



Recruiting serology to the long fight ahead against pandemics
Wednesday, February 3rd, 2021

09.30 – 11.00 CET

Overview:

Europe's ability to respond effectively to health threats has already been called into question by the coronavirus pandemic. Heroic collaboration between researchers and policymakers has made the first vaccines available at record speed, but Europe still stands before a major challenge that goes way beyond the current COVID 19 crisis. There is a critical failure to develop and implement the testing technologies that not only can help protect citizens against Covid-19, but that will also be crucial in preserving public health over the longer term, in the face of future and even more deadly cross-border infections.

With adequate, and adequately rigorous, testing in place, it is argued that it will be possible to evaluate without risk of bias different populations being treated with different vaccines across the world.

To allow the benefits to accrue from this situation, data will have to be collected and compared from a wide range of studies, and at a truly global scale. This in turn will depend on all stakeholders being ready to operate outside and across the customary siloes that characterise the health community, and to adopt a common language based on a new literacy. But by extension of the EU's new ambition to build a European health union, and taking as a model such international concords as the Paris climate agreement or the UN framework convention on tobacco control, what could and should emerge is a coordinated international response to future health crises of this scale, in an international pandemic treaty.

The **objective** of this roundtable is to assess the factors, understand the need and frame the discussion for Serology testing for SARS-CoV-2 at a country level by engaging with experts.

A **key target audience** is decision making (public health professionals, public health institutes, medical authorities as WHO Europe, and EMA) so as to understand the barriers and enablers so that serology testing in vaccination surveillance systems can be adopted.

Questions to be addressed:

- Testing strategies: restricted vs. systematic - Is there a need to revise earlier recommendations?
- Should approaches to testing adapt to different types of vaccines, also in view of progressively lifting containment measures?
- What is the state of play of serological testing? Could/should we anticipate recommendations before it becomes accessible?

Target Audience

Attendees will be drawn from key stakeholders from the community whose interaction will create a cross-sectoral, highly relevant and dynamic discussion forum. These participants will include healthcare professionals, decision makers, patient organisations, and European umbrella organizations representing interest groups and associations actively engaged in the field of Personalised Medicine. Each session will comprise panel discussions as well as Q&A sessions to allow best possible involvement of all participants

Registration Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6632861481748541196>



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09.30 – 10.30 Opening Plenary Setting the Scene

Chair: Denis Horgan, *EAPM Executive Director*

Kevin Latinis, MD, PhD, *Scientific Advisor for the Cass County COVID-19 Task Force, US (13 Minutes)*

Q&A

Ankur Mutreja - *University of Cambridge, Group Leader of Global Health (Infectious Diseases) (13 Minutes)*

Q&A

Veronica Di Cristanziano, *Institute of Virology, Faculty of Medicine and University Hospital of Cologne, (13 minutes) (TBC)*

Q&A

Achim Stangl, *Medical Director, Siemens Healthineers*

Birute Tumiene, *Vilnius University Hospital Santaros Clinics Clinical geneticist (13 minutes) (TBC)*

Q&A

10.35 -10.55 Discussion:

10.50 -11.00 Closing & Next Steps