

VALIDATION OF INFORMATION OBTAINED VIA THE QUESTIONS IN THE ISAA REPORT ON VACCINATION STRATEGIES AND VACCINE DEPLOYMENT AHEAD OF PLANNED PUBLICATION ON ECDC WEBSITE - DEADLINE COB Wednesday 27 January 2021

Dear Member State Representatives,

On 2 December 2020 ECDC published a report on an '[Overview of vaccination strategies and vaccine deployment plans in the EU/EEA and the UK](#)'. Now that the rollout of vaccinations across the EU/EEA is underway on 29 January 2021 ECDC is planning on publishing a follow up to this report outlining key aspects of the implementation of vaccination plans. We wish to publish this document on the ECDC website. We understand the developments are happening rapidly also moving forward but the information in this report is expected to be accurate on 27 January 2021.

Thank you very much for responding to the questions on vaccination strategies and vaccine deployment plans via the weekly ISAA report. We are kindly asking you to review the text and summary tables below and make sure that we are accurately describing your vaccination strategies and implementation of rollout as they are now.

We highly appreciate your time and effort for checking that information on your country is correct in **text and tables**. Please respond to this e-mail that information is correct or if you wish to suggest edits please do by returning an edited version. After confirming content is correct we would also appreciate that should there be updates in the different areas of the questions relevant up to 27 January, please also add information on such updates in the attached document and return it to us.

Thank you for returning this validated no later than Wednesday 27 January 2020 EOB.

Table 1. Overview of COVID-19 vaccines in use and date of first administration of COVID-19 in EU/EEA Member States (information gathered from ISAA reports n=21 and grey literature)

| Country | COVID-19 vaccines in use | Date of first administration of COVID-19 vaccine | Total number of persons who received a first dose |
|---------|------------------------------------|--|---|
| 5.1.2a | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 27 December 2020 | Approximately 74 100 (as of 14/01/21) |
| | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 29 December 2020 | 14 1758 |
| | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 27 December 2020 | |
| | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 27 December 2020 | 53 115 |
| | Comirnaty | 27 December 2020 | |
| | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 26 December 2020 | 155 000 |
| | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 27 December 2020 | 178 969 |
| | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 27 December 2020 | 23 561 (as of 24/01/21) |
| | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 27 December 2020 | 105 620 (as of 24/01/21) |
| | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 27 December 2020 | 693 000 (as of 21/01/21) |

| | | | |
|-------------------|--|------------------|--|
| 5.1.2a | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 26 December 2020 | 1 254 760 |
| | Comirnaty | 27 December 2020 | |
| | Comirnaty | 26 December 2020 | |
| | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 29 December 2020 | 3 703 |
| | Comirnaty | 29 December 2020 | |
| | Comirnaty | 31 December 2020 | |
| | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 28 December 2020 | 16 278 (as of 21/01/21) |
| | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 27 December 2020 | 58 451 (as of 25/01/21) |
| | Comirnaty | 18 January 2021 | |
| | Comirnaty | 28 December 2020 | 5 294 (as of 19/01/21) |
| | Comirnaty | 27 December 2020 | 9 496 (as of 15/01/21) |
| Netherlands (The) | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 6 January 2021 | 185.356 (as of 26/01/21) *this data is currently under reporting |
| | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 27 December 2020 | 60 000 (as of 21/01/21) |
| 5.1.2a | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 26 December 2020 | 565 507 |
| | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 27 December 2020 | 106 000 |
| | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 27 December 2020 | 328 408 |
| | Comirnaty | 26 December 2020 | 95 766 |
| | Comirnaty | 27 December 2020 | |
| | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 27 December 2020 | 1 029 150 |
| | Comirnaty COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna | 27 December 2020 | |
| | | | |

Note: data collected from ISAA reports from the 18 and 25 January 2021.

Table 2. Vaccines that EU/EEA Member States are planning to use once granted market authorization (information gathered from ISAA reports, n=15 countries).

| Countries | Vaccine brand | | | | |
|--------------|----------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|----------|---------------------------------|
| | Sanofi Pasteur/Glaxo Smith Kline | CureVac | Oxford/Astra Zeneca | Novovac | Johnson & Johnson/Janssen-Cilag |
| 5.1.2a | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes |
| | | Yes | Yes | | Yes |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | | Yes | Yes | | Yes |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes | | Yes |
| | | | Yes | | Yes |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | | Yes | Yes | | Yes |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Total | 11 | 13 | 15 | 5 | 15 |

Note: data gathered from ISAA reports from 5 and 11 January 2021.

