

Introducing the FIP ‘Transforming Vaccination Globally, Regionally and Nationally’ 2021

Accelerating Equity, Access and Sustainability Through Policy Development and Implementation

Sustainable and Equitable Access to Vaccines: Establishing Priorities and Setting Policies in The European Region

October 14



Moderators



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& NATIONALLY



Stephanie Kohl

*Policy & Advocacy Officer - European
Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP)*



Ema Paulino

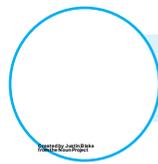
*President - Portuguese National Association
of Pharmacies
Immediate Past Professional Secretary – FIP*



Announcements



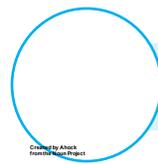
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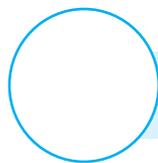
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FIP Transforming Vaccination Regionally & Globally 2020

Recapping key outcomes

The 1st FIP digital transformation outcome-based online programme

Underpinned by the FIP Development Goals (FIP DGs)

Resulted in:

Global FIP Commitment to Action on Vaccination in Pharmacies

&

FIP Transforming Vaccination Collection



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Resource Webpage
transformingvaccination.fip.org

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Transforming Vaccination 2021



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12 events over 2 series

- Series 1: Towards equity in vaccinations globally
- Series 2: Sustainability in vaccinations regionally and nationally



Transforming Vaccination 2021: Series 1 Towards equity in vaccinations globally

The first of the two series comprises 5 episodes which include an opening event alongside 4 other events which explore equity in vaccinations across the different angles of

*age,
gender,
literacy & education,
and collaboration & working together.*



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Transforming Vaccination 2021: Series 2 Sustainability in vaccinations regionally and nationally



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The second of the two series in 2021 comprises 7 digital events, including 6 regional roundtables which will discuss and identify priorities for sustainable access to vaccinations through pharmacies around the world.

The programme will end with a Leadership Summit in which we present a commitment to action on sustainable and equitable access to vaccines through pharmacies.



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Transforming Vaccination 2021: Key Outcomes



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- 1) 12 digital events including 6 regional roundtables and a Leadership Summit**
- 2) FIP Global Commitment to accelerate equity, access and sustainability of vaccinations**
- 3) Special Policy Collection**

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Transforming Vaccination 2020 Outcomes: European Region



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Regional needs and priorities identified to transform vaccination

- Using lessons learned from countries that achieved a transformation of their pharmacy services can help to drive forward change also in other regions
- Fostering (undergraduate) education on vaccination across the entire European region
- Supporting the entire European region in the adoption of new vaccination models

Challenges experienced in transforming vaccination for pharmacists:

- Turning pilot programmes into nationally applied vaccination services
- Regulatory obstacles that hamper policy change at national level (example of Belgium)
- Receiving the support needed to drive forward changes at national level

Transforming Vaccination 2020 Outcomes: European Region



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Lessons learnt whilst transforming vaccination for pharmacists:

- Pilot projects are a great opportunity to showcase the added value of involving pharmacists in the provision of vaccination services
- Expanding vaccination services can improve uptake (example – increase in flu vaccine delivery)

Key vaccination-related legislative enablers and barriers emerging in the region:

- Legislative changes are very much dependent on national factors, however linking success stories from other countries to the national context can help with bringing about change.
- Patience and persistence are important since legislative change may take some time to be implemented.
- Changes in government could both be a barrier and an enabler.

Today's panelists



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Koen Straetmans

*President
Belgian Pharmaceutical
Association*



Monika Derecque-Pois

*Director General
The European Healthcare
Distribution Association (GIRP)*



Vibhu Paudyal

*Senior Lecturer in Clinical Pharmacy,
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Today's panelists



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Mary Ann Sant Fournier

President

Malta Chamber of Pharmacists



Piotr Merks

*President of Polish Trade Union of
Pharmacy Whorkers*

*General Secretary, Employed Pharmacis
Europe (EPheU)*

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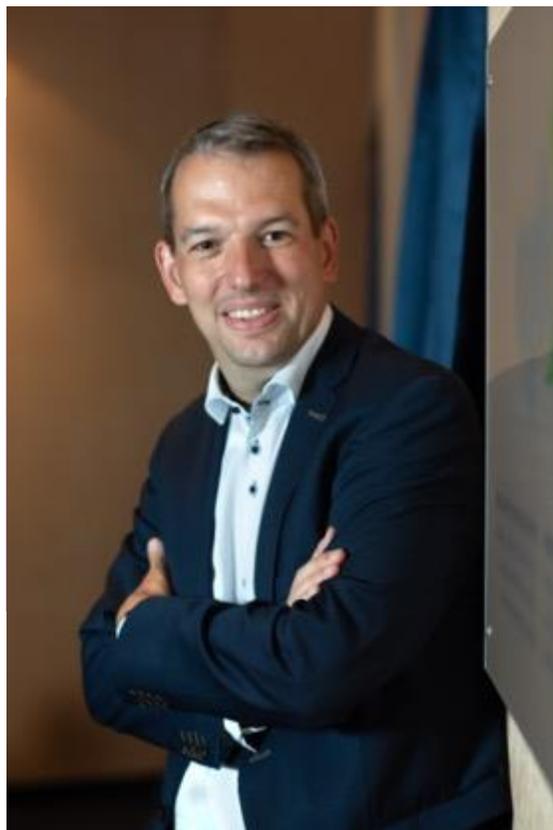




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Koen Straetmans

President APB

Belgian Pharmaceutical Association



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Past: Role of the pharmacist in vaccination < 2020

Situation < 2020

- Influenza, Pneumococcal disease
- Sensibilization
- Monitoring sensibilization

- Positive evolution of people reached by pharmacist
- A stabilising, even declining vaccination rate
 - *Influenza : +/- 46%*



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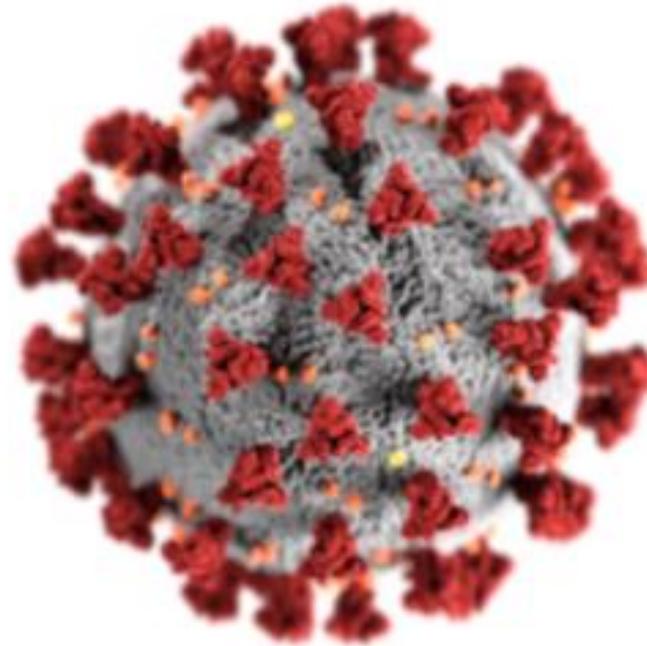
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Pharmacist's possible roles in Vaccination

An update & upgrade of these roles in Belgium

- Distribution
- Delivery
- Sensibilization
- Preparator
- Prescriber
- Vaccinator ?



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Example Case: Prescribing Pharmacist Belgium 2021

Building Trust, monitoring, shortening the patient journey, lobby, ...

