

Adult Immunization Board - Country meeting

# Adult Immunization in Portugal: Successes, lessons learned and the way forward

Meeting Summary

25-26 November 2026

Lisbon, Portugal

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# Meeting objectives: Portugal



- Review the **structure of the healthcare system** in Portugal, and **integration of adult vaccination programs** into the national vaccination plan.
- 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.
- Analyse the population's **vaccination demand and acceptance**, addressing issues such as **vaccine confidence**.
- Present the strategies and programs implemented in Portugal to **vaccinate specific adult population groups**, highlighting the challenges and opportunities.
- Analyse 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**
- Explore future prospects and **potential solutions** to overcome barriers and enhance adult immunization efforts in Portugal and other European countries.

# Disclaimer



*“If you want me to give you a two-hour presentation, I am ready today. If you want only a five-minute speech, it will take me two weeks to prepare.”*

Mark Twain

**This summary only covers the Portugal-focused presentations**

# Structure of the healthcare system in Portugal and integration of adult vaccination programs into the national vaccination plan



**Portuguese Healthcare System:** a mixed overlapping health system combining:

- A universal tax-financed **National Health Service** (SNS/NHS) providing free care at point of use
- **Occupational health subsystems** (e.g., for civil servants, military etc.)
- **Voluntary private health insurance (VHI)**

More than 1/3 of Portuguese have double coverage (NHS + VHI/ private subsystem): Can affect vaccination access as some with private insurance plans may get vaccine reimbursements unavailable to NHS-only users.

## Portuguese Healthcare Spending

Portugal spends a similar share of GDP on health as the EU, but far less in absolute terms (€2630 vs €4030 per capita).

Out of pocket spending is **~30% of total health expenditure**, nearly **twice the EU average**, highlighting financial pressure on households (driven by prescription medicines, exams and outpatient/specialist care)

For the first time in 2024, NHS funding decreased, raising concerns about financial sustainability amid rising healthcare costs

# Structure of the healthcare system in Portugal and integration of adult vaccination programs into the national vaccination plan



Oversight	
Health Ministry	Defines national health priorities; allocates funding; oversees overall governance.
Authority of National Coordination	
DGS - UVIB	Leads national immunization strategy; issues norms, Blue book, coordinates campaigns; monitors and reports coverage.
Partners	
NITEC	Technical advisory body (NITAG); evaluates vaccines; develops recommendations.
INSA	Epidemiological surveillance; lab confirmation; genomic monitoring; VE studies.
INFARMED	Regulates vaccines; oversees safety & AEFI; manages reimbursement decisions.
SPMS / SMS	Manages digital immunization registry; supports procurement and data flows.
ACSS	Oversees financing, contracting, and workforce planning for vaccination capacity.
SUCH	Provides logistics and operational support for vaccine delivery.

# Structure of the healthcare system in Portugal and integration of adult vaccination programs into the national vaccination plan



Regional Coordination	
Regional Health Delegations	Coordinate regional implementation; ensure alignment; support surveillance.
Local Coordination	
Local Health Units (ULS)	Plan local delivery; manage budgets; authorize vaccination points; supervise teams.

# Structure of the healthcare system in Portugal and integration of adult vaccination programs into the national vaccination plan



## National Vaccination Plan (NVP) of Portugal

- Over 60 years old (established 1965), historically centred on childhood vaccination
- Single life-course immunization schedule: no standalone adult program
- Strong monitoring, reporting, and public trust support system's high performance
- Vaccines for adults offered remains limited: vaccines for adults available but not reimbursed (*RSV, Herpes Zoster*) and not part of the NVP schedule (e.g., *seasonal vaccination, pneumococcal*)
- Portugal achieved 75% influenza vaccine coverage rate in people over 65 years by 2019, ranking among the top European countries alongside Denmark and Ireland
- Weekly and final vaccination coverage reports issued - enabling real-time monitoring, rapid response and creation of action points (e.g. recent declining COVID-19 and influenza vaccination trends in 60 to 84 age group)

## Key gaps include:

- Delayed reimbursement decisions for new adult vaccines / enlarging target group
  - e.g. age-based pneumo, HPV vaccination until 26y (also if 1<sup>st</sup> dose received after 18y), Tdap boosters for older adults (including pertussis)
- Slow expansion of adult vaccine inclusion in the national vaccination plan (now via norms “normas”)

# Structure of the healthcare system in Portugal and integration of adult vaccination programs into the national vaccination plan

