

**WHO Meeting of Final Review of the RSV Surveillance Pilot
Based on the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System
from 23 to 25 October 2018
Bangkok, Thailand**

1. Background

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) is a leading viral cause of acute, sometimes even fatal lower respiratory tract infections in infants and young children. RSV surveillance will provide the evidence-base on seasonality, disease burden, and risk groups to guide immunization practices once the RSV vaccine becomes available.

A two year pilot project on RSV surveillance based on the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS) was initiated globally in 14 countries across all six WHO regions in 2016. A WHO meeting in Washington DC, from 18 to 20 December 2017 reviewed the mid-term progress of the RSV surveillance, shared experiences, challenges and preliminary findings of the pilot.

The proposed meeting will bring together participating countries, international experts and other stakeholders, at the end of the pilot project, to review and share the final outcomes of the pilot and discuss the post-pilot issues and actions including sustainability of the RSV surveillance.

2. Scope and Objectives

The overall aim of this meeting is to review the final outcomes of the global RSV surveillance pilot and develop post-pilot actions.

The specific objectives of this meeting are to:

- a) finalize the RSV surveillance strategy based on the findings of the pilot;
- b) share experiences, challenges faced by the national laboratories and the sentinel sites participating in the RSV surveillance pilot;
- c) review the final outcomes of the surveillance pilot including seasonality, disease burden, performance of case definition, incremental costs, feasibility and collateral impact on influenza surveillance; and
- d) discuss next steps and the potential for strengthening RSV surveillance to include genetic characterization of RSV, methodology framework to estimate RSV burden from surveillance information, and building a platform for future vaccine effectiveness studies.

3. Expected outcome

- a) A final version of the WHO global RSV surveillance strategy
- b) Scientific peer-reviewed manuscripts on the seasonality, disease burden and performance of surveillance case definitions for RSV
- c) A roadmap for post-pilot RSV surveillance

4. Outline of the agenda

- Two-year experiences – Experiences, challenges and solutions from sentinel sites and testing laboratories in the global RSV surveillance pilot
- Final outcomes – RSV Seasonality, disease burden estimates, sensitivity of RSV case definition
- Data reporting and dissemination – FluMart, quality control, use and dissemination of RSV surveillance data
- Finalizing the RSV surveillance strategy
- Beyond 2018 – Sustaining and strengthening RSV surveillance

5. Participants

- Laboratory and epidemiological surveillance focal points from countries participating in the RSV surveillance pilot
- RSV Reference Laboratory representatives
- International RSV experts
- Global, regional partners and other interested entities