



ECDC Migrant Health Report Series

Migration and Infectious Diseases in the EU

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European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

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Call for an ECDC Report on Migration & Infectious Disease



- **Portuguese Presidency work and conclusions of European Conference on 'Health and Migration'**
 - Recognizing TB, HIV and other infectious diseases as a priority within migrants
- **Commissioners speech at the Lisbon Conference**
 - Specifically calling for action from ECDC on TB and HIV in relation to migrants
- **Council conclusions 5 and 6 December 2007**
 - WELCOMES the activities of the ECDC in the field of migrant health and looks forward to a report on migration and infectious diseases

ECDC background work on migrant health started in 2008, reinforced in 2009 & to be continued in 2010

ECDC MIGRANT HEALTH REPORT

Two component report



A

**BACKGROUND NOTE to the ECDC REPORT on
MIGRATION AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES in the EU**

B

MIGRANT HEALTH – Disease Report Series

HIV

July 2009

TB

End 2009

VPD

End 2009



Background Note to the ECDC Report



- Result of a technical expert meeting
- Overview of migration and infectious diseases in the EU
- Discusses issues related to migration & health
- Key infectious diseases, or disease areas, include HIV, TB, and vaccine coverage (Hep A & B, measles & rubella)
- Outlines challenges and possible areas for public health research and intervention



Challenges & areas for public health research



Background Note suggests actions:

- To improve infectious disease surveillance and monitoring
- To ensure that prevention and control programmes are responsive to changing patterns of migration & epidemiology
- To ensure that healthcare services are responsive to the specific needs of migrant populations



1. Infectious disease surveillance and monitoring



- Developing a common EU-wide definition of the term 'migrant' & standardized definitions for collection of epidemiological data
- No clear picture of the burden of infectious diseases in migrant communities
- Identify data collection models that avoid stigmatisation and discrimination
- Lack of understanding on the impact of culture and religion on health beliefs, attitudes and health-seeking behaviour
- Implications of infectious diseases among migrants for host communities poorly understood.



2. Prevention and control programmes

- Regular assess & adapt prevention & control programmes, including developing consensus on the infectious diseases most relevant to migration
- Improve the social & economic conditions of migrants
- Develop evidence-based prevention & control policies & programmes tailored for migrants, incl. the most vulnerable
- Evaluating the cost effectiveness & public health benefits of approaches to screening, targeted vaccination programmes and active case finding
- Strengthening sharing of good practice



3. Healthcare services



- Exploring and developing good practice approaches to maximise access to healthcare, particularly for undocumented and uninsured migrants
- Investigate the factors that limit access to and utilisation of health services
- Developing training curricula and materials for public health and clinical care professionals to increase awareness of the specific needs of migrants and skills and competencies required to provide culturally sensitive services



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Migrant Report Series - HIV

1. Epidemiological review of HIV/AIDS in migrant populations & ethnic minorities in the EU/EEA
2. Access to HIV prevention, treatment & care for migrant populations & ethnic minorities
3. HIV testing in migrant populations – inventory of good HIV testing practices & develop framework to increase the testing uptake in migrant populations
4. Improving HIV data comparability in migrant populations & ethnic minorities in the EU
5. ECDC to host an expert meeting on migration and HIV 1-2 March



Disease Report Series - TB



- Systematic review on :
 - Effectiveness of migrants' TB screening
 - Effectiveness of contact tracing among migrants

- Model to forecast burden and epidemiological impact of migrants' TB
 - Translated use friendly tool

- Decision making model on use of targeted BCG vaccination for high risk population
 - Translated use friendly tool

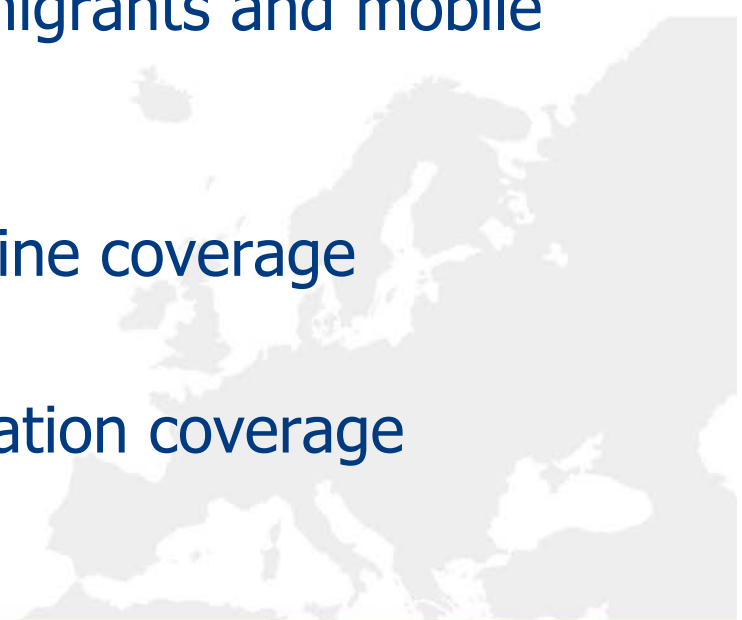
- Survey among MS on current TB screening practices for migrants



Disease Report Series - VPD



- The first VPD addressed by the report will be measles
- An evidence-based approach will be followed
- Systematic review of the literature to collect evidence on measles and measles vaccination in migrants and mobile populations in the EU
- Identify the determinants of low vaccine coverage
- Develop guidelines to improve vaccination coverage



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ECDC publishes first reports in the Migrant Health series

21 Jul 2009

The European Union is committed to ensuring that all citizens have access to healthcare regardless of their country of origin, for the benefit of individuals and society as a whole. ECDC was requested to produce a report on migration and infectious diseases in the EU to inform policy and public health responses.

The first disease-specific reports in the resulting Migrant health series focus on HIV/AIDS epidemiology, describing the burden of HIV infection in migrant populations, and access to prevention and care among migrant populations.

The Background note to this Migrant health project provides an overview of migration and communicable diseases in the EU and a brief summary of issues related to migration and health, and points out possible areas for future public health research and intervention.

- [Migrant health series: Background note to the ECDC Report on migration and infectious diseases in the EU](#)
- [Migrant health series: Epidemiology of HIV and AIDS in migrant communities and ethnic minorities in EU/EEA countries](#)
- [Migrant health series: Access to HIV prevention, treatment and care for migrant populations in EU/EEA countries](#)



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Thank you!



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