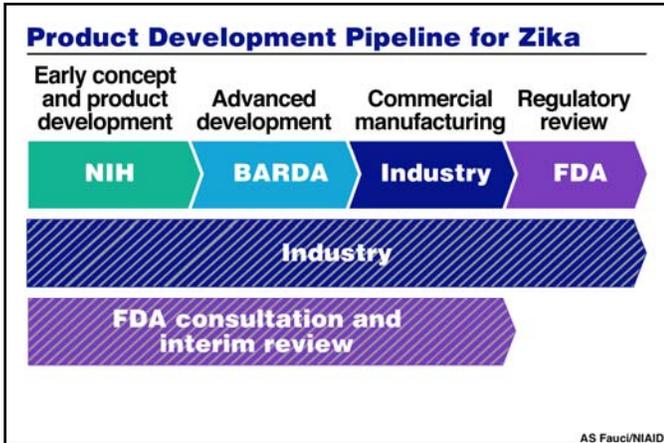
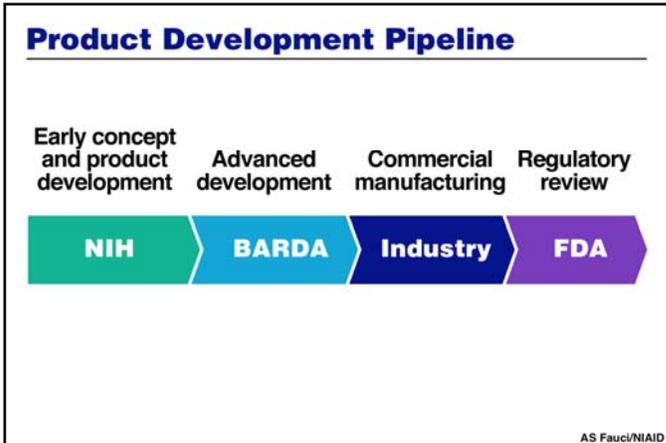
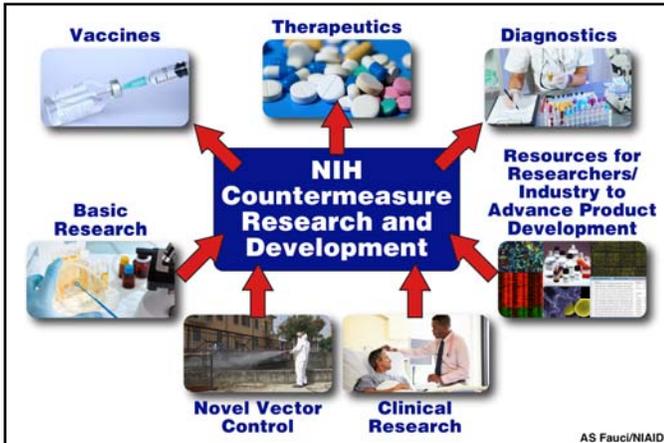
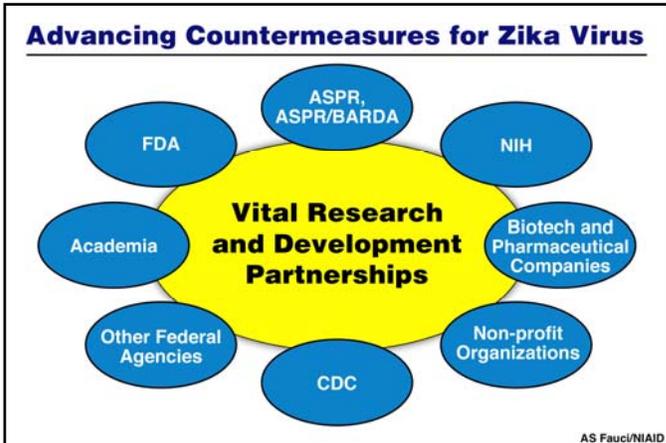


## Zika Virus in the Americas: An HHS Expert Consultation to Accelerate the Development of Countermeasures

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- ### Goals of the Consultation:
- Review the current information about the epidemiology and natural history (including potential link to microcephaly and other fetal malformations), clinical manifestations, modes of transmission and pathogenesis of Zika virus.
  - Identify critical gaps in knowledge, technologies, research infrastructure and regulatory oversight needed to address the current epidemic.
  - Discuss strategies to accelerate the development of vaccines, diagnostics, therapeutics and novel vector control methods.
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**Key Issues to Address Today:**

- 1. Epidemiology and Pathogenesis:** Spectrum of disease. Congenital defects → pathogenic mechanisms. Are they new or just recently recognized?
- 2. Vaccines:** Target populations. Design of clinical trials.
- 3. Diagnostics:** Specificity, sensitivity, availability.
- 4. Therapeutics:** When and how to use. Role in pregnancy.
- 5. Vector control:** Current tools versus novel approaches.

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