

PRESS INFORMATION



Stockholm, 18 October 2007

Pooling Europe's health knowledge: infectious disease control experts gather in Stockholm

Faced with challenges such as drug resistant microbes, influenza, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis as well as emerging diseases such as chikungunya, ECDC is bringing together the leading experts to discuss how to strengthen Europe's defences against infectious diseases. Participants from over 40 countries will gather together at the European Scientific Conference on Applied Infectious Disease Epidemiology (ESCAIDE), at Stockholm's City Conference Centre from 18-20 October.

Zsuzsanna Jakab, ECDC's Director stated:

"The first ever Europe-wide conference of its kind, ESCAIDE represents a unique opportunity for frontline professionals from national disease control institutes to engage with each other and the wider scientific community."

The conference agenda includes sessions on: the emergence and spread of antibiotic resistance in Europe, including hospital bugs; the value of behavioural surveillance as a tool to prevent transmission of diseases such as HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis; outbreaks and detection of avian influenza virus (H5N1); implications for Europe of the outbreak of chikungunya in Ravenna district, Italy.

ESCAIDE has been created to gather together a variety of professionals involved in the detection, study and control of infectious diseases. This includes microbiologists, clinicians, public health professionals, environmental officers, veterinarians and more. The event is organised by ECDC in partnership with the European Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training (EPIET) and the EPIET Alumni network (EAN).

Further information:

<http://www.escaide.eu/>

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