## National Vaccination Plan - Portuguese Immunization Schedule

Quadro n.º 1 – PNVP: Esquema geral recomendado<sup>3</sup>

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 <sub>20</sub> 1	Pn <sub>20</sub> 2		Pn <sub>20</sub> 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		Pregnant	
Tétano e difteria									Td	Td	Td	Td

**Legenda:**

- Vacinas em blocos interligados por traços de cor – vacinas com antígenos para todas as doenças evitáveis mencionadas no interior dos limites: a vacina hexavalente (2 meses e 5 meses) inclui VHB, Hib, DTPa e VIP; a vacina pentavalente (4 meses e 18 meses) inclui Hib, DTPa e VIP; e a vacina tetravalente (5 anos) inclui DTPa e VIP;
- Número – número de dose no esquema geral recomendado para cada doença;

Free (Tetanus +  
Diphtheria)

# Structure of the healthcare system in Portugal and integration of adult vaccination programs into the national vaccination plan



## Other adult vaccines prioritized for specific groups via norms:

### COVID-19:

- Seasonal vaccination for  $\geq 60$  years, pregnant women, immunocompromised, chronic conditions, and healthcare workers.
- Newer recombinant adjuvanted vaccines available but not reimbursed.

### Influenza:

- Annual vaccination for  $\geq 60$  years, risk groups, pregnant women, LTCF residents, and HCWs.
- High-dose vaccine free only for those  $\geq 85$  years or residential care facility residents.

### Pneumococcal Disease:

- Adults  $\geq 65$  years: recommended to receive pneumococcal vaccination, but not universally funded, creating inequity.
- Because only immunocompromised individuals receive free vaccination, overall national uptake remains low ( $< 20\%$  in  $\geq 65$  years).
- PCV20/PPSV23 in use; PCV21 under review by NITAG and INFARMED.

# Structure of the healthcare system in Portugal and integration of adult vaccination programs into the national vaccination plan



## Other adult vaccines prioritized for specific groups:

### **Mpox**

- Self-identified risk groups offered free pre-exposure and post-exposure prophylaxis (vaccination).
- Healthcare professionals also offered pre-exposure vaccination.
- Portugal experienced three mpox waves between 2022 and 2024, totalling 1,286 confirmed cases (primarily among MSM), one of the first countries reporting cases to ECDC.
- Implemented rapid vaccination and targeted public health interventions: relied on integrated clinical, behavioural, genomic, and immunologic data.

### **Herpes Zoster**

- Awaiting decision by DGS following recommendation by NITAG.
- Lack of active HZ surveillance systems limits accurate estimation of overall incidence

### **RSV**

- Under evaluation by NITAG

### **And others..**

# Structure of the healthcare system in Portugal and integration of adult vaccination programs into the national vaccination plan



## Madeira Region versus mainland Portugal

Madeira faces faster more severe population aging:

- 21% of the population is 65+ years
- Aging index rose from 20 (1999) to 172 (2023)

Madeira has a long tradition of early vaccine adoption, using regional autonomy to introduce vaccines before national roll-out E.g.: Hep B (1990), Hib (1996), MenC (2001), measles/rubella campaign (1987)

Mainland Portugal adopts vaccines centrally through national processes, often slower due to reimbursement evaluations and national-level budget constraints. But sustainability of Madeira's faster vaccine adoption depends on regional budgets.

Seasonal influenza campaign in Madeira:

- 35,696 doses delivered by mid-Nov 2025; 78% via primary care; 8% via home visits (pharmacies used far less in Madeira)
- 2025 Coverage >50% for 80+, but lower in 60–64 age group (room for improvement). Similar age-based differences in coverage also observed for COVID-19 seasonal vaccination.

Next step is to embrace the life-course vaccination model, with a strong focus on adults integrated into broader longevity and healthy-ageing strategies—a central requirement for health system resilience and socio-economic (and workforce) sustainability in a region like Madeira.

# Organization and delivery of adult vaccination services from **different perspectives**



## 1. Directorate-General of Health (DGS) Perspective

### Role in Adult Vaccination:

- Serves as the national coordinator for all vaccination activities
- Defines technical norms and clinical guidance through the Blue Book
- Coordinates national seasonal campaigns (influenza, COVID-19) with regional and local partners



### Systems to support DGS' work in delivering adult immunization:

- Governance and delivery executed through a network of primary care units, hospitals, and increasingly pharmacies, enabling broad access across population groups.
- Community and outreach: digital platforms, seasonal campaigns, and partnerships with municipalities, patient groups, and community leaders to build trust, extend reach, and reduce missed opportunities.

