



## EVM Members' prepared to play their role to fight against the pandemic influenza threat

On 11 June, the World Health Organisation (WHO) decided to raise the current level of pandemic alert to Phase 6. This decision is motivated by the outbreaks of A/H1N1 influenza virus at community-level and the rising cases observed in several countries.

Since the outbreak of this novel influenza virus, the EVM members have been in close contact with European institutions and national health authorities to discuss the emerging human cases of novel (swine) H1N1 influenza as well as various issues regarding H1N1 influenza vaccine development and production.

The European Vaccine Manufacturers have been preparing for a pandemic scenario for several years, to address the challenges that an outbreak of a potential influenza pandemic would pose to vaccine production, through the development of new technologies, prototype vaccines and production capacity increases.

Vaccine manufacturers have been putting in place the steps needed to develop and produce influenza H1N1 vaccine and are now ready to start H1N1 vaccines production as soon as requested.

The EVM Members remain in close collaboration with authorities to address issues such as the regulatory approval of H1N1 vaccines, which are critical to ensure that pandemic vaccines are available as soon as possible.

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For more information on novel H1N1 influenza, please go to:

WHO: <http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html>

European Centre for Disease prevention and Control: <http://ecdc.europa.eu/>

EMA: <http://www.emea.europa.eu/pdfs/human/press/pr/36704209en.pdf>