A number of bacterial and viral infections in pregnant women can have serious effects on the unborn child leading to impaired mental and physical health later in life. This week’s issue of Eurosurveillance is dedicated to infectious diseases in pregnancy.

SPECIAL ISSUES ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE
The emergence and spread of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a growing problem in many European countries. To mark the very first European Antibiotic Awareness Day, on 18 November, the scientific journal Eurosurveillance runs a series of articles to highlight main aspects of the AMR problem in Europe. They will be published in two issues on 13 and 20 November 2008.

SPECIAL ISSUE ON SEASONAL INFLUENZA VACCINATION
In preparation for the coming influenza season 2008-9, Eurosurveillance publishes a special issue on prevention of influenza by vaccination. Seasonal influenza poses a serious public health threat because of associated serious health outcomes.
Influenza is responsible for around 40,000 to 220,000 excess deaths, depending on the severity of the epidemic.

**STARHS (SEROLOGICAL TESTING ALGORITHMS FOR RECENT HIV SEROCONVERSION) - PROGRESS TOWARDS ESTIMATING NEW HIV INFECTIONS IN EUROPE**

Today Eurosurveillance is publishing a special issue dedicated to the widespread advances made in Europe in estimating the real number of newly acquired HIV infections based on an innovative approach called STARHS.

**EUROSURVEILLANCE PUBLISHES A SPECIAL ISSUE ON HEPATITIS B AND C**

To tie in with World Hepatitis Day on 19 May, the scientific journal Eurosurveillance is today publishing a special issue on viral hepatitis, highlighting issues and challenges related to hepatitis B and C.

**IMMUNISATION WEEK**

On 17 April 2008, Eurosurveillance is publishing a special issue with articles on the measles situation in Europe. The publication is linked to European Immunisation Week which runs from 21-27 April.

**EUROSURVEILLANCE PUBLISHES SPECIAL ISSUE ON TUBERCULOSIS**

World Tuberculosis Day on 24 March commemorates the date in 1882 when Robert Koch presented his findings of the causative agent of tuberculosis (TB) - Mycobacterium tuberculosis. In the run up of this day Eurosurveillance publishes a special issue on the situation of TB in Europe.

**SPECIAL ISSUE ON MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE**

Today (6 March, 2008), Eurosurveillance, the European pre-reviewed journal of infectious diseases, publishes a special issue on meningococcal disease. It includes two in-depth consistency of approach in response to clusters. All should be investigated regardless of length of stay or country of residence of the cases involved.

Monitoring the use of the guidelines is an important means of identify successfully implemented them and of areas where strengthening environmental sampling is an important tool in this process and so introduced the proportion of sites positive has increased over time [4] probably a combination of improved surveillance and laboratory participating in EWGLINET. However, the persistent lack of clinical Legionnaires’ disease hampers EWGLINET’s ability to draw definitive conclusions on sources of infection associated with clusters. Nevertheless, any site found to be Legionella-positive should have measures applied to it to en reduced to non-infectious levels.

The paper by Rota et al highlights the occurrence of further cases in so be linked to a re-infection or new infection of the site’s water system as prevention procedures. These so called ‘re-offending sites’ are probable, possible or no source of further cases. Some of these hotel chance, simply because they feature in a group of hotels used by person guidelines state that every accommodation site used by cases within the be investigated. If Legionella are detected at more than one site, includ further evidence such as clinical isolates for comparison with environ required to indicate that a ‘re-offence’ had occurred. If no Legionella a sites, sensitivity of the detection method may be an alternative reason level of organisms, again providing an inconclusive result to the i countries must therefore continue to emphasise the importance of thor cluster sites, not only to ensure that all potential areas of risk are ident but also to provide the appropriate context in which to interpret environment.

We know from the scheme that infection risks may be higher in some also higher in larger hotels than smaller ones [5]. Tourist resorts such also recently given rise to outbreaks [6,7,8], suggesting that control and prevention and poor or inadequate infrastructures and developing resorts may be responsible. However, once countries become disease and its economic damage when outbreaks occur, effective public leading to new legislation or Codes of Practice. These countries with successful actions in Europe to control and prevent travel-associated i contribute to its international management. International collaboration protection for people travelling in Europe and beyond. Italy, France an their extensive experience of cluster investigations has successfully c health aim.

**References**
