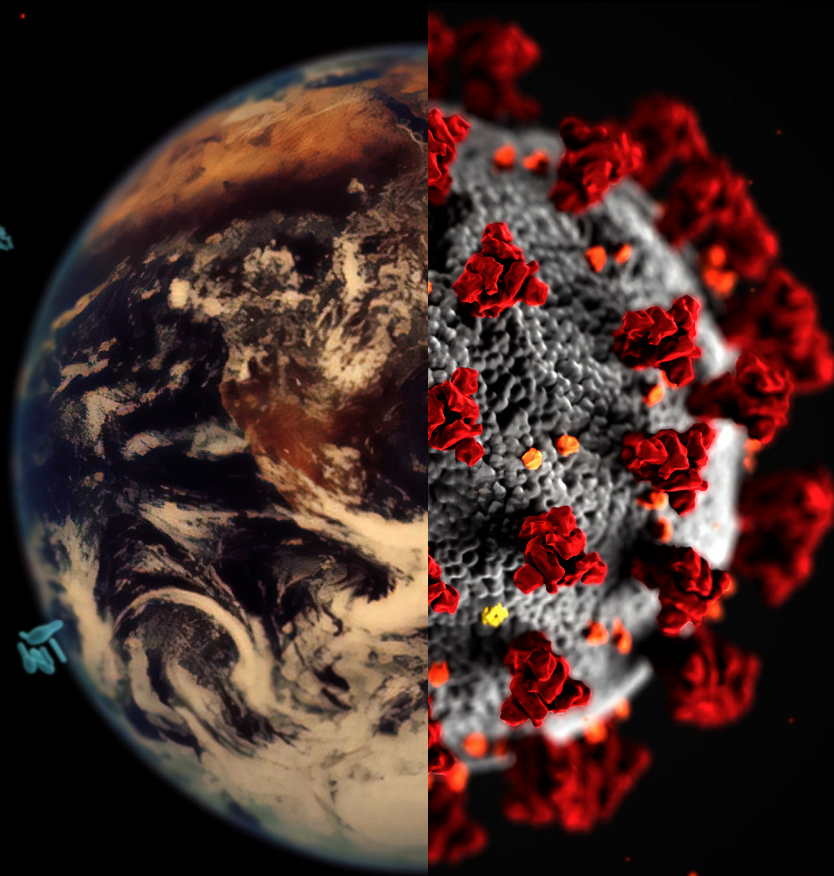


INVISIBLE WARS



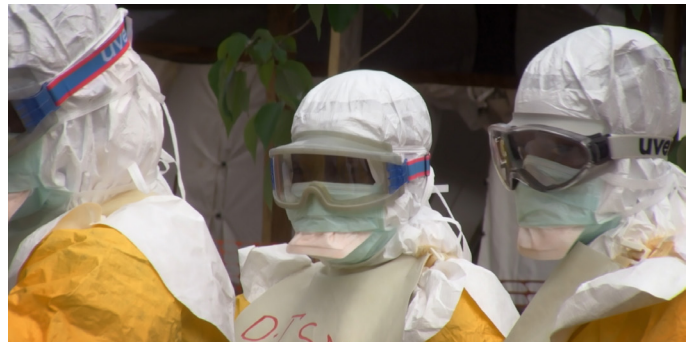
Tracking global epidemics
and how science helps us fight back

**A GRIPPING
SCIENCE SERIES
THAT TRACKS
GLOBAL EPIDEMICS
AND EXPLORES
THE WAY THAT
SCIENCE HAS
HELPED US FIGHT
BACK AGAINST
THE WORLD'S
MOST DEADLY
INFECTIOUS
DISEASES**

HD 3 x 60'
WildBear Entertainment

The battle with COVID-19 has shown how a virus can bring the world to its knees. But Science has helped humanity fight back with the development of vaccines and critical drugs that have saved millions of lives. With each new outbreak, we've gained vital intelligence about these invisible enemies, developed ingenious weapons of defence and are now better prepared for the moment when the next deadly outbreak strikes.