MONITEUR BELGE — 23.07.2021 — Ed. 3 — BELGISCH STAATSBLAD

76165

SERVICE PUBLIC FEDERAL SECURITE SOCIALE ET SERVICE
PUBLIC FEDERAL SANTE PUBLIQUE, SECURITE DE LA CHAINE
ALIMENTAIRE ET ENVIRONNEMENT

[C – 2021/31996]

19 JUILLET 2021. — Loi portant des dispositions
diverses urgentes en matière de santé (1)

CHAPITRE 2. — *Modifications à la loi coordonnée
du 10 mai 2015 relative à l'exercice des professions des soins de santé*

Art. 5. Dans l'article 3 de la loi coordonnée du 10 mai 2015 relative à l'exercice des professions des soins de santé, inséré par l'arrêté royal du 27 juin 2016, l'alinéa 1^{er} est complété par le paragraphe 3 rédigé comme suit:

“§ 3. Par dérogation au paragraphe 1^{er}, les personnes qui peuvent exercer l'art pharmaceutique conformément à l'article 6, § 1^{er}, sont habilitées à prescrire les vaccins autorisés uniquement pour la prophylaxie de la grippe, avant sa délivrance. Le Roi peut déterminer les modalités et la procédure à suivre. Le Roi peut limiter cette prescription à certains types de vaccins autorisés pour la prophylaxie de la grippe. Le Roi peut subordonner cette prescription à un protocole de prescription à suivre.”.

FEDERALE OVERHEIDSDIENST SOCIALE ZEKERHEID
EN FEDERALE OVERHEIDSDIENST VOLKSGEZONDHEID, VEILIGHEID VAN DE VOEDSELKETEN EN LEEFMILIEU

[C – 2021/31996]

19 JULI 2021. — Wet houdende diverse
dringende bepalingen inzake gezondheid (1)

HOOFDSTUK 2. — *Wijzigingen aan de gecoördineerde wet
van 10 mei 2015 betreffende de uitoefening van de gezondheidszorgberoepen*

Art. 5. Artikel 3 van de gecoördineerde wet van 10 mei 2015 betreffende de uitoefening van de gezondheidszorgberoepen, ingevoegd bij koninklijk besluit van 27 juni 2016, wordt aangevuld met een paragraaf 3, luidende als volgt:

“§ 3. In afwijking van paragraaf 1 zijn de personen die de artseneijbereidkunde mogen uitoefenen overeenkomstig artikel 6, § 1, gemachtigd om, voorafgaandelijk aan de aflevering, vaccins enkel vergund voor de profylaxe van influenza voor te schrijven. De Koning kan de nadere regelen en de te volgen procedure bepalen. De Koning kan dit voorschrift beperken tot vooraf bepaalde types vaccins vergund voor de profylaxe van influenza. De Koning kan dit voorschrift onderwerpen aan een te volgen voorschrijfprotocol.”.



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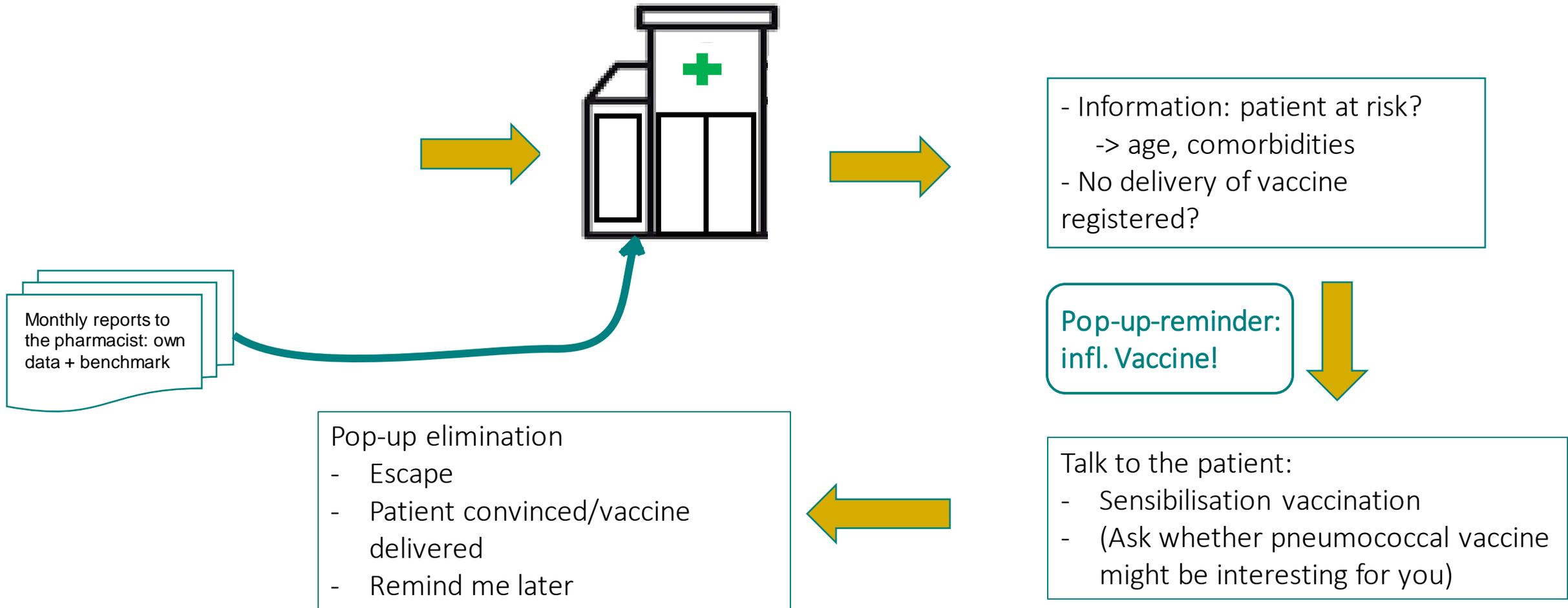


Example Case: Sensibilisation Vaccination Belgium 2021



Building Trust, based on strong and monitored sensibilization

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(...) : in case of influenza

Example Case: Sensibilisation Vaccination Belgium 2021

Influenza pop-up in the software



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- Pop-up informatif
 - Le propre jugement du pharmacien reste primordial
 - En cas de doute: prenez contact avec le médecin (généraliste) du patient
- Alerte “grippe” actif à partir du 15/10 – tous les softs
- Limitez l’encombrement de l’écran et “éteignez” les pop-ups !

Risico Factoren

Griep Vaccinatie 2021

Patiëntinformatie

Voornaam	Achternaam	INSZ nummer patiënt	Leeftijd

Griep

Tijd gesprek: MM/DD/YYYY HH:MM

Wenst de patiënt een vaccin? *

Aflevering vaccin
 Later
 Alert niet meer tonen

Risico Factoren

55+
Hart - Laatste 6 maanden: 8 dozen - 957.3340 dpp - 11.396833 dpp per dag
Toon

Diabetes - Laatste 6 maanden: 8 dozen - 309.0000 dpp - 3.571428 dpp per dag
Toon

Bloed - Laatste 6 maanden: 7 dozen - 225.0000 dpp - 2.680722 dpp per dag
Toon

Nier - Laatste 6 maanden: 7 dozen - 222.5000 dpp - 2.680722 dpp per dag
Toon

Verzend

Influence of covid-19



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Strengths:

- 3500 pharmacists trained as vaccinators
- More than 500 pharmacists engaged in vaccination centres as pharmaceutical expert

Weaknesses:

- Legal situation of the pharmacist-vaccinator

Opportunities:

- Complexity vaccines: need to take the lead in vaccine preparation (mass vaccination)
- Shortage of vaccinators (mass vaccination)
- Legal situation of the pharmacist-vaccinator
- Opportunity to learn to work together

Threats:

- If we want too much at once, we might lose more than we gain

Drivers – Policy “Game changers” – What can you do ?



