



# Egypt

(Action plan 2017-2018)

## 8th Mena Influenza Stakeholders Meeting

Organized by Fondation Mérieux

Cairo-Egypt  
10-11 April 2018



Egypt is a low-middle-income country. It has a large geographic area and a population approaching 100 million (2018).

Seasonal Influenza vaccination is not considered a top priority by MoH in terms of funding or obligatory immunization . However the MoH make all efforts to monitor Influenza (SARI surveillance) and make public recommendations to the benefit of Influenza vaccination particularly in high risk groups or in face of epidemics.

Vaccination against seasonal Influenza is therefore motivated mainly by HCPs who are indeed the sole prescribers of seasonal influenza vaccines and who carry the task of explaining the Benefit/Risk of such vaccines to their patients. (a matter depending on the HCPs/patient belief of its importance).

Vaccination coverage rates in Egypt remains at very low rates which does not meet the WHO GAP recommendations which aim at fighting Influenza and preventing pandemic spread

***Influenza prevention is therefore a responsibility shared by MoH and HCPs who prescribe means of prevention***

[The Central Public Health Laboratory](#) in Egypt has been recognized as a national influenza center since 2009.

All possible tests (e.g. virus isolation, PCR , serology and sequencing exist and are currently functioning. The sequencing is only for measles and rubella, not for influenza, but the laboratory has started to include seasonal influenza.

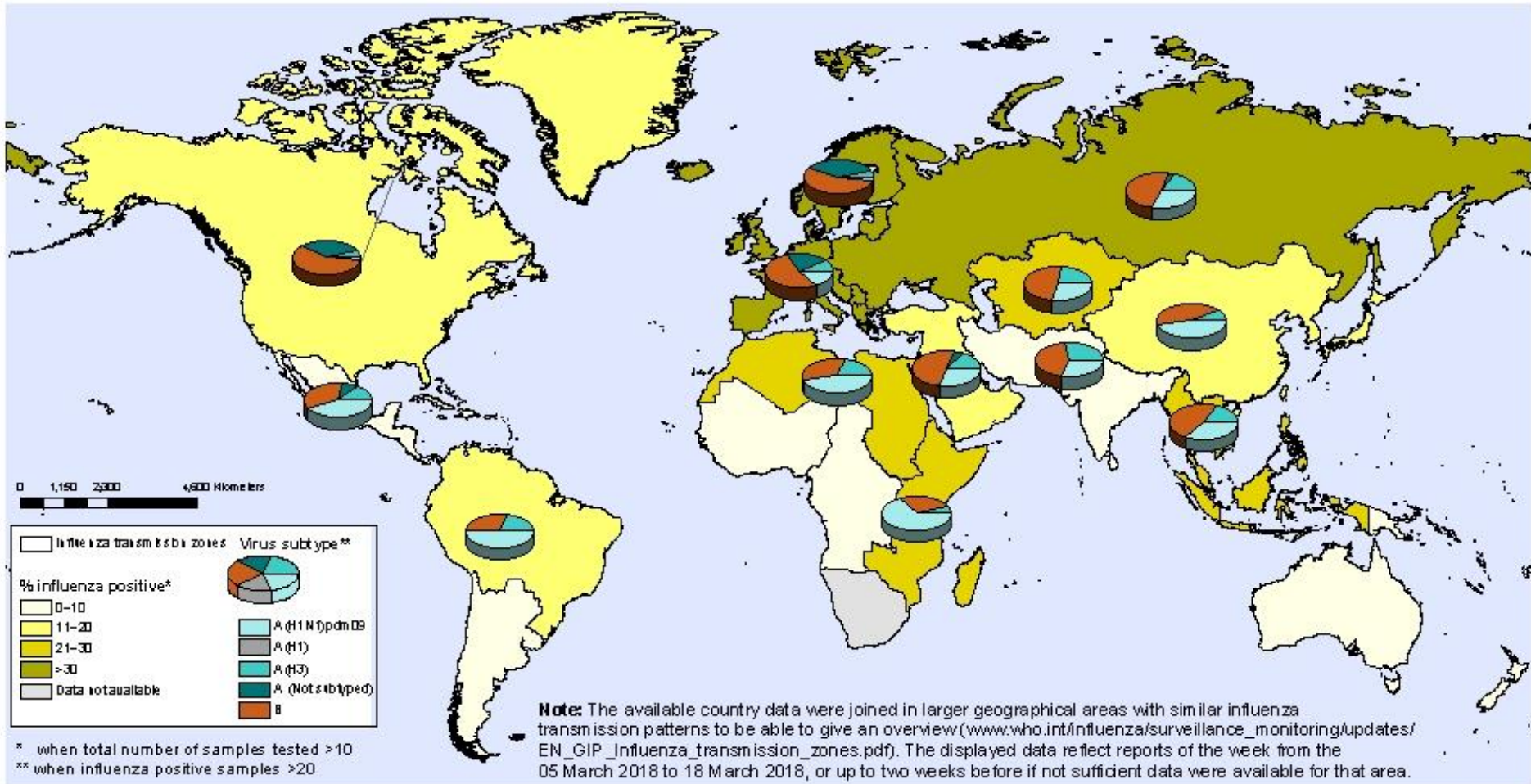
In addition, [VACSERA](#) has been recognized as a national influenza centre in Egypt since 1951: virus isolation, polymerase chain reaction and serology are available and functioning; only sequencing is not available. It has conventional polymerase chain reaction which is used in the WHO External Quality Assessment Project.

