



Access to Vaccination for Newly Arrived Migrants (NAM) - AcToVax4NAM

Access to Vaccination
for Newly Arrived Migrants



AcToVax4NAM Newsletter 4

"Improving vaccine literacy (VL) & access to vaccination for Newly Arrived Migrants (NAMs)."

The AcToVax4NAM project responds to the overarching strategy of the European Commission that aims to improve the vaccination uptake in the European Union (EU) while reducing access inequities. The project responded to a specific call under the 3rd EU Health Programme for Call HP-PJ-2020 'Increased access to vaccination for newly arrived migrants in first line, transit and destination countries'.

The general objective of the AcToVax4NAM project is the improvement of Vaccination Literacy (VL) and access, thereby improving vaccination uptake for NAMs, making access conditions more equitable and guaranteed. The project targets Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPDs), which are part of National Immunization Plans and adopts a life-course approach, including also COVID-19 vaccination.

4th AcToVaxNAM Partners Meeting in Barcelona, Spain

The AcToVax4NAM partnership held its fourth partners' meeting in Barcelona, Spain, on May 10-12, 2023, hosted by Vall d'Hebron Research Institute (VHIR).

During the meeting, the AcToVax4NAM team discussed what has been achieved so far, the ongoing efforts to carry out capacity building training with professionals for health, finalisation and promotional efforts of the AcToVax4NAM Glossary on basic vaccination-related terminology in various languages, as well as the next steps to developing an online database with useful tools for vaccination which will be made available to professionals for health and other relevant actors across Europe.

With the conclusion of the meeting, partners took the opportunity to discuss and clarify issues that relate to future deliverables and project results, as well as the steps that need to be taken in regards to the piloting phase of the project.

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THE ACTOVAX4NAM 4TH PARTNERS' MEETING WITH MEMBERS FROM CYPRUS, GERMANY, SPAIN, MALTA, ITALY, GREECE, ROMANIA AND POLAND WAS HELD IN BARCELONA, ON MAY 10-12, 2023.

THE MEETING FOCUSED ON THE PROGRESS OF WORK PACKAGE 5 "HEALTH CARE SYSTEM VACCINATION LITERACY (VL) AND MIGRANT-SENSITIVITY TO PROMOTE THE ACTIVE IMMUNIZATION OF NAMs" AND WORK PACKAGE 6 "COUNTRY-SPECIFIC ACTION-ORIENTED FLOW CHARTS AND REPOSITORY OF TOOLS TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO VACCINATION OF NAMs"



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WP5: HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS VACCINATION LITERACY AND MIGRANT- SENSITIVITY TO PROMOTE THE ACTIVE IMMUNIZATION OF NAMs

Between May and June, the partner organisations in Greece, Italy, Germany, Poland, Romania, Spain and Cyprus carried out capacity building trainings to professionals for health, benefiting approximately 230 individuals. Malta's Ministry of Health plans to deliver the training in July.

The topics addressed in the capacity building training for professionals for health include:

- "Vaccine Literacy, how to adapt it to daily practice";
- "Diversity in health. The influence of culture in daily work";
- "Intersectionality, its dimensions and influences";
- "Community-focused tools for health promotion";
- "Situations related to access to vaccination in NAMs";
- "Design an equitable and accessible vaccination process".

Questionnaires and affiliation data are currently being analysed by the partnership.

WP6: COUNTRY SPECIFIC ACTION-ORIENTED FLOW CHARTS AND REPOSITORY OF TOOLS TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO VACCINATION OF NAMs

Work package 6 is coming to an end. This work package sought to develop one country specific action-oriented flow chart in each consortium country and one repository /database of tool which collects an extensive variety of tools in order to create material resources to improve access to immunization for NAMs.

As part of Task 6.2, a series of Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were held between November 2022 and February 2023 to validate the proposed flow chart by each country which is tailored to the local context realities, and flows in different solutions, with connections to relevant tools for each identified barrier. 8 FGDs were carried out in seven EU member states, comprising the AcToVax4NAM consortium: Germany, Italy, Greece, Cyprus, Malta, Spain and Romania. In total, 84 professionals participated in the flowchart validation process.

Participants welcomed the FGDs and the process to validate the flow charts and exchange knowledge and experiences among them. All the changes suggested were reflected in the finalised version of the flowchart for each country, making it a potentially more useful, applicable, and therefore relevant tool for addressing barriers to access to vaccination.



17th World Congress on Public Health

The World Congress on Public Health (WCPH) is held every two or three years by the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA). This year's Congress was organised by WFPHA together with the Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPHER) and the Italian Society of Hygiene, Preventive Medicine and Public Health (SItI) in Rome on May 2-6, 2023.

The AcToVax4NAM and the Rise-Vac projects jointly presented a workshop during the conference titled "Vaccine Literacy: Strategies and Tools to Improve Vaccination Uptake for NAMs and people living in prisons".

WP7: PILOTING SOLUTIONS TO OVERCOME SYSTEM BARRIERS & FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

AcToVax4NAM's team is in the process of setting up the piloting phase of the project during which all partners are tasked to coordinate the pilot-testing and evaluation of country-specific solutions that aim to overcome system barriers in collaboration with relevant local/national actors. By testing, monitoring and evaluating these process, the partnership, led by Prolepsis, will develop a set of recommendations with the aim to increase vaccination uptake for NAMs.

The main goal of the piloting is to test solutions to overcome system barriers that were addressed in the previous work packages through the development of tools (flow charts, glossaries, database etc) which aim to support the increase in vaccination for NAMs. The preparations ahead of the piloting is underway by all partners.



DIPARTIMENTO DI SANITÀ PUBBLICA E MALATTIE INFETTIVE

