

Name: Filipe Froes



Country: Portugal

Affiliation: Hospital Pulido Valente, ULSSM, Lisboa

Function: Pulmonology/ Intensive Care Consultant,
Head ICU, PhD Public Health
Portuguese National Council for Public Health

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

Why is Portugal interesting in context of adult vaccination?



Adult Immunization Board (AIB)
Country meeting:

*Adult immunization in Portugal:
successes, lessons learned
and the way forward*

25 – 26 November 2025
##, Lisbon, Portugal

Filipe Froes, MD, PhD

Respiratory Medicine and Intensive Care Consultant

Head of Intensive Care Unit of Hospital Pulido Valente - ULSSM, Portugal

PhD in Public Health and Member of the Portuguese National Council for Public Health

Visiting Full Professor at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Coimbra, Portugal

Former Advisor to the Portuguese Directorate-General for Health / Department of Health

Declaration of interests (<36 months)

Research grants/clinical trials:	MSD
Lector for:	MSD, GSK, AstraZeneca, Sanofi, Novavax, Gilead, Hipra, Roche
Member of scientific (advisory) board:	MSD, 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)

Institutions

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

- PHILIP KOTLER -

National Vaccination Plan of Portugal (NVP)

The National Vaccination Plan of Portugal was founded on October 4, **1965** (60 years ago...). The Ministry of Health and Assistance officially created the program with the goal of ensuring **free, universal, and organized** vaccination for the entire Portuguese population.

PNV 2025

Vacina/ Infecção-Doença	nascimento	2 meses	4 meses	6 meses	12 meses	18 meses	5 anos	10 anos	25 anos	45 anos	65 anos	10/10 anos
VHB Hepatite B	VHB 1	VHB 2		VHB 3								
Hib infecção por <i>Haemophilus influenzae b</i>		Hib 1	Hib 2	Hib 3		Hib 4						
DTPa difteria, tétano, tosse convulsa		DTPa 1	DTPa 2	DTPa 3		DTPa 4	DTPa 5					
VIP poliomielite		VIP 1	VIP 2	VIP 3		VIP 4	VIP 5					
Pn20 infecção por <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>		Pn ₂₀ 1	Pn ₂₀ 2		Pn ₂₀ 3							
MenB infecção por <i>Neisseria meningitidis B</i>		MenB 1	MenB 2		MenB 3							
MenACWY <i>Neisseria meningitidis ACWY</i>					MenACWY							
VASPR sarampo, parotidite epidémica, rubéola					VASPR 1		VASPR 2					
HPV infecção por vírus do papiloma humano								HPV 1,2				
Tétano, difteria e tosse convulsa									Tdpa - Grávidas			
Tétano e difteria								Td	Td	Td	Td	Td

In 2025:

NVP covers **12** disease (Hep B, Hib, DTP, Polio, *S pneumoniae*, Meningitis, MMR, and HPV).

In risk groups, it covers **7** additional diseases: BCG, Rotavirus, Varicella, Hepatitis A, mPox, Rabies, COVID-19.

In newborns, it provides protection against **RSV** with a monoclonal antibody (Nirsevimab®)

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Involvement of scientific societies

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Tétano e difteria								Td	Td	Td	Td	Td

Official guidelines for **adults** (not NVP):



REPÚBLICA
PORTUGUESA



DGS

Direção-Geral
da Saúde



Rita Sá
Machado

NORMA


Número: 009/2025

Data: 09/09/2025


Assunto: Campanha de Vacinação Sazonal contra a Gripe: Outono-Inverno 2025-2026

Flu

ITV (free or reimbursed)
HD (free, only 85+)




REPÚBLICA
PORTUGUESA



DGS

Direção-Geral
da Saúde



Rita Sá
Machado

NORMA


Número: 010/2025

Data: 09/09/2025


Assunto: Estratégia de Vacinação contra a COVID-19: Esquema Vacinal Primário e Campanha de Vacinação Sazonal Outono-Inverno 2025-2026

COVID-19

Comirnaty
LP 8.1 (free, only)




REPÚBLICA
PORTUGUESA



DGS

Direção-Geral
da Saúde



Rita Sá
Machado

NORMA

Número: 013/2024

Data: 19/12/2024

Assunto: Atualização da Estratégia de Vacinação Pneumocócica – Programa Nacional de Vacinação e Grupos de Risco

Pneumococcal

PCV20 +
PPSV23
(free or reimbursed)

National Vaccination Plan of Portugal (NVP - PNV)

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The Ministry of Health and Assistance officially created the program with the goal of ensuring **free, universal, and organized** vaccination for the entire Portuguese population.

