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Function: Pulmonology/ Intensive Care Consultant,
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Main expertise: Pulmonology/Intensive Care
Respiratory Infections (AMR)
Vaccines
Pandemic preparedness



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Declaration of interests (<36 months)

Research grants/clinical trials:	MSD
Lector for:	MSD, GSK, AstraZeneca, Sanofi, Novavax, Gilead, Bial, Hipra, Roche
Member of scientific (advisory) board:	MSD, GSK, AstraZeneca, Sanofi, Hipra
Employer (including part-time)	None
Tobacco industry relationship:	None!!!






The greatest enemy of knowledge is not ignorance,
it is the illusion of knowledge.
(Stephen Hawking)

COMPANIES PAY TOO MUCH ATTENTION TO
THE COST OF DOING SOMETHING. THEY
SHOULD WORRY MORE ABOUT THE COST OF
NOT DOING IT.
- PHILIP KOTLER -

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	ADULTS	COVID-19	Influenza	Td(ap)	Pneumo	RSV	Shingles	Others?
Portugal	Are these vaccines recommended specifically for all older adults in the National/Regional Vaccination Program (NVP)?	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	N/A
	At what age are these vaccines recommended in the NVP? Ad	60+ (18+ at risk)	60+ (18+ at risk)	Lifelong	65+ (18+ at risk)	NO	NO	N/A
	What is the recommended frequency of vaccination for older adults as per the NVP?	Annual	Annual	65+: 10-10y 18+: 20-20y	PCV20→PSV23 (single dose)	NO	NO	N/A
	Do the recommendations in the NVP differ from those provided by the National Immunization Technical Advisory Group (NITAG)?	NO	NO	NO	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Which specific vaccine(s) are recommended for older adults in the NVP?	Cominarty	Influvac Vaxigrip Efluelda	Boostrix?	PCV20 PPSV23	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Is vaccination publicly funded for older adults? If partially reimbursed, what is the out-of-pocket cost?	Free	Free	Free	PCV20: 31-40.7€ PSV23: 12.9-17.0€	N/A	N/A	N/A
	What is the full price of the vaccine without reimbursement?	N/A	SD: 14.10€ HD: 50€	N/A	PCV20: 64.60€ PPSV: 26,99€	197,50€	176.90€	N/A
	Who is authorized to administer the vaccine?	MD, RN, pharmacists	MD, RN, pharmacist	MD, RN	MD, RN, pharmacist	MD, RN, pharmacist	MD, RN, pharmacist	N/A
	What is the cost of a HCP's visit (for vaccination)?	0€	0€	0€	0-5€	0-5€	0-5€	N/A
	What is the vaccination coverage rate in the target group (older adults)?	65+: 50%	65+: 74%	>95%	?	?	?	N/A
	Target coverage?	75%	75%	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Are healthcare providers (HCPs) also recommended for vaccination in the NVP?	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
	Are vaccines for HCPs reimbursed? If partially, what is their out-of-pocket cost?	Free	Free	Free	PCV20: 31-40.7€ PSV23: 12.9-17.0€	197,50€	176.90€	N/A

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	<div> <p>Recommended vaccines for older adult:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NIP: COVID + Influenza + Td(ap) + Pneumococcal - Scientific Societies: NIP + RSV + Shingles <p>Eligibility (NIP):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Age criteria: 60+ (50+): COVID-19 + Influenza; 65+: Pneumococcal + Td(ap) 10-10y - Risk criteria: 18+ at risk: COVID-19 + Influenza + + Pneumococcal </div>							
	<div> <p>PULMONOLOGY 2025, VOL. 31, NO. 1, 2451-1456 https://doi.org/10.1080/23310429.2025.2451456</p> <p>SPP   Taylor & Francis Open Access Group</p> <p>OPEN ACCESS </p> <p>Respiratory syncytial virus vaccination in older adults and patients with chronic disorders: A position paper from the Portuguese Society of Pulmonology, the Portuguese Association of General and Family Medicine, the Portuguese Society of Cardiology, the Portuguese Society of Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology, the Portuguese Society of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism, and the Portuguese Society of Internal Medicine</p> <p>Tiago Alfaro^{1,2,3,4,5}, Filipe Froes^{6,7}, Cláudia Vicente⁸, Rui Costa^{9,10}, Cristina Gavina^{11,12,13}, Rui Baptista^{14,15}, António Malo^{16,17,18,19}, Saraiva da Cunha²⁰, João Sérgio Neves^{21,22}, Pedro Leuschner^{23,24}, Sofia Duque^{25,26} and Paula Pinto^{27,28}</p> <p>GUIDELINES CONSENSUS</p> <p>Recomendações para a Vacinação contra o Herpes Zoster: Documento de Consenso da Sociedade Portuguesa de Medicina Interna e da Associação Portuguesa de Medicina Geral e Familiar <i>Recommendations for Herpes Zoster Vaccination: Consensus Report from the Portuguese Society of Internal Medicine and the Portuguese Association of General and Family Medicine</i></p> <p>Sofia Duque^{2,23,24}, António Marinho^{14,25}, Paulo Almeida^{18,26}, Raul Marques Pereira^{19,27,28,29}, Rui Buzzaco^{14,29} DOI: https://doi.org/10.24950/rspmi.1886</p> </div>							

