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PRESS RELEASE

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European Joint Action on Vaccination (EU-JAV)

Final Conference - March 9th 2022, Paris, France

The European Joint Action on Vaccination (EU-JAV) was launched in 2018 **to provide governments and stakeholders the means to successfully fight together vaccine-preventable diseases.** The EU-JAV Conference brings together key speakers to present the works conducted since 2018 in the field of vaccination, particularly regarding international collaboration at a European level.

With the participation of the European Commission, the DG Santé (DG for Health and Food Safety), the public health institutions and authorities of the 20 countries of the consortium, and non-governmental organizations, **the EU-JAV final conference will be the opportunity to deliver recommendations and concrete tools for stronger responses to vaccination challenges,** to promote long-lasting European cooperation against vaccine-preventable diseases, and therefore improve population health.

What is the EU-JAV

The European Union Joint Action on Vaccination (EU-JAV) **is a consortium funded by the European Commission and dedicated to working on key domains of vaccination.** Launched in August 2018, the EU-JAV will end March 31st 2022; during the 9th March conference, the scientists who conducted various surveys and reviews and who elaborated tools will present the main results and conclusions reached during these 3 years and half.

The EU-JAV closing conference is organized under the auspices of the French Presidency of the Council of European Union. It will take place **as a hybrid event in Paris at the Amphitheatre of the French Ministry of Solidarity and Health.**

The different areas in which the EU-JAV has worked

- the international monitoring of vaccine coverage;
- the monitoring of public vaccine hesitancy and the best practices to address it;
- the past experiences of vaccine shortages and their prevention at a European level;
- the identification of priorities in vaccine research;
- the potential cooperation among research funders;
- the education of students and healthcare workers;
- the communication toward Youth.



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Works of EU-JAV, conducted since 2018, that will be presented at the Conference

1. To monitor and address the pre-service and in-service needs of healthcare students and professionals, two tools were elaborated and tested:
 - a. a “**vaccine barometer**”, which allows measuring the skills and the needs of participants regarding vaccination knowledge and practice;
 - b. and a complete **curriculum on vaccination**, which addresses all the different relevant topics in the field. Each country and each healthcare student/professional association can make its own these tools and improve the impact of these crucial agents on vaccine uptake.
2. Two **communication actions toward Youth** were implemented; they consisted of two competitions for the elaboration of posters promoting HBV and HPV vaccination. These actions were successful, and were opportunities to determine how such actions should be designed and launched in the future.
3. A **platform to monitor and compare at national and subnational levels the vaccine coverage** was built upon a specific extension of the software R; with the example of measles-containing vaccines, it allows to identify immunisation gaps in spite of the complexity resulting, e.g., from the difference of national vaccine schedules.
4. A **study of the existing reminder systems** (such systems are designed to ensure that no vaccine dose) is missed along life was performed in 17 countries; it has highlighted the heterogeneity of the European countries on this point, in terms of differences regarding both the nature and the extension of these systems.
5. A survey of the prerequisites, the operational implementation, and the perceived barriers and enablers for **conducting cross-borders vaccination campaigns** was performed through questionnaires and workshops with 28 European countries; it paves the way to implement such international actions focused on a cross-border area.
6. A **study of past vaccine shortages experiences** was conducted; it allows identifying the vaccines involved and the causes (often multiple) of such shortages, and to emit recommendations to prevent these episodes.
7. A **study of financing mechanisms** and of the **feasibility of joint vaccine procurement** (gathering EU member states) instead of national procurement was conducted, and led to a better understanding of how the ecosystem of vaccine procurement may evolve in the near future. In addition, a survey on the **stockpiling of vaccines** and the **exchanges of vaccine stockpiles between EU member states** has been conducted.
8. A method to consensually **identify research priorities in vaccination** has been elaborated, and was applied in 2020 and 2021 to set annual lists of the most relevant research topics that should receive attention and funding in the near future.



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9. A survey regarding the mechanisms that may lead entities that provide research funds to collaborate and adopt **joint funding** to increase the efficiency of the research has been conducted.
10. A **platform** to gather as much as possible **documents accounting for past experiences of EU member states in their efforts to address vaccine hesitancy** has been launched; the many features on this platform allow to identify the best practices and the most efficient action in this field.
11. A platform that displays the **monitoring of the vaccine confidence as expressed in the social media** and the **content of the online conversation regarding vaccine and vaccination** has been elaborated.

For more information:

- We would like to inform all the Media representatives that EU-JAV does not plan to organize a Press Conference about the topic. All journalists are kindly invited to participate in the Closing Conference, where they will have the opportunity to be in contact with the EU-JAV scientists.
- All the information material of the Press Kit and a video invitation by Project Coordinator Pr. Olivier Epaulard are available at the workspace of the event.
- The Final Conference can be attended online via the following link. Prior registration is needed via the dedicated platform:

<https://www.javteam.eu/>

- All Media representatives have the opportunity to submit their questions online. The scientists will answer the inquiries at the earliest possible stage but in any case by not later than five (5) working days. After your registration, on the event date, you can submit your questions at the workspace of the event.
- Website: www.eu-jav.com, Facebook: www.facebook.com/eujav

Press Contacts:

- **Prof. Olivier Epaulard**, EU-JAV Coordinator oe paulard@chu-grenoble.fr +33 (0) 476765291
- **Stelios Lefkovits**, Head of Press Office and Communication Department, National Public Health Organization (EODY-NPHO) s.lefkovits@eody.gov.gr, +30 210 5212096
- **Laure Vidal**, EU_JAV Project Manager laure.vidal@u-bordeaux.fr +33 (0) 557571214
- If you want to arrange an interview with EU-JAV coordinator or scientists, please contact **Maria Dimitropoulou**, Press Coordinator, Sympraxis Team, md@sympraxis.eu +30 210 2113333 or **Eleni Papantoniou**, Administrative Employee, Press Office and Communication Department, National Public Health Organization (EODY-NPHO) e.papantoniou@eody.gov.gr, +30 210 5212363



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