# COUNTRY OBJECTIVES FOR THE UPCOMING 3 YEARS

- Improve surveillance and disease burden data
- Improve evidence-based communication on Influenza burden and benefits of vaccination.
- Inclusion of Influenza vaccination in National Vaccination program and in National disease guidelines for high risk population.
- Vaccination of HCPs
- Increased Influenza vaccine coverage rates to achieve protection of high risk groups.

# Percentage of respiratory specimens that tested positive for influenza By influenza transmission zone

Status as of 30 March 2018



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

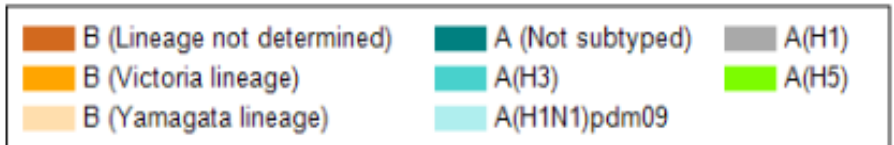
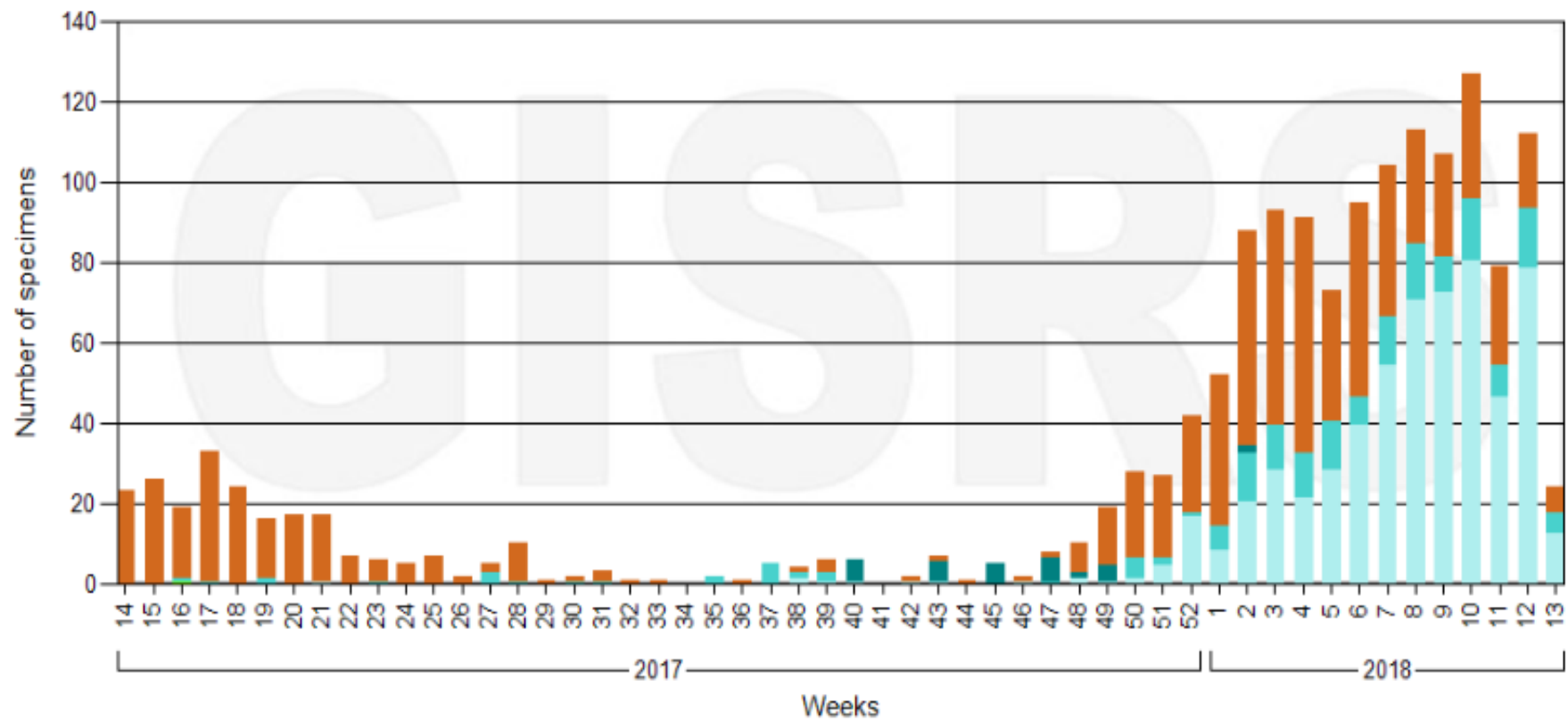
Data Source: Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS), FluNet ([www.who.int/flu-net](http://www.who.int/flu-net)).



