



# VACCINE SAFETY NET

# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- What is the VSN and what are its goals
- VSN background
- Evaluation of websites
- Quick facts about the Network
- VSN outreach
- VSN based activities
- VSN visual identity and portal
- VSN Web Analytics project
- Why should I join?

# WHAT IS THE VACCINE SAFETY NET (VSN)?



**The WHO established VACCINE SAFETY NET is a worldwide network of websites that provide reliable information on vaccine safety on the web.**

- ❑ To **facilitate** easy access to reliable, understandable, evidence-based information on the safety of vaccines for internet users, regardless of their geographic location and language
  
- ❑ To **collaborate** at an international level to increase awareness about vaccines, reduce vaccine hesitancy and strengthen confidence in vaccines by:
  - seeking to better understand internet users' needs, behaviours and preferences;
  - providing reliable information tailored to users' needs;
  - communicating vaccine safety information through a diversity of digital channels.

# VSN BACKGROUND

- ❑ Established in 2003 to counterbalance groups using the internet to question the utility of vaccination and websites providing unbalanced, misleading and alarming vaccine safety information
- ❑ A global network of websites, assessed by WHO, that provides reliable information on vaccine safety worldwide
- ❑ Key player: the GACVS, who defined the criteria for good information practices against which each website is evaluated

# EVALUATION OF WEBSITES

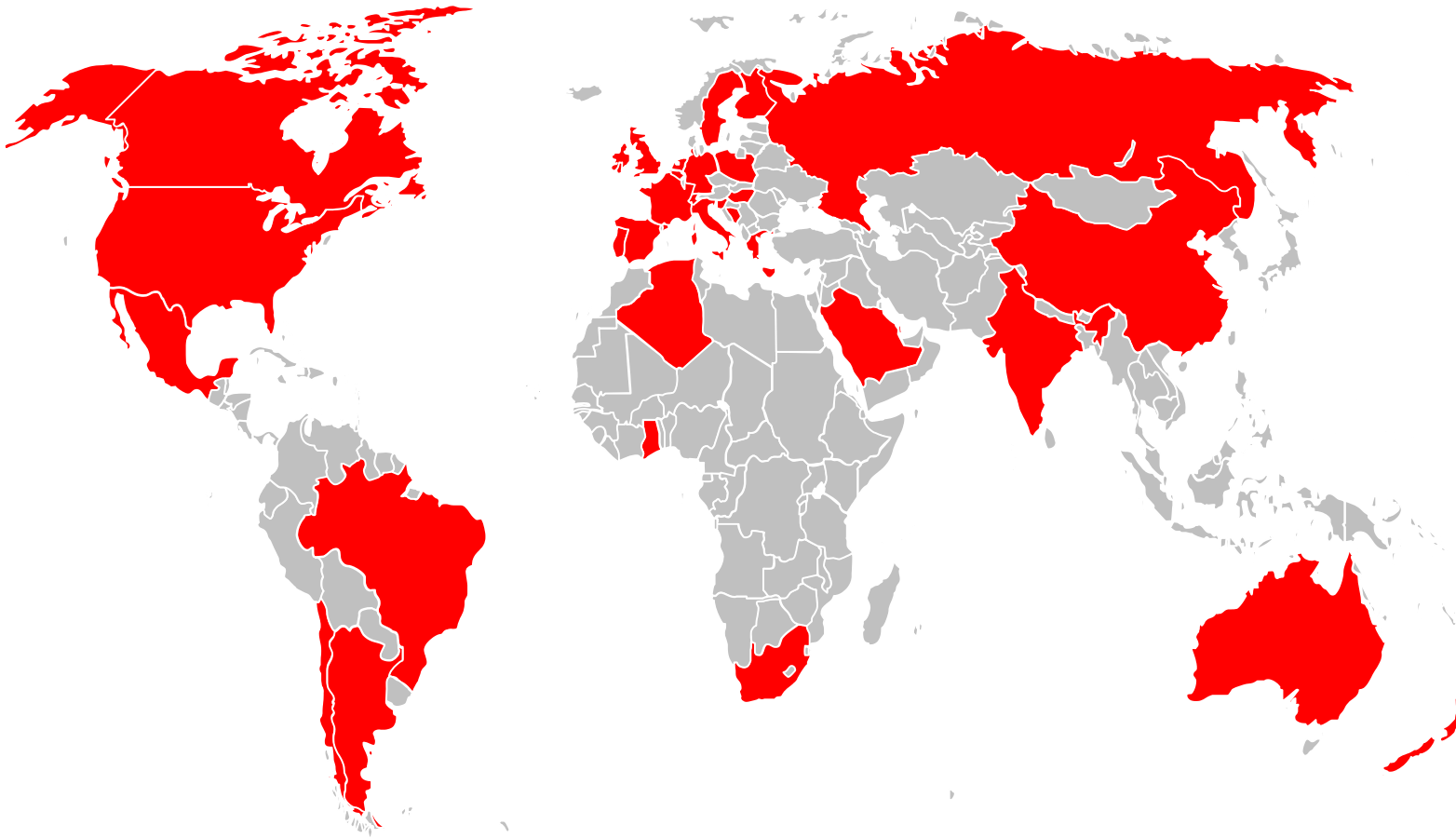
- ❑ Websites are evaluated based on established criteria related to:
  - Website's credibility and content (mandatory)
  - Website's accessibility and design (desired)
- ❑ Process: candidate organizations can self-nominate or be nominated
- ❑ Preliminary screening: inclusion versus exclusion criteria
  - **INCLUSION:** must meet 6 criteria, such as 1. Public health focus 2. If registration is required, must be free 3. Contain vaccine safety information 4. Contain evidence-based information 5. Provides balanced information – as defined by VSN: “unbiased information that presents all reasonable sides of a controversial issue in a fair way.” 6. Professional in its presentation (writing, structure, navigation)
  - **EXCLUSION:** Corporate websites and websites that are not updated regularly are excluded.
  - **FORMAL SCREENING:** Completed by experienced assessors and monitored by the VSN Secretariat



# QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE NETWORK

- ❑ The VSN network: **75 websites**, from **34 countries** across **6 WHO regions**, providing information in **24 languages**
- ❑ **20 candidates** websites have been evaluated lately:
  - ✓ **9** are working on the implementation of their recommendations (Israel, Philippines, Switzerland, Tanzania, Turkey x 2, USA, Uzbekistan, Zimbabwe)
  - ✓ **11** requested additional time to implement recommendations (Albania, Estonia, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Tanzania x2)
- ❑ **1 additional** websites requested to join: Poland

# VSN OUTREACH September 2019



■ VSN members: 75 from 34 countries providing reliable vaccine safety information in 24 languages

Country	N° of websites
Algeria	1
Argentina	3
Australia	5
Belgium	3
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2
Brazil	1
Canada	10
Chile	1
China	1
Croatia	1
European Union*	1
Finland	1
France	2
Germany	5
Ghana	1
Greece	1
Hungary	1
India	1
Ireland	1
Italy	3
Kingdom of Bahrain	1
Mexico	1
Netherlands	1
New Zealand	1
Poland	1
Portugal	1
Russian Federation	1
Saudi Arabia	1
Slovenia	1
South Africa	1
Spain	3
Sweden	1
Switzerland	3
United Kingdom	3
United States of America	10



# VSN BASED ACTIVITIES

- VSN Visual identity
  - ongoing inclusion on members homepage, participate to cross linking strategy to improving Google ranking of VSN members' websites
- Portal management
  - Members knowledge and information sharing
  - Collaboration on topics of interest
  - Members' user survey and redesign plan
- Research projects
  - Web analytics
  - Plan for ongoing opinion surveys implemented across the Network
- Partnerships with global digital platforms
  - VSN referenced by Pinterest
- Innovation hub
  - Development of a vaccine safety chatbot

- Multilanguage roster of scientific reviewers
  - Call for volunteers to assist with evaluation of candidates
- Partners' collaborations
  - VSN-CDC digital vaccine safety information package
  - GAVI Be:Cause
- VSN & Social media  
**@VaccineSafetyN**



# VSN VISUAL IDENTITY

## PURPOSE

- ❑ Signal to visitors that the website meets the Vaccine Safety Net criteria
- ❑ Promote the Network and its members

## USE

- ❑ Solely owned by the World Health Organization
- ❑ Can only be used by organizations whose websites have been validated by WHO as meeting the GACVS criteria for good information practices





Vaccine Safety Net Member

Immunize Canada is a proud member of the Vaccine Safety Net.

The Vaccine Safety Net is a global network of websites, evaluated by the World Health Organization, that provide reliable information on vaccine safety.

