



**EVM statement on meeting with Commissioner Vassiliou regarding
novel Influenza virus
29 April 2009**

The European Vaccine Manufacturers (EVM¹) met today with Commissioner Vassiliou and her cabinet to discuss the emergence of the novel influenza virus.

The EVM members re-confirmed their commitment in helping to address this potential public health crisis and to working with the EU authorities, the WHO and individual Governments, in efforts to reduce the impact and spread of this new influenza virus.

Industry has for the past years, been working 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 capacity increases.

The European Vaccine Manufacturers confirmed to Commissioner Vassiliou that industry stands ready to produce the vaccine that the WHO and EMEA recommend. EVM members stressed that manufacturers should first receive from WHO laboratories the seed virus and reagents, as well as clear signal from the authorities the type of vaccine needed and when to start production.

Close cooperation will be of paramount importance to ensure the most appropriate and efficient response to this potential public health threat.

[European Commission's press release on Commissioner Vassiliou's meeting with the European Vaccine Manufacturers](#)

¹ EVM member companies are major suppliers of vaccines worldwide, producing the majority of vaccine doses in Europe. EVM members are: Baxter, Crucell, GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals, MedImmune, Novartis Vaccines, sanofi pasteur, sanofi pasteur MSD, Solvay Biologicals, and Wyeth Vaccines
