



Annual Influenza Meeting

Radisson-Blu Centrum

Warsaw, Poland

30 May – 1 June 2012

The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and the WHO Regional Office for Europe (Regional Office) coordinate surveillance and other activities related to the prevention and mitigation of influenza in the European Region. On 30 May – 1 June, they will undertake a joint meeting in Warsaw for the countries in Western, Central and South Eastern Europe. Though based around a core of virological and public health surveillance, these meetings also cover other influenza topics. This year's meeting will, at the request of last year's attendees, especially focus on influenza immunisation. A number of the surveillance topics will follow on from work that was prioritised at last year's meetings or will provide updates on work that has been undertaken in the last 12 months.

The main objectives of the meeting are to:

- Provide a situation update on the 2011/2012 influenza season, with respect to epidemiology, virology and vaccination;
- Review developments in the TESSy and Euroflu influenza surveillance platforms;

Hence the topics that are intended to be covered to varying depth this year are:

- Virological surveillance including molecular epidemiology
- Virus characterization
- Antiviral susceptibility monitoring
- Molecular diagnosis & sequencing
- Training & quality assurance
- The annual seasonal influenza risk assessment
- Primary care surveillance – implementation of the threshold
- Severe disease surveillance including SARI surveillance
- Progress in developing seroepidemiology
- Qualitative indicators for seasonal influenza
- Mortality monitoring and death surveillance
- Influenza immunisation
 - progress with coverage against the WHO Standard / Council Communication
 - effectiveness monitoring
- The influenza year in review (guest lecture)

Programme Annual Influenza Meeting

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Meeting secretariat members (located in meeting room “Zima”): Brenna Deckert (ECDC), Anne-Marie Andersen (WHO), Cristina Manita (ECDC), and Michaela Stancova (ECDC)

Wednesday, 30 May		
8:30 – 09:00	Registration	
1. 09:00 – 10:30	<p>Plenary session (Room: POLONIA II+III) Introduction and European Surveillance 2011/2012 (Chairmen: <i>Prof. Mirosław J. Wysocki, MD, PhD</i>, Director General of National Institute of Public Health – National Institute of Hygiene and <i>Assoc. Prof. Rafał Gierczyński, PhD</i>, Deputy Director for Epidemiology and Microbiology)</p> <p>09:00 – 09:10 Welcome and opening (<i>Caroline Brown and Andrew Amato Gauci</i>)</p> <p>09:10 – 09:20 Introduction welcome (<i>Prof. Mirosław J. Wysocki, MD, PhD</i>, Director General of National Institute of Public Health – National Institute of Hygiene)</p> <p>09:20 – 09:50 The annual Risk Assessment and overview of the season (<i>Angus Nicoll and Tamara Meerhoff</i>)</p> <p>09:50 – 10:10 Season 2011/12 overview of virological surveillance (<i>CNRL; John McCauley</i>)</p> <p>10:10 – 10:20 TESSy support (<i>Silvia Sarbu</i>)</p> <p>10:20 – 10:30 Discussion</p>	
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break	
2. 11:00 – 13:00	<p>2a. Epidemiology (<i>Chair Siri Hauge</i>) (Room: POLONIA I)</p> <p>11:00 – 11:15 Epidemic thresholds – first year of piloting, next steps (<i>Julien Beauté</i>)</p> <p>11:15 – 12:00 Qualitative indicators and report on the recent Copenhagen meeting (<i>Tomas Vega, Caroline Brown, Angus Nicoll</i>)</p> <p>12:00 – 12:25 Discussion</p> <p>12:25 – 12:40. Is any change in EU & WHO ILI Case Definitions Justified? (a review of data from Spain two years on from Sofia) (<i>Amparo Larrauri</i>)</p> <p>12:40 – 13:00 Discussion</p>	<p>2b. Virology (<i>Chair Sylvie van der Werf</i>) (Room: POLONIA II +III)</p> <p>11:00 – 11:20 Overview of the activities of the laboratory network and forward look (<i>WHO CC, CNRL, ECDC, WHO EURO</i>)</p> <p>11:20 – 11:30 2008 and 2010 EQA comparative analysis (<i>Catherine Thompson</i>)</p> <p>11:30 – 11:40 EQAP review (<i>Dmitriy Pereyaslov</i>)</p> <p>11:40 – 11:50 Lab cap database (<i>Flaviu Plata</i>)</p> <p>11:50 – 12:00 Division to 2 discussion groups and definition of objectives of the groups (<i>Sylvie van der Werf</i>)</p>
	<p>12:00 – 13:00 Discussion Session 2b-1. <i>Chair C.Brown</i> (Room: POLONIA II)</p> <p>Status of the laboratory network and forward look (<i>laboratory network, WHO CC, CNRL, ECDC, WHO EURO</i>)</p>	<p>12:00 – 13:00 Discussion Session 2b-2. <i>Chair E.Broberg</i> (Room: POLONIA III)</p> <p>Status of the laboratory network and forward look (<i>laboratory network, WHO CC, CNRL, ECDC, WHO EURO</i>)</p>

