



# Info Webinar 8 luglio 2024

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**JA-04 Cancers caused by infections,  
vaccine-preventable cancers and addressing  
communicable diseases (HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis,  
Hepatitis)**

# GENERAL OBJECTIVE

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The aim of this Joint Action is to decrease premature morbidity and mortality caused by communicable diseases, including cancers caused by infections and vaccine-preventable cancers.

This Joint Action can also address HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and viral hepatitis, including stigma and discrimination experienced by people living with HIV.

# Specific Objective

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A specific objective of this Joint Action is to reduce cancers caused by infections, notably **HPV, HBV, and HCV**.

Actions contributing to this objective should build upon the deliverables of the Joint Action PERCH and the two supporting projects PROTECT-EUROPE and ReThink HPVaccination (covering HPV) as well as the VH-COMSAVAC project (covering HBV and HCV).

# Specific Objective

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This Joint Action will support the implementation of the upcoming Council Recommendation on vaccine-preventable cancers, with the overall goal of increasing the uptake of vaccination **against HPV and HBV** across the Union and among all affected population groups and by developing public health activities which contribute to the reduction of cancers caused by infections (**HPV, HBV and HCV**).

# Main Activities

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- Awareness-raising and provision of information and knowledge on the impact of infections as possible causes for cancer among all affected population groups.
- Awareness-raising and provision of information and knowledge on the importance of HPV vaccination for girls and boys, and HBV vaccination as a key cancer prevention measure.
- Awareness-raising and provision of information on the importance of HBV and HCV testing and treatment as well as an improved linkage to care in a cancer-prevention perspective.
- capacity-building for health professionals and support for patient associations.

# Main Activities

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Where relevant, activities under this Joint Action will address the specific needs of **vulnerable population groups such as Roma populations, displaced people from Ukraine and migrants/refugees.**

**Activities should also include an equity dimension and aim at reducing health inequalities.**

# EXPECTED RESULTS AND IMPACT

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- a) Contribute to increased awareness and knowledge of infections as possible causes for cancer across all affected population groups and of the importance of HPV vaccination for both boys and girls as a key cancer prevention measure, and of the importance of HPV, HBV and HCV testing and treatment in a cancer-prevention perspective.
- b) Development of initiatives that can help reduce structural barriers to HPV and HBV vaccination for all affected population groups.
- c) Identification and transfer of best or promising practices in terms of increasing the uptake of HPV and HBV vaccinations.
- d) Development of initiatives that can increase health literacy on cancers caused by HPV and on HPV vaccination among boys and in LGBTQI+ communities.

# EXPECTED RESULTS AND IMPACT

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- e) Development of initiatives that can increase health literacy on HBV vaccinations and HBV and HCV testing and treatment among prison populations.
- f) Guidance to help Member States increase the uptake of HPV and HBV vaccination among vulnerable population groups such as Roma, including through vaccination sites/hubs with easy access to vaccines.
- g) Guidance to help Member States increase the uptake of HPV and HBV vaccines among displaced persons from Ukraine, including strategies for checking vaccination status and catch-up vaccination.
- h) Targeted information material developed in collaboration with health professionals and health mediators.
- i) Training material and sessions for health professionals on how to address the importance of HPV and HBV vaccination with patients.



# EXPECTED RESULTS AND IMPACT

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- J) Tools to support patient associations in terms of addressing the importance of HPV and HBV vaccination.
- k) Tools to address mis- and disinformation.
- l) Guidance to help Member States strengthen the monitoring of HPV and HBV vaccination uptake and to coordinate vaccination and cancer registries in respect of national legislation.
- m) Development of initiatives that can address stigma and discrimination of people living with HIV.
- n) Identification and transfer of best or promising practices addressing the burden of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and viral hepatitis.

**Direct grant to Member States Indicative Budget Direct EUR 20 000 000**



# Possible main areas addressing vaccine-preventable cancers and infection-associated cancers

## VERTICAL AREAS

- Education and Awareness Actions
- Health Professional Training
- Reduce structural barrier to Vaccination Testing and Treatment Program
- Improve data Collection and Monitoring

## TRASVERSAL AREAS

- In the overall JA strategy, actions should take into account the equity dimension
- Where possible, when planning the vertical areas strategy, specific actions should address the needs of vulnerable population groups, such as Roma populations, displaced persons from Ukraine, migrants/refugees, people in prison, LGBTQI+ communities, people with dependencies and those with disabilities
- International Collaboration

# Education and Awareness Actions

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- **School involvement**
- **Community centers**
- **Collaboration with Patient Associations**
- **Collaboration with Active Citizenship Community**
- **Targeting all «professionals for health»**

# Health Professional Training

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- **Training needs assesment**
- **Training sessions with periodic refresher courses**
- **Conferences and Webinars**
- **Online Platforms providing continuous access to updated educational materials, recorded webinars, and interactive training courses**
- **Team-based learning and multidisciplinary interactive discussions**

# Reduce structural barrier to Vaccination, Testing and Treatment Programs

- **Improvement of the accessibility of vaccination services:** set up fixed vaccination centers such as in schools, universities, shopping centers and clinics, as well as mobile clinics to provide vaccinations in hard-to-reach areas, ensuring everyone has access to vaccinations.
- **Organizational vaccine literacy:** improve the implementation of public health strategies to allow vaccination to be understood as a social practice by the entire community.
- **Immunization campaigns:** plan seasonal immunization campaigns in collaboration with local authorities and health organizations to maximize vaccination coverage.

# Improve Data Collection and Monitoring

**Surveillance systems:** create, maintain or strengthen national systems to monitor HPV, HBV and HCV.

**Vaccination coverage:** propose guidance to improve monitoring HPV and HBV vaccination and a common European data collection systems.

**Digital Platforms:** develop digital platforms to collect real-time data and facilitate information sharing between regional and national health authorities addressing.

**Population-based registries:** coordinate population-based registries to track primary prevention, secondary prevention and cancer incidence and mortality data.

# Transversal Actions (examples)

- **Ensure equal access to health services and information for vulnerable groups:**
  - ✓ Roma populations
  - ✓ displaced persons from Ukraine
  - ✓ migrants/refugees
  - ✓ persons in prison
  - ✓ LGBTQI+ communities
  - ✓ persons who use drugs
  - ✓ persons with disabilities
- **Community Participation and Stakeholder Engagement:** establish community health committees that involve local community members in the planning and implementation of health initiatives.
- **Engagement of empowered patient's associations and active citizenship community:** to support and ensure equity in each step of actions for cancer reduction.
- **Collaboration with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs):** work closely with NGOs operating in vulnerable communities.
- **Health Equity Audits:** conduct regular audits to evaluate equity in access identifying and addressing systemic inequalities.

# Transversal Actions (examples)

- **International collaboration:** collaboration with the main international bodies, such as WHO, ECDC, European Scientific Societies to align the most efficient prevention strategies and data collections.
- **Exchange of Best Practices:** promote the exchange of best practices, resources and technologies at national and European level.



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**GRAZIE!!!!!!**

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