To learn more, visit [Vaccine Safety Net](#). ▶



Vaccini e vaccinazioni / Home

## Vaccini e vaccinazioni

## Sicurezza vaccinale e comunicazione: dell'Oms

27 ottobre 2016 - EpiCentro è nel Vaccine Safety... della sanità (Oms). Il network, nato nell'ambito della mira a fornire a operatori sanitari, istituzioni di salute accesso a informazioni scientificamente corrette e affidabili da diversi Paesi. Dopo un percorso di valutazione, infatti, poiché adempie a tutti i criteri di buona pratica in ma



Vsn

EpiCentro e Vsr

### Siti del Network

vacunación antimeningocócica:  
esquema actualizado  
renovado el capítulo sobre las  
vacunas frente a meningococos  
en nuestro manual en línea

a preocupante situación del  
sarampión en Europa  
Últimas noticias sobre el aumento  
de casos de sarampión en el  
nuestro país

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**Continuum. Curso básico online**  
Del 7 de febrero al 7 de junio de 2018



Web acreditada por la OMS 



maij 30, 2018

## Savjeti i novosti o zdravlju

- » Trudnoća i bebe
- » Djeca
- » Mladi
- » Žene
- » Muškarci
- » Treća dob
- » Mentalno zdravlje
- » Oralno zdravlje
- » Zdravlje porodice
- » Vakcinacija



➔ [Savjeti i novosti o zdravlju](#) ▶ [Vakcinacija](#)



- O značaju vakcinacije
- Mehanizam djelovanja vakcina
- Klasifikacija vakcina
- Kontraindikacije za vakcinaciju
- Nepoželjne reakcije na vakcinu
- Vakcinama preventabilne zarazne bolesti
  - Tuberkuloza (TBC)
  - Hepatitis B



**IAP Advisory Committee On Vaccines & Immunization Practices.**

Welcomes You

# VSN Social Media – @VaccineSafetyN



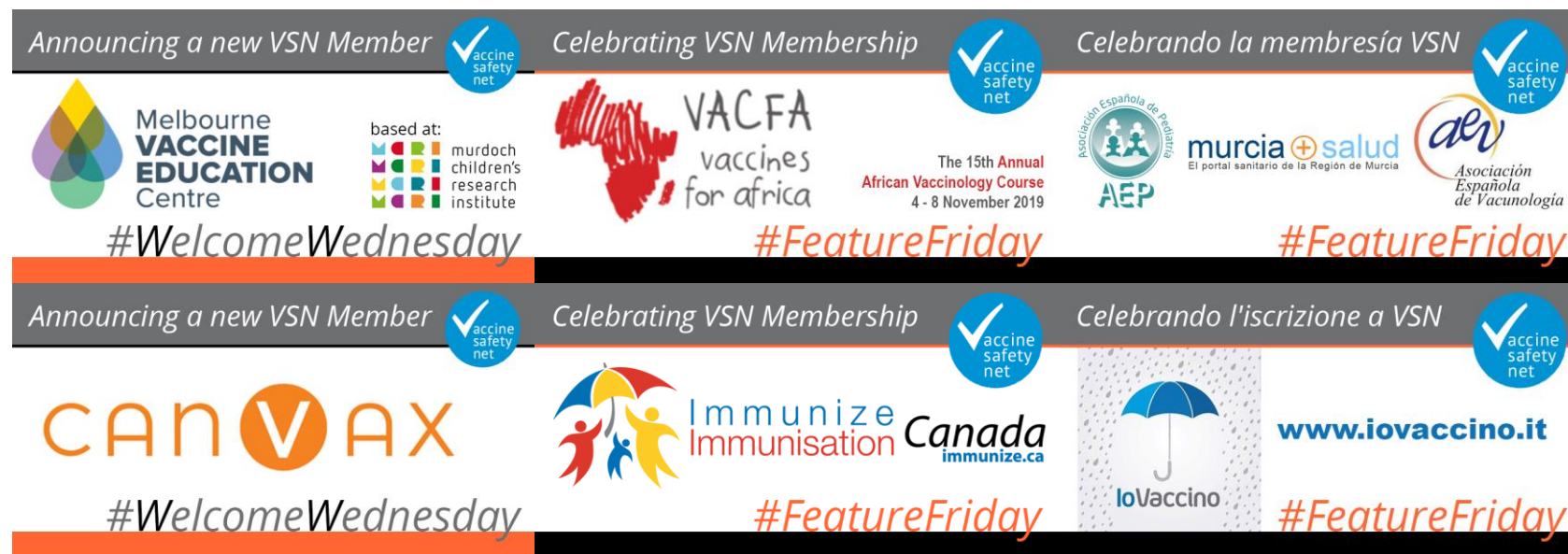
Replying to @WHO\_VSN @VaccinesToday and 29 others  
Make sure you get your vaccine information from reputable sources.