**Involvement
of scientific
societies**

No **official** recommendations for other vaccines/diseases

Influenza:

Live attenuated vaccine available, **not** reimbursed (ages 2–18)

High-dose vaccine available, **not** reimbursed for ages 65 to 84

Recombinant, adjuvanted, and cell-based vaccines **not** available

COVID-19:

Adjuvanted recombinant single-dose vaccine available **not** reimbursed

Pneumococcal disease:

PCV21 available but **not** reimbursed

Other vaccines:

RSV vaccines (GSK, Pfizer) available but **not** reimbursed

RSV mRNA vaccine **not available**

Herpes zoster vaccine available **not** reimbursed

Official guidelines for **adults** (not NVP):



IIV (free or reimbursed)
HD (free, only 85+)



Comirnaty
LP 8.1 (free, only)



PCV20 + PPSV23
(free or reimbursed)

Factors contributing to vaccination success

Weekly and Final monitoring of VCR (influenza and COVID-19)

RELATÓRIO SEMANAL | VACINAÇÃO SAZONAL | 18-11-2025

VACINAÇÃO SAZONAL CONTRA A COVID-19 E CONTRA A GRIPE

COVID-19	Número de pessoas vacinadas contra a COVID-19	
	Acumulado	Varição últimos 7 dias
TOTAL	1.152.030	+ 61.626
Farmácias	555.205	+ 24.516
SNS	595.676	+ 36.976

GRIPE	Número de pessoas vacinadas contra a gripe	
	Acumulado	Varição últimos 7 dias
TOTAL	2.041.387	+ 131.399
Farmácias	970.498	+ 52.489
SNS	1.068.849	+ 78.686

NÚMERO DE PESSOAS VACINADAS E COBERTURA VACINAL POR GRUPO ETÁRIO

Grupo etário	COVID-19		GRIPE	
	Nº pessoas vacinadas	Cobertura vacinal	Nº pessoas vacinadas	Cobertura vacinal
85+ anos	185.491	54.29%	266.012	77.86%
80-84 anos	149.902	43.06%	235.612	67.69%
70-79 anos	384.683	37.80%	636.679	62.56%
60-69 anos	290.033	22.35%	502.756	38.74%
Total 65+	889.330	38.10%	1.426.652	61.11%
Total 60+	1.010.109	33.61%	1.641.059	54.60%



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

The Vacinómetro® initiative: an eleven-year monitorization of influenza vaccination coverage rates among risk groups in Portugal

F. Froes^a, A. Morais^b, V. Hespanhol^b, R. Nogueira^c, J.S. Carlos^c, N. Jacinto^c, M. Martins^d, C. Gomes^d, C.R. Cordeiro^{a,b}

