

Tech Transfer Roundup: Tiba And CEPI Strategize Together On ‘Disease X’

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Tiba, CEPI Strive To Plan Ahead For Next Pandemic

[Tiba Biotech LLC](#) and [CEPI](#) (Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations) said on 12 January that they will partner to evaluate the Cambridge, MA-headquartered biotech's next-generation RNA vaccine technology as a tool for readiness for the next global epidemic or pandemic – which they termed “disease X.”

Tiba asserted that its technology could improve upon currently available RNA vaccines, which played a significant role in combating the COVID-19 pandemic, by causing fewer fevers or other side effects in patients as well as offering logistical benefits. While the current class of RNA vaccines require stringent cold-chain production methods and have high manufacturing costs, Tiba's platform might offer a way to avoid those issues, the firm said.

CEPI will provide \$2m in grant funding to advance Tiba's RNA nanoparticle delivery platform, RNABL, underwriting the design, development and preclinical evaluation of a candidate against the flavivirus Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV). JEV can lead to human disease related to dengue, yellow fever and West Nile viruses, the partners noted. *(Editor's note: The headline of this article has been corrected to note that Tiba is based in the US, not Norway.)*