

EASA response to the COVID-19 crisis

Getting safely back to business

Latest Developments from the EU

ACCRPG/7 – 26th September, 2020

javier.vicedo@easa.europa.eu

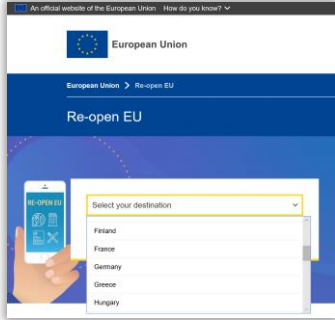
EASA Representative



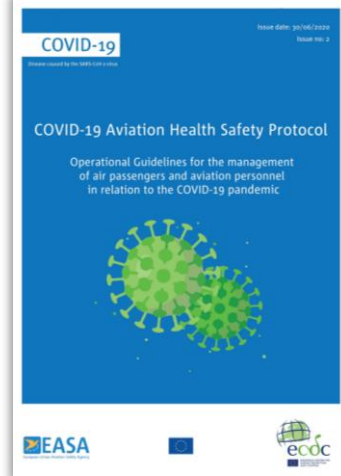
"It is the long history of humankind (and animal kind too) that those who learned to collaborate and improvise most effectively have prevailed" - Charles Darwin

Getting Safely Back to Business: EU Approach

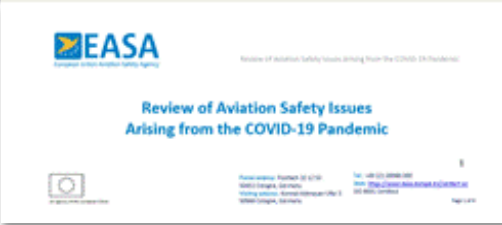
Reduction of Travel Restrictions



Implementation of Health Measures



Safe Resumption of Industry



Engagement of Stakeholders



Enhancing Preparedness for CV-19 outbreaks



Brussels, 15.7.20
COM(2020) 318

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

Short-term EU health preparedness for COVID-19

Testing, contact tracing and public health surveillance

Action area: Testing, contact tracing and public health surveillance

	Timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Run scenario-based national stress tests for contact tracing systems, testing capacities and testing deployment (Member States) <i>As localised outbreaks are being identified and are likely going forward, these stress tests should be performed at local levels, based on specific scenarios, such as superspreader events, outbreaks in targeted sectors such as slaughterhouses, educational settings and residential homes that could later be expanded to other areas of activity. Lessons learned and best practices to be shared post exercise.</i> 	July to September
Testing	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure availability of necessary testing capacity through demand 	Ongoing

Non-pharmaceutical countermeasures

Action area: Non-pharmaceutical measures

	Timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timely exchange of Member States information on effectiveness of measures and any re-introductions to respond to secondary outbreaks <i>A data entry website and database will be hosted by JRC and will be populated by JRC and ECDC with contributions from the Member States and available for use in modelling, risk assessment, monitoring of the situation in Member States.</i> 	July to September
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU handbook on COVID-19 non-pharmaceutical interventions (ECDC and JRC) <i>Compiling best practices and scientific guidance informed by</i> 	August

Medical countermeasures

Action area: supply of personal protective equipment, medicines and medical devices

	Timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preserve free movement of goods, and in particular of essential medical supplies within the EU (Member States & European Commission)¹³ 	Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of the EU vaccines strategy (ESI – European Commission & Member States) <i>The Commission will enter into agreements with individual vaccine producers on behalf of the Member States, with the right to buy vaccines ensured by Advance Purchase Agreements.</i> 	Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish overview on needs for medical supplies, national production capacities and stockpiles of essential equipment, map flexible production capacities/ conversion possibilities (Member States) 	July to September

Support to vulnerable groups

Action area: Support to vulnerable groups

	Timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and implement specific high density, low threshold testing strategies for vulnerable groups & settings (Member States and ECDC) 	July to August
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharing best practices in supporting COVID-19 prevention, testing and care in socially and marginalised groups and medically vulnerable groups (Member States) 	July to September

Healthcare surge capacity

Action area: healthcare surge capacity

	Timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finance and organise the transport of medical personnel and teams into the EU and between Member States and transfer of patients between Member States and to third countries (ESI – European Commission) 	Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidelines for optimisation of hospital space, including de-isolation and discharge of patients clinically healed but still COVID-19 positive (ECDC) 	July
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online European network of clinicians and development of training modules on COVID-19 for health professionals (including via a virtual academy) in partnership with European federations, such as the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (Member States, ECDC, European Commission) 	Ongoing