Invisible Wars is a timely series about humanity's battle with deadly microbes. A real-life science thriller, tracking global epidemics and exploring the rise and fall of infectious diseases past, present and emerging. Interviews with leading infectious disease experts from around the world uncover the emotional and personal toll of these disease-causing pathogens, the amazing medical breakthroughs to combat them and how science is working to stay one step ahead.



Australia, New Zealand
& Rest of World Sales
Sydney Head Office
700 Harris Street
Ultimo NSW 2007, Australia
TEL +61 2 8333 3970
abc.contentsales@abc.net.au
abccommercial.com/contentsales

UK & European Sales
London Office
TEL +44 20 7808 1361
abc.contentsales@abc.net.au
abccommercial.com/contentsales

EPISODE 1: AIRBORNE ATTACK

In March 2020, cities around the world fell silent. Empty streets echoed the return of a familiar (but forgotten) foe: a highly infectious respiratory virus for which there was no known cure.

Airborne Attack is a gripping tale that reminds us that COVID-19 is just one in a series of deadly respiratory outbreaks that have wreaked havoc over the last 100 years.

Specialists from the World Health Organization – as well as leading virologists, microbiologists and doctors based in the UK, Australia, Hong Kong and the USA – make it clear that although COVID-19 has changed our world forever, this is nothing new. In fact, a hundred years ago a new strain of flu ‘spilt over’ from animals to humans with devastating consequences. It infected an astonishing one-third of the world’s population and killed over 50 million people. *Airborne Attack* shines a light on the fascinating parallels between the measures taken to combat Spanish Influenza and those used to fight a pandemic 100 years later.



EPISODE 2: CREATURES OF CONTAGION

In late 2019, near Wuhan, China, a novel coronavirus jumped from an animal to humans, sparking the most disastrous pandemic in 100 years. Shining a light on the close connection between animal and human health, this episode takes a closer look at these 'spill over' events and reveals that the spread of disease from animals to humans is nothing new. In fact, seventy-five per cent of new diseases are zoonotic, meaning they originate in animals.

Many of these viruses include the deadliest microbes that have ever attacked humanity. *Creatures of Contagion* tells the stories of scientists, doctors and public health experts as they've fought back against these deadly enemies by inventing miracle treatments and devising radical solutions that have saved millions. This emotionally gripping episode features scientists and doctors working at the frontlines to combat Zoonotic viruses such as Ebola, HIV, dengue and Zika.

Associate Professor Kamalini Lokuge paints a vivid picture of fighting Ebola in the 2014 West African Outbreak, describing her experience as a contact tracer, facing a virus with the power to kill 90% of those it infects. Dr. Davey Smith reveals what it was like as a gay doctor in San Diego in the 1990s, treating patients who had become infected with HIV – and the emotional experience of finally having access to 'miracle' drugs to treat his patients. Professor Scott O'Neill explains how his ingenious disease-fighting mosquitoes are drastically reducing the destructive Dengue and Zika viruses around the world.



EPISODE 3: THE SUPERBUG ERA

When COVID-19 swept around the globe it revealed how incredibly vulnerable we are to infections for which we have no cure. But scientists are now warning of a new kind of pandemic that could transform many treatable diseases into unstoppable killers. Antibiotic resistance is a looming threat that many predict will dwarf the COVID crisis in size and severity.

In this stirring one-hour documentary, top doctors and scientists from around the world speak candidly about the alarming threat posed by superbugs. Reckless use of antibiotics is allowing bacteria to develop resistance and many scientists believe this will lead to the end of the 'antibiotic era'.

Woven throughout this episode, is the powerful story of epidemiologist Dr. Steffanie Strathdee (UC San Diego) whose encounter with a superbug changed her life forever. On a holiday in Egypt, Steffanie's husband Tom contracted *acinetobacter baumannii*. This superbug would rage a war inside Tom's body, causing him to lose consciousness for months, for doctors to declare that there were simply no antibiotics left that could treat him and eventually, for Tom's doctors to give up hope. At the 11th hour, Steffanie decided to draw on her epidemiological training to try and find another solution – and stumbled across a long-forgotten therapy, hidden in a journal article, that she hoped would save her husband's life.

This exciting episode tracks Dr. Steffanie Strathdee and other scientists around the world as they hunt down new drugs and deploy radical weapons in an attempt to stop disease.

