



Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority

A closer look into HERA's operating modes



HERA's mission

HERA was created to strengthen Europe's ability to ensure the provision of medical countermeasures in case of a pandemic or other large-scale health threats. This implies identifying possible threats, assessing existing countermeasures, establishing stocks or supporting the development of new countermeasures, as well as making sure that, if needed, we will have the capacity to produce them quickly and at mass.

- Better EU health security coordination in the area of medical countermeasures (MCMs) before and during crises
- Bringing together the EU member states, industry and relevant stakeholders
- Development, production, procurement, stockpiling and equitable distribution of medical countermeasures
- Reinforcing the global health emergency response architecture

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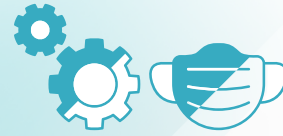


1. Preparedness phase

During the preparedness phase, HERA works closely with Member States to analyse, **identify, and prioritise possible health threats**. This work forms the basis for strategic coordination for the development of **medical countermeasures**, such as medicines, vaccines, masks and gloves, as well as for the monitoring of the industrial capacity to produce and supply those countermeasures.



Analyse, identify, and prioritise health threats



Development of medical countermeasures

2. Emergency phase

If a public health emergency is recognised at EU level, the Council, upon the proposal of the Commission, can adopt a regulation **activating the emergency framework** together with one or more measures listed in the Emergency Framework Regulation. Also, activating this framework means the Health Crisis Board will be established. During this phase, HERA can quickly switch to emergency operations, including swift decision-making and the **activation of emergency measures**. Emergency funding can be activated and mechanisms for

monitoring, new-targeted development, **procurement and purchase of medical countermeasures** and raw materials can be launched.

In the event of a public health emergency at EU level, and following the activation of the emergency framework, HERA will ensure that Member States are ready to act swiftly, steering the effective deployment of all the preparations taken in advance.



Activation of the emergency framework



Activation of emergency measures



Purchase of medical countermeasures

HERA can:

Identify funding or activate emergency funding and launch mechanisms for monitoring, new targeted development, procurement and purchase of medical countermeasures and raw materials

Set in motion EU FAB facilities, a network of ever warm production capacities for vaccines and medicines manufacturing

Boost EU production of medical countermeasures and establish an inventory of production facilities, raw materials, consumables, equipment and infrastructure to have a clear overview of EU capacities

Activate emergency research and innovation plans and the use of union-wide clinical trial networks and data sharing platforms

3. HERA Health Crisis Board

The Emergency Framework Regulation foresees the establishment of a Health Crisis Board on crisis-relevant medical countermeasures to ensure the coordination of approaches at Union level. The Health Crisis Board will be composed of the European Commission and one representative from each Member State. Other institutions and agencies will also be closely involved.



FOCUS: On 17 April 2020, the joint Council-Commission roadmap towards lifting COVID-19 containment measures stressed for the first time that joint procurement and equal access would guide the Commission's actions on vaccines. The Commission started investigating vaccine candidates in late April. The Commission published its COVID-19 vaccines strategy on 17 June 2020, presenting the rationale for a centralised EU procurement process.