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Pharmacist as a vaccinator ?

- Strengths: Proximity, accessibility, frequency of contacts, ...
- « Power of the numbers » : for Belgium:
 - 500.000 Patients in Community pharmacy every day
 - 4700 pharmacies, 12.000 pharmacists, 6.000 ph. Assistants
 - > 85% Fidelity
- Be prepared :
 - Formation : 1st Sem 2021 : Professional formation > 3500 pharmacists
 - Legal & Scientific
- Study, Opinion, Institutional, Research Data:
 - Académie Royale de la Médecin en Belgique (2019) : +++
 - International Study : Prof. F. Megerlin
- International comparison, data, FIP, PGEU, ...
- Population survey (cf. France) : Belgium 09-2021:
« 25% potential for influenza »
- Information to political and governmental level - lobby
- Constructive Propositions for existing problems



	Personen ≥ 65 jaar	Chronische aandoening	Zwangere vrouwen	Medewerkers gezondheidszorg
België (2018-19)	53%	46,2%	47,2%	64,8%
Canada (2018-19)	69,9%	42,8%		50%
Denemarken (2016-17)	52%	47%		
Duitsland (2016-17)	34,8%			
Estonia (2015-16)	4,8%			26%
Finland (2016-17)	48,4%		25%	
Frankrijk (2018-19)	51%	29,1%		
Groot-Brittannië (2017-18)	72,6%	48,6%	44,9%	63,2%

ACADÉMIE ROYALE
DE MÉDECINE
DE BELGIQUE

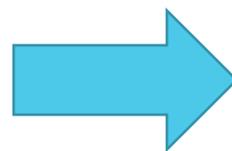


Avis commun relatif à l'élargissement de l'autorisation de vacciner et à la vaccination contre la grippe par les pharmaciens[†]



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Future:

The best way to predict the future is to create it (Peter F. Drucker)

Unresolved problems, despite much effort

- Annual vaccination campaigns without an increase in vaccination coverage
- Too few and overburdened GPs
- Part of the population not reached by general practitioners and nurses, eg in large cities

The need is clearly mapped

- Evidence becoming more and more known by politicians, governments, health insurers, physicians-academic experts, ...
- The population more familiar with the idea
- The unmet need in large cities of reaching 80% vaccination for covid-19

Enablers

- Search for 'crowbars'
- The profession is educated and ready
- Pharmacists' succes in sensibilisation: 4,8 mio registered covid-vaccination talks in pharmacy
- Pharmacists will encourage patients to choose a GP
- A fully prepared legislative proposal
- A financial proposal that cannot be refused

Ensures that this new service becomes necessary as a solution for the primary care

Conclusion: the most important...



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The most important

- in the attitude of the pharmacists is to offer solutions for existing or newly emerging problems on a constructive basis

But the conditions are

- believe !
- that a real but unsolved need is identified
- that every level (political, government, other care providers, and last but not least the population) is familiar with the added value of the new service
- be prepared !



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Monika Derecque-Pois

Director General

GIRP, the European Healthcare Distribution Association



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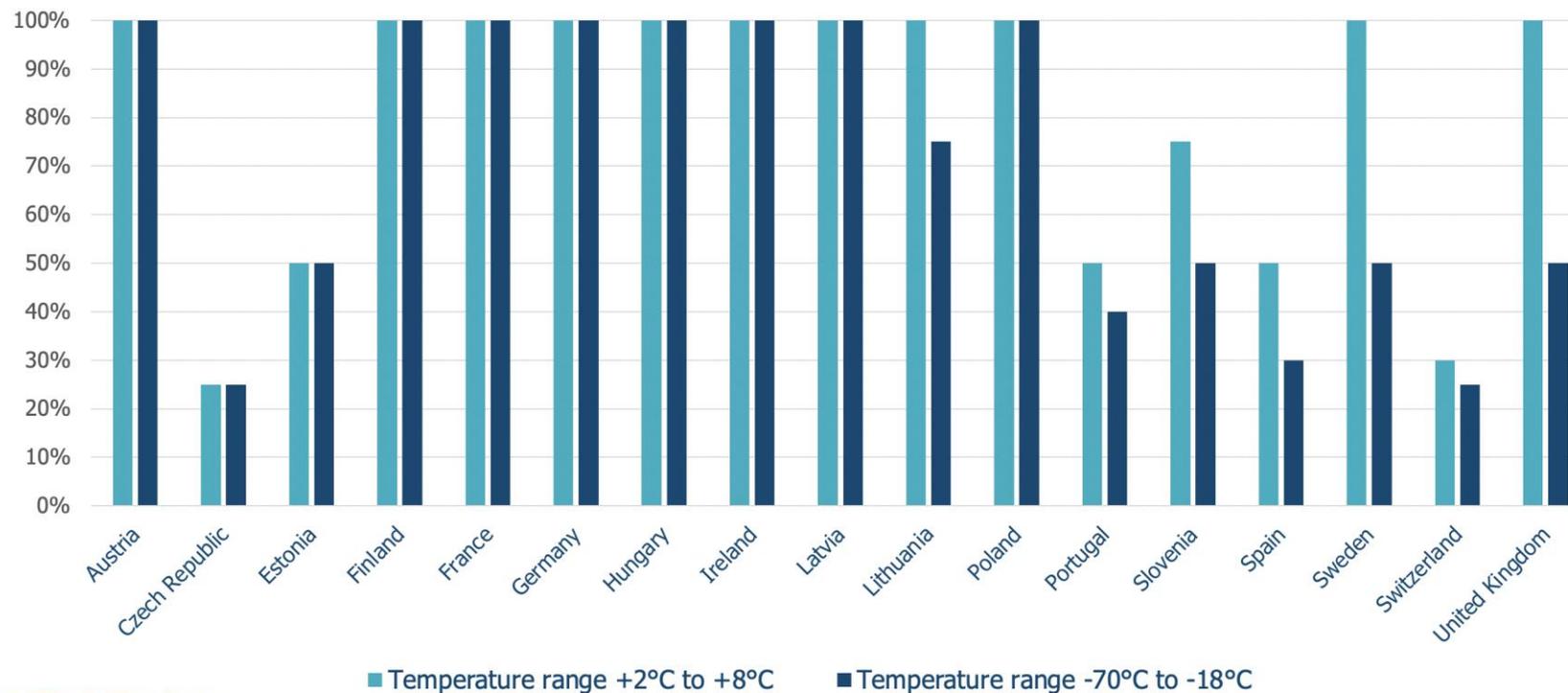
Overview role of full-service healthcare distributors in the COVID-19 vaccines distribution



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the vital link in healthcare



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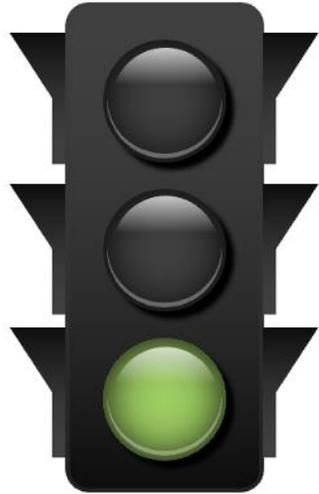
← The role of full-service healthcare distributors in the COVID-19 vaccines distribution



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Countries dispensing COVID-19 vaccines via pharmacies (to other healthcare professionals for inoculation)



Countries in which pharmacies/pharmacists inoculate COVID-19 vaccines

Austria, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Switzerland, United Kingdom

(Belgium), Estonia, Ireland, France, Italy, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom

COVID-19 vaccine distribution by Austrian full-service healthcare distributors



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Order management and allocation done by the MoH - 100% focus on strong cooperation with full-service healthcare distributors



Full-service healthcare distributors act as "distribution hubs" for ALL COVID-19 vaccines



100% responsible for storage distribution and logistic



Enables easy access to COVID-19 vaccines for all administration points



VERBAND DER ÖSTERREICHISCHEN ARZNEIMITTELVOLLGROSSHÄNDLER



250 hospitals



900 care homes



> 150 vaccination centers



1391 pharmacies



5.000 doctors



555 schools



and many more ...