Table 3. Current vaccination phases in EU/EEA countries (information gathered from ISAA reports, n=17)*

| Number of phases to vaccinated prioritised target groups | Countries | Comments |
|--|-----------|---|
| 3 phases | 5.1.2a | 5.1.2a Phase 1A: started on January 5 and involves nursing homes (residents and staff) and is completed by all health care staff. Phase 1B: begins in March and will concern people aged 65+, people aged 45+ at risk and the so-called "essential" functions socially or economically. Phase 2: for May or June will involve the adult population over 18 years of age |
| | | Croatia: Phase 1: elderly and staff in long-term care facilities, healthcare workers primarily those working with Covid-19 patients (ICU, testing-sites) 2 phase: elderly age range > 65 years and adults with chronic diseases, age range < 65. Phase 3: others. |
| 4 phases | | Netherlands: Phase 1: elderly healthcare staff and people living in elderly care, mentally handicapped institutions and their staff; People from 60years of age, nurses delivering home based care; COVID-19 hospital acute healthcare workers; GP's; mental |

| | | |
|----------|--------|--|
| | | healthcare clients; Phase 2: people between 18-60 years old with a medical indication. Phase 3: other healthcare staff. Phase 4: people between 18-60 years old. |
| 5 phases | 5.1.2a | |
| 6 phases | | |
| Other | | 5.1.2a The population is divided into 10 priority groups |

* information gathered from ISAA report on 25 January 2021

Table 4. Current vaccination phases in EU/EEA countries (information gathered from ISAA reports, n=18)*

| Current vaccination phase | Countries |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Phase 1 | 5.1.2a |
| Phase 2 | |
| Other | |

5.1.2a (priority groups 1, 2 and 3 have received both first and second dose; majority of priority group 4 has received first dose; 5.1.2a HCW and residents/staff in LTCF are vaccinated with first dose, parts of them received the second dose; vaccination of other priority groups is in process)

* information gathered from ISAA report on 25 January 2021

Table 5. Overview of priority groups currently being vaccinated in EU/EEA countries (n=24)*

* information gathered from ISAA reports on 11 January 2021, 18 January 2021, 25 January 2021

| Countries | Priority groups currently being vaccinated | | | | | |
|-----------|--|-----------------|----------------------------|---|---|---|
| | Elderly | Elderly in LTCF | Adults with co-morbidities | Healthcare workers | Social care personnel / personnel in LTCF | Other risk groups (i.e. workers of essential public services other than health; others) |
| 5.1.2a | Yes (80+) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Yes | Yes | | Yes | Yes | Yes (emergency services (Red Cross, mountain service, police, firefighters etc.) and citizens in the area affected by the earthquake) |
| | Yes | Yes | | Yes | Yes | |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | |
| | Yes | | | Yes | Yes | |
| | Yes (80+) | Yes | | Yes (Front-line and critical health care personnel) | Yes | Yes (other staff working in medical treatment) |

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|-----|------------------|---|-----|--|
| | | | | | | institutions who is involved in COVID-19 patients care) |
| 5.1.2a | Yes (75+) | | Yes | Yes (HCW at risk) | Yes | Yes (disabled/dependent persons) |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | | Yes | | Yes | Yes | |
| | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes (HCW in COVID-19 wards, intensive care units and front-line personnel in primary health care clinics) | | Yes (response and rescue units/officers from ambulance services, police, coast guard, border guard) |
| | Yes | | | Yes | | |
| | | | | Yes | | Yes (medical practitioners and medical treatment support persons who are employed in the medical treatment institutions specified in the order of the Minister for Health and who provide State paid health care services, and also employees who, upon performing their work duties, are in close contact with COVID-19 patients) |
| 5.1.2a | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes (educational institutions workers) |
| | Yes | Yes | | Yes | Yes | |
| | Yes (85+) | Yes | | Yes | Yes | |
| Netherlands | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes (mentally handicapped in institutions) |
| | Yes (85+) | Yes | Yes (aged 18-64) | Yes (with patient contact) | | |
| 5.1.2a | Yes | Yes | | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | | Yes | | Yes | Yes | |
| | Yes (65+) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Yes | Yes | | Yes | Yes | Yes (critical infrastructure) |
| | Yes | Yes | | Yes (only if directly involved in COVID-19) | Yes | Yes (disabled/dependent persons) |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------|-----|--|--|-----------------|-----|-----|--|
| 5.1.2a | Yes | | | care/treatment) | Yes | Yes | |
|--------|-----|--|--|-----------------|-----|-----|--|

information gathered from ISAA reports on 11 January 2021, 18 January 2021, 25 January 2021

