HPV Prevention and Control Board

Short introduction at the fifth HPV Prevention and Control Board meeting 15-16/05/2018 Bucharest, Romania.
Unique expertise: inspired on the Viral Hepatitis Prevention Board (VHPB)

- Embedded in the same facilities (University of Antwerp, Centre for the Evaluation of Vaccination)
- Based on a similar way of working
- Same scientific secretariat team
- More than 24 years of support to the control and prevention of Viral Hepatitis in Europe:
  - Support implementation of WHO recommendations related to Viral Hepatitis
  - Organising discussion forum and meetings (very fast if needed) with experts on Viral Hepatitis
  - Rapid response on Viral Hepatitis issues that can affect public health
  - Bringing together organisations working on Viral Hepatitis
- Network of advisors in the broad field of Viral Hepatitis
- Dissemination platform
Recent publications
- Global progress in the control of viral hepatitis and acceptable delay in Hepatitis B immunization
  Human Vaccines & Immunotherapeutics 2016, DOI: 10.1080/21644581.2016.1177589
- Long-term Protection After Hepatitis B Vaccine

Recent newsletters
- Prevention and control of viral hepatitis in the Baltic States: lessons learnt and the way forward
- Towards a hepatitis-free Europe: how to make it feasible and affordable
- Burden and prevention of viral hepatitis in Arctic region

Recent meetings
- 2016 March, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 2015 November Riga, Latvia
- 2015 June London, UK

News - World Health Assembly (WHA) endorsed WHO’s first Global Health Sector Strategy on viral hepatitis for 2016-2021
On 28 May 2016, representatives from the WHO Member States convening the Sixty-ninth World Health Assembly unanimously endorsed the Global Health Sector Strategy (GHSS) on viral hepatitis for 2016-2021.

Aim of the strategy: spur countries to action in order to eliminate hepatitis as a public health threat by 2030.

News - May is Hepatitis Awareness Month
In the United States, May is Hepatitis Awareness Month. The 19th of May is Hepatitis Testing Day.
For more info:
- CDC hepatitis website
- Follow on Twitter

VHPB launches report on Innovative Financing into Hep B and C Prevention and Treatment.
Download the:
- Press release
- Infographic
- Report
Read the blog:
- Eliminating a “silent killer”: innovative sources of financing to help meet costs of prevention and treatment of viral hepatitis by Pierre Van Damme.
1. **Mission:**
Generate, multiply and disseminate relevant information on HPV to a broad array of stakeholders.

2. **Goal:**
Contribute to the control of HPV infection and to the prevention and screening of HPV related cancers.

3. **Objectives:**
Providing evidence based guidance on key technical and strategic issues.

Monitoring the progress of HPV control programs at the country and regional levels.
STRUCTURE
A multi-disciplinary Board formed by prominent experts

- Act in their personal capacity
- Are often affiliated with stake holding partners
- This provides open and honest discussions
- Advisors and speakers at HPV Prevention & Control Board meetings are not paid
- No formal organisation with president, vice-president etc: minimal bureaucratic structure

Advisors:

- Dr. Marc Arbyn, Scientific Institute of Public Health, Belgium
- Prof. dr. Paolo Bonanni, University of Florence, Italy
- Dr. Xavier Bosch, Catalan Institute of Oncology (ICO), Spain
- Dr. Kate Cuschieri, Scottish HPV Reference Laboratory, Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, Scotland, UK
- Dr. Silvia de Sanjosé, Catalan Institute of Oncology (ICO), Spain
- Prof. dr. Eduardo Franco, McGill University, Canada
- Dr. Mark Kane, Consultant, USA
- Dr. Sharon Hanley, Hokkaido University, Japan
A multi-disciplinary Board formed by prominent experts

**Advisors:**

- Prof. dr. Mira Kojouharova, National Centre of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases (NCIPD), Bulgaria
- Prof. dr. Susanne Krüger Kjaer, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
- Dr. Heidi Larson, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK
- Prof. dr. Pier Luigi Lopalco, University of Pisa, Italy
- Prof. dr. Mario Poljak, Institute of Microbiology and Immunology, clinical Microbiology, Slovenia
- Dr. Kevin Pollock, Health Protection Scotland, The University of Glasgow, Scotland, UK
- Prof. Dr. Margaret Stanley, University of Cambridge, UK
- Prof. Dr. Pierre Van Damme, University of Antwerp, Belgium
- Dr. Alex Vorsters, University of Antwerp, Belgium
- Dr. Scott Wittet, PATH, USA

**Observers:**

- Dr. Iacobo Baussano, IACR
- Dr. Nedret Emiroglu, WHO Euro
- Mr. Tarik Derough, ECDC
- Dr. Liudmila Mosina, WHO Euro
- Dr. Lauri Markowitz, CDC, USA
- Dr. Susan Wang, CDC, USA
Supported by a permanent & dynamic Scientific Secretariat:

• Personnel involved:
  - Brenda Janssens, Xenia Mikulla
  - Greet Hendrickx
  - Alex Vorsters

