

EN

E-000049/2025

Answer given by Mr Várhelyi  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(10.3.2025)

1. Vaccination is a key tool for prevention of communicable diseases. The study referred to in the question does not adhere to basic quality standards of scientific research, and the results are not in line with existing studies that do. Vaccination is a national competence, but the Commission supports Member States in achieving or maintaining high vaccination coverage rates. With the support of the European Medicines Agency and in cooperation with the European Centre for Disease Control (ECDC), the benefits and risks of vaccines/vaccinations are continuously monitored at EU level. The confidence of EU citizens in vaccines is overall high as reflected in Commission-funded studies on the topic<sup>1</sup>.

2. The Commission is not aware of comprehensive research directly comparing chronic disease rates between vaccinated and unvaccinated populations in Europe. Multiple studies from peer-reviewed journals highlight the essential role of vaccination in preventing infections that could otherwise lead to chronic health issues<sup>2,3</sup>. There is also no evidence linking routine vaccinations to an increased risk of chronic diseases<sup>4</sup>. In fact, evidence indicates that vaccines may help prevent conditions such as heart disease<sup>5,6</sup> or diabetes<sup>7</sup>.

3. Socio-economically disadvantaged groups may have lower vaccination coverage rates than the general population. Member States monitor vaccination coverage rates, including at a subnational level. In its revised mandate<sup>8</sup>, the ECDC is tasked to monitor the vaccination coverage for major communicable diseases in Member States. Efficient monitoring of vaccination coverage rates, including through electronic vaccination registries, is key to inform targeted public health action in the field.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/678e38ae-a154-11ea-9d2d-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>,  
<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/b8b69b9c-8965-11ec-8c40-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>,  
<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/b89452df-6958-11ed-b14f-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

<sup>2</sup> <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9144632/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35318115/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa021134>

<sup>5</sup>

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37370193/#:~:text=Influenza%20vaccination%20was%20associated%20with,%20D0.95%2C%20p%20%3D%200.0227%2C>

<sup>6</sup> <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31504439/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC8427438/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/2370/oj/eng>