Delivery to > 1.000 vaccination centres within 2 hours



the vital link in healthcare

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Full-service distributors' salient role in COVID-19 vaccines distribution



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Dual Distribution: COVID-19 vaccines & flu shots

Overview of COVID-19 and influenza vaccines dispensation/administration sites

	AT		BE		BG		CZ		DE		DK		EE		ES		FI		FR		HU		IE		IS		IT		LV		LT		LU		NL		NO		PL		PT		RO		SI		CH		UK	
	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F	C	F
Distributed by wholesalers	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Vaccination centres	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	/	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	/	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗			
Hospitals	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	/	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	/	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
GP (doctors)	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	/	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	/	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Other*	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	/	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	/	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓			
Pharmacies	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	/	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	/	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Inoculation in pharmacies	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓			



Dual Distribution: COVID-19 vaccines & flu shots



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Challenges of a dual distribution: ensuring a safe and efficient distribution of the COVID-19 vaccines & booster shots on the margins of the 2021 influenza season:

- Cold room storage capacity
- Time span between flu vaccines & booster shots
- Transparency

Full-service healthcare distributors have the capacity and resources to implement a dual storage and distribution system, however this requires information for efficient planning and organization.



Left:
New ultra-low-temperature-freezers (-75° C/Pfizer-BioNTech)
Above:
New freezers (-20° C/Moderna)

3

Securing and Increasing Access to Vaccination and Help Achieve Equity – GIRP/Vaccines Europe Joint Statement



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Multi-stakeholder approaches will contribute to achieve this, including:

Maximisation of pharmacies as a key resource for accessible and convenient administration of both COVID and flu vaccines.

Collaboration with key stakeholders including full-service healthcare distributors and pharmacies to secure uptake and confidence in vaccinations.

Clear communication and guidance to HCPs on the management of the influenza vaccination alongside the COVID-19 one.

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Thank you!



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Pharmacists' involvement in COVID-19 vaccination across Europe: Current practice, policies and learning

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Introduction



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- Several COVID-19 vaccines have been authorised for use across Europe through the European Medicines Agency and national regulatory authorities
- There is a pressing need to vaccinate the population in a short timeframe
- This has prompted coordination of existing services at enormous scale, and development and implementation of novel vaccination strategies

Pharmacists' involvement in COVID-19 pandemic mitigation

Previous study demonstrated pharmacists' diverse contributions during the initial phase of the COVID-19 pandemic such as:

- involvement in clinical care of COVID-19 patients
- facilitation of clinical trials
- information sourcing and appraisal for promoting evidence-based practice
- educating members of public and provision of routine clinical services
- Readiness to be involved in the vaccination process once vaccines were developed and approved



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Research in Social and Administrative Pharmacy xxx (xxxx) xxx



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journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/rsap



Provision of clinical pharmacy services during the COVID-19 pandemic:
Experiences of pharmacists from 16 European countries

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Pharmacists' participation in vaccination programmes



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- A previous systematic review has shown that pharmacist-led vaccination programmes are widely accepted by patients and help improve the access and rate of vaccination.
- Political and organisational barriers however, often prevent pharmacists' participation in the vaccination programmes

Burson et al. 2016. Hum Vaccin Immunother. 2016;12(12):3146-3159

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Policies and practices across Europe



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- We undertook a situational analysis of current practices and policies in regards to pharmacists' involvement in COVID-19 vaccination
- Legal framework, service specifications and grey reports were consulted where needed
- Countries covered: Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Ireland, Republic of Serbia, Switzerland, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom (UK)

Policies and practices across Europe



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- Switzerland, UK and Ireland allow direct administration of vaccines to patients
- In the vast majority of the countries, participation is limited to vaccine logistics, supply and preparation prior to administration; and patient education and counselling

Countries where pharmacists directly administer vaccines: E.g. United Kingdom

- Pharmacists have been in the forefront of the vaccination drive
- Primary Care Network (PCN) and community pharmacy sites are actively participating in COVID-19 vaccinations alongside hospitals and community vaccination centres (such as those located in football stadiums)
- Pharmacies can host a vaccination site under a contractual agreement directly with NHS England
- Pharmacies can also enter into a sub-contracting arrangement with the PCN and primary care general practice vaccination sites offering pharmacists, support staff or any other resources.
- Pharmacies are remunerated £12.58 per vaccination administered by NHS England



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Countries where roles are limited- e.g. Netherlands



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- Currently, Dutch pharmacists are legally not allowed to administer vaccines.
- It is a reserved act according to the Dutch law- Professions in Individual Health Care. Under this law, only the doctors, advanced nurses and physician assistants are considered independently 'competent' to administer vaccines by injection.
- Vaccines are administered in central hubs run by the municipal health service, in general practices and in care homes

Countries where roles are beginning to emerge: E.g. Italy



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- From April 2021, with the progression of the vaccination campaign, the Health Minister signed a protocol to allow community pharmacists qualified by a specific central training course to administer COVID-19 vaccines in their pharmacies helping general practitioners at local level.
- From June 2021, after completing the required training course, community pharmacists can be involved in the administration of vaccines.



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	Country												
	Belgu m	Cro atia	Czech Republ ic	Germa ny	Italy	Nethe rlands	Portu gal	Ireland	Serbi a	Switzerl and	Spai n	Turk ey	UK
COVID-19 vaccination: legal framework, management, pharmacy services													
Legal framework allows vaccinating by													
Physicians	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Nurses (under legal responsibility of a physician)	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x
Nurses independently							x	x					x
Pharmacists independently				(x) pilots	(x) pilots		x	x		X#			x



Vaccination provided where?	Belgium	Croatia	Czech Republic	Germany	Italy	Netherlands	Portugal	Ireland	Serbia	Switzerland	Spain	Turkey	UK
Large regional hospitals	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
Nursing home facilities, homes for seniors	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Primary health care centres, GP ambulances		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Large community centres such as football stadiums, fair trade centres etc. (***)	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x		x
Patients' own homes (home visits by GPs)	x		x	x (pilot)	x	x	x	x				x	x
Community pharmacies	x (pilot planned)				x			x		x			x

FEB 2021
 GOING ON
 FULLY



How can we improve access, equity and sustainability?



