2014-2020 EU HEALTH PROGRAMME CONFERENCE
BRUSSELS 30 SEPTEMBER 2019
Objective 2

'Protect Union citizens from serious cross-border health threats'

Parallel Session II
Objective 2
'Protect Union citizens from serious cross-border health threats'
Parallel Session II
Chair: **John F. Ryan**, DG SANTE, European Commission

Co-chair: **Dirk Meusel**, Chafea

- **Preparedness and Response**: **Daniela Jacob**, Robert Koch Institute, Germany
- **Preparedness and Response**: **Raquel Duarte-Davidson**, Public Health England, United Kingdom
- **Preparedness and Response**: **Mika Salminen**, National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL), Finland
- **Vaccination**: **Geneviève Chêne**, INSERM, France
- **Communicable Diseases**: **Dorthe Raben**, Rigshospitalet, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
Objective 2: Protecting Union citizens from serious cross-border health threats

Budget allocation by objective 2014 - 2018

- 1. Promoting health and preventing diseases and foster supportive environments for healthy lifestyle
- 2. Protecting Union citizens from cross-border health threats
- 3. Contributing to innovative, efficient and sustainable health systems
- 4. Facilitating access to better and safer healthcare for Union citizens

- Horizontal actions
Objective 2: Main activities

Top table exercises, workshops and events to support the implementation of the Decision 1082/2013/EU on serious cross-border threats to health
€ 1.4 m

Conferences organised by the European Commission

2019 Global Vaccination Summit
2015 Ebola epidemic in West Africa

EU Funding: € 29 million

EU JAV: Vaccination € 3.5 million

EMERGE: Efficient response to highly dangerous and emerging pathogens
€ 3.5 million

INTEGRATE: JA on HIV, viral hepatitis, tuberculosis and sexually transmitted infections
€ 2 million

EU Healthy Gateways
Preparedness and actions at points of entry: air, maritime and ground crossing
€ 3 million

SHARP: Strengthened International Health Regulations and Preparedness in the EU
€ 7.9 million
Useful links

European Commission Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (SANTE) website
https://ec.europa.eu/health/home_en

Chafea Project Database (2003-2019):
https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/chafea_pdb/health/

Chafea Website
Objective 2
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Preparedness and Response
Daniela Jacob
Robert Koch Institute, Germany
Session 2 “Protect Union citizens from serious cross-border health threats”

Daniela JACOB
Centre for Biological Threats and Special Pathogens,
Deputy Head - Highly Pathogenic Microorganisms (ZBS 2)
Robert Koch Institute, Germany

Joint Action on
“Efficient response to highly dangerous and emerging pathogens at EU level EMERGE”
Action: content and objective

• **Networking:** Networking of European laboratories designated for the detection of highly pathogenic bacteria and viruses requiring high containment facilities

• **Laboratory capabilities:** Improving capabilities for rapid laboratory diagnosis of new or emerging pathogens

• **Quality Assurance:** For laboratory diagnostics on highly pathogenic bacteria and viruses – External Quality Assurance Exercises (EQAE) at EU-level due to the lack of national capacities
Action: results

Consolidation of the well known and internationally accepted laboratory network

7 Work Packages with 32 Deliverables (D)

- D1.5 Plan for Transition from Inter-epidemic Mode (IEM) to Outbreak Response Mode (ORM)
- D4.2 Publication survey on Ebola laboratory response
- D5.2 List of laboratory capabilities
- D6.1 External Quality Assurance Exercises (EQAE) Algorithm for Prioritization of High Consequence Pathogens
- D6.3 Biorisk check list (ECL)
- D7.1 Training of personnel
Action: uptake and follow-up

EMERGE: 38 Partners
24 European countries
22 EU Member States / 2 EEA/EFTA States

Identification of the requirement for maintenance and development of adequate proposals

Future sustainability through:
SHARP: Strengthened International HeAlth Regulations and Preparedness in the EU (2019-2021) coordinated by THL, Finland
Action: benefits for EU citizens