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Egypt

Number of specimens positive for influenza by subtype



Data source: FluNet ( www.who.int/fluNet ), Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS)

## Influenza virus detections

Year 2018

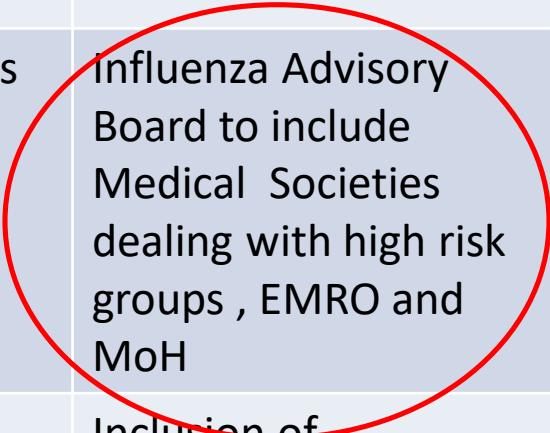
Week 13

(26/03/2018 to 01/04/2018)

Country, area or territory	Number of specimens		Number of influenza A viruses detected by subtype					Number of influenza B viruses detected by subtype				Total number of influenza positive viruses	Total number of influenza negative viruses	ILI activity	
	Received/collected	Processed	A (H1N1 pdm09)	A (H3)	A (H5)	A (not subtyped)	A (Total)	B (Yamagata lineage)	B (Victoria lineage)	B (lineage not determined)	B (Total)				
Afghanistan	84	84	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	84	No Report
Albania		14	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		No Report
Algeria	16	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	Regional Outbreak	
Armenia		39	6	0		0	6	1	0	0	1	7		No Report	
Australia	318	466	6	4	0	3	13	0	0	3	3	16	313	Sporadic	
Austria		438	10	5		38	53	0	0	22	22	75		No Report	
Azerbaijan		25	0	0		0	0	0	0	2	2	2		No Report	
Bahrain	25	23	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	2	4	19	Sporadic	
Bulgaria		21	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0		No Report	
China	8415	6937	356	34	0	1	391	150	18	0	168	559	6378	Local Outbreak	
Côte d'Ivoire	49	49	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	47	Sporadic	
Cuba		59					0			0	0	0		No Report	
Czechia		59	8	0		2	10	3	0	1	4	14		No Report	
Denmark		2437	5	11		200	216	0	0	250	250	607		No Report	
Egypt	75	75	13	5			18			6	6	24	51	Local Outbreak	
Finland		9	0	3		0	3	4	0	0	4	7		No Report	
France		2566	21	11		99	131	8	0	265	273	404		No Report	
French Guiana	1	1					0	1			1	1		No Report	
Georgia		7	1	0		0	1	0	0	0	0	1		No Report	
Germany		150	35	5		0	40	25	0	0	25	65		No Report	
Greece		73	6	0		0	6	3	0	0	3	9		No Report	
Guadeloupe	0	0					0			0	0	0		No Report	