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- Greater involvement of community pharmacy and pharmacy staff
- Currently legislative and bureaucratic barriers are preventing pharmacists to administer vaccines
- There is no evidence that administering vaccines in community pharmacy premises pose increased safety risks or make vaccines ineffective
- Experience of pharmacist prescribing adds to the evidence

Research and practice needs

- Stakeholder consensus to allow policy changes
- Sharing of good practice and evidence
- Patient experiences of vaccination through community pharmacy premises
- Remuneration models, promoting suitability of pharmacy premises for vaccination



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Acknowledgements

- European Society of Clinical Pharmacy
<https://www.escpweb.org/>
- Experts and co-authors
- International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy



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International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11096-021-01301-7>

COMMENTARY



**Pharmacists' involvement in COVID-19 vaccination across Europe:
a situational analysis of current practice and policy**

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Cathal Cadogan⁴ · Filipa Alves da Costa⁹ · Elena Galfrascoli¹⁰ · Yvonne Marina Pudritz¹¹ · Silas Rydant¹² ·
Jaime Acosta-Gómez¹³

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Abstract

One year since the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, rapid response measures have been implemented internationally to mitigate the spread of the virus. Following rapid and successful pre-clinical and human trials, several vaccines have been authorised for use across Europe through the European Medicines Agency and national regulatory authorities. Clinical trials have shown promising results including important reductions in disease severity, hospitalisation and mortality. In order to maximise the public health benefit of available vaccines, there is a pressing need to vaccinate a large proportion of the population. Internationally, this has prompted coordination of existing services at enormous scale, and development and implementation of novel vaccination strategies to ensure maximum inoculation over the shortest possible timeframe. Pharmacists are being promoted as healthcare professionals that enhance roll-out of COVID-19 vaccination programmes. This paper aims to summarise current policy and practice in relation to pharmacists' involvement in COVID-19 vaccination in 13 countries across Europe.

Related COVID-19 work

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Mary Ann Sant Fournier

President

Malta Chamber of Pharmacists



**MALTA
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PHARMACISTS**

Kamra tal-Ispiżjara ta' Malta

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Pharmacist led Life course Vaccination: Malta – *onwards and upwards*



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The present FIP digital event addresses Transforming Vaccination globally, regionally, nationally: *Accelerating equity, access and sustainability through policy development and implementation*



At the FIP regional event (1/12/2020) we addressed the needs and drivers for vaccination transformation in Europe.



Today's participation is focuses on *Sustainable And Equitable Access To Vaccines: Establishing Priorities And Setting Policies In The European Region*

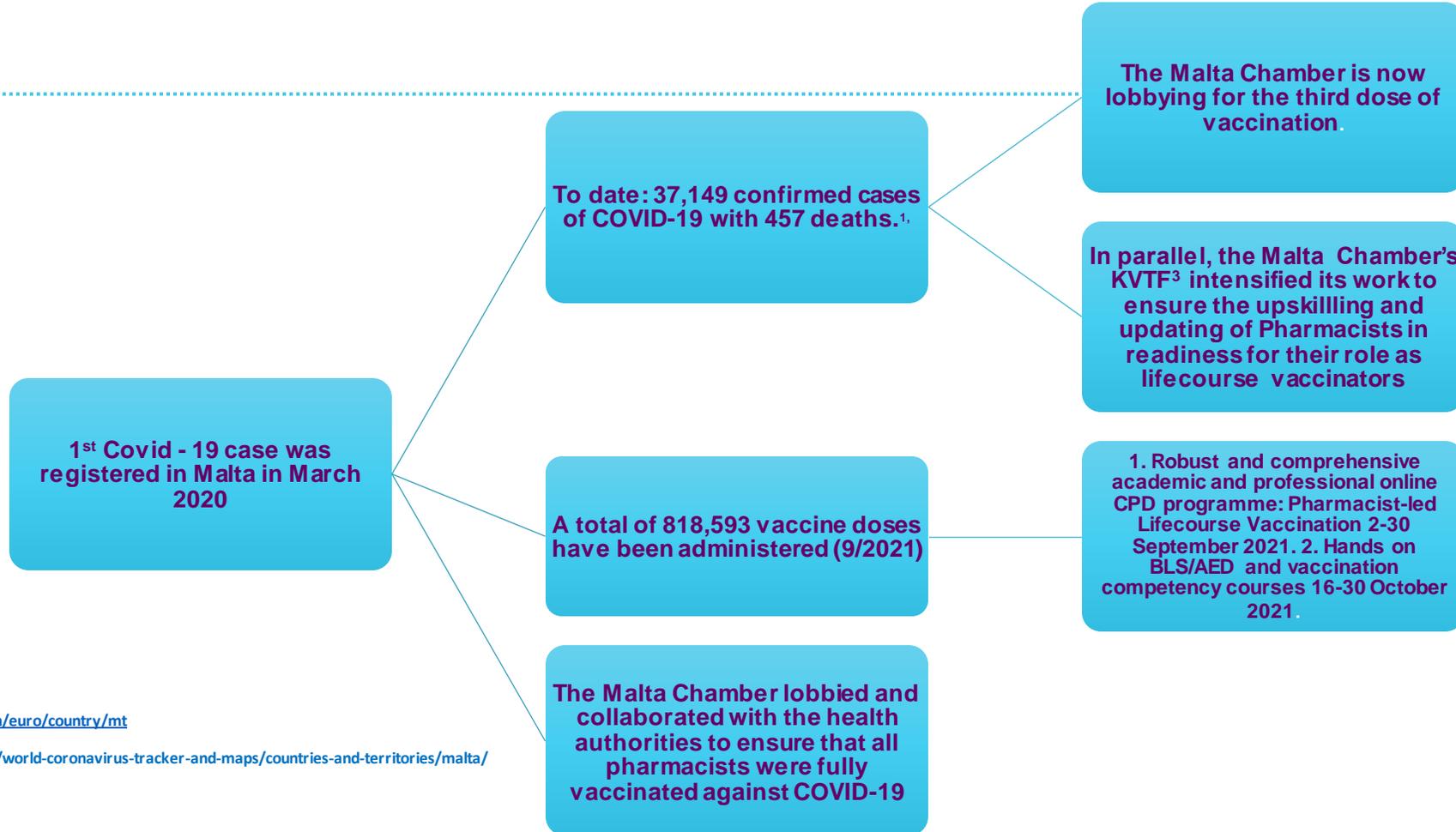
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¹ <https://covid19.who.int/region/euro/country/mt>

² <https://graphics.reuters.com/world-coronavirus-tracker-and-maps/countries-and-territories/malta/>

³ Kamra Vaccination Task Force

Pharmacist Led Life course Vaccination: Malta – Onwards and Upwards



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Process in parallel to Covid-19 vaccination of Pharmacists as front liners

Previously, the Chamber had focused on the evolving role of pharmacists in immunisation in the community.

The KVTF was building on the research and groundwork of the past 3 yrs. and researched, monitored, discussed, participated in national and international conferences and workshops on the subject.

Nationally, 2013-2018, the Chamber had held workshops, seminars, updates on Vaccinology, Vaccination policy, promoting and supporting pharmacists roles;

- worked closely with the Advisory Committee on Immunization Policy (ACIP) chair, who was also one of the eminent members of our September 2021 CPD programme's faculty;

- and with medical and pharmaceutical colleagues, in clinical practice and from the Pharmaceutical industry;

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Pharmacist Led Life course Vaccination: Malta – *Onwards and Upwards*

Online CPD programme - 2-30 September 2021: Content and Competencies





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Accredited Online and hands on Basic Life support and Automatic External Defibrillator Course and Vaccination competency course 16-30 October 2021

- 93 registrants to date.
- Accredited and certified by the European Resuscitation Council
- Vaccine Competency delivered by the Association of Emergency Medicine Doctors.
- Chamber's initiative received support and interest by medical colleagues at different levels.
(drivers)

“Laudable initiative” MMA CEO

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Pharmacist Led Life course Vaccination: Malta – *Onwards and Upwards*

Pharmacists Vaccinators in the National Scheme of Things

Precedence: historically, pharmacists in Malta have administered various medicines by injection ;

- The Malta Chamber is implementing a professional, structured programme to update and upskill pharmacists in a framework that assures safety to patients acceding to community pharmacy vaccination services: certified and accredited professional and academic and hands – on courses.
- advocating 2 scenarios; an NHS model; a private practice model (remunerated) ; adults and elderly;
- a protocol “regulated” service;

Pharmacists are thus in a position to give a holistic pharmaceutical care service by *full* communicable disease management; sourcing, dispensing, factual advice and correct information, dispelling vaccine hesitancy, enabling increased access and uptake of vaccines in the community.

