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# Vaccine

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## Letter to the Editor

### MesVaccins.net: A global, multi-functional and integrated platform for information and communication on vaccination

Dear Editor,

The success of vaccination as a public health tool depends on the awareness and support of its importance by healthcare professionals and the general public as well as the ability to accurately record and trace which vaccines have been administered to whom and when. In practice, a vaccination schedule can be hindered by various factors. These include difficulties in the adhesion to complex recommendations as well as more and more risk-benefit criteria, leading to an increasing need for a more personalized approach. Additionally, poor communication of factual information and ‘fake news’ can result in an increasingly poor perception of vaccines in general by some sectors of the public and by some healthcare professionals. Resultant ‘vaccine-hesitancy’ is one of the major issues that hamper the control of vaccine-preventable diseases, such as the 2017 measles outbreak in Europe [1]. Finally, vaccination records can be poor and are regularly lost, meaning a patient’s vaccination history is often not available. The result is commonplace over- or under-vaccination, which can lead to reduced vaccine efficacy and reinforce vaccination hesitancy.

We would like to introduce a website ([mesvaccins.net](http://mesvaccins.net)) and Smart Phone application aimed at healthcare professionals and the general public. It provides up-to-date personalized electronic records of vaccination history, ensuring traceability of vaccines received, and is continually available on-line to both the patient and the vaccine administrator. Mesvaccins.net is currently undergoing integration into other healthcare applications and provides pertinent information regarding vaccine recommendations, promoting good vaccination practices and coverage. Importantly the tool also has the potential to empower the general public regarding their own vaccination status, including the provision of systematic and personalized reminders of vaccination status as well as any risks. Such personalization results in better adapted, accurate information being available for a patient, and could lead to improved empowerment and a better capacity to make appropriate vaccination decisions, e.g. the tool can recommend the appropriate vaccination and schedule for individual patients. Information including vaccine shortages or epidemic situations can also be incorporated by vaccinology professionals and provided in real-time. The tool also contributes to continuing education of healthcare professionals regarding vaccines. It provides factual data regarding aspects such as vaccine coverage and safety,

can be used for research projects on a variety of vaccine-based topics, and is kept continually up-to-date by a group of experts. It has been used to support improvements in vaccination policy [2] and to compare vaccination calendars in European countries [3]. Initially developed in France, mesvaccins.net has been cited, recommended, or used by numerous national and international institutions including the ECDC and WHO, and discussions are ongoing to make it a fully international resource.

To summarize, mesvaccins.net has the potential to empower and inform patients and healthcare providers regarding vaccine requirements and regulations, using fact-based evidence to improve vaccine advocacy, understanding, and uptake, as well as providing a personalized service to alert individuals to their vaccination status and needs. It contributes to the large scale customization, harmonization, and reconciliation of vaccine-related information provided to patients either directly or via healthcare professionals.

### References

- [1] European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. Epidemiological update: measles – monitoring European outbreaks, 7 July 2017 [French]. <https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/news-events/epidemiological-update-measles-monitoring-european-outbreaks-7-july-2017> [accessed 09.01.18].
- [2] Ministère des Affaires Sociales, de la Santé et des Droits des Femmes. Programme Nationale d’Amélioration de la Politique Vaccinale (National Program for the Improvement of National Vaccination Policy) 2017 [French]. [http://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/programme\\_national\\_d\\_amelioration\\_de\\_la\\_politique\\_vaccinale\\_2012-2017\\_2\\_.pdf](http://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/programme_national_d_amelioration_de_la_politique_vaccinale_2012-2017_2_.pdf) [accessed 09.01.18].
- [3] European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. Vaccine schedule 2017. <https://vaccine-schedule.ecdc.europa.eu/> [accessed 09.01.18].

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