

JOINT EVENT

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## Global pandemic influenza vaccine preparedness: Progress under the global action plan for influenza vaccines and next steps

**Christopher Chadwick**

World Health Organization, Switzerland

**Purpose:** The World Health Organization's Global Action Plan for Influenza Vaccine (GAP) was a 10-year initiative dedicated to reducing the global shortage and inequitable access to influenza vaccines in the event of an influenza pandemic. The overarching goal of the GAP was to develop the capacity to produce enough vaccines to immunize 70% of the global population with two doses of vaccines. The GAP aimed to achieve this goal by increasing evidence based seasonal influenza vaccine use; developing influenza vaccine production and regulatory capacity in 14 low and middle income countries (LMICs) and; encouraging the development of improved influenza vaccines.

**Methods:** Between 2006 and 2016, the WHO collaborated with member states and key stakeholders to address the global shortage of and increase equitable access to pandemic influenza vaccines in the event of an outbreak.

**Results:** The outcomes of the GAP include: A dramatic increase in countries with a seasonal influenza policy in place (115 member states by 2014 from a baseline of 74 in 2006); the development of 8 licensed pandemic influenza vaccines and 3 licensed seasonal influenza vaccines in 6 LMICs and; A global expansion of pandemic vaccine production capacity, especially in LMICs (potential global capacity of 6.4 billion doses estimated in 2015).

**Discussion:** Following the conclusion of the GAP in 2016, priorities for influenza vaccine preparedness moving forward are to sustain the production capacity of influenza manufacturers in LMICs, promote and stimulate innovative influenza vaccine research and development, identify root causes of influenza vaccine hesitancy, generate more evidence on vaccine effectiveness in specific risk groups, and identify innovative ways of addressing global pandemic influenza preparedness.

### Recent Publications

1. Nannei C, Chadwick C, Fatima H, Goldin S, Grubo M, Ganim A. (2016) Considerations for sustainable influenza vaccine production in developing countries. *Vaccine*. 2016 Oct 26;34(45):5425-5429. doi: 10.1016/j.vaccine.2016.08.056
2. Petrie MJ, Blakey CM, Chadwick C, Davies HG, Blundell CM, Davies MB (2018) A new and reliable classification system for fractures of the navicular and associated injuries to the midfoot. *Bone Joint J*. 2018 Feb;100-B(2):176-182. doi: 10.1302/0301-620X.100B2.BJJ-2017-0879.R1.
3. Loewenstern J, Hernandez CM, Chadwick C, Doshi A, Banik R, Sarkiss CA, Bederson J, Shrivastava RK. (2018) Optical Coherence Tomography in the Management of Skull Base Fibrous Dysplasia with Optic Nerve Involvement. *World Neurosurg*. 2018 Jan;109:e546-e553. doi: 10.1016/j.wneu.2017.10.018.

### Biography

Christopher Chadwick is a Technical Officer in the Global Action Plan for Influenza Vaccines Secretariat at World Health Organization. Previously, he was a Global Health Officer in the office of Global Affairs at the US Department of Health and Human Services. He received a Master of Science degree in Public Health with a concentration in microbiology and emerging infectious diseases from Milken Institute School of Public Health at George Washington University and a Bachelor of Science in Microbiology from Louisiana State University.

chadwickc@who.int