Mobilising the Emergency Support Instrument (ESI)

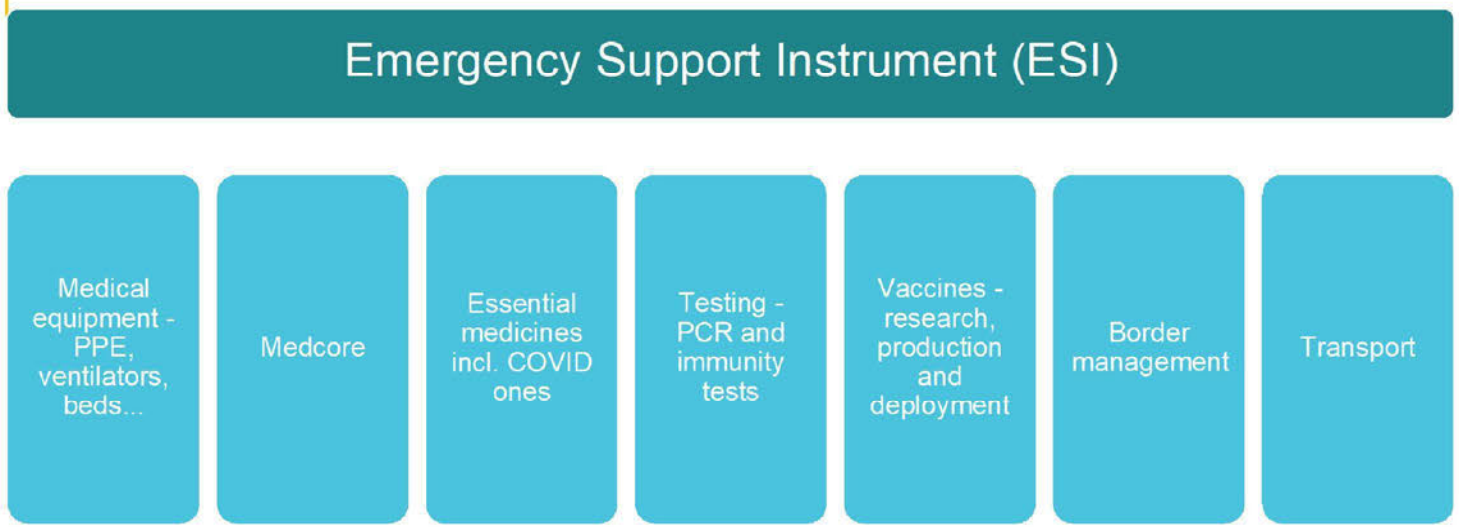
Peter Wagner

Head of the Clearing house for medical equipment (COVID-19)

Integrated Political Crisis Response High-Level Roundtable

14 April 2020

ESI: actions in seven building blocks…



…and three phases: acute – exit – recovery

European Commission

1. Immediate acute phase (examples)

- Temporary reinforcement of the medical workforce, exchange of medical professionals, hosting foreign patients or other type of mutual support;
- Scaling up MedCor and taping into military frameworks which are normally not engaged in civilian health system.
- Deployment of temporary health care facilities and temporary extension of existing health care facilities to relieve pressure on existing structures and increase overall health care capacity;
- Scaling up production of ICU essential medicines through regulatory instruments
- Stockpiling of essential ICU medicines (anaesthetics, relaxants, antibiotics, etc.)
- Scaling up production of medical equipment such as masks and ventilators and shortening the delivery time to the markets
- Purchasing medical equipment for border control staff
- Consolidating and financing priority air freight cargo shipments

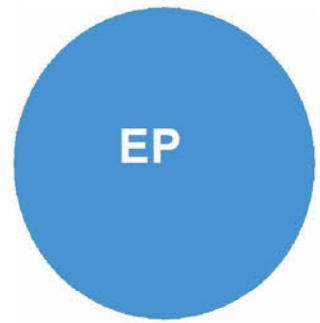
2. Exit phase (examples)

