

Flash Report

Sub-group on Cancer under the Expert Group on Public Health

17 November 2023

The Sub-group on Cancer under the Commission Expert Group on Public Health (PHEG) held a virtual meeting, chaired by DG SANTE. The representatives of 19 Member States, plus Norway, attended the meeting together with several Commission services, and agencies¹ as well as one representative from the WHO Collaborative Centre for UV Radiation.

Presentation of the WHO guidance on artificial tanning devices

A member of the WHO Collaborative Centre for UV Radiation gave a presentation on the **2017 WHO guidance on artificial tanning devices**². In particular, an overview of the risks and effects of sunbed use and policy options to decrease health risks from sunbeds was given.

Presentation of the results of the survey carried out with the Cancer Sub-group of the PHEG as regards to national measures, in place or planned, on the use of sunbeds in Member States and EFTA countries.

A presentation of the final results of the **survey** to map the situation as regards national measures in place or planned to reduce human health risks related to sunbeds usage was given.

Presentation of the preliminary analysis of the results of the Call for Evidence on feedback as regards to the proposed Commission Recommendation on reducing human risks associated with the use of sunbeds

An overview of the preliminary results of the **Call for Evidence**³ launched by the Commission on October 9th, was given. Through this Call for Evidence, the Commission aims to gather views on how the future Recommendation may achieve the objectives set out collecting views on its expected impacts.

Presentation of the preliminary results of the literature review covering the period after the SCHEER Opinion on sunbeds (2016)

New evidence emerged since the 2016 SCHEER Opinion⁴ was presented.

¹ Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE); Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW); Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD); European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA); Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL); Joint Research Centre (JRC).

² WHO, (2017). Artificial tanning devices: public health interventions to manage sunbeds, available here: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241512596>

³ The Call for evidence is available here: https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/13956-Cancer-prevention-reducing-the-health-risks-associated-with-using-sunbeds_en

⁴ 'Opinion on Biological effects of ultraviolet radiation relevant to health with particular reference to sunbeds for cosmetic purposes' delivered by the Scientific Committee on Health, Environmental and Emerging Risks (SCHEER) on 17 November 2016.

Open discussion on content of the Commission's Recommendation on reducing human risks associated with the use of sunbeds

Participants exchanged their opinions and commented on the possible recommendations on reducing human health risks associated with the use of sunbeds.

Conclusion

The next meeting focused on sunbeds is scheduled for the 7 December 2023.