



PUBLIC RELATIONS

Vision Group[®]



WEEKLY EU HEALTHCARE NEWS UPDATE

3 SEPTEMBER – 9 SEPTEMBER 2022

EUROPEAN COMMISSION PROPOSES MEASURES TO PREVENT COVID-19 SURGE IN AUTUMN AND WINTER SEASON

The measures proposed in Commission's communication refer to, among others, increasing the COVID-19 vaccine uptake, including the newly approved and adapter version. Parallely, Commission appealed to the Member States to enact a coordinated approach.

Moreover, 27 EU countries were urged to manage the administration of an additional booster dose and prioritise specific population groups, especially people aged 60 years and over and other eligible individuals of any age at risk of severe disease. In a press release published on Friday (2 September), Health Commissioner Stella Kyriakides also pointed out the need to improve the vaccine uptake within the primary vaccination course, as well as the primary booster dose when it comes to eligible individuals. Additionally, she underlined that closing the so-called vaccination gaps is a „matter of top priority.”

The Commission's communication concerned not only the coronavirus pandemic – the EU executive body recommended conducting combined campaigns about COVID-19 and influenza vaccination. These should be supplemented with up-to-date and clear communication strategies based on behavioural insights, epidemiological developments, as well as public perception.

However, the latest recommendations are also concerning social aspects of the pandemic. In this context, the Commission pointed out that ensuring free movement within the bloc „remains” crucial and limiting the potential education disruption to an absolute minimum.

Source: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_5302

THE FIRST MEETING OF EU HEALTH MINISTERS UNDER THE CZECH PRESIDENCY DEDICATED TO UKRAINE, CANCER AND VACCINATION

For the first time since the beginning of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union (July to December 2022), the EU Health Ministers met in Prague for the Informal meeting of the Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs (EPSCO) Council.

The session was divided into several blocks concerning the priorities of the Czech Presidency in the healthcare sector. The main subjects were referring to the EU's assistance to Ukraine's health system, vaccine hesitancy, and the fight against cancer – also in the context of conclusions from the Oncology Conference, organised in July by the Presidency.

After the intervention by the representatives of Cyprus and Greece, an agreement with the pharmaceutical companies was reached to distribute the COVID-19 vaccine in its updated form so that when new vaccines are licensed and show increased effectiveness on the new variants, any further deliveries are to concern the updated versions.

Health Ministers also discussed the health impacts of the war in Ukraine, with the participation of Ukrainian Minister Viktor Liashko. This part of the meeting concentrated on preparing a comprehensive and efficient plan to redevelop the Ukrainian health system, considering the current and future challenges.

Source: <https://www.stockwatch.com.cy/en/article/ygeia/agreement-over-updated-vaccine-distribution>

EU SECURES ADDITIONAL 170,000 DOSES OF MONKEYPOX VACCINES, DESPITE THE „DECLINING TRENDS“

On Thursday (7 September), the Commission’s Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA) announced the purchase of another 170,920 doses of Bavarian Nordic’s vaccine to be distributed among the Member States. With the new investment, the EU has secured more than 330,000 doses in total.

According to Health Commissioner Kyriakides, the EU already experiences „declining trends“ in monkeypox infections, but the bloc has to remain fully prepared for upcoming health emergencies. At the same time, the Greek Commissioner ensured that HERA continues the purchase program „to make sure that we are providing member states with all the support they need.“

Furthermore, to meet the medium-term needs of the Member States, HERA has recently launched joint procurement procedures for additional vaccines and therapeutics. These actions aim to ensure quicker and more effective protection of the most vulnerable groups while speeding up vaccination for all citizens at risk.

The monkeypox outbreak started on 1 September, and since then, around 18,500 cases of this disease have been reported in 29 countries. It is a viral infection transmitted to humans by animals having very similar symptoms but less acute than those seen in the past. The disease remains endemic in West and Central Africa and is spreading throughout Europe for the first time.

Source: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_5362

Thank you for your attention!

ul. J.P. Woronicza 3 lok. 254

02-640 Warszawa

tel./fax: +48 22 749 13 13

e-mail: visiongroup@visiongroup.pl

www.visiongroup.pl



www.facebook.com/VisionGroupPR