- Setting up temporary quarantine facilities and other appropriate measures at the Union borders
- Launching the European equivalent to the US Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) in order to fund the development and stockpiling of vaccines and treatments
- Scientific validation of medical products, including potential new testing methods
- Establishing an EU stockpile of COVID tests (PCR and rapid tests) in order to accompany the exit strategy
- Organising ad-hoc clinical trials of potential therapies or diagnostics according to trial standards agreed at EU level
- Rolling stock of medical procurements, medicaments and tests
- Continuation of border control and transport activities

3. Recovery phase (examples)

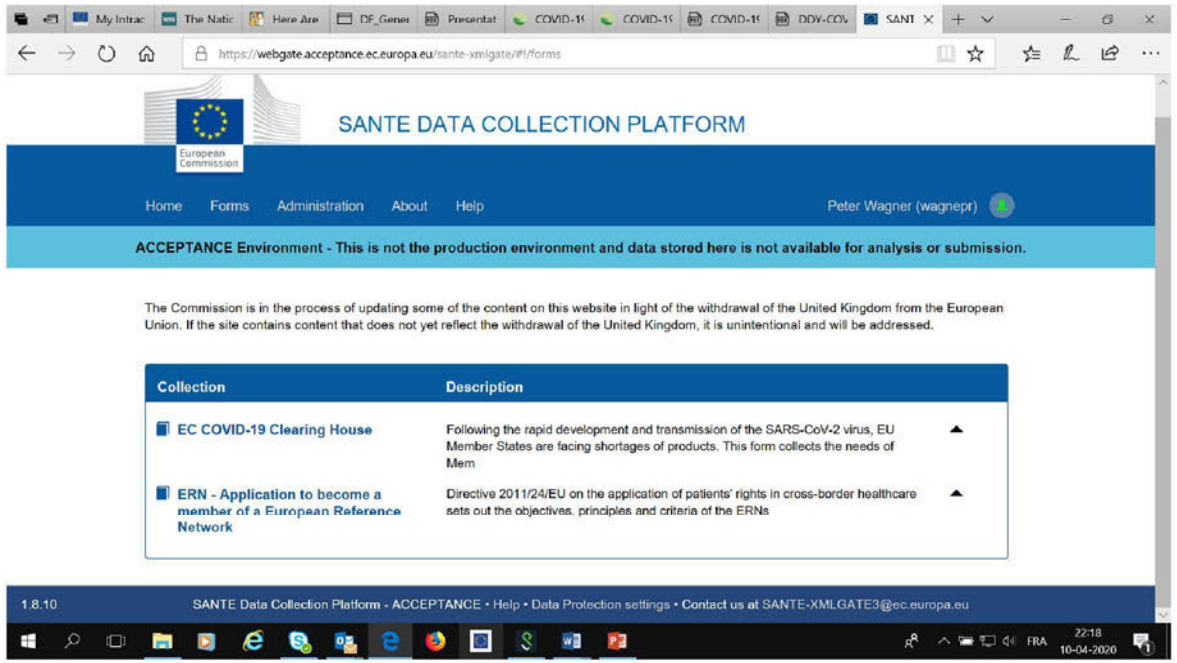
- Using EU equivalent of BARDA to stockpile stimulate production of vaccine and stockpile them for the EU as a whole
- Maintenance of the stock of medical products as referred to in WP2 and their disposal;
- Strengthen over time the capacity of EU pharma industry to develop and produce, for the EU market, pharmaceutical interventions to respond to major cross-border health threats
- Actions to develop appropriate methods to track the development of the epidemic and the results of measures implemented to address it;
- Addressing negative psychological and social effects of the confinement and of the economic consequences of the pandemic (including the scaling up of mental health institutes)
- Rolling stock of medical procurements, medicaments and tests

Implementation in continuous dialogue



European Commission

Coming soon: Clearing House web-form



European Commission

Thank you

European Commission