- Extreme benefit for laboratories with regard to diagnostics procedures, access to reference material, training of personnel due to networking at European level
- Improvement of Biosafety and Biosecurity (European Checklist - ECL)
- First outlines for supportive activation of a complex laboratory network in case of biological emergent events through the European Commission preparedness and response, part of International Health Regulation

Concrete and substantial input to protecting EU citizens from serious cross-border health threats
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Preparedness and Response
Raquel Duarte-Davidson
Public Health England, United Kingdom
Overview of activities to prepare and respond to EU cross border chemical health threats

Raquel Duarte-Davidson

Head of the Chemicals and Environmental Effects Department of Public Health England’s Centre for Radiation, Chemicals and Environmental Hazards (CRCE), United Kingdom.
Action: content and objective

• Prevention
  • Support the implementation of Decision 1082 & IHR in EU Member States, EEA and neighbouring countries. Support development of core capacities and increase standards in MS’s.
  • Promote interoperability of preparedness plans between MSs and ensure linkages with relevant EU projects and policies.

• Detection
  • Facilitate sharing of best practices and approaches to surveillance.
  • Develop and support the use of reporting and notification systems.
  • Promote awareness of chemical health threat preparedness and response in a range of sectors and facilitate information sharing.

• Response
  • Improve preparedness and response planning for serious cross border chemical health threats.
  • Support development of plans, standard operating procedures and mechanisms.
  • Support sharing of best practices and synergistic approaches.
Action: results

Collaboration

• Best practice methods for chemical surveillance
• Sharing of best practice between MSs on chemical preparedness & response
• Sharing of best practice between Points of Entry POE on chemical preparedness & response
• Collaboration and networks for a rapid assessment of chemical incidents

Development of tools

• Rapid Risk Assessment methodology and tool
• A chemical assessment tool for use at PoE

Development of resources and guidance

• Ensuring that guidance documents and SOPs are produced to help with dissemination of outputs and their implementation

Development of training

• Training of a broad range of stakeholders to ensure that there is a wide understanding of chemical preparedness & response. Taking on board comments from stakeholders to ensure that methodologies and mechanisms incorporate a range of requirements.

Development of exercises

• Ensuring that methodologies and mechanisms are fit for purpose and can be implemented successfully
**Action: uptake and follow-up**

- Uptake of the Rapid Risk Assessment methodology for chemical health threats via the SCHEER Committee

- Production of guidance for chemical preparedness and response at ports

**Addressing gaps and broadening scope**

- All Points of entry
- IHR implementation and core capacities beyond the Decision
- Linkage of sectors & organisations
Action: benefit for EU citizens

Through Healthy Gateways and SHARP, gaps identified can be addressed and the scope widened to all Points of entry and further improvement of core capacities for IHR and the Decision

Greater awareness and linkage across multiple sectors improves standards of health protection preparedness and response with respect to chemicals.

Mechanisms established and functioning for detecting and responding to chemical events or emergencies

Enabling environment in place for management of chemical events

Guidance and training has been provided on chemical health protection at ports via Shipsan Act.

A mechanism is now in place through the SCHEER Committee to provide a rapid risk assessment in the case of a cross border chemical health threat.

The tools and methodologies have been applied to a wider range of incidents via EMETNET.
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Preparedness and Response
Session 2 “Protect Union citizens from serious cross-border health threats”

Professor Mika SALMINEN
Deputy Director, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare

SHARP
Strengthened International Health Regulations & Preparedness in the EU
EU Joint Action
Action: content and objective

• The SHARP Joint Action will strengthen implementation of Decision 1082/2013/EU on serious cross-border threats to health and support the EU level preparedness and responses to health threats and the implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005).
• Through this SHARP JA, the member and partner states and the Unions common ability to prevent, detect and respond to biological outbreaks, chemical contamination and environmental and unknown threats to human health will be strengthened.
• Special efforts will be employed to fill gaps in priority countries, i.e. countries that have biggest gaps in the capacity required for full IHR capability.
Action: expected results

