WHO
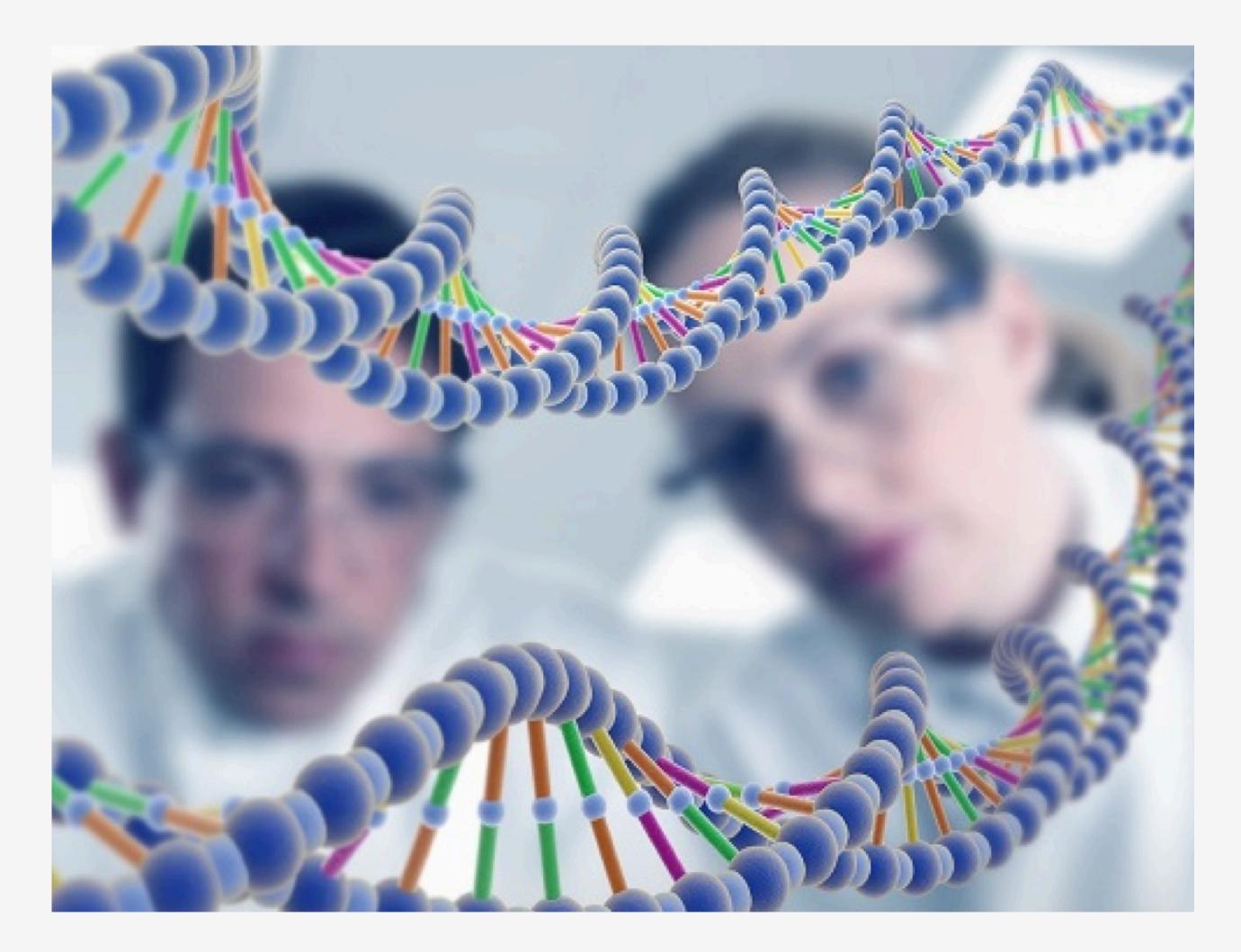
(for middle schoolers: Grades 6-8)
Topic 1: Global Regulation for New Genetic Technologies

The rapid advancement of genetic technologies, such as CRISPR and gene editing, holds transformative potential for medicine, agriculture, and biotechnology. However, these innovations also raise significant ethical, safety, and regulatory concerns. Unregulated use of genetic technologies could lead to unintended consequences, including genetic discrimination, ecological impacts, and biosecurity risks. This topic calls for a comprehensive international framework to govern the development, application, and oversight of new genetic technologies. Delegates will discuss ethical guidelines, safety standards, and mechanisms for global cooperation to ensure these technologies are used responsibly and equitably. How can the international community balance the promise of genetic advancements with the need to protect human rights and environmental integrity? What regulatory measures are necessary to prevent misuse while promoting scientific progress?

WHO

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Topic 2: Addressing the Global Mental Health Crisis

Mental health disorders are a leading cause of disability and suffering worldwide, affecting people of all ages and backgrounds. Despite the growing recognition of mental health as a critical component of overall health, many countries face significant challenges in providing adequate care due to stigma, lack of resources, and insufficient healthcare infrastructure. This topic seeks to address the global mental health crisis by promoting comprehensive strategies for prevention, treatment, and support. Delegates will explore ways to enhance mental health services, integrate mental health into primary care, and reduce stigma through public education campaigns. How can the international community collaborate to ensure that mental health is prioritized in public health agendas, and what innovative approaches can be adopted to improve access to mental health care globally?