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Needs and Drivers

Needs

- initiating vaccination by pharmacists to prevent communicable diseases;
- increase uptake of vaccines e.g. flu; pcv13, shingles, covid-19 third dose;
- access “out of hours” (of health centres, clinics and hubs)¹;
- pharmacovigilance by pharmacists (most robust during the Covid-19 pandemic)²;
- pharmacist management of vaccine adverse events e.g., anaphylaxis;
- remunerated pharmacist service model in community pharmacy.

Drivers:

- champions in the medical field and policy making level found;
- evolvement of pharmacists’ roles as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic;
- innovative and creative pharmacy;
- high competency level.

¹Souza Pinto (2021)

Serracino Inglott (2021)

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Pharmacist Led Life course Vaccination: Malta



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*Onwards and Upwards
Thank you !*



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Kamra tal-Ispizjara ta' Malta

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Dr Piotr Merks

*President of Polish Trade Union of Pharmacy Workers
General Secretary, Employed Pharmacists Europe (EPHEU)*



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The vaccination situation in Poland

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Influenza vaccination rates in Poland

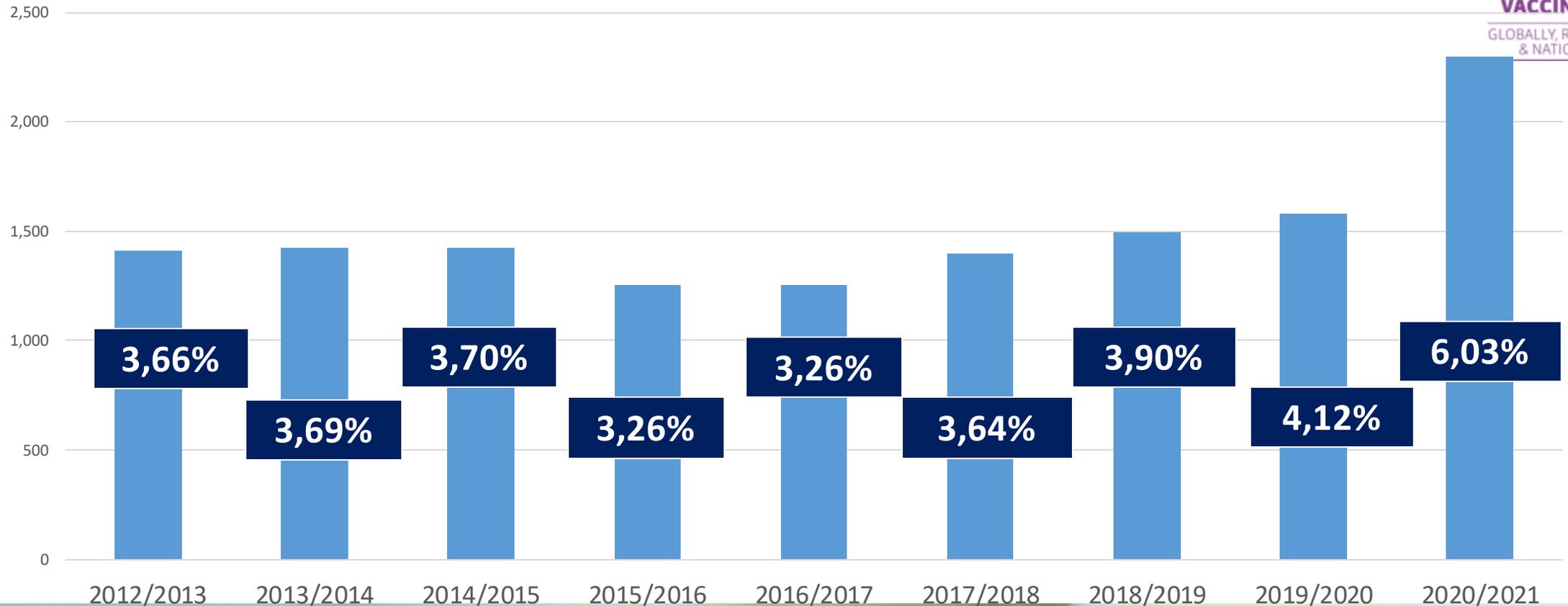
2012-2021



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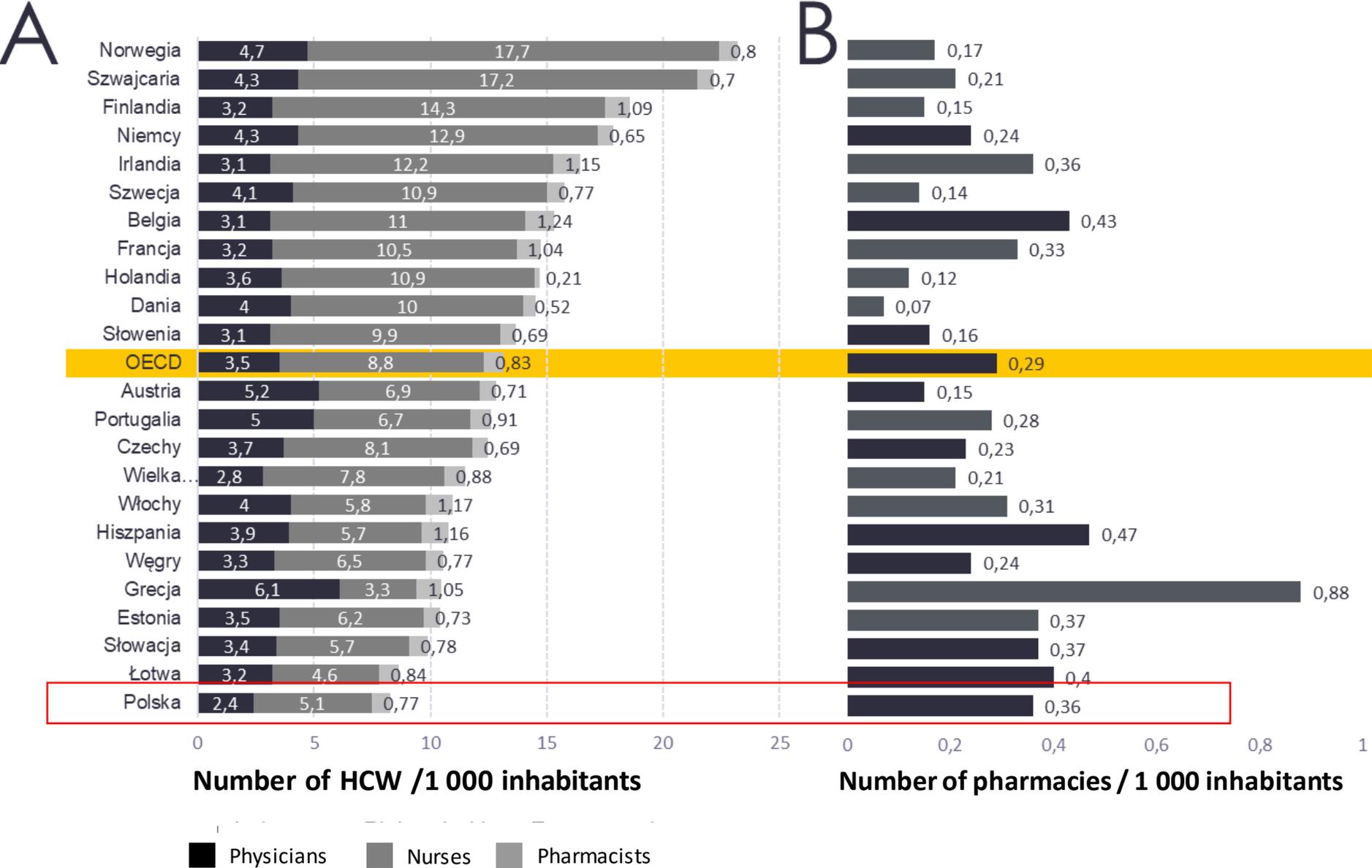
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Number of HCW and pharmacies. Poland vs. other EU Countries