• SHARP will support partners and member states to strengthen their essential public health capacity
• The capacities are highly multisector dependent
• It has been estimated that the contribution of preventive measures on decreased disease burden and increased life expectancy is 80%
• Healthcare service contribution is 15-20%
Action: uptake and follow-up

- 22 Associated EU MS partners
- 4 Associated partner countries
- 4 Collaborating partner countries

- Main partners: e.g. National Public Health institutes or MoH
- In addition, **33 affiliated entities** and **9 collaborating partners** from the participating countries (e.g. Universities, gov. research institutes)

- **Full partnership of 30 countries**
- **26 + 33 + 9 = 68 participants** (9 with own funding)
Action: benefits for EU citizens – the good cycle of wellbeing and growth

Enable

Social development

Enable

Economic development

Enable

Health investment

Enable

Prevention and control

Enable

Essential Public Health Functions

Decrease

IHR core capacities

Enable

Health services

- Physicians
- Competent health staff
- Hospital beds

Increase

Health outcomes

- Adult mortality
- Maternal mortality
- Under 5 year old mortality
- Infant mortality
- CD burden

- Life expectancy

GDP per capita (current US$)

Disability Adjusted Life Years lost Due to CD (WHO) per 100000

Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 five births)

Life expectancy at birth, total (years)
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Vaccination
Geneviève Chêne

INSERM, France
Joint action on vaccination

• Cooperation to increase **confidence**

• **Synergy** between experts, the public and policy makers

• **Research priorities** for sustainable immunization programs
Session:
Protect Union citizens from serious cross-border health threats

Geneviève CHENE
Coordinator, JAV, Inserm

EU-Joint action on vaccination

20 partners
3 years
(2018-2021)
### Action: results (2018-19, increasing knowledge)

#### Stakeholders mapping and analysis

460 national and 53 international stakeholders identified by 17 partner
Most frequent categories: health professionals, national authorities, citizens

#### Previous experiences with vaccine shortages in EU, 2016-2019

19/21 countries: at least one shortage(stockout event (overall, 115 events)
23 events causing disruption of immunisation service, med duration 5 months
Most frequently involved vaccines: Diphteria, tetanus, hep B, hep A, BCG

#### Research priorities setting for funding bodies

4 vaccine-preventable diseases as pilots: measles, pertussis, HPV, Influenza
## Action: uptake and follow-up

### Interoperability harmonisation of immunisation information system
- Pilot platform for cross border vaccine coverage assessment
- EU vaccination reminder systems

### Vaccine procurement and purchasing mechanisms
- Most countries: procurement at national level, public sector
- 50%: Immunisation supply chain improvement and vaccine supply manager
- Principles for vaccine forecasting: need rapid exchange, harmonised labelling

### Confidence
- Survey of barriers and enablers behind suboptimal coverage
## Action: benefits for EU citizens

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Communicable Diseases
Dorthe Raben
Rigshospitalet, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
Parallel Session II: Objective 2 ‘Protect citizens from serious cross-border health threats’
Dorthe RABEN
Director of Research Coordination, CHIP, Rigshospitalet, University of Copenhagen
Screening and diagnosis of infectious diseases: integrated testing for HIV, viral hepatitis, TB and STIs

Linkage to prevention and care and effective and optimised treatment (access for all population groups and retention in care for viral suppression)

Communicable diseases the cross-border health threat – outbreaks no respect for borders
Action: results

• Research and tools to improve integrated testing coverage and care provision
• Uniting stakeholders across Europe (community, policy makers, clinicians and scientists)
• Identifying structural, individual and provider barriers to diagnosis, linkage to care and treatment
Action: uptake and follow-up

- European platform of stakeholders from different disciplines, diseases areas and countries
- Evidence and integrated approaches across disease areas transferable cross-borders
- Continued EU support crucial to support member states in reaching targets and preventing and reversing outbreaks in the future
Action: benefits for EU citizens

• Earlier diagnosis reduce morbidity and mortality, prevents onward transmissions and reduce costs
• Breaking down disease silos and supporting shared care models
• Cross-border collaborations to enhance research and public health practice – empowerment, awareness-raising and capacity building
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