.) regulations and policies on biomedical research related to DURC and GOF; relevant US commitments under international law; summaries from relevant international meetings; materials issued by international scientific and public health societies, advocacy organizations, etc.
Funding Agency Perspectives	Presentations from USG agencies and non-governmental funding bodies to include description of project review process and viewpoints of how GOF studies fit within a broader research portfolio
Broad Scientific Perspectives	Perspectives on GOF from highly respected scientists from diverse fields (Non-GOF/Flu/Coronavirus researchers); might include broader microbiology, synthetic biology, neuroscience, or other fields.
Ethics & policy choices in moving from risk/benefit analysis to recommendations	A commissioned review of ethical writings and frameworks for generating policy recommendations informed by risk/benefit analysis; briefings from those with expertise in creating DURC policy.
National Security	National security briefing to the NSABB; biosecurity analysis as part of commissioned risk assessment
Science communications--publishing and reporting	Perspectives from journal editors/publishers and science reporters about how GOF studies fit within a broader scientific context, how they are reviewed by journals, why they are published and what they contribute to the knowledge base; how they are received by the scientific community and public
Examples of placing limits on research--Smallpox as case study	A review of the literature describing the history of the smallpox eradication and the decision-making process for restricting smallpox research