• Executive Secretary: Pierre Van Damme

• Located within the facilities of the Centre for the Evaluation of Vaccination (CEV), University of Antwerp
Secretariat implements

- Preparation and organisation of meetings
- Publications
- Media activities
- Website: www.hpvboard.org
- Participation in third party meetings
- All financial issues are done by the rules of the University of Antwerp

Permanent intensive communication between HPV board members and secretariat
Two meetings per year

1. Technical meeting (topics: future vaccines, vaccine strategies, booster doses, health economics, screening technologies and strategies, vaccine safety, dealing with anti-vaccine messages, et cetera)

2. Country meeting: SWOT analysis of a country or a region

Output of the meetings published:
- HPV Prevention & Control Board website
- International Scientific Journals
Overcoming barriers in HPV vaccination and screening programs

**ARTICLE INFO**

**Keywords:**
- Human papillomavirus
- Vaccine
- Screening
- Barriers
- Vaccine confidence

**ABSTRACT**

The Human Papillomavirus Prevention and Control Board brought together experts to discuss optimizing HPV vaccination and screening programs.

Board members reviewed the safety profile of licensed HPV vaccines based on clinical and post-marketing data, reaching a consensus that current safety data is reassuring.

Successful vaccination programs used well-coordinated communication campaigns, integrating (social) media to spread awareness. Communication of evidence supporting vaccine effectiveness had beneficial effects on the perception of the vaccine. However, anti-vaccination campaigns have threatened existing programs in many countries.

Measurement and monitoring of HPV vaccine confidence over time could help understand the nature and scale of waning confidence, define issues and intervene appropriately using context-specific evidence-based strategies. Finally, a broad group of stakeholders, such as teachers, health care providers and the media should also be provided with accurate information and training to help support prevention efforts through enhanced understanding of the risks and benefits of vaccination.

Similarly, while cervical cancer screening through population-based programs is highly effective, barriers to screening exist: awareness in countries with population-based screening programs, access for vulnerable populations, and access and affordability in low- and middle-income countries. Integration of primary and secondary prevention has the potential to accelerate the decrease in cervical cancer incidence.
Country meeting: ‘Prevention and control of HPV and HPV related cancers in Denmark: lessons learnt and the way forward’
17-18 November 2016, Copenhagen, Denmark

Technical meeting: Symposium: Building Trust, Managing Risk: Vaccine Confidence and Human Papillomavirus Vaccination,
7-8 June 2017, London, UK
As the meeting was held in Dublin, we had the honour to have Mr Simon Harris, Minister of Health of Ireland, open the meeting. In his speech, he reiterated his full support to the HPV vaccination programme in Ireland and emphasized the role of qualified medical professionals.
HPV Prevention and Control Board meetings

The Board organizes two meetings per year, one with a focus on technical issues, the second on a SWOT analysis of a country/region. Technical meetings include topics such as newer vaccines, vaccine safety, comparison of vaccine strategies, the need for booster doses, health economics, immunization of males, impact of vaccine on non-cervical diseases such as head and neck and anal cancers, screening technologies and strategies, dealing with anti-vaccine messages, etcetera. Country meetings take place in key countries and regions. Here, the Board invites local health authorities to present data on coverage of screening and immunization as well as impact and control strategies.

Workshops in international conferences

The HPV Prevention and Control Board also organizes workshops at international conferences.
European Parliament resolution of 19 April 2018 on vaccine hesitancy and the drop in vaccination rates in Europe (2017/2951(RSP))

23. Condemns the spread of unreliable, misleading and unscientific information on vaccination, aggravated by media controversies, media sensationalism and poor journalism .....  

27. Welcomes the encouraging progress made in the fight against human papilloma virus (HPV) diseases and cancers thanks to vaccination programmes against the HPV virus; calls on the Member States to further develop these programmes and explore ways to increase coverage rates and prevent other forms of cancer, for example by including boys in vaccination programmes;

30. Calls on the Member States and the Commission to promote awareness-raising campaigns among healthcare professionals who provide vaccinations, which underline their obligation, both moral and ethical, to protect public health by providing patients (or patients’ legal guardians) with sufficient information about vaccines so that they can make an informed decision;

31. Points out that healthcare professionals are the cornerstone of public acceptance of vaccination and their recommendations are consistently cited as a primary reason for vaccination(10);
The role of HCP in HPV vaccination and screening programme implementation - Prevention and control of HPV and HPV related cancers in Romania

Meeting objectives:

• Provide an overview of the role of the health care provider (HCP) in the vaccination program, with a focus on HPV vaccination

• Discuss the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for HCP in different vaccination programs, e.g. school based, GP driven and vaccination clinics.

• Provide an overview of different information and trainings materials available for HCP at various international organisations (CDC, ECDC, WHO, …)

• Discuss country examples where HCP play an important role in the implementation and coverage of HPV vaccination and screening.

• Propose strategies to enhance the impact of HCP towards better screening and vaccination coverage.

• Discuss Romanian challenges, analysis of previous introduction, ways to address the issues and opportunities in prevention and control of HPV and HPV related cancers.
Thank you.