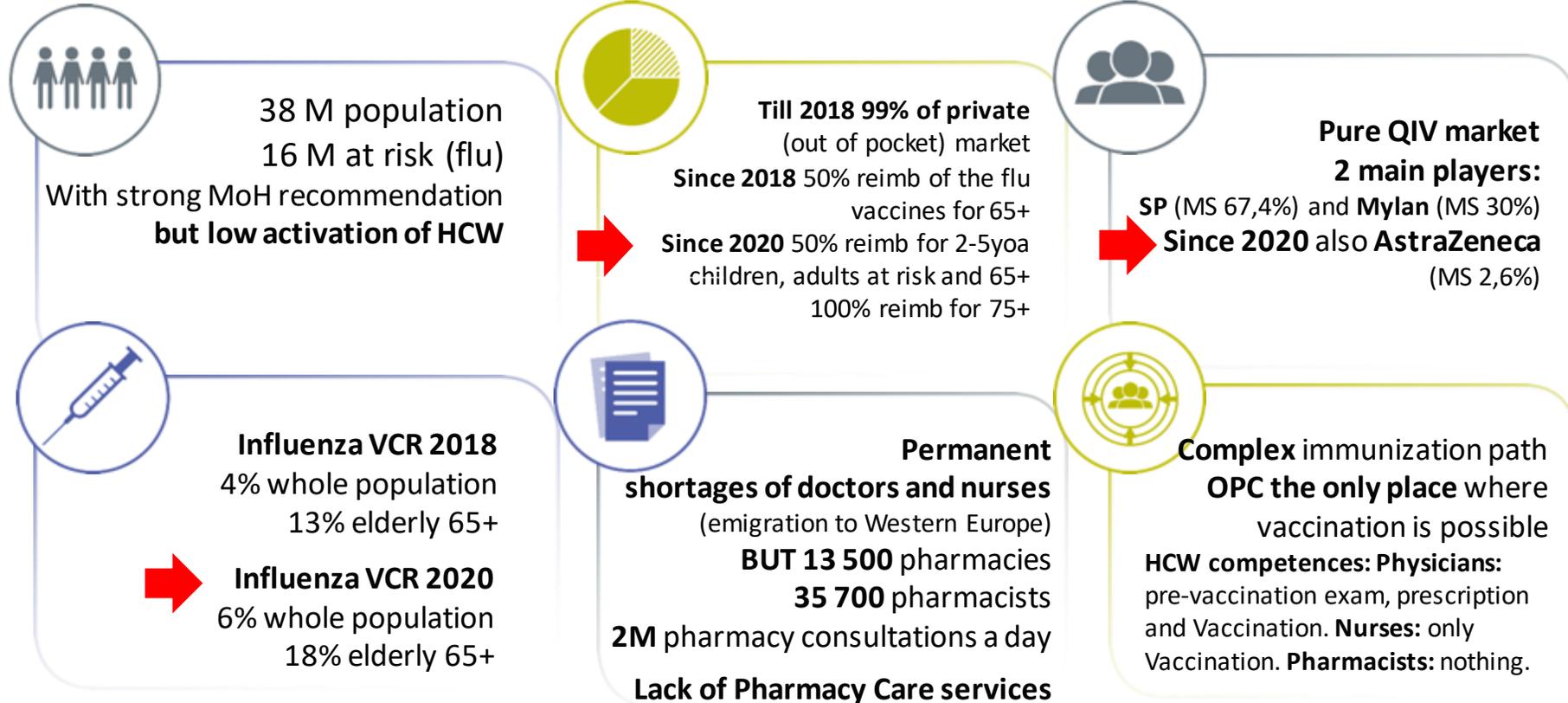
Polish market & influenza environment



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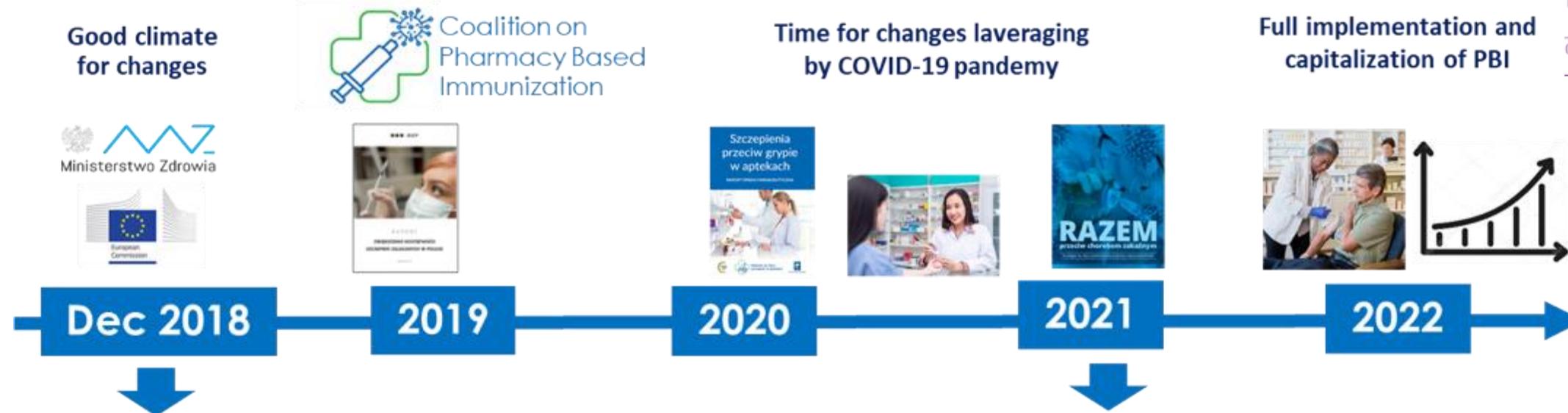
PBI in Poland - from idea to the implementation



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- **State Drug Policy in 2018-2022** (PBI as a part of PC)
- **Act of the Profession of Pharmacist** (Pharmacy Care and new competences for a pharmacist)
- **First pharmacy reimbursement** of flu vaccine
- **Pressure from European Commission** and EU Parliament

- **Pharmacists are entitled to vaccinate against COVID-19 in the full range of this medical service, among people without contraindications.**
- **Vaccinations against COVID-19 can be carried out in pharmacies**

