Seasonal influenza vaccination in Europe: vaccination policy and vaccination coverage.
Summary of VENICE surveys

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On behalf of VENICE Project

3rd “ECDC influenza immunisation behavioural and communication workshop” on seasonal influenza vaccination

4th November, Stockholm, Sweden
European Council Recommendation on seasonal influenza vaccination

22 December 2009

• Member States are recommended
  – To achieve vaccination coverage in older age groups and risk groups of individuals suffering from chronic diseases and conditions
    • 75% by the winter season of 2014/2015
  – To mitigate the impact of seasonal influenza among health care workers
The same methodology for all surveys

- Collaborative study between
  - Member States
  - ECDC
  - VENICE
  - WHO Euro
- Participating countries
  - 27 EU
  - 2 EEA (Norway/Iceland)
- Data collection
  - Standardised questionnaire
- Administration
  - On-line questionnaire
  - Accessed on secure VENICE website
- Completion
  - Gatekeepers/national experts in each MS
- In this presentation
  - Vaccination coverage rates and policy data combined from last four surveys
  - Vaccination coverage data for UK presented separate for Scotland, Wales, England and and North Ireland
Countries recommending seasonal influenza vaccine for children (n=28)

Data refers to 2011-12 influenza season

In Malta vaccine is recommended for those > 6 months – 4 years
Countries recommending seasonal influenza vaccine for older age groups (n=28)

> 50 years*
> 65 years
> 59 years
> 60 years
> 55 years **

Data refers to the 2011-12 influenza season

*In Ireland vaccine recommended for ≥ 50 years but only ≥ 65 years routinely are vaccinated

** In Malta vaccine is recommended for those ≥ 55 years
Clinical risk groups recommended seasonal influenza vaccine

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chronic diseases, disorders or underlying conditions</th>
<th>Influenza season</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2008-09 (n=27)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory (pulmonary)</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiovascular</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renal</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haematologic /metabolic</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immunosuppression due to disease or treatment</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any condition compromising respiratory function</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatic diseases</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children on long-term aspirin therapy</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morbid obesity (Body Mass Index ≥40kg/m2)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data refers to seasonal influenza vaccine recommendations in 2009-10 pandemic influenza season
# Pregnancy related seasonal influenza vaccine recommendations

### Recommendations for pregnant women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendations for pregnant women</th>
<th>Influenza season</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2008-09 (n=27)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No recommendation</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any trimester</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Either 2nd or 3rd trimester</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data refers to **seasonal influenza vaccine recommendations in 2009-10** pandemic influenza season

**Recommended for all pregnant women in 2011-12 in 22 countries; for those with clinical risk in one country**
## Occupational groups recommended seasonal influenza vaccine

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupational groups</th>
<th>Influenza season</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2008-09 (n=27)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCWs</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essential services (police &amp; firemen)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry industry</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families that raise poultry, pigs or waterfowl</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public transport</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy sector</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance /banking sector</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Border control/Immigration/custom staff</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents of long-term care facilities</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reported seasonal influenza vaccination coverage in older population in 23 EU/EEA MSs

All MSs recommend vaccine to older population

EU target for influenza season 2014-15

† Sweden- reports were received for only around 60% of the population for 2009-10 influenza season

*Norway- 2008-09 and 2009-10 coverage results calculated for those ≥65 and clinical risk groups together

** Germany- data will be available later in 2013; telephone survey was conducted; data currently is under assessment
Reported seasonal influenza vaccination coverage in clinical risk groups in seven EU/EEA MSs

Norway- 2008-09 and 2009-10 coverage results calculated for those >65 and clinical risk groups together

United Kingdom

EU target for influenza season 2014-15

Norway- 2008-09 and 2009-10 coverage results calculated for those >65 and clinical risk groups together

Germany- data will be available later in 2013; telephone survey was conducted; data currently is under assessment
Reported seasonal influenza vaccination coverage among health care workers in 12 EU/EEA MSs

*Health care workers in GPs practice

**Germany- data will be available later in 2013; telephone survey was conducted; data currently is under assessment.

27 MSs recommend vaccine for HCWs
Reported seasonal vaccination coverage among residents and/or staff of long-term stay care facilities in four EU countries