Look for the VSN member logo to make informed decisions from reliable evidence-based information.

Get the facts, get the vaccine.  
[#VaccinesWork](#)



- ❑ Dedicated to communicating about the facts and benefits of vaccines by identifying local trustworthy information in different languages.
- ❑ The accredited symbol for reliable vaccine information online.



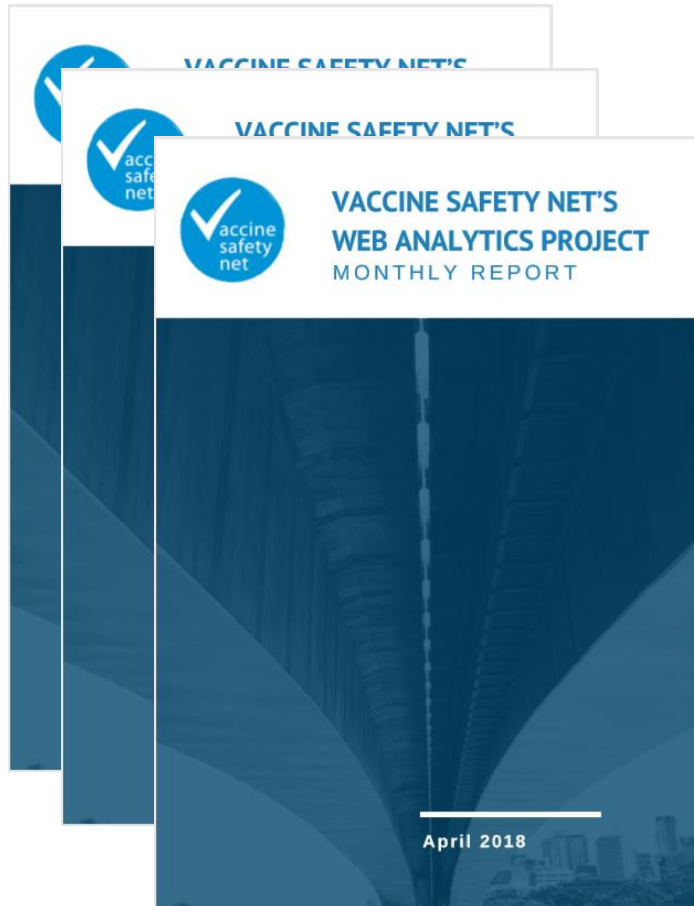


# VSN PORTAL – [www.vaccinesafetynet.org](http://www.vaccinesafetynet.org)



- ❑ The portal serves as the VSN's hub on the Internet with the following characteristics/goals:
  - A portal with a combined public and members-only area of the website.
  - Present and promote VSN
  - Present, promote and support the VSN members and their work
  - Facilitate and encourage exchange and collaboration among VSN members and relevant stakeholders

# VSN WEB ANALYTICS PROJECT



- ❑ Start implementation: May 2017
- ❑ First report: November 2017
- ❑ Websites contributing: 30
- ❑ Call for new contributors
- ❑ Discuss way forward

Collect, manage, analyze, interpret, formulate and propose to WHO and VSN members data driven vaccine safety information and communication strategies

# WHY SHOULD I JOIN?



- My website will be assessed by WHO against **GACVS criteria for good information practices** and recommendations will contribute to enhance my website's as per the latest standards
- As member of the VSN, **my website will be listed on the WHO website and the VSN portal** (credibility & visibility) and regularly **be promoted on social media** through the **@VaccineSafetyN** twitter account
- I will be allowed to display the VSN banner as seal of verified vaccine safety information – posting this banner on my homepage will contribute to a **cross-linking strategy, which affects the ranking of my website on google search**
- As member of the VSN, I will have **access to centralized, most up to date, vaccine safety information** that I will be able to re-use on my own website and share it with my audience
- As member of the VSN, I will be able to **exchange with worldwide stakeholders**, have access to **the latest best practices and guidance** on how best communicate the safety of vaccine, participate in network-based projects on vaccine safety information and communication strategies



