



European
Commission



Europe's Beating Cancer Plan: Vaccination as a cancer prevention tool

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





About 40% of cancers can be prevented.

With Europe's Beating Cancer Plan, the European Commission is supporting effective cancer strategies that can prevent illness, save lives and reduce the impacts of cancer. This includes a Flagship Initiative to address cancers that can be prevented by vaccination, namely cancers caused by Human papillomaviruses (HPV) and the Hepatitis B virus (HBV).

Proposed measures will:

- **Boost the uptake of vaccines** in all affected population groups, including by increasing confidence in vaccination
- **Address barriers to vaccination**, including by offering it free of charge or reimbursing costs
- **Improve the monitoring** of vaccination coverage rates to close data gaps and guide public health action
- **Increase awareness** of vaccination as a cancer prevention tool

HPV	HBV
 <p>Most common viral infection of the reproductive tract causing a range of conditions in both women and men, including precancerous lesions that may progress to cancer</p>	 <p>Chronic infection with the virus is a major cause of chronic liver disease, cirrhosis and liver cancer.</p>
 <p>Estimated 28 600 cervical cancer cases and 13 700 deaths every year in EU/EEA countries</p>	 <p>Estimated 64 000 deaths annually due to disease caused by HBV and Hepatitis C virus across the EU/EEA and the UK</p>
 <p>3 vaccines authorised in the EU</p>	 <p>12 vaccines authorised in the EU</p>
 <p>Recommended for adolescent and preadolescent girls and boys</p>	 <p>For infants, adults at high risk and sometimes in disadvantaged situations, health professionals</p>
 <p>The objective is to fully vaccinate at least 90 % of the EU target population of girls and significantly increase the vaccination of boys by 2030, to ultimately eliminate cervical cancer and other cancers caused by HPV.</p>	 <p>The target is to boost vaccination in line with WHO 2030 targets to ultimately eliminate hepatitis as a public health threat in the WHO European Region</p>

Coverage rates: significant differences across the EU

Whereas a few Member States have vaccinated more than 90 % of adolescent or preadolescent girls with one out of the two doses that are needed for those age groups for HPV, this figure remains below 50 % in other Member States. Our proposals include:

- Presenting vaccination rates, goals and targets by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control
- Development or upgrade of national electronic vaccination registries in compliance with the EU's General Data Protection Regulation
- Streamlining national administrative procedures for vaccination



Increased vaccination confidence

Over the past five years, there have been significant EU-wide changes in public perceptions towards the importance and safety of vaccines. Whilst vaccine confidence levels differ between countries, according to vaccine type and within sociodemographic characteristics, more efforts are needed to restore trust.

- #UnitedInProtection communication campaign to raise awareness of the benefits of vaccination
- European Vaccination Information Portal
- Monitoring and addressing mis- and disinformation
- EU funding to support communication efforts



EU Cancer Plan targets and intentions are fully aligned with the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goal 3: **Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.**

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