VCR: 75%
65+
2019–2020

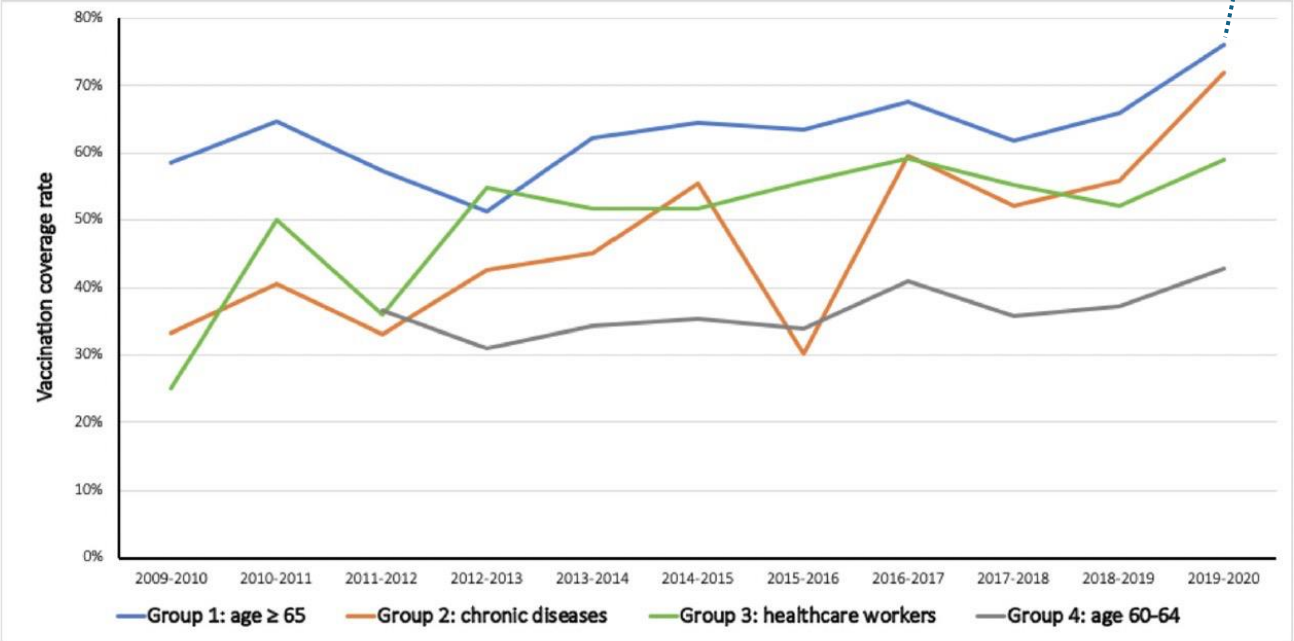


Fig. 1 Evolution of influenza vaccination coverage rates by risk group.

Adult VCR for influenza only, since 2009 and almost in real time

Factors contributing to vaccination success

Weekly and Final monitoring of VCR (influenza and COVID-19)

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The three “C”

Convenience:

Accessibility through Primary Health Care and **Pharmacies** (in pharmacies, no medical prescription is required if included in official guidelines)

Complacency:

Assessment of disease risk and vaccination benefit. (lack of national data on disease burden)

Confidence:

Strong trust in official authorities and low vaccine hesitancy (confidence decreased after the pandemic, especially regarding the COVID-19 vaccine)

Adult Vaccination in Portugal – SWAT Analysis

Strengths

- Successful history with high VCR
- Trust in vaccines and official authorities
- Accessibility (e.g., pharmacies since 2012)
- Involvement of Scientific Societies in recommendations
- Timely monitoring of influenza and COVID-19 (weekly report and Vacinómetro®)

Opportunities

- Healthy aging
- Health sustainability
- Combating antimicrobial resistance
- Impact on other diseases (e.g., cancer)

Weaknesses

- Focus on children and little on adults
- More studies on disease burden
- Increased surveillance (e.g., other diseases, wastewater)
- Delays in recommendations and reimbursement

Threats

- Strategic dependence
- Cost of vaccines (not seen as an investment)
- Inappropriate communication
- Loss of trust
- Vaccine hesitancy / Misinformation

Let the work begin...

Country meeting: Meeting objectives

Draft meeting objectives (Part 1)

- Review the **structure of the healthcare system** in Portugal, focusing on **how adult vaccination programs are integrated into the national vaccination plan**. Analyze current **policies and strategies** for adult vaccination. Discuss the **purchase, distribution and funding** of adult vaccines.
- Provide an overview of the **epidemiology and disease burden of VPI among adults in Portugal**. Explain the functioning of infectious disease surveillance and control programs in Portugal. Discuss the **effectiveness of current surveillance systems in detecting and responding to vaccine-preventable diseases** in adults.
- Explore the **organization and delivery of adult vaccination services** from different perspectives (e.g. DGS, nurse, pharmacist, healthcare provider).
- Discuss the **recording and reporting of vaccination data** in Portugal, including coverage rate, vaccine impact monitoring and vigilance practices.

Country meeting: Meeting objectives

Draft meeting objectives (Part 2)

- Analyze the **population's vaccination demand and acceptance**, addressing issues such as vaccine confidence.
- Analyze the **factors contributing to Portugal's consistently high childhood and influenza vaccination coverage compared to other European countries**, and examine how these may inform adult immunization strategies.
- Present the strategies and programs implemented in Portugal to **vaccinate specific adult population groups**, highlighting the challenges and opportunities.
- Explore **future prospects and potential solutions to overcome barriers and enhance adult immunization efforts in Portugal** and other European countries.