COMPONENTS / Actions	Progress achieved	Objectives for upcoming 3 years	Challenges
<b>SURVEILLANCE</b>	Egypt's national influenza centres are functioning well and its SARI and ILI surveillance system provides good quality representative baseline data on influenza epidemiology with support from the Partnership Contribution funds.	The Egyptian government is enhancing the capacity of its national public health system to respond rapidly if there are suspicions that a highly pathogenic influenza virus can be transmitted between humans in a sustained way.	New mutations/Avian influenza

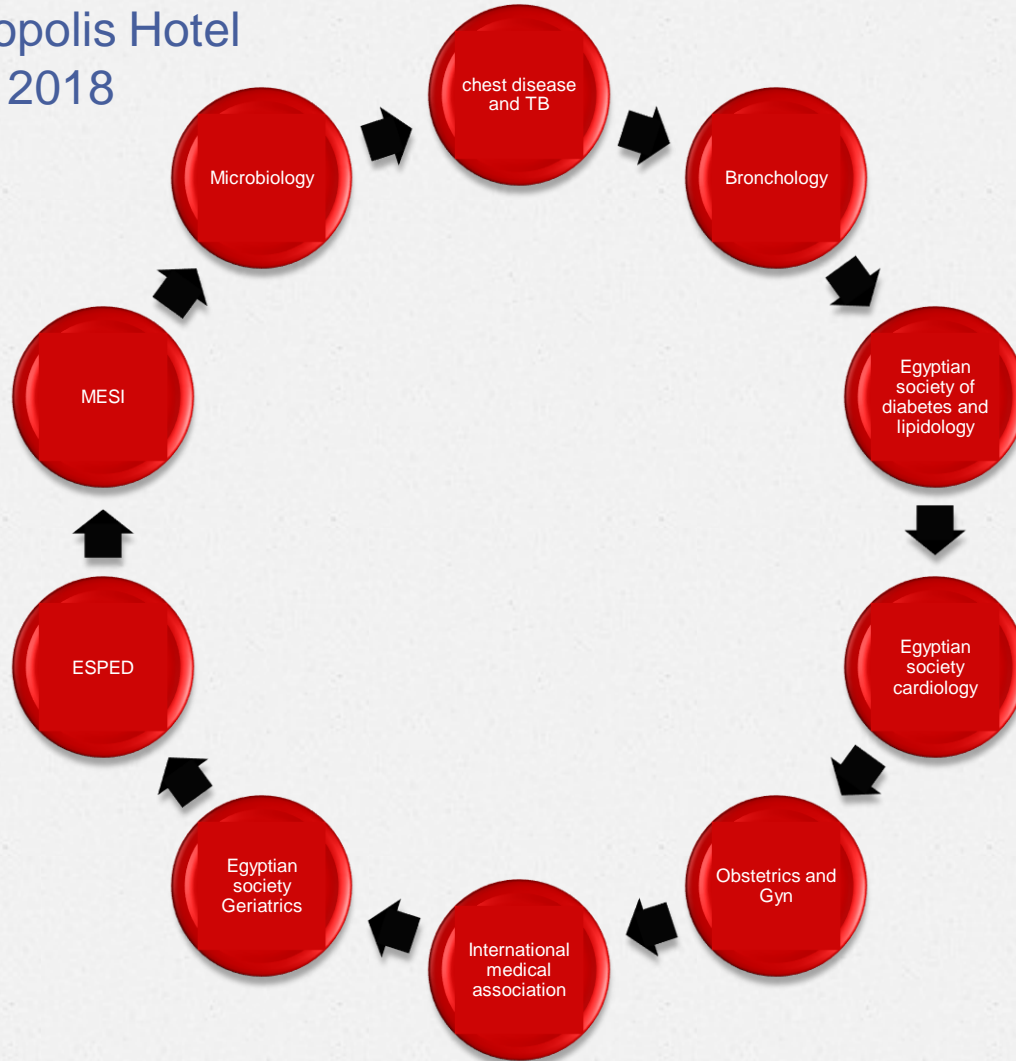


COMPONENTS / Actions	Progress achieved	Objectives for upcoming 3 years	Challenges
<b>VACCINATION</b>	Increased from 800 000 to 1 400 000 this year	Improve coverage rates particularly high risk groups & HCPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Priority</li> <li>- Under awareness of HCP and public</li> <li>- Safety issues</li> </ul>
<b>SOCIAL MOBILIZATION / EDUCATION / AWARENESS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Medical Societies meetings</li> <li>- TV programs</li> <li>- Media</li> <li>- Posters</li> </ul>	 <p>Influenza Advisory Board to include Medical Societies dealing with high risk groups, EMRO and MoH</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Priority</li> <li>- Financial</li> <li>- Political issues</li> </ul>
<b>ADVOCACY &amp; POLICY</b>	Several Press conferences including MoH and decision and policy makers	Inclusion of vaccination in National guidelines and National vaccination programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Priority</li> <li>- Financial</li> <li>- Influenza literacy</li> </ul>

# 1<sup>ST</sup> Egypt ISN meeting - Society Members

Fairmont Heliopolis Hotel

Feb 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018



# 1<sup>ST</sup> Egypt ISN meeting- Objectives & Agenda

## Egypt ISN Working Group

### Expert Meeting

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Venue: Fairmont Heliopolis

I

Duration	Topic	Presenter /Participants
12:00-12:15 pm	Coffee Break	
12:15- 12:30 pm	Opening & Welcome	Dina AbouElwafa
12:30- 13:00 pm	<b>Influenza Disease</b> <b>Fighting Influenza</b> "where do we stand from WHO GAP3"  <b>MENA ISN activities.</b>  <b>Our mission.</b>	Prof. Hisham Tarraf
13:00-15:30 pm	Open Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Unmet needs in Egypt</li> <li>- Unmet needs related to each specialty</li> <li>- Objectives of the Working Group</li> <li>- Where each society stands in terms of Influenza</li> <li>- Proposed activities to address the gaps</li> <li>- Establishment of national official recommendations for flu vaccination</li> </ul>	<b>Chest Disease and TB