



Reporting infectious diseases to Europe

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Relevant legislation on communicable diseases in the European Community is available at [European Commission: Legislation on Communicable Diseases](#) and [Decision 1082/2013/EU](#).

Some key aspects of the legislation are summarised below:

- Decision 2119/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the council of 24 September 1998 established a network for the epidemiological surveillance and control of communicable diseases in the Community.
- Decision 1082/2013/EU superseded Decision 2119/98/EC and specifies that the network shall be operated and coordinated by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)
- Commission Decision 2000/96/EC of 22 December 1999 listed the communicable diseases to be covered by epidemiological surveillance in the Community Network. This list has been amended by Decision 2003/534/EC, Decision 2007/875/EC and Decision 2009/539/EC of 10 July 2009.
- Decision 2002/353/EC laid down case definitions for reporting communicable diseases to the Community network under Decision 2119/98/EC. These case definitions were updated in an amended Decision 2008/426/EC.
- Regulation (EC) no 851/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 established a European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.

An electronic information system on communicable diseases, called TESSy, the European Surveillance System, was established pursuant to Decision 2119/98/EC as a communication tool to exchange information on communicable diseases and is operated by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, as designated in Regulation (EC) no 851/2004.

The type of information provided by Ireland to TESSy includes aggregate data and case based information. Aggregate data describes for example the total number of cases in a specific country and certain characteristics such as age, gender etc. Case based information is a set of information relating to individuals and may include the disease, age, gender, date of diagnosis, date of notification, and outcome. No information that could possibly identify an individual is provided.