



Partner Profile

The European Centre of Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) was established in 2005. It is an EU agency with aim to strengthen Europe's defences against infectious diseases. It is seated in Stockholm, Sweden.

According to the Article 3 of the founding Regulation, ECDC's mission is to identify, assess and communicate current and emerging threats to human health posed by infectious diseases.

In order to achieve this mission, ECDC works in partnership with national health protection bodies across Europe to strengthen and develop continent-wide disease surveillance and early warning systems. By working with experts throughout Europe, ECDC pools Europe's health knowledge, so as to develop authoritative scientific opinions about the risks posed by current and emerging infectious diseases.

Website: www.ecdc.europa.eu

Role in the ADVANCE Project

ECDC leads Work Package 7 work which has four specific objectives:

1. To assess in a structured manner the feasibility and usefulness of key project deliverables in terms of meeting the requirements of key stakeholders national and EU/EEA regulatory agencies, national and EU public health agencies, vaccine manufacturers, health care providers and health consumers;
 2. To develop a draft Blueprint for EU-level vaccine benefit /risk assessment and associated sustainability plan;
 3. To orchestrate an independent consultation process with the Implementability Advisory Board and other relevant stakeholders (including web based public consultation) on the draft Blueprint;
 4. To complete a final, consistent Blueprint with an associated action plan for real-world implementation.
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Key People



Piotr Kramarz is a physician by training, with a PhD in immunology of viral infections, and eight years of clinical practice experience in a teaching hospital in Poland in the field of infectious diseases. He is an Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) alumni (class of 1997) and worked in the National Immunization Programme of the U.S. CDC during his EIS programme and later on. Since 2007 he has been working as a Deputy Head of the Scientific Advice Unit and, since April 2011, as the Deputy Chief Scientist at the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. Among other tasks he leads the Disease Programme Section of the Centre. His main research interests include epidemiology of vaccine preventable diseases.



Professor **Johan Giesecke** is Chief Scientist at the ECDC since 2005 and heads the disease programmes of the Centre in the Office of the Chief Scientist. He is also professor of infectious disease epidemiology at the Karolinska Institute Medical University in Stockholm since 1996. Before joining ECDC he was State Epidemiologist for Sweden from 1995 to 2005, during which time he was active in efforts to harmonise infectious disease surveillance and control within the EU. Research interests include epidemic modelling, HIV/STIs, and late sequelae of acute infections. He has published some 150 scientific papers, has written a textbook on infectious disease epidemiology and co-edited another.



Dr **Maarit Kokki** is Senior Adviser to the Director and Head of International Relations Section at the ECDC since 2009. She has a long history as practicing physician, specialized in clinical microbiology, internal medicine, and infectious diseases. Since 1997 she has worked in public health related matters at national and international level. She joined the European Commission in 2002 and worked on the establishment of the ECDC and the first strategy to combat HIV/AIDS in the EU and neighbouring countries, including the setting up of the EU HIV/AIDS Think Tank and Civil Society Forum. During two years sabbatical from the Commission 2007-2008 she worked as a consultant advising private sector clients on public health policies related to communicable diseases. Her research interests were related to fungal infections in immune-compromised patients and tuberculosis.