Society</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prof. <a href="#">Awad Tag Eldin</a></li> <li>- Prof. Wagdy Amin</li> </ul> <b>Egyptian scientific society of Bronchology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prof. Tarek Safwat</li> <li>- Prof. Ashraf Madkour</li> </ul> <b>Egyptian Society Of cardiology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prof. Sameh <a href="#">Shahin</a></li> </ul> <b>Egyptian society of pediatric endocrinology and diabetes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prof. Mona Salem</li> </ul> <b>Egyptian Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prof. <a href="#">Omajma Idris</a></li> </ul> <b>Egyptian Society Of Diabetes and lipidology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prof. Ibrahim ElEbrashy</li> </ul> <b>Modern Egyptian society of internists</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prof. Hisham Tarraf</li> </ul>

# 1<sup>ST</sup> Egypt ISN meeting- Agreed on objectives & actions

## Objectives

- **Improve surveillance** and disease **burden** data
- **Public awareness** :Draw focus on Burden of Disease in HRG & Leverage value of flu vaccine in HRG including HCPs
- **Leverage role of HCP** in conveying the value of Flu vaccine to patients
- **Defeat vaccination hesitancy/ limitations**
- **Liase with MOH & Increase its involvement** ....inclusion in National immunization program and mandatory vaccination policies
- **Increase VCR**

## Agreed on Actions

1. Alignment from all present societies to establish EGYPT ISN WG
2. Establish Network/SharePoint " website " for WG member societies interactions
3. Press conference to be held in September to announce the establishment of the EGYPT ISN WG
4. Biannual meetings for the WG to follow up on the conducted activities and the updates
5. Address letter to the "MOH head of preventive medicine" to announce the establishment of the WG
6. Invite to future meetings
  - WHO-EMRO
  - MOH preventive medicine official
7. Include in the WG the below specialties
  - Geriatrics
  - Pediatrics
  - Oncology
  - Nephrology
8. Leverage the importance of research in Egypt regarding influenza burden data from different specialties
9. Influenza awareness day – September media driven press conference with participation of all societies
10. Flu symposium and integration of flu session in all conferences agendas of member societies to leverage the awareness of HCP to value of flu vaccination in HRG
11. Include flu vaccination in all local guidelines of member societies ,, to be later on evidence based
12. Establishment of national recommendation for flu vaccination
13. 2<sup>nd</sup> EGYPT ISN WG meeting to be held in September 2018  
Proposes dates : 8/9/2018  
27/9/2018

