



**Statement on Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security *SPARS Pandemic 2025-2028: A Futuristic Scenario for Public Health Risk Communicators***

December 16, 2021 - A multidisciplinary team from the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security developed, from 2015-17, a fictional narrative scenario, *The SPARS Pandemic 2025-2028: A Futuristic Scenario for Public Health Risk Communicators*, to illustrate the communication challenges that could erupt around the development and distribution of novel and/or investigational drugs, vaccines, and other therapeutics in a future public health emergency.

The scenario is not a prediction: It is a teaching and training resource for public health officials, to help users envision problems that could plausibly emerge in the future, so that they can practice responses and better protect the public's health. Any resemblances between the fictional scenario storyline and the COVID-19 pandemic are coincidental. The scenario was developed by experts in the clinical, epidemiological, sociocultural, and communication aspects of epidemic management, to assure the narrative's scientific plausibility.