25 MSs recommend vaccine to residents of long-term care facilities

*Data were not reported from one region in 2008-09
Reported seasonal vaccination coverage among pregnant women in three MSs

23 MSs recommend vaccine to pregnant women
Survey limitations

• Comparison of vaccination coverage difficult
  – Different methodologies used to estimate uptake
  – Different not only denominator, also numerator data

• Denominator data for clinical risk groups
  – Difficult accurately estimate
  – Lack of information systems (disease registers) or other standardised methodologies

• Population surveys to estimate
  – Vaccination coverage
  – At risk population

• Variety of methodologies used
  – Household, mail, face to face, telephone surveys
Conclusions (1)

• Recommendations for influenza vaccination
  – Exist in most of the countries for the main clinical risk, older age groups, pregnant women and HCWs

• Discrepancies between recommendations and real vaccination coverage
  – Exist for clinical risk groups, pregnant women and HCWs
  – Some countries do not monitor uptake for older age groups
Conclusions (2)

- Vaccination coverage
  - For the elderly
    - Lagging in most of the countries (except Netherlands and UK)
    - Did not increase in four influenza seasons
    - Do not meet EU target
  - Clinical risk groups and HCWs
    - Only one third of countries collect these data
    - Substantial or low for these groups of individuals
    - Did not increase in four influenza seasons
    - Feedback essential to drive uptake but-----
    - Use of KPIs in hospital and LTCF may help
  - Pregnant women
    - Only three MSs monitor uptake
    - Substantial in UK, but low in Romania and Slovenia
Acknowledgments

- Vaccine European New Integrated Collaboration Effort (VENICE)
  - Project gatekeepers/national experts
- HPSC colleagues
- CINECA
  - Consortium of University, Bologna, Italy
- ECDC
  - European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, Stockholm, Sweden
- VENICE collaborators
  - Istituto Superiore di Sanita’, Rome, Italy
  - Institut de Veille Sanitaire, Saint-Maurice, France
  - National Institute of Public Health - National Institute of Hygiene, Poland
  - Statens Serum Institut, Copenhagen, Denmark
Thank you for your attention!
Back up slides
VENICE Project

- VENICE - Vaccine European New Integrated Collaboration Effort
  - Launched in 2006 continued to 2008
  - Supported by EC-DG SANCO
- VENICE II started in late December 2008 – continued by February 2013
  - Supported by ECDC
  - Involve all 27 EU member states
  - Two EEA/EFTA countries (Iceland and Norway)
  - Created a network of experts (gatekeepers) working in immunisation programmes
  - Project leading countries (France, Italy, Poland, Ireland, Denmark)
  - The objective of this project to promote and share knowledge and best practices in vaccination among European states
  - https://venice.cineca.org
Influenza surveys conducted by VENICE

• December 2007/January 2008
  – The first seasonal influenza survey conducted
  – Provided baseline information
    • On influenza vaccination policy among MS
    • To collected available data on vaccination coverage

• July 2009 and April 2011
  – The second and third seasonal influenza surveys conducted
    • To follow up policy changes among countries
    • To collect the latest vaccination coverage data

• August 2010
  – Pandemic influenza vaccination survey conducted

• November 2011 and November 2012
  – To identify policy changes after pandemic
  – To collect vaccination coverage results
Recommendations (1)

- All countries have to strengthen and implement the influenza vaccination coverage monitoring systems in place
  - For most common population groups for whom vaccination is recommended
- Countries that do not monitor uptake among older population groups
  - ADVISED to implement uptake monitoring systems and collect uptake data on annual basis at the end of influenza season
- Vaccination coverage rates need to be improved in all targeted groups
Recommendations (2)

- As seasonal influenza vaccination coverage among pregnant women is monitored in only three countries
  - Countries are advised to implement uptake monitoring systems and start to collect these data
- More research is needed to see how recommendations can be effectively translated into higher vaccination coverage
  - Reasons for non-vaccination in countries with low vaccination coverage
  - Drivers for vaccination in countries that already achieved EU targets of 75%
- To make comparison of vaccination coverage at EU level
  - Annual population based surveys conducted using the same methodology may be useful