Vaccines are one of the greatest medical achievements in history, saving 2-3 million lives globally every year by preventing infectious diseases. Vaccination contributes substantially to health, healthcare systems, and society at large by preventing morbidity and mortality. Vaccines can protect everyone: newborn babies, infants, children, adults, older adults, travelers, healthcare professionals and patients with chronic diseases. Vaccines offer community-wide protection. Close to 30 diseases today are vaccine-preventable. It costs less than 4,000 Euro (including administration costs) to protect a person for their entire life against the 17 most relevant vaccine-preventable diseases. Vaccines play an important role in the fight against antimicrobial resistance (AMR). More than 80% of vaccine doses are produced in Europe by R&D-led pharmaceutical companies. Manufacturing a vaccine takes from 6 to 36 months, of which 70% is dedicated to quality control and more than 100 control tests are performed.
VISION 1: **HEALTH FOR ALL**

VACCINES PROTECT EVERYONE: NEWBORNS, INFANTS, CHILDREN, ADULTS AND OLDER ADULTS

The need for vaccination depends on age, as well as on health status, lifestyle and occupation. To improve the protection of newborns, children, mothers, travelers, healthcare professionals, patients with chronic diseases and older adults against vaccine-preventable diseases, Europe can:

VISION 2: **EUROPEAN EXCELLENCE**

VACCINE SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY NEED TO REMAIN STRONG IN EUROPE

More than 80% of vaccine doses produced by the major R&D-led pharmaceutical companies are produced in Europe. EU-based vaccine manufacturers are collaborating with many stakeholders, including in public-private partnerships, to contribute to the development of novel vaccines. To foster vaccine innovation, Europe can:

VISION 3: **STRONGER TOGETHER**

VACCINES ARE AN IMPORTANT TOOL IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

Vaccines can reduce the need for using antimicrobials by reducing the:
- incidence rate of infectious disease and illnesses caused by AMR bacteria in particular
- utilisation of antimicrobials to treat bacterial complications of viral infections, and
- rate of antibiotics misuse for viral infections.

To foster the recognition and use of vaccines in the fight against AMR, Europe can:

E-HEALTH CAN IMPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL VACCINATION PROGRAMMES

Vaccine registries can identify gaps in vaccine uptake in the population and facilitate communication to at-risk groups. To ensure that European citizens benefit from the use of automatic reminders, targeted communication and online access to immunisation records, Europe can:
WHAT EUROPE CAN DO?

- Support immunisation at all stages in life and effective implementation of national vaccination policies that contribute to the sustainability of our healthcare systems and the productivity of our societies
- Set vaccination goals and deliver their implementation throughout Europe such as achieving the 95% target of measles vaccination coverage by 2020
- Improve confidence in vaccination by establishing a European vaccination information portal to provide objective, transparent and updated evidence on vaccines, as already proposed by the EC

- Provide guidance for EU countries on how to expand access to vaccination in healthcare and non-healthcare settings
- Strengthen education and training on vaccine-preventable diseases, vaccinology, and immunisation for all healthcare professionals
- Improve communication and confidence in vaccination by convening a coalition for vaccination

- Increase investment in primary prevention in order to keep people healthy for longer periods of time
- Promote reward mechanisms for industry R&D to enable long-term investments for vaccines of the future
- Develop new incentives for unmet medical needs, such as AMR and vaccines for global health
- Foster the creation of a network and collaboration of the National Immunization Technical Advisory Groups to increase transparency, reduce duplications and minimise inefficient resources spending on vaccines development to encourage innovation and fasten citizens' access
- Leverage the IPROVE roadmap that outlines the science and technology investments required for vaccines innovation and launch a multi-stakeholder reflection to implement the priorities agreed

- Foster the use of existing vaccines by integrating a life-course approach to vaccination into national action plans
- Support development of innovative vaccines against emerging health threats and AMR pathogens
- Revisit the 2004 EU Regulation establishing a European Centre for disease prevention and control in order to enhance the role of the ECDC

- Foster early and continuous dialogue between individual vaccine manufacturers and health authorities that allows both sides to better anticipate the evolution of vaccine recommendations and more accurately forecast vaccine demand
- Reduce the number of labelling & packaging requirements for vaccines by evaluating the feasibility of introducing simplified, multi-lingual packs and e-leaflets
- Ensure Europe-wide recognition of the Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT) criteria in the scope of tender procurement for vaccines
- Develop a mechanism for exchanging vaccine supplies from one Member State to another to address outbreaks

- Support Member States willing to implement Immunisation Information Systems (IIS) to monitor vaccination uptake rates (e.g. through European Structural Funds)
- Develop a common EU citizen vaccination card, with standardised information on vaccination history of an individual
- Strengthen European disease surveillance capabilities to better assess infectious disease patterns, vaccines benefit/risks and impact of vaccination across all ages
- Ensure coordination between health and digital policies and other initiatives, in particular IIS
All stakeholders, patient groups, policy-makers, healthcare professionals, academia, civil society and industry have a critical role to play in ensuring European citizens do not fall ill from diseases that can be prevented by vaccination.

Together, we can build on the 2017-2019 momentum on vaccination and support the implementation of the 2018 Council Recommendation in the EU Member States. This will ensure vaccination remains a cornerstone of sustainable public health systems in Europe.

The research-based vaccine industry is pleased to share its vision and proposals on how to build a healthier future.

#WeWontRest

References: