



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Health & Consumer Protection
Directorate-General



IVth Joint EC/ECDC/WHO Workshop on Pandemic Influenza Preparedness

Luxembourg, 25-27 September 2007

PROGRAMME

Overall objectives:

- update on the current situation of human flu world wide
- maintain the motivation to continue refining preparedness plans
- further understand the concerns and possible solutions that could be developed at pan European level
- help countries to develop and share innovative solutions that can be applied in their national and regional planning
- be focused to reach conclusions and operational recommendations

Focus on more specific issues:

- update on science and research
- the new surveillance plan
- the next generation of indicators
- the outputs from the H5N1 vaccine panels
- Public Health Measures - ECDC menu of options

Day 1 – Tuesday, 25 September – Plenary session

8:30– **Registration**
9:00

09:00– **Opening**
10:00

Session 1: Welcome and key notes

Chair: EC (DG SANCO)

- European Commission
A. Rys, Director Public Health and Risk Assessment
- European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)
Z. Jakab, Director ECDC
- World Health Organization, Regional Office for Europe
N. Menabde, Deputy Regional Director WHO Europe
- United Nations System Influenza Coordination (UNSIIC)
D. Nabarro, United Nations System Influenza Coordinator for Avian and Human Influenza
- Portuguese Presidency
M. T. Paixao, National Institute for Health

10:00– **Session 2: Presentation of communication tools (films)**
10:30
+ **tea/coffee break**

- Chair for presentation: *M. Ciotti, Deputy PRU, ECDC*
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10:30- **Session 3: Current situation and important developments**
12:30

Chair: T. Paixão (Portuguese Presidency)

- Current situation on Avian Influenza in humans and the pandemic threat
C. Brown, WHO Europe
- Experience gained from avian flu outbreaks in Egypt
Abdel-Nasser Abdel-Ghafar, Ministry of Health and Population, Egypt
- Whole country responses to the pandemic threat
D. Nabarro, UNSIC
- Selected update on science and research:
 - Report from UK hosted Workshop on Pandemic Influenza – Sharing of evidence and response policies across the EU (10-11 July 2007)
J. Newstead, Department of Health, UK and S. Schreck, DG SANCO, Unit C3 - Health threats
 - EU funding for influenza research
C. Schmaltz, DG Research, Unit F3 - Infectious Diseases

12:30- **Finger buffet**
14:15

+ follow-up to Session 2: Presentation of communication tools (films)

14:15- **Session 4: Update on progress from ECDC and European projects with**
15:15 **Member States including contributions from EISS, WHO and ECDC**

Chair: J-F Ryan, Head of Unit, DG SANCO C3

- The EISS Suite of Laboratory Contributions
K. van der Velden, NIVEL, Utrecht, the Netherlands
- Next generation of pandemic preparedness indicators
M. Hegermann-Lindencrone, WHO Europe
- Surveillance in a pandemic
K. Fernandez de la Hoz, ECDC

15:15- **Session 5: Innovations and Resources from the Member States - Poster**
16:00 **session outside meeting rooms**

+ tea/coffee break

- Brief introduction to Poster session
P. Kreidl, Deputy Influenza Coordinator ECDC

16:00- **Session 6: Human H5N1 and pandemic vaccines**

17:30

Chair : G. Magnusson, Director, Division of Health Programmes, WHO

- Update on H5N1 and pandemic vaccines:
 - Current status of submitted and approved applications
P. Celis, EMEA
 - Update on the outputs of the experts panels on H5N1 vaccines
J. Giesecke and J. Van Tam, ECDC
- Global pandemic influenza action plan to increase vaccine supply, including global survey
P. Carrasco, WHO-HQ
- Practicalities of production: a perspective from industry
L. Hessel, EVM and IVS Task Force IFPMA

17:30 **Reception**

**+ follow-up to Session 5: Innovations and Resources from the Member States
- Poster session outside meeting rooms**

End of day 1

Day 2 –Wednesday, 26 September –

Break-out sessions, exercises and plenary session

09:00-09:15 **Introduction and Definitions - A. Nicoll, Influenza Coordinator ECDC**

09:15-11.00 **Session 7: Break-out Session on Inter-sectoral approaches for Business Continuity Planning**

Chair: M. Hudson, Adviser, General Affairs Directorate, DG SANCO

11:00-11:15 **Tea/coffee break**

11:15-12:30 **Session 8: Break-out Session on Public Health measures**

Chair: A. Nicoll, Influenza Coordinator, ECDC

12:30-14:15 **Lunch**

+ optional session at 13:30 -14:00 on Influenza Virus Sharing (WHO)

14:15-17:30 **Sessions 9 and 10: Your choice of 2 parallel exercises:**

- **Hospital preparedness**
led by C. Varela and X. Herveda Vidal, Spain

or

- **Communication**
led by M.-P. Benassi, EC

17:30-18:00 **Session 11: Infection control**

Canadian work, M. Gardam, University Health Network, Canada

18:00 **End of day 2**

Day 3 – Thursday, 27 September – Plenary session

9:00–10:30 **Session 12: Presentations on results of break-out sessions 7 & 8**

Chair: D. Houssin (France)

- General/common findings
 - Feedback and comments by each chair
 - Comments on conclusions
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10:30-11:15 **Session 13: Avian flu**

Chair: H. Irmak (Turkey) (*to be confirmed*)

- Better understanding on effectiveness of antivirals and update from WHO Antalya meeting (clinical management of human H5N1 cases)
F. Hayden, WHO-HQ
 - Animal health response to avian influenza – an EU perspective
M. Pittman, DG SANCO, Unit D1 – Animal health and standing committees
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11:15-11:30 **Tea/coffee break**

11:30–12:30 **Session 14: Presentations on exercises sessions 9 & 10**

Chair: M. Socan, Slovenia

- Debriefing on hospital exercise, by chair
 - Debriefing on communication exercise, by chair, including a report from Brussels meeting (communicators)
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12:30-13:00 **Session 15: General feedback and conclusions**

Chair: EC (DG SANCO)

- General feedback from ECDC, WHO and EC
 - General conclusions, recommendations and final remarks
A. Rys, Director Public Health and Risk Assessment
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13:00 **Closure of General Session**

Thursday 27th afternoon and Friday 28th morning: restricted meetings

Reviewing the updated EU Pandemic Preparedness Status Report (EU – EEA countries only)

and

Meeting of the Health Security Committee section on influenza preparedness and response (HSC Flu Section members only)

Day 3 - Thursday 27 September – Reviewing the updated EU Pandemic Preparedness Status Report – EU – EEA countries only

14.00-14.45 **Introduction – the Updated Report - A. Nicoll (ECDC)**

Results of the Revised Survey – P. Kreidl (ECDC)

Discussion

14:45-15:15 **Tea/coffee break**

15:15-16:30 **Break-out into 4 groups to consider the Draft Recommendations**

Feedback from the 4 groups

16:30 **End of day 3**

**Day 4 –Friday, 28 September – Meeting of the Health Security
Committee section on influenza preparedness and response – HSC Flu
Section members only**

09:00-13:00 See separate programme