# 1<sup>ST</sup> Egypt ISN meeting- Future activities

- **Flu Symposia to be integrated** in all conferences agendas
- Conducting Multidisciplinary **CME program**
- **Update Local guidelines/Position paper to include flu vaccine as part of the HRG patient management**
- **Priority list for vaccination...** National recommendation for flu vaccination
- **Liaise with MOH and WHO-EMRO ...**

# Flu Symposium

## Mediterranean international conference for Applied pediatrics



### Three reasons why QIVs are needed

- 1 Circulation of influenza B is unpredictable...**  
Vaccine compositions were adapted from monovalent in 1990s to trivalent in the 1990s. To reflect virus evolution since the 2000s, influenza B Victoria and Yamagata lineages co-circulated (70-80% of isolates) globally but TVVs contain only new B strain. Both B strains can circulate simultaneously during the same season and even within the same country, region hemisphere.
- 2 Influenza B disease burden is significant.**  
When influenza B activity is intense, it can produce an impact similar to that of influenza A. Clinical features of influenza B infection are virtually indistinguishable from influenza A, except in regard to the age distribution.
- 3 To broaden protection against influenza B...**  
Less than optimal protection can be expected when the TV B strain and circulating B strains are from different influenza B lineages. The cross lineage protection is depending on too many factors to rely on.

### Physician Recommendation is a key driver for influenza vaccination

Patient Attitude	Physician Recommendation	Percent Vaccinated
Positive	Yes	87%
	No	8%
Negative	Yes	70%
	No	7%

Physician Recommendation and Influenza Vaccination - US, 1988

JANUARY 1989, 37, 552-51

2<sup>nd</sup> MEDITERRANEAN INTERNATIONAL OF APPLIED PEDIATRICS CONGRESS

8<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL ARAB NEONATAL CARE CONFERENCE

4<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL NEONATOLOGY CONFERENCE AIN SHAMS UNIVERSITY

Scientific Program **DAY 1**

Time	Subject
01:00 PM - 03:30 PM	<b>SESSION 2</b> <b>CHAIRPERSONS:</b> Prof. Abdel Halim Badr Eldin Prof. Abdel Rahman El Mashhad Prof. Hala Gouda Prof. Moatza Beshir Prof. Shadia El Sallab Prof. Osama Abo Elfotouh
01:00 PM - 01:30 PM	<b>SPEAKERS:</b> <b>Non Invasive Ventilation, what Are the True Facts?</b> Prof. Ali Aljabri, Oman
01:30 PM - 02:00 PM	<b>HFD</b> Prof. Mohamed Fathallah, Egypt
02:00 PM - 02:30 PM	<b>Update on BPD Management &amp; Prevention</b> Prof. Mahmoud Saleh Elhatik, UAE
02:30 PM - 03:00 PM	<b>"Danone Symposium"</b> <b>Boosting the immune system : Role of Nutrition</b> Prof. Ihab Khairy, Egypt
03:00 PM - 03:30 PM	<b>"Sanofi Pasteur Symposium"</b> <b>Flu and Meningococcal Vaccines in Pediatrics</b> Prof. Adel Reyad, Egypt



# Flu Symposium

## Chest Disease and TB society



Session  
**Influenza Burden** 15:30 - 15:45

Prof. Ibrahim Radwan  
Prof. Hussein Abou Elyazeed  
Prof. Essam Moughazy

15 min

Flu Vaccine  
Prof. Gehan Elassal

### Influenza impact globally

Influenza occurs globally with an annual attack rate estimated at 5%–10% in adults and 20%–30% in children.

#### Worldwide

About 3 to 5 million cases of severe illness, and about 290 000 to 650 000 deaths.



