







## Three stages of transmission control in an epidemic

- Include any feasible methods through assumptions on mechanisms
- Financial and effort fatigue, with a loosening of those initial steps based on expense and difficulty
- Risk-based assessment of biosecurity

Science-driven solutions®



# Biosecurity is management

# Transmission analysis is science

Low likelihood-High impact events

#### Sparse data

Needs large databases of disparate farms

Needs definition of biosecurity risks

Commonality of protocols and compliance measurement useful



## The challenges

- Low likelihood/ high impact concern
- Mechanisms of transfer identified but not quantified
- Employee performance not outcome-based
- Short-term financial performance contradicted
  - High employee turnover
  - Susceptible to cost-cutting in during financial stress
- Management rarely rewarded for compliance
- Information is not attainable at farm level
- Unstable regional effects

#### **Risk & Uncertainty Continuum**



ConversationAgent.com







#### Additional Benefits of Biosecurity

- Ease of production
- Potential for eradicating more diseases
- Prevention of future diseases
- Stability of supply
- Capital availability (if quantified)

Science-driven solutions  $^{\mathbb{R}}$ 

#### The people problem

- Pig farming is a risky business
  - Farm size a risk
- Rule-based but hard to integrate with other objectives
- Corner-cutting can be cultural
  - Cultural competencies rarely measured in management
  - Eg truck washes: max vs min
- Behavior hard to monitor/reward
  - How clean is "clean"?
- "Nudges" hard to define
- Limited experiences







#### **Communication** issues

- The role of communication is to facilitate and promote the spread of "innovation" (biosecurity) by building on the way people perceive their own situation and the environment in which they act.
- Awareness of why the biosecurity practices being promoted make sense to those expected to implement them is key to behaviour change and must form part of any communication strategy.
- Communication is as an instrument of advocacy, stimulating policy-makers and media to rally round the importance of biosecurity, helping to create the "enabling" or "support" environment within which individuals and communities can play their role.

#### Choice: before or after shower?



## We can't compensate for other factors



**Gini Index** 

Fig 4. Causal diagram showing the hypothesized and plausible associations between the outcome of interest and investigated exploratory variables.



Arruda AG, Vilalta C, Perez A, Morrison R (2017) Land altitude, slope, and coverage as risk factors for Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) outbreaks in the United States. PLOS ONE 12(4): e0172638. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0172638 https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0172638

### Where do we go?

- Collect the data you need together
- Avoid retrospective presumptions
- Know your costs
- Don't rely on a technological discovery
- Treat biosecurity as a common solutions good
- Assess and reassess
- Celebrate compliance