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	ADULTS	COVID-19	Influenza	Td(ap)	Pneumo	RSV	Shingles	Others?
Portugal	<p>Access points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COVID-19 + Influenza → If included in the Official Guidelines, no medical consultation or prescription needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pharmacies and primary care ▪ Hospitals: Healthcare professionals working in hospitals and patients with severe adverse effects - Td(ap) → No medical consultation or prescription needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Primary care (NIP); Hospitals/ED: acute episode (tetanus) - Pneumococcal → Only with medical prescription: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Primary care and pharmacies 							
	Who is authorized to administer the vaccine?	MD, RN, pharmacist	MD, RN, pharmacist	MD, RN	MD, RN, pharmacist	MD, RN, pharmacist	MD, RN, pharmacist	N/A

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	ADULTS	COVID-19	Influenza	Td(ap)	Pneumo	RSV	Shingles	Others?
Portugal	<p>Key challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase coverage among healthcare professionals (victims of disease, transmission vectors, and vaccination role models) - Increase vaccination coverage in the population (>75% in 65+) - Improve communication (e.g., vaccination campaigns) - Monitor vaccination coverage (weekly, monthly or annual review) - Conduct periodic evaluation of disease impact and burden of disease - Improve TRUST (population, official organizations, science) 							
	<p>‘The key ingredient of any vaccine is trust’</p> <p>Barry Bloom, Harvard School of Public Health</p>							
	What is the vaccination coverage rate in the target group (older adults)?	65+: 50%	65+: 74%	>95%	?	?	?	N/A
	Target coverage?	75%	75%	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Are healthcare providers (HCPs) also recommended for vaccination in the NVP?	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO

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Future Perspectives

Portugal - Short term:

- Inclusion of new vaccines in the NIP (RSV, HZ, PCV21)
- Lowering the age threshold to 50 years (COVID-19, Influenza, Pneumococcal, RSV, HZ)

Global:

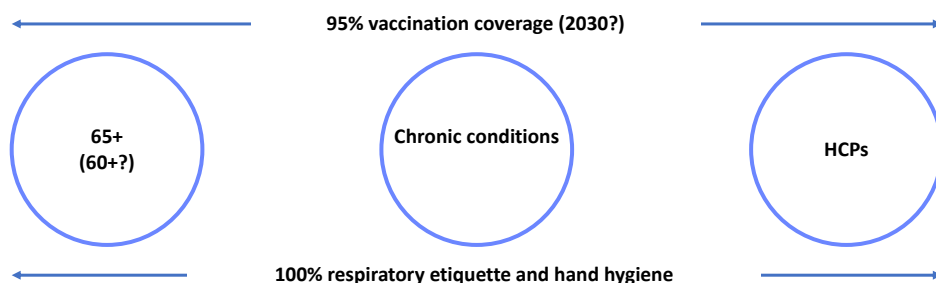
- New vaccines (MRSA, *Clostridium difficile*, etc.) or replacement with more effective, safer, longer-lasting vaccines, and tailored for specific population subgroups (frail, immunocompromised) (AI?)
- Promotion of "Lifelong Immunization"
- Highlighting the value of vaccination in Healthy Aging and Longevity
- Utility in other diseases (oncology, autoimmune, degenerative, etc.) → personalized medicine
- Indirect utility of vaccines in pandemic preparedness and antimicrobial resistance

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Future Perspectives

The example of influenza vaccination:

- There's no need to reinvent the wheel! → **95-95-95**
- Implement the same strategy already used for controlling AIDS, proposed in 2021, with excellent results.



Froes F, Kassianos G. Why Not a 95-95-95 Strategy for Influenza by 2030? DOI: 10.1080/25310429.2025.2491896

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Why not a 95-95-95 strategy for influenza by 2030?

F. FROES AND G. KASSIANOS