### WHO position



**“The most effective way to prevent influenza and/or severe outcomes from influenza is vaccination.**

**Safe and effective vaccines are available and have been used for more than 60 years”**

	Actions	Main Activities	
2018	2- Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Design a number of Burden studies to measure the true impact of Influenza on different high risk groups. Initially involving:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Pregnant women</li><li>* COPD patients</li><li>* Diabetics</li><li>* Cardiovascular diseases.</li></ul></li></ul>	



## Actions

## Main Activities

2017/2018

### 3. Communication with Public.



1. Increase awareness of Influenza among public (Not just common cold) to understand magnitude of the problem, complications , safety & efficacy of vaccination. (Public awareness leaflets, flyers, posters ..etc.) – ongoing in pharmacies & HCPs clinics, popular clubs, schools & teach basic hygiene measures

2. Media, social media, with simplified language, knowledge and information in proper timing , by medical societies & bodies (Done)

3. Influenza slide kits to be included in diabetes educators courses. (Done)

# Influenza vaccine recommendations

National Clinical Practice Recommendations for Management of Diabetes Mellitus Dec. 2015”

## Editing Board



National Clinical Practice  
Recommendations for Management of  
Diabetes Mellitus 2015  
Ministry of Health & Population

Prepared by  
(National Diabetes Committee)



2015

National Clinical Practice  
Recommendations for Management of  
Diabetes Mellitus 2015  
Ministry of Health & Population

Prepared by  
(National Diabetes Committee)



2015

## Type 1 DM

*“Annually provide an influenza vaccine to all patients with diabetes ≥ 6 months of age.”*

## Type 2 DM

*“Yearly administer the Influenza vaccine to diabetics aged over 6 months”.*

**In 2016 Educational sessions for guidelines in all governorates including Influenza vaccine recommendations (specialist Program)**



Available online at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)

ScienceDirect

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*Editor in chief Prof: Mohamed Awad Tageldin*



*The Official Journal of Egyptian Society of Chest Diseases and Tuberculosis*  
*The Official Journal of Arab Thoracic Association*



# Influenza in Gynecology



Rofayda Health Park

January 18 · 🌐

Influenza vaccine is very safe for pregnant women during all stages of pregnancy.

If you have any questions that you want answered by our doctors, please send us a direct message and we will be happy to answer them for you!



ROFAYDA HEALTH TIPS

## Immunization and Pregnancy: To Do or Not To Do?



There are several different types of vaccines available and some vaccines can be harmful to a baby, so mothers need to be very careful before getting any immunization. However, there are some vaccines that are recommended before and during pregnancy.

### Related Links

- Clinics
- Maternity
- Academy
- Dar El Oyoum



### Why should pregnant women get vaccinated?

Firstly, an immunized pregnant woman will transfer her immunity to the baby. Also, immunization helps the mother avoid serious complications due to her naturally decreased immunity during pregnancy.

### What vaccines are recommended before pregnancy?

Design a study on Influenza disease burden in pregnancy in our region

<http://rofayda.org/health-tips/immunizationandpregnancy/>



## CONCLUSIONS / HIGHLIGHTS

- Improved surveillance
- Working on national vaccination programs to include Influenza vaccination in a suitable priority.
- Encourage studies on Influenza disease burden on different high risk groups.
- Proceed with a body of medical societies to unify efforts to fight influenza.
- Vaccination of HCPs

# Abflug / Departure

10.03.2017 13:35



Zeit Time	Flug Flight	Ziel / über Destination / via	Bemerkung Remark	Ausgang Gate
13:40	 EZY4557	Copenhagen	Cancelled	
13:40	 FR 4943	Palermo	Cancelled	
13:50	 FR 2502	Gran Canaria	Cancelled	
13:50	 FR 8543	London STN	Cancelled	
13:50	 SU 2319	Moscow SVO	Cancelled	
14:00	 EZY4795	Salzburg	Cancelled	
14:05	 FR 1142	Lisbon	Cancelled	
14:20	 DY 1105	Oslo	Cancelled	
14:45	 EZY4623	Budapest	Cancelled	
14:45	 FR 4085	Bari	Cancelled	
14:45	 MS 732	Cairo	Go to Gate	07 <==
15:00	 EZY4565	Amsterdam	Cancelled	

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Cairo, Egypt, showing a dense urban landscape with numerous buildings and a prominent river (the Nile) winding through the center. The image is overlaid with a large blue oval highlighting a specific area of the city and a smaller blue oval highlighting another area. The text 'THANK YOU' is written in large, bold, red letters in the upper right quadrant.

# THANK YOU

Kasr El-Aini  
Medical School