

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

DATE: 18/07/2020

HOURS: 17h30-18h30

AGENDA	DISCUSSION	DECISION/TO DO
1. Approval agenda and report		
1.1. Report Previous meeting (<i>approval</i>)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report approved
1.2. Agenda (<i>approval</i>)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agenda approved
1.3. RMG Dashboard (<i>information</i>)		
2. Situation overview (<i>information</i>)		
3. Prevention		
4. Surveillance and detection		
4.1 Increasing number of Covid-19 cases: epidemiological evaluation and actions to be taken/proposed (Sciensano)	<p>Sciensano presented a document on the epidemiological evaluation of the increasing amount of Covid-19 cases and the advised actions that should be taken. The increase can mainly be observed in the provinces of Antwerp, Limburg, West Flanders and Liège among the active population (20-59 years old). Observed clusters like in Antwerp and Limburg are often related to certain communities and activities like family gatherings, whether or not abroad.</p> <p>The Communities conduct research on the source of the cluster in cooperation with local actors. Based on that analysis, local measures can be taken to intervene proportionally where needed.</p>	<p>The RMG takes note of the sharp/alarming increase in number of confirmed cases in some municipalities.</p> <p>The RMG validates the actions proposed in the document « Situation épidémiologique en date du 17 juillet » of Sciensano with special attention to the strengthening of the communication in particular to the general public as well as to specific target audiences.</p> <p>The RMG also stresses the importance of taking proportional measures to manage local outbreaks. The RMG draws attention to the proven utility of the measures that are already</p>

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	<p>It must be ensured that the communication reaches the target groups so that all citizens are informed and sensitized.</p> <p>The Communities express the need to share analysis data and the common approach of clusters, just as to learn from each other.</p> <p>In the context of a no blame approach, the president of the RMG also stress on the importance of working together e.g. in the frame of contact tracing to tackle this crisis, to learn from incidents and to adapt the process on a continuous basis. Furthermore more attention should be given ensuring strict enforcement of the current measures which on the other side, are also well followed by a lot of people. Awareness and responsibility of the individual citizen should continuously be emphasized. Moreover, in general, outcome of actions, analyses, monitoring, contact tracing, etc. should be made more visible.</p> <p>An additional consultation between the Communities and Sciensano will be initiated in order that the data at the disposal of Sciensano will be linked to the field experience of the Communities. This information needs to be disseminated to the RMG and the GEES in order to propose/take proportionate measures.</p> <p>The Communities highlight the good collaboration with the municipalities concerning the case studies. In addition, the Communities emphasize that when errors appear in the contact research, they consult the database to assess and solve the issue.</p> <p>The actions to tackle clusters/trace sources should be clearly communicated so that the (causes leading to a) negative perception in this respect e.g. in the media can be altered.</p>	<p>in place and the importance of a decisive and effective enforcement.</p> <p>The RMG takes note of the current concrete actions by the federal entities to tackle clusters and to trace virus sources and agrees that more concrete visibility thereof can contribute to a correct perception.</p> <p>The RMG agrees and emphasizes that urgent efforts should be made to strengthen, providing resources and support the staffing of the understaffed and overloaded services involved.</p>

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	<p>It is pointed out that contact tracing on this scale in Belgium was set up in just 2-3 weeks and that all actors really do the maximum; shortcomings are analyzed and procedures improved.</p>	
5. Health care		
6. Stocks and shortages		
7. Communication		
8. International		
9. Date next meeting / agenda (approval)		
10. AOB		
10.1 Daily rapportage of data	<p>The Prime Minister requested to report again on a daily basis (also during the weekend) the data regarding the COVID-19-infections. Sciensano points out that this is already in place via Epistat, with the difference that there is no PDF with the aggregated information sent over during the weekend. Sciensano stresses that there must be an epidemiological justification to request hospitals again to provide these data in the weekend taking into account the acceptability, the ongoing workload and future necessary collaboration. The issue will be raised on the Consultative Committee on Sunday the 19th of July.</p>	<p>The RMG takes note of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -the request of the Prime Minister to receive again a daily rapportage and monitoring of infections data (in- and outpatient); -the willingness of Sciensano to grant this.
10.2 PLF	<p>The working group on electronical PLF's presented a document wherein different questions were raised that again need to be answered by the RMG; during the last meeting some PLF issues were already discussed after as it turned out being decided in the IFC. The RMG regrets that the some issues need to be discussed/decided upon in different fora and stresses the</p>	<p>The RMG takes note of the presentation regarding PLF's. Members can submit comments by Sunday July 19th 2020, 14H.</p>

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	importance of a clear determination of competences in order to avoid duplication of work.	

List of participants

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