


European Patients' Rights & Cross-Border Healthcare
Member of the European Parliament Interest Group

#vaccination

**Strengthening vaccination policies towards the European elections:
from recommendations to concrete experiences**

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Room ASP 3H1 | European Parliament, Brussels

Media Partners: @vaccinesToday, TrendSanita, with the support of GSK, Johnson & Johnson, MSD, Pfizer, sanofi



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & NEXT STEPS

By Mariano Votta

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Final remarks

- 1) To date, the Interest Group 'European Patients' Rights & Cross-border healthcare' - which we have been promoting since 2014 - has undoubtedly been the informal MEP Interest Group that has been most active on vaccination policy issues. We are sure that after the elections, once it is re-established for its third term, it will continue to pay adequate attention to the topic. Obviously, it will be our concern to facilitate collaboration and coherence with the Interest Group on Life Course Immunisation that the Coalition for the Life Course Immunisation announced today it would promote in the aftermath of the European elections.
- 2) While waiting to know the new MEPs and what their commitment on these issues will be, we propose to DG SANTE to update the [European Commission's Best Practice Portal](https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/dyna/bp-portal/)¹ - designed to help find reliable and practical information on implemented practices recognised as best or promising in the field of public health - with the main relevant experiences on vaccination, as [only 5 projects are hosted](#) so far. The results and outcomes of major EU-funded projects on vaccination could be compiled to facilitate information exchange and implementation. A toolbox available to all, with the aspiration that also newly elected politicians will continue to recognise and advance these initiatives.

¹ <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/dyna/bp-portal/>

- 3) And finally, we propose that the institutions create, if it does not exist, or strengthen - and better disseminate this information - if it does exist, a sort of "Civic Hub-incubator of good practices on vaccination policies in Europe", an informal network composed of managers and coordinators of consortia concretely committed to implementing good practices on the topic throughout Europe. A network that is less institutional than a Joint Action but also more participated by the various public and private stakeholders.

Next steps

- 4) In this regard, in the coming months - in the context of the 4th edition of our #VaccinAction project - we will gather a "Vaccination Informal Platform (V.I.P.)", a face-to-face initiative at European level for the promotion of vaccinations, to be realised with the direct involvement of civic organisations & PAGs linked to Active Citizenship Network and already involved in the previous 3 editions of #VaccinAction (ed. 2021, 2022, 2023).

5) Furthermore, regarding the next steps in our work on vaccination policies, a global survey will soon be launched as part of our 'Global State of Infectious Disease Preparedness study'.

6) I would like to greet you by inviting you to the European celebration of the European Patients' Rights Day, which has reached its 18th edition, to be held here in the European Parliament on 20 March. We will talk about a topic that is a prerequisite for any discussion on the health of European citizens and more resilient health systems, which is the crisis of the health workforce, between job strain, skills shortages and medical desertification.

In view of the European elections, what steps should be taken as a priority to address this urgent issue? We hope to welcome you at the conference and will of course keep you informed through our newsletter, our website and our social media channels.

Acknowledgements

Thanks again to all of you, thanks to Gary and thanks to all participants.

I would like to mention that this European policy dialogue event was made possible by the unconditional support of the five companies supporting the third edition of our 'VaccinAction'

project, so thanks to GSK, J&J, MSD, Pfizer and Sanofi.

Thank you also to our two media partners: VaccinesToday and TrendSanità-Policy and Procurement in HealthCare, and to all colleagues who worked on this initiative, in particular Bianca, who is present here, and Daniela, VaccinAction project manager.

As usual, all the presentations delivered today will soon be published on our website.

I wish you a good continuation of the day.