



HERA's training and exercise programme

Strengthening knowledge and skills in preparedness and response related to medical countermeasures



HERA'S MISSION

HERA's mission is to strengthen Europe's preparedness and response to health threats. This implies identifying possible threats, assessing existing countermeasures, establishing stocks or supporting the development of new countermeasures, strengthening supply chains as well as making sure that, if needed, there is sufficient capacity to produce them quickly and at mass.

Strengthening knowledge and skills in preparedness and response related to medical countermeasures is essential to improve European preparedness and response capacity to cross-border threats to health. It is one of HERA's main tasks.

Ensuring timely and equitable access to vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics, personal protective equipment or other medical devices to all EU Member States, and secure solidarity are essential to save lives in any public health crisis. It is essential to continuously reinforce technical and operational capacities at EU and EU Member State levels, strengthen EU coordination, ensure clear and swift decision-making procedures, streamline communication processes and the sharing of information. Training and simulation exercises are key to enhance coordination and build capacity of those involved on all aspects related to medical countermeasures.



OBJECTIVES OF HERA'S TRAINING & EXERCISE PROGRAMME

Targeting national, regional and local authorities in Member States, particularly those working on health preparedness, readiness and response, HERA's training and exercise programme will aim at:



Strengthening EU Member States skills and knowledge on the full cycle of management of medical countermeasures needed to respond to a cross-border health crisis, improving overall EU Member States' preparedness and response capacity to public health emergencies



Sharing best practices and lessons learnt from past and ongoing cross-border health crises among EU Member States, and eventual third countries and international organisations on management of medical countermeasures



Fostering and developing common policy approaches aimed at ensuring availability and equitable accessibility of medical countermeasures, including in the medium and long-term



Supporting and enhancing coordination among the EU and EU Member States to ensure access and availability of medical countermeasures in case of cross border health crises.



HOW IS THE PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTED?

In close cooperation with the EU Member States, HERA is currently mapping their training needs as well as the training offer within the EU and key partner countries. The mapping of training needs covers the entire management cycle of medical countermeasures from research and development to distribution, as well as aspects related to crisis management. The report will be made public and will inform the design of the annual training programme.

HERA's training and exercise programme includes different types of activities, notably:

- E-Learning for self-paced, self-study learning activities;
- Thematic trainings to exchange knowledge, skills and information on a specific topic;
- "Train the trainer" to develop a pool of experienced trainers throughout EU Member States.

In addition, the programme will also include simulations and exercises, aimed at testing and improving existing preparedness and response frameworks related to medical countermeasures, as well as twinning, fellowships and exchange programmes.

Trainings will be made available through the EU Academy e-learning tool.

CALENDAR FOR 2024/205