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Pharmacy Based Immunization



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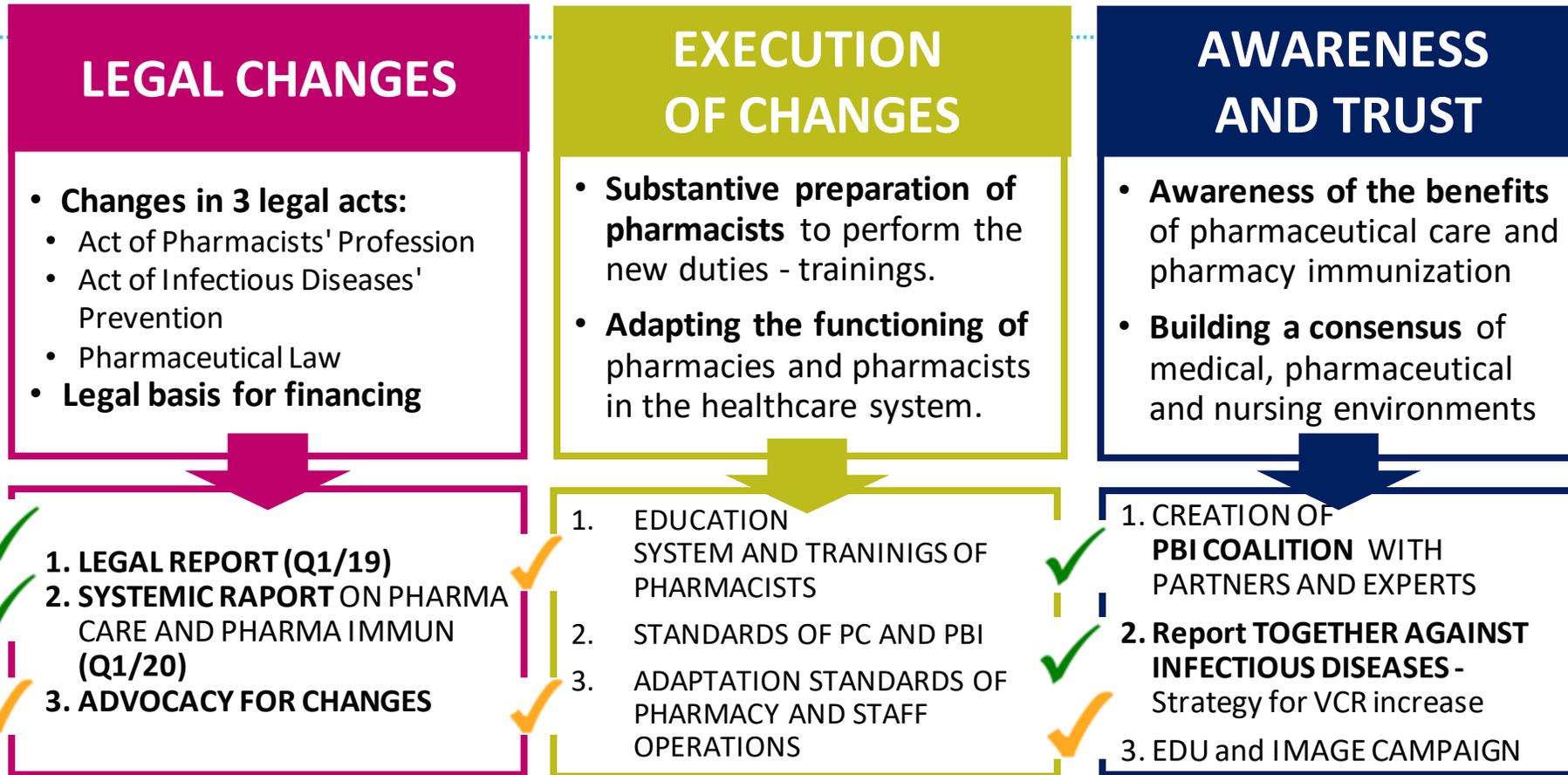
GOAL	Increasing Flu VCR by introduction vaccination into pharmacies	
DRIVERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polish Drug Policy 2018-2022 • EU recommendations • Proceeded Act on Profession of Pharmacist • European benchmarks • Epidemiological situation (COVID-19) 	BARIERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many legal constrains • Lack experience in pharmaceutical care (PC) and Pharmacy Immunization (PI) in Poland • Resistance from doctors and nurses • No financial incentives for pharmacists
COALITION	 Coalition on Pharmacy Based Immunization  NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR INFLUENZA PREVENTION  Naczelna Izba Aptekarska  Związek Zawodowy Pracowników Farmacji	
CHALLENGES	<p>LEGAL CHANGES</p> <p>EXECUTION OF CHANGES</p> <p>AWARNNESS AND TRUST</p>	



Pharmacy Based Immunization



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✓ Done
 ✓ On-going



PBI in Poland – legislative milestones



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No	Milestone	Expected time
1	Entry into force of Act of the Pharmacist Profession with Pharmaceutical Care	Q4 2020
2	Amendments to the Act on Infectious Diseases Prevention - vaccination entitlements for pharmacists (pre-vacc exam + Vaccination COVID-19)	Q1 2021
3	Announcement of Pharmaceutical Care Pilot	Q2 2021
4	Amendment to the Pharmacy Law establishing vaccination in pharmacies	Q2 2021
5	Implementation of COVID-19 vaccination as influenza PBI pilot	Q3/Q4 2021
6	Amendments to the Act on Infectious Diseases Prevention – influenza vaccination entitlements for pharmacists	Q4 2021
7	Official Pharmacy Vaccination Service Quote (HTA, NHF)	Q4 2021- Q1 2022
8	Change of Pharmaceutical Law – prescribing of vaccines by pharmacists	2022-2023
9	Change of Pharmaceutical Law - lifting the ban on advertising in pharmacies	2022-2023



Pharmacists engagement into COVID-19 vaccination



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- ✓ PHARMACIST CAN BE THE PART of vaccination team or CAN VACCINATE ALONE
- ✓ PRE-VACCINATION EXAMINATION based on questionnaire (only simple cases without any doubts, others sent to physicians)
- ✓ VACCINATION after the dedicated two step training
- ✓ VACCINATION can be made in Pharmacy
- ✓ Fee for COVID-19 vaccination: 13 Euro
- ✓ VACCINES are delivered and financed by MoH

← Online training is needed

← Two steps training on COVID-19 vaccination

← Certain conditions should be provided

COVID-19 vaccination in pharmacies

since 1st July 2021

- **Pharmacist** can be the part of vaccination team or **can vaccinate alone in pharmacy**
- Pharmacists are entitled to do **pre-vaccination examination and vaccination**
- **Results:**
 - **829** submitted **425** engaged pharmacies
 - **9 000** trained pharmacists
 - **70 000** completed vaccinations against COVID-19



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Patients' satisfaction

Survey completed among patients vaccinated in pharmacies

- **94,6%** finds vaccination done in a pharmacy by a pharmacist convenient
- **93,5%** believes that the pharmacist has the skills to administer the vaccine
- **90,8%** declares that the next possible vaccination will also be performed at the pharmacy
- **88,1%** would like the pharmacy to provide other immunizations

N=1147 (WIP)



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PGF research report results

Winter 2020-2021



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85%

Agrees with the statement that pharmacies are more accessible to patients than pharmacies

62%

He believes that a vaccination at a pharmacy would be far quicker than done in a doctor's office, which most believe could be reflected in improving people's immunity to the flu

63%

He believes that a vaccination at a pharmacy would be far quicker than done in a doctor's office, which most believe could be reflected in improving people's immunity to the flu



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Thank you!

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Any Questions?



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SERIES 2 EPISODE 4

“Sustainability in vaccinations regionally and nationally”



Sustainable and equitable access to vaccines:
Establishing priorities and setting policies in the
South East Asian region



26 OCT 2021 | 10:00-11:30 CEST



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