### Improvements to make it easier to promote and administer vaccines:

- Strengthen digital decision-support tools and expand vaccination sites.
- Enhance automated reminder systems for HCP and citizens to improve timeliness.
- Improve monitoring of coverage across age, geography, and risk groups.
- Ensure ongoing professional training due to frequent updates (e.g., Influenza HD target group, COVID-19 boosters).
- Maintain system flexibility to ensure regular updates and improvements (RSV, Herpes Zoster), respond to emerging pathogens and outbreaks (Hep A, Mpox).

# Organization and delivery of adult vaccination services from **different perspectives**



## 2. Nursing Perspective

### **Role in Adult Vaccination:**

- Nurses are primary vaccinators across diverse settings including primary care, long-term care, palliative care, and home visits
- Aim to integrate vaccination into routine consultations, promoting health literacy and opportunistic vaccination beyond the “act of injection.”
- Rely strongly on DGS technical guidance, enabling evidence-based practice and rapid adaptation to updated recommendations.
- Act as trusted frontline communicators, helping address hesitancy and delivering tailored advice to diverse populations.

### **Systems to support work in delivering adult immunization:**

- National DGS norms and continuous clinical updates guide practice.
- Coordination with primary care teams, hospitals, and community services supports vaccine delivery across settings.
- Cultural acceptance and a long-standing vaccination tradition support nurse-patient trust.
- Maintaining evidence-based skills through education and training

### **Improvements to make it easier to promote and administer vaccines:**

- Increase staffing and reduce workload pressure to allow more time for vaccine / prevention counselling.
- Strengthen digital literacy or provide alternatives to support for older adults and migrants to reduce communication barriers surrounding vaccination.
- Enhance training on communication strategies (e.g., motivational interviewing) to address hesitancy.
- Improve interoperability of digital systems and automated alerts to flag overdue vaccinations for HCP and citizens.
- Expand logistical support to prevent stock issues and missed opportunities.

# Organization and delivery of adult vaccination services from **different perspectives**



## 3. Pharmacist Perspective

### **Role in Adult Vaccination:**

- Portugal has 2,920 community pharmacies, each interacting with around 600,000 people daily about 6% of the population. They are a major provider of adult vaccination in Portugal.
- Influenza and COVID-19 (without prescription), and all vaccines that are not part of the NVP can be given in pharmacy
- Pharmacy vaccination capacity has expanded from 1,588 pharmacies in 2008 to more than 2,500 by 2025, supported by 7,000+ qualified pharmacists.
- During first fully integrated influenza–COVID-19 campaign (2023), 70% of all vaccines administered in pharmacies (proximity and quick access main driving factors of preferential vaccination in pharmacy).
- In recent seasonal vaccination campaigns (influenza + COVID-19), adults aged 60–84 are primarily vaccinated in pharmacies.

### **Systems to support work in delivering adult immunization:**

- Recent digital integration between pharmacies and the national vaccination registry allowing pharmacists to record vaccinations in real time
- Structured national training and certification programs ensure safe vaccination practice
- Wide pharmacy network providing high accessibility and extended hours.

### **Improvements to make it easier to promote and administer vaccines:**

- For COVID-19 vaccines (currently in 6-dose vial): Removing waste-related fees after initial campaign weeks to maximize vaccine uptake.
- Expanding pharmacy roles beyond flu and COVID-19 vaccines, enhancing pharmacist behavioural training for vaccine hesitancy, and strengthening public communication

# Organization and delivery of adult vaccination services from **different perspectives**



## 4. GP Provider Perspective

### **Role in Adult Vaccination:**

- Provide personalized vaccination counselling supported by long-term, trust-based patient relationships.
- Use digital records to review full vaccine history, identify gaps, and guide adult vaccine recommendations.
- Promote vaccines beyond NVP/schedules (e.g., pneumococcal, influenza) based on clinical evidence and Blue Book guidelines.
- Deliver vaccines in primary care settings and home vaccination for immobile or high-risk adults.

### **Systems to support work in delivering adult immunization:**

- Integrated digital platforms showing full vaccination history, risk profiles, and scheduled doses (“sClinico”).
- National vaccination registry accessible by all primary care teams.
- Government mobile app (SNS24) enabling patients to monitor vaccination status.
- Regional and sub-regional vaccine coverage indicators mean primary care teams can assess vaccine coverage