

# The Commission's work on COVID-19 vaccination and the key role of health professionals

John-F Ryan, Director, Public Health, Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety, European Commission

EU Health Policy Platform webinar: COVID-19 vaccination. What you need to know as a health professional. Wednesday 10 February 2021, 11.00-13.00 CET, Brussels time

### **COVID-19 vaccination in EU Member States-1**

- European Vaccination Days 27-29 December 2020: kickoff of vaccination in Member States
- Focus on priority groups, e.g. older persons and health professionals
- Mid-February 2021: Vaccination continues, but Member States need to speed up.



### COVID-19 vaccination in EU Member States - 2



### COVID-19 vaccination in EU Member States - 3

#### • Overall targets:

- By March 2021: Member States to have vaccinated ≥ 80 % of health and social care assistants and people over 80 years old
- By summer 2021, Member States to have vaccinated  $\geq$  70 % of adult population

Ambitious but reachable

https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/communication-united-front-beat-covid-19\_en.pdf



## EU Strategy for COVID-19 vaccines - 1

- Commission communication of 17 June 2020
- Secure access to safe and efficient COVID-19 vaccines for EU Member States as soon as they become available
- On the basis of Advance Purchase Agreements: The Commission supports vaccine manufacturers to face upfront costs and has, in return, the right to purchase vaccines once available.
- Financial instrument: The Emergency Support Instrument (ESI)

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legalcontent/EN/TXT/?qid=1597339415327&uri=CELEX:52020DC0245



# EU Strategy for COVID-19 vaccines - 2

- <u>AstraZeneca</u>: 400 million doses
- Sanofi-GSK: 300 million doses
- Johnson & Johnson: 400 million doses
- BioNTech-Pfizer: 600 million doses AUTHORIZED
- <u>CureVac</u>: 405 million doses
- <u>Moderna</u>: 160 million doses



AUTHORIZED

- Exploratory talks concluded with <u>Novavax</u> and <u>Valneva</u>
- In total: up to 2.3 billion vaccine doses secured



# The key role of health professionalsHealth professionals are:

- administrators of vaccines
- trusted sources of information
- role models.
- Health professionals can support COVID-19 vaccination in Member States.



### Safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines

- All vaccines go through a strict assessment and authorisation procedure.
- Scientific assessment by the European Medicines Agency
- Marketing authorisation by the European Commission
- COVID-19 vaccines: conditional marketing authorisation



### High efficacy in robust clinical trials

- Efficacy ranging from 60 % to 95 %
- Size of the clinical trials: from around 10 000 to 40 000 patients
- Calculated on the number of people developing COVID-19 symptoms after injection of the vaccines or dummy injection
- Companies will continue to monitor patients and provide results of the trials (conditional marketing authorisation)



### High safety in robust clinical trials

• Assessed on the basis of robust clinical trials data

• Patients continue to be monitored post authorisation

• Additional data collection for safety monitoring foreseen



### Today's EU Health Policy Platform webinar

- Safety aspects of COVID-19 vaccination Dr Fergus Sweeney and Dr Peter Arlett – European Medicines Agency (EMA)
- The impact of COVID-19 vaccination on societies Dr Edoardo Colzani – European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control
- Opportunity to ask questions/ share concerns.



## The Coalition for Vaccination

- European health professionals and students' associations
- Set up in 2019 first of its kind in Europe
- Advocacy for vaccination
- Co-chaired by the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME), the European Federation of Nurses Associations (EFN) and the Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union (PGEU)
- Dedicated space on the EU Health Policy Platform
- Manifesto to encourage health professionals to get vaccinated against COVID-19



# Thank you



© European Union 2020

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the <u>CC BY 4.0</u> license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders.



Slide xx: element concerned, source: e.g. Fotolia.com; Slide xx: element concerned, source: e.g. iStock.com