Table 6. Overview of countries planning to regularly review critical factors*

| Plans to regularly review critical factors based on: | Countries |
|--|-----------|
| Epidemiological situation at national and subnational levels | 5.1.2a |
| New evidence about the virus and its impact on human health | |
| Actual vaccine uptake and by whom | |
| Vaccine storage and supply chain capacities | |
| (Human) resources required for vaccination of the population | |
| New information regarding COVID-19 vaccine characteristics | |

*information gathered from ISAA reports on 14 December 2020, 05 January 2021, 11 January 2021

Table 7: Overview of the status of national COVID-19 vaccination logistics and infrastructure (information gathered from ISAA reports n=22)*

| Status of national COVID-19 vaccination logistics and infrastructures (storage and transport needs) | Countries |
|---|-----------|
| Adequate storage capacities are available | 5.1.2a |
| Adequate cooled transport is available | |
| Adequate cold chain is available | |
| Logistics and infrastructure are under development | |

* information gathered from ISAA reports on 11 January 2021, 18 January 2021

Table 8. Vaccination delivery sites (information gathered from ISAA reports n=21)*

| COVID-19 vaccines will be delivered by | Countries |
|---|-----------|
| Existing vaccination structures | 5.1.2a |
| Dedicated (mass) vaccination centres | |
| GP practices / primary healthcare centres | |
| Pharmacies | |
| Long-term care facilities | |
| Mobile clinics | |
| Mobile teams | |
| Workplace | |
| Schools | |
| Prisons | |

* information gathered from ISAA reports on 14 December 2020, 5 January 2021, 11 January 2021

Table 9. Coordination of health authorities and civil protection authorities on the deployment of COVID-19 vaccines (information gathered from ISAA reports n=20)*

| Are health authorities and civil protection authorities coordinating on the deployment of COVID-19 vaccines? | Countries |
|--|-----------|
| Yes | 5.1.2a |
| Possibly | |
| No | |

* information gathered from ISAA reports on 14 December 2020, 5 January 2021, 11 January and 18 January 2021

Table 10. Availability of workforce to deliver the COVID-19 vaccines (information gathered from ISAA reports n=20)*

| Workforce capacity to deliver the COVID-19 vaccine | Countries |
|--|-----------|
| Available | 5.1.2a |
| Currently recruited/trained | |
| No information available | |

* information gathered from ISAA reports on 14 December 2020, 5 January 2021, 11 January 2021

Table 11. Adequate and sufficient personal protective equipment (PPE) to deliver the vaccine (information gathered from ISAA reports n=19)*

| Adequate and sufficient PPE to deliver the vaccine | Countries |
|--|-----------|
| Available | 5.1.2a |
| Currently purchased | |
| No information available | |

* information gathered from ISAA reports on 14 December 2020, 5 January 2021, 11 January 2021

Table 12. Use of joint procurement to purchase items required for COVID-19 vaccination (information gathered from ISAA reports n=18)*

| Use of joint procurement required for COVID-19 vaccination | Countries |
|--|-----------|
| Decided | 5.1.2a |
| Planned | |
| Not planned | |
| No information available | |

* information gathered from ISAA reports on 14 December 2020, 5 January 2021, 11 January 2021

Table 13. Availability of systems to monitor individual COVID-19 vaccination status (information gathered from ISAA reports n=20)*

| Systems to monitor individual COVID-19 vaccination status | Countries |
|---|-----------|
| Existing and ready to be used | 5.1.2a |
| Existing system(s) being improved | |
| Currently under development | |

* information gathered from ISAA reports on 14 December 2020, 5 January 2021, 11 January 2021, 18 January 2021

Table 14. System types to monitor individual COVID-19 vaccination status (information gathered from ISAA reports n=22)*

| Monitoring of the vaccination status will be done by: | Countries |
|---|-----------|
| Existing electronic immunisation system (IIS) | 5.1.2a |
| Ad hoc electronic systems | |
| Specific electronic immunization cards | |
| Manual recording | |
| Existing system being improved | |

* information gathered from ISAA reports on 14 December 2020, 5 January 2021, 11 January 2021, 25 January 2021

Table 15. Mechanisms in place for inviting people eligible for vaccination (information gathered from ISAA report n=10)

| Mechanisms in place for inviting people eligible for vaccination | Member States |
|--|---------------|
| The eligible person is actively called for vaccination through their healthcare provider or other health entity (e.g. local public health office, national health insurance, insurance companies...) | 5.1.2a |
| The eligible person is asked to pro-actively book an appointment through dedicated phone systems, website or app | |

* information gathered from ISAA reports on 18 January 2021

Table 16. Availability of detailed communication plans for COVID-19 vaccination (information gathered from ISAA reports n=21)

| Availability of detailed communication plans | Member States |
|--|---------------|
| Already in place / finalised | 5.1.2a |
| Drafted | |
| Still under development | |

* information gathered from ISAA reports on 14 December 2020, 5 January 2021, 11 January 2021

Table 17. Challenges with the roll-out of COVID-19 vaccines (information gathered from ISAA reports n=14 (this number of countries includes countries that provided answers also to other challenges and expected challenges))

| Challenges | Countries |
|---|-----------|
| Availability of storage capacities | 5.1.2a |
| Availability of cold chain | |
| Availability of shipping and transshipment | |
| Strategies to ensure optimal stock management and to avoid expiration of stocks | |
| Staffing shortages to administer vaccines | |
| Shortages of personal protective equipment to deliver the vaccine | |
| Shortages of equipment needed for vaccination, such as syringes, including shortage of low dead-space syringes/needles | |
| Size of centres set up for administering mass vaccinations | |
| Availability of vaccination sites in order to cover the population eligible for vaccination (e.g. reaching hard to reach populations) | |
| Managing different types of vaccines in regard to logistics, storage and/or administration | |
| Mechanisms in place for inviting people eligible for vaccination | |
| People who are eligible and scheduled to receive vaccines are refusing to take the vaccine | |
| Spread of vaccine misinformation and disinformation | |
| Communication challenges | |

* information gathered from ISAA reports on 18 January 2021, 25 January 2021

Adaptations to priority groups:

To adequately control the pandemic during the roll-out of the vaccines adjustment of the priority groups targeted for vaccination are key. Sixteen countries replied to this question if and how they adjusted the original priority groups. Most of the countries (Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway and Romania) did not introduce any adjustments of the priority groups. However, some countries changed the prioritization of target groups to be vaccinated during the roll-out of the vaccine:

- 5.1.2a Due to the slow vaccine uptake in elderly care homes 5.1.2a prioritized people living in the community and (i) 80 years or older, or (ii) with underlying conditions, or (iii) with special needs. These adjustments were defined due to the slow initial vaccine uptake in elderly care homes, the vaccine storage and supply chain capacity.
- 5.1.2a The country prioritized healthcare workers, social care workers and elderly living in long-term care facilities over the initially prioritized group of people aged 65 years and persons with comorbidities. These adjustments were based on the epidemiological situation at national and subnational levels, vaccine storage and supply chain capacity, and the availability of human resources for vaccination.
- 5.1.2a Due to the earthquake in 5.1.2a the country prioritized citizens, emergency services and volunteers in the affected areas for vaccination and redistributed some of the available vaccines to this target group.
- 5.1.2a The country included some other groups like home care workers, firefighters, and people with serious comorbidities.
- Netherlands: The country prioritised acute COVID-19 care staff in hospitals, GP's.
- 5.1.2a : Considering the epidemiological situation at national and subnational levels, new evidence available about the virus and its impact on human health, new information regarding COVID-19 vaccine characteristics, and because of the actual vaccine uptake and by whom 5.1.2a adjusted the priority groups.
- 5.1.2a The country included workers in the educational system to the category of essential workers.
- In 5.1.2a the discussion about adjustments of priority groups is currently ongoing. 5.1.2a will base its potential adjustments on the epidemiological situation, pressure on the healthcare system, availability of different vaccines, and scientific evidence on overall vaccine effectiveness and in different age and risk groups.

Mandatory vaccination

Regarding COVID-19 vaccination being mandatory by national policy, 20 Countries responded that the vaccination is not mandatory

5.1.2a 5.1.2a
5.1.2a data gathered from ISAA reports from 18 and 25 January 2021; n=20 countries).

Extending timing between first and second dose

Out of 18 EU/EEA Member States that replied to the question on extending the timing between the first and second dose of authorised vaccines, 11 countries (5.1.2a

5.1.2a replied that they will not extend the timing between the first and second dose; 5.1.2a is currently planning to extend the timing between the first and second dose to provide the first dose to as many people in the priority groups as possible; while the decision is still under discussion in 5.1.2a (data gathered from ISAA reports from 18 and 25 January 2021; n=18 countries).

Extracting a 6th dose from the Comirnaty 5-dose vial

Out of 18 EU/EEA reporting Member States 16

5.1.2a

5.1.2a

responded that they intend to extract a sixth dose from the Comirnaty 5-dose vial, while in 5.1.2a 5.1.2a the extraction of the sixth dose is still under discussion (data gathered from ISAA reports from 18 and 25 January 2021; n=18 countries).