



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH

**WORKING TOGETHER TO INCREASE UPTAKE OF COVID-19  
AND SEASONAL INFLUENZA VACCINATIONS**



**An EU HPP webinar for healthcare professionals**

Wednesday 26 October 2022, 10.00 – 11.30 CEST, Brussels time

Dear colleague(s),

The potential co-circulation of COVID-19 and seasonal influenza will put vulnerable population groups at an increased risk of severe illness and death this autumn and winter. In addition to the individual impacts, this will also likely increase the pressure on hospitals and health-care workers, already exhausted from almost 3 years on the front lines of the pandemic. The European Commission, European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control and WHO/Europe have joined forces to raise awareness of the need to protect the most vulnerable this autumn and winter period.

As both administrators and recipients of COVID-19 and influenza vaccines, this webinar aims to give healthcare professionals the opportunity to discuss the latest epidemiological and scientific developments, as well as the available support for awareness-raising and communication campaigns that can help increase the uptake of vaccines and protect the most vulnerable.

To help countries prepare their response to a likely increase of COVID-19 and influenza in the coming months, the Commission published a Communication on preparing for autumn and winter 2022-2023 and WHO/Europe has issued strategy recommendations to protect the most vulnerable. Together, the documents call on countries across the European region to relaunch mitigation efforts and be ready to respond to an increased burden on their healthcare systems.

**Supporting documents:**

- [Joint Statement](#) on working together towards COVID-19 and seasonal influenza vaccinations for this winter by Commissioner Stella Kyriakides, WHO Regional Director for Europe Dr Hans Henri P. Kluge and Director of the ECDC Dr Andrea Ammon
- [European Commission communication](#): preparing for autumn and winter 2023
- [WHO/Europe Strategy considerations](#) for SARS-CoV-2 and other respiratory viruses in the WHO European Region during autumn and winter 2022/23:

**[Register here](#)**

Once registered, you will receive the link and the registration ID to join the webinar on Wednesday 26 October.

If you have any further questions, please contact [sante-hpp@ec.europa.eu](mailto:sante-hpp@ec.europa.eu)

We are looking forward to welcoming you online.

The EU Health Policy Platform team



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Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety  
Unit B3 – Health monitoring and cooperation, Health networks  
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The EU Health Policy Platform will host a live webinar, following this **agenda**:

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|----------------------|--|
| <b>10.00 – 10.05</b> | <b>Welcome</b><br><br>John F. Ryan, acting Deputy Director-General for Health and Director for Public health, cancer and health security             |
|                      | <b>Autumn/Winter preparedness and protection of the most vulnerable</b>  |
| <b>10.05 – 10.15</b> | <b>Epi update, focussed on flu and COVID-19</b><br><br>tbc, ECDC   |
| <b>10.15 – 10.25</b> | <b>Seasonal flu and COVID-19 vaccines</b><br><br>Manuela Mura, Scientific Officer, Health Threats and Vaccines Strategy, EMA                         |
| <b>10.25 – 10.35</b> | <b>Prepare, prevent, protect. Awareness raising campaign</b><br><br>Adelka Sarkozy and Nick Fry, WHO Regional Office for Europe                      |
| <b>10.35 – 10.50</b> | <b>Q&amp;A - Discussion</b>  |
|                      | <b>Boosting vaccine confidence and addressing misinformation</b>   |
| <b>10.50 – 11.00</b> | <b>Vaccine confidence trends amongst healthcare professionals</b><br><br>Heidi Larson, Anthropologist and Director of The Vaccine Confidence Project |
| <b>11.00 – 11.10</b> | <b>Facilitating vaccination acceptance and uptake</b><br><br>John Kinsman, Expert, Social and Behavioural Change Communication, ECDC                 |
| <b>11.10 – 11.25</b> | <b>Q&amp;A – Discussion</b>  |
| <b>11.25 – 11.30</b> | <b>Closing remarks</b><br><br>Martine Ingvorsen and Katie Owens, Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety                                      |



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