13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
3. 14:00 – 15:00	Plenary Session – Serology (<i>Chair Thedi Ziegler</i>) (Room: POLONIA II+III) 14:00 – 14:30 Serology and seroepidemiology, report from December and May (<i>John Wood and Maria Van Kerkhove</i>) 14:30 – 14:40 Serology in Poland (<i>Lidia Brydak</i>) 14:40 – 15:00 Discussion
15:00 - 15:30	Coffee break
4. 15:30 – 18:30	Plenary Session – Immunisation (<i>Chair Angus Nicoll</i>) (Room: POLONIA II+III) 15:30 – 15:50 Vaccine coverage/policies in the participating countries (<i>Darina O'Flanagan</i>) 15:50 – 16:00 Discussion 16:00 – 16:30 SAGE recommendations (<i>Caroline Brown</i>) 16:30 – 17:00 Effectiveness monitoring 2011-2012, report from I-Move meeting and further work to be done (<i>I-MOVE Esther Kissling</i>) 17:00 – 17:20 Discussion 17:20 – 17:30 Introduction to the WGs
19:00 Dinner	

Thursday, 31 May	
5. 09:00 – 10:45	Working groups
5a.	Severe disease surveillance (<i>Chair Joan O'Donnell</i>) (Room: POLONIA II+III) A proposal for severe disease surveillance (<i>Julien Beauté</i>) Country experiences with severe disease surveillance and future plans (<i>Amparo Larrauri, N.Bodington and Odette Nicolae</i>)
5b.	Virus characterisation (<i>Chair Brunhilde Schweiger</i>) (Room: POLONIA I) A. Performance of virus isolation during 2011-2012 (1) Susceptibility of red blood cells (<i>Martina Havlickova</i>) (2) Virus isolation efficacy (<i>Thedi Ziegler</i>) B. Antigenic characterisation matters during 2011-2012 (1) The national reference centre perspective (<i>Brunhilde Schweiger</i>) (2) The WHO-CC perspective (<i>John McCauley</i>) C. Influenza virus serology (1) Comparison of microneutralization protocols – detection of antibodies against A(H1N1)pdm09 (<i>Sylvie van der Werf</i>) (2) Anti-A(H3N2)-antibodies analysed by HI and MN during 2011-2012 (<i>Martina Havlickova</i>)

5c.	Molecular diagnosis & sequencing (<i>Chair Olav Hungnes</i>) (Room: Kossak) A. Tools & strategies for discovering unusual influenza viruses, e.g. H3N2v. B. Prospects for multiplexing C. Molecular standards & controls - status, objectives, actions D. Status of European influenza sequence sharing E. Reference sequence sharing outside GISAID - needs, actions?	
5d.	Antiviral susceptibility (<i>Chair Adam Meijer</i>) (Room: Lato) A. Antiviral reporting 2011-2012; data quality, completeness, overview season (<i>Adam Meijer</i>) B. Antiviral susceptibility testing guidance; dissemination plan (<i>Francisco Pozo Sánchez</i>) C. Changes to AV metadataset; Addition of interpretation variables (<i>Adam Meijer</i>) D. AVR analysis tools in TESSy; Progress, use, and further development (<i>Daniel Faensen</i>) E. Use of reference virus panel; Availability, composition, back reporting (<i>Angie Lackenby</i>) F. Antiviral EQA requirements; next panel composition (with 5e) (<i>Thanos Kossyvakis</i>)	
5e.	Quality & training (<i>Chair Catherine Thompson</i>) (Room: Wiosna I+II) A. Introduction, aims and format of session (CT) (5 mins) B. EQA certificate of participation (CT) (5 mins presentation plus 10 mins discussion) C. European national EQA providers (CT) (5 mins presentation plus 10 mins discussion) D. Open discussion to develop long-term EQA and training plan & coordinated capacity building needs (WHO EURO, ECDC, CNRL) (CT/EB – group discussions) a. EQA problem solving (30 mins group discussion) b. Feedback on EQA problem solving and key questions of EQA and training (ALL) (20 mins) E. Antiviral EQA requirements (with TG3) (20 mins)	
10:45 – 11:15	Coffee break	
6. 11:15 – 13:00	6a. Mortality estimation (<i>Chair Richard Pebody</i>) (Room: POLONIA II+III) 11:15-11:25 Influenza-associated mortality estimation in Croatia (<i>Jens Nielsen</i>) 11:25-11:35 Influenza-associated mortality estimation in Portugal (<i>Baltazar Nunes</i>) 11:35-11:45 The Global Pandemic Mortality Burden project (GLaMOR). (<i>John Paget</i>) 11:45-12:05 Estimating and reporting influenza mortality in Europe: Proposal from a post-Slovenia paper (<i>Richard Pebody</i>) 12:05-13:00 Discussion	6b. Finalisation of 2012-2013 metadata changes; virology plenary (<i>chair Maria Zambon</i>) (Room: POLONIA I) 11:15-11:35 Characterisation reporting by week of specimen collection starting next season and proposal for analysis plan and reports; agreement on metadata and analysis plan by network (<i>Olav Hungnes</i>) 11:35 – 11: 55 Discussion 11:55 – 12:05 Antiviral reporting changes, agreement on metadata (<i>Adam Meijer</i>) 12:05 – 12:15 Discussion 12:15 – 12:30 Analysis plan for bulletins and required changes for online reports for 2012-2013 (<i>Katarina Prosenc</i>) 12:30 – 13:00 Discussion

