

# Global Epidemiological Surveillance Standards for Influenza



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## Development history of this document:

- Summer 2010: Discussions of key parts of the proposed standards with the WHO Epidemiological Network, the pandemic evaluation group at WHO headquarters, and WHO regional office staff.
- December 2010: A WHO working group on Global Influenza Surveillance Standards was assembled to work on background documents for the Global Consultation planned for March 2011. The working group brought together experts from all six WHO regions who prepared technical briefing documents around key surveillance issues to be included in this document.
- January–February 2011: Teleconferences were held with all six regional offices to share the briefing documents and to discuss key elements in advance of the Global Consultation.
- March 2011: The Global Consultation on Influenza Surveillance Standards was held in Geneva. The consultation included epidemiologists and surveillance officers from 35 countries from all six regions, each of the WHO regional offices, representatives from PATH, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), and WHO. The report of the meeting is available on the WHO website at: [http://www.who.int/influenza/resources/documents/technical\\_consultation/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/influenza/resources/documents/technical_consultation/en/index.html)
- April 2011 – January 2012: Several drafts were produced based on the input from the Global Consultation and shared with the WHO epidemiological network, the working group, and other advisors for comments and input.
- February 2012: A draft document was shared and formal teleconferences were held with the six regional offices.
- March–April 2012: The draft document was circulated to members of the WHO working group and the members of the epidemiological network.
- Recommendations for baselines and threshold calculations were tested by the WHO Regional Office for Europe using data from Romania, and colleagues in Australia using data from Victoria.
- July–October 2012: Publication of the WHO Global Interim Epidemiological Surveillance Standards for Influenza on the WHO influenza website (<http://www.who.int/influenza/en/>) for wider comments.

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## Abbreviations and acronyms

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ARDS	Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome
ARI	Acute Respiratory Infection
GISRS	Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System
GISN	Global Influenza Surveillance Network
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICPC	International Classification of Primary Care
ICD	International Classification of Diseases
IHR	International Health Regulations
ICU	Intensive Care Unit
ILI	Influenza-Like Illness
MEM	Moving Epidemics Method
NIC	National Influenza Centre
PHEIC	Public Health Emergency of International Concern
PIP	Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework
RT	Reverse Transcriptase
PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction
SARI	Severe Acute Respiratory Infection
WHO	World Health Organization
WHO CC	WHO Collaborating Centre

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