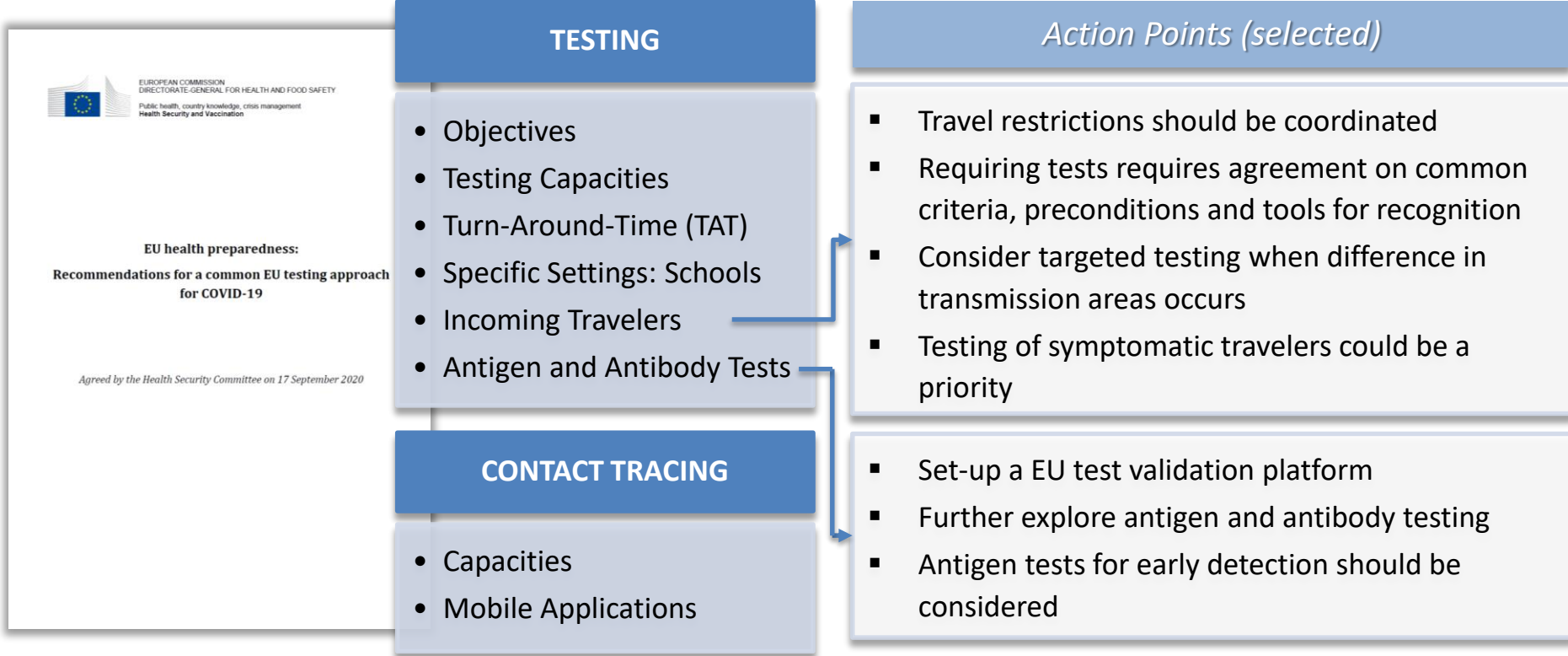
Reducing the burden of seasonal influenza

Action area: Mitigate seasonal influenza

	Timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase influenza vaccination coverage: anticipated start for vaccination campaigns and broadening of target groups (Member States) <i>Member States should consider the anticipation of vaccination campaigns and broadening of target groups.</i> 	July to September
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure additional national procurements for influenza vaccines (e.g. through excess supply production) (Member States) 	July to September
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scientific guidance for vaccination infrastructure for seasonal influenza in a COVID-19 outbreak setting (ECDC) 	July


[https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/communication - short-term eu health preparedness.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/communication_short-term_eu_health_preparedness.pdf)

Recommendations for Common CV-19 Testing



https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/preparedness_response/docs/common_testingapproach_covid-19_en.pdf

CV-19 Testing Strategies and Objectives



COVID-19 testing strategies and objectives

15 September 2020

Key messages

- Implementation of objective-driven and sustainable testing strategies for COVID-19 supports the overall public health response to the pandemic, and helps mitigate its impact on vulnerable populations and healthcare systems, while ensuring that societies and economies can continue to function.
- ECDC proposes five main objectives for testing in order to control transmission; reliably monitor SARS-CoV-2 transmission rates and severity; mitigate the impact of COVID-19 in healthcare and social care settings; detect clusters or outbreaks in specific settings; and maintain sustained control of COVID-19 once achieved.
- Testing strategies should be flexible and rapidly adaptable to change, depending on the local epidemiology, transmission, population dynamics and resources.
- Ideally, all people with COVID-19 symptoms should be tested as soon as possible after symptom onset. This requires easy access to testing for all, including non-residents. Test turnaround time should be minimised, people testing positive should isolate and timely contact tracing should be carried out, ensuring that all close contacts are tested, irrespective of symptoms.
- All patients with acute respiratory symptoms in hospitals and other healthcare settings, and all specimens from sentinel primary care surveillance should be tested for both SARS-CoV-2 and influenza during the influenza season to monitor incidence and trends over time.
- Healthcare and social care settings require intensive testing when there is documented community transmission. Periodic and comprehensive testing of all staff and residents/patients is recommended to prevent nosocomial transmission. Furthermore, all patients/residents should be tested upon or immediately prior to admission.
- Clusters or outbreaks may occur in certain settings, such as workplaces, educational facilities, prisons, and migrant detention centres. Testing policies and systems should be in place for rapid detection and control to protect the relevant populations in these settings and to protect the community from amplified transmission.
- Countries experiencing high SARS-CoV-2 transmission in a local community should consider testing the whole population of the affected area. This would enable identification of infectious COVID-19 cases and allow for their prompt isolation to interrupt chains of transmission. Depending on the epidemiological situation, size and population density of the affected area, such an approach could be less disruptive for society than testing to introduce and ensure compliance with more stringent public health measures.
- To prevent re-introduction, countries or sub-national areas that have achieved sustained control of SARS-CoV-2 circulation should, in addition to quarantine measures, consider targeted testing and follow-up of individuals coming from other areas within the same country, or from other countries that have not yet achieved sustained control of the virus.

Suggested citation: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. COVID-19 testing strategies and objectives. 15 September 2020. ECDC: Stockholm; 2020.
© European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, Stockholm, 2020



Control Transmission



Monitor incidence and trends and assess severity over time



Mitigate the impact of COVID-19 in healthcare and social-care settings



Rapidly identify all clusters or outbreaks in specific settings



Prevent (re-)introduction into regions/countries with sustained control of the virus

https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/TestingStrategy_Objective-Sept-2020.pdf

Your safety is our mission

easa.europa.eu/connect

