



share and move to face nasty bugs

Michael Sulzner  
DG SANTE

## THE MAIN CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS PUBLIC HEALTH NEEDS IN EUROPE

### The ASSET FINAL EVENT

*Share and move for mobilization and mutual learning at  
local, national and international levels on Science in Society  
related issues in epidemics and pandemics  
Rome, 30-31.10.2017*



co-funded by the EU. GA: 612236

[www.asset-scienceinsociety.eu](http://www.asset-scienceinsociety.eu)



## EU Health Policy

- Support the modernisation of Europe's health systems
- Improve and protect human health





# Key challenges for 2016-2020

- Achieving greater cost-effectiveness
- Competitiveness together with safety
- Tackling emerging global threats
- Evidence-based policy making





# Supporting the modernisation of Europe's health systems

- Health technology assessment
  - Providing policy-makers with objective information to formulate safe, effective, patient-focused and cost-effective health policies
- eHealth
  - Using information and communication technologies that can improve prevention, treatment, monitoring and management of health





# Protection of human health

## Influenza preparedness in the context of one health

### Cooperation and coordination

- Coordination of activities between veterinary and medical sectors
- Animal and public health threats posed by influenza virus cannot be addressed by individual countries acting alone
- Close coordination at global and regional level of all related sectors is essential
- Responses to a pandemic threat must be multi-sectoral





# Influenza preparedness in the context of one health

## Prevention: Preparedness, biosecurity

- Good biosecurity and effective surveillance system
- Strengthening of animal and public health services
- Strategically enhance preparedness
- Networks of laboratories





# Influenza preparedness in the context of one health

## Data sharing

- Promotion of data sharing
- Improved use of existing data sharing systems





# Challenges related to seasonal influenza vaccination

- Surveillance
  - Lack of quality data; limited impact on programme planning; insufficient programme monitoring; poor evidence-base to advocate vaccination
- Vaccine hesitancy
  - Ineffective and non-targeted communication; lack of evidence; perceived poor quality of vaccines; vaccine safety-issues
- Role of healthcare professionals
  - Insufficient education and training; insufficient awareness about roles and responsibility towards patients; risk of transmission of disease; missing incentives to advocate vaccination.







# Way forward to improve seasonal influenza vaccination

- Policy ownership and coordination of programmes
  - Contribution of vaccination to public health system; from programme planning to review; clear roles, responsibilities and mode of cooperation
- Programme-integrated communication strategies
  - Pro-active, targeted, evidence-based, public health and economic value
- Vaccine R&D cooperation
  - Behavioural research; improved impact of vaccines
- Broad stakeholder dialogue
  - Engagement with healthcare professionals; public health-driven research





# Council conclusions on vaccinations as an effective tool in public health

- To identify synergies between national immunisation programmes and preparedness at EU-level.
- To develop joint action programmes to share best practices on national vaccination policies.





# Workshop "Seeking new partnerships for EU action on vaccination, 2017"

## ➤ **Vaccine hesitancy**

- Education and training programmes for HCWs
- Monitoring of vaccine confidence

## ➤ **Sustainable vaccination policies in the EU**

- Assessment of vaccines
- Immunisation information systems
- Vaccine forecasting

## ➤ **Vaccine research & development**

- Translational research
- Social research





## Joint action on vaccination

- € 3 million EU co-funding
- Coordination by INSERM (France)
- Participation of 24 countries (among them 20 EU MS)
- JA currently under preparation, starting early 2018
- Involvement of ECDC, EMA, WHO, DG RTD





## Joint action on vaccination

- ***Immunisation Information Systems*** to increase surveillance capabilities
- ***Vaccine supply and stock management*** to improve preparedness
- ***Priority-setting of vaccine R&D*** to enhance effectiveness and efficiency of EU research funding
- ***Vaccine hesitancy*** to strengthen and rebuild confidence in vaccines and vaccination programmes





# EU policy initiative on vaccination in 2018

President Juncker's State of the Union Address 2017

Commission Work Programme 2018