13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	
7. 14:00 – 15:45	7a. Risk assessment, early season paper (Room: POLONIA II+III) <i>(Chair Angus Nicoll)</i> Risk assessment season 2011-2012	7b. Proposals for future reporting changes (<i>chair John McCauley</i>) (Room: POLONIA I) Future proposal for reporting changes: 14:00 – 14:10 Dominant virus reporting and an overview of virological testing in the Region (<i>Caroline Brown</i>) 14: 10 – 14:25 Age group-based reporting of detection data, including RSV with an example on data analysis from Norway (<i>Olav Hungnes</i>) 14:25 – 14:40 Strain-based reporting of antigenic and genetic characterisations (<i>Eeva Broberg</i>) 14:40 – 14:55 Proposal for metadata structure for strain-based reporting , amendments to INFLANTIVIR (<i>Adam Meijer</i>) 14:55 – 15:20 Discussion Future sequence sharing: 15:20 – 15:30 TESSy's model (<i>Daniel Faensen</i>) 15:30 – 15:40 GISAID's view (<i>TBD</i>) Discussion Proposals for future virology metadata changes; possible decisions
15:45 – 16:15	Coffee break	
8. 16:15 – 17:05	Plenary Session – (<i>Chairs Bruno Lina and Isabelle Bonmarin</i>) (Room: POLONIA II+III) 16:15-16:25 Analysis of regional antiviral and clinical data (<i>Caroline Brown</i>) 16:25 – 16:45 Summary of session 7b: Characterisation reporting, link with the clinical data; discussion with epidemiologists (<i>Eeva Broberg</i>) 16:45 – 17:05 discussion	
9. 17.05 – 18.00	Plenary Session –Clinical Aspects (<i>Chair Piotr Kramarz</i>) (Room: POLONIA II+III) Keynote lecture: What Data and Analyses do Clinician's Need? (<i>George Dimopoulos, European Respiratory Society</i>)	
	Free evening	

Friday, 1 June	
10. 08:00 – 08:45	Preparation of WG slides Max 5 slides, max 10 min talks; summarising the action points of WGs Copy slides to plenary computer latest by 08:55.

11. 09:00 – 09:45	Plenary Session (<i>Chair Caroline Brown</i>) (Room: POLONIA II+III) The influenza year in review (<i>Sylvie Briand – WHO Geneva</i>);
12. 09:45 – 11:30	Plenary Session – Reporting from the WG (<i>Chair Gé Donker</i>) (Room: POLONIA II+III) 09:45 – 10:00. Epidemic thresholds and case definition WG (<i>Silke Buda</i>) 10:00 - 10:15. Qualitative indicators (<i>Tomas Vega</i>) 10:15 - 10:30. Severe disease surveillance WG (<i>Angus Nicoll</i>) 10:30 - 10:45. Mortality estimation WG (<i>Rita Born</i>) 10:45 – 11:00. Risk assessment (<i>Richard Pepody</i>) Discussion (15 minutes)
11:15 – 11:45	Coffee break
13. 11:45 – 13:15	Report from the TG (<i>Chair Rod Daniels</i>) (Room: POLONIA II+III) 11:45 – 11:55 Summary of session 2b, 2b-1, 2b-2 (<i>J.Ellis, N.Goddard & D.Peryaslov</i>) 11:55 – 12:05 Summary of session 6b (<i>M.Reidelberg Fritz</i>) 12:05 – 12:20 Quality & Training (<i>Catherine Thompson</i>) 12:20 – 12:35 - Virus characterisation (<i>Brunhilde Schweiger</i>) 12:35 – 12:50 Molecular Diagnosis & Sequencing TG 2 (<i>Olav Hungnes</i>) 12:50 – 13:05 Antiviral susceptibility (<i>Adam Meijer</i>) 13:05 – 13:15 Discussion
14. 13:15 – 13:30	Closing remarks and forward look <i>Angus Nicoll and Caroline Brown</i> (Room: POLONIA II+III)
	Sandwich lunch (To Go)