

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

SANTE B4: Disease prevention and health promotion

Fourth Meeting of the PHEG subgroup on vaccination Thursday 28 November 2024 Flash Report

The subgroup on vaccination held their fourth meeting online, chaired by DG SANTE. The representatives of nine Member States, plus Norway, as well as observers from Denmark¹, attended the meeting. The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and the World Health Organization/European Office (WHO EURO) also participated in the meeting.

Presentation on new joint action on cancers caused by infections, vaccine-preventable cancers, and communicable diseases (HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis)

Denmark provided an update on the preparative work for a new joint action under the Annual Work Programme 2024 of EU4Health. The objective of the joint action is to support Member States to implement the recently adopted Council Recommendation on vaccine-preventable cancers.

Presentation on vaccination dashboard

ECDC presented their preliminary work on a vaccination dashboard, which is a key deliverable under the Council Recommendation on vaccine-preventable cancers. It will help monitor progress of the implementation of the policy initiative. There will be a focus on coverage rates for vaccination against Human papillomaviruses and Hepatitis B virus in Member States.

Update on "Overcoming Obstacles to Vaccination" project

The project consortium provided an update on the project, which identifies and tests exemplary practices to address physical, practical, and administrative barriers to vaccination in EU Member States. Ongoing pilots focus on reminder schemes, school vaccination programmes and mobile vaccination units.

Presentation on DG SANTE-WHO EURO project on immunisation

WHO EURO presented an update on the project, which aims to address immunisation inequities and support countries participating in EU4Health to reach goals and targets under the WHO European Immunisation Agenda 2030. The project focuses on supporting Member States in improving vaccination access and developing monitoring frameworks. Initial activities include identifying barriers to vaccination among vulnerable groups, developing tailored interventions, and establishing dashboards to track immunisation progress.

Conclusion

The chair concluded the meeting, expressing gratitude for the valuable discussions and the progress

made on each agenda point. DG SANTE reiterated the importance of continued collaboration on vaccination, especially in view of the upcoming joint action.

¹ Representing CHIP – Centre of Excellence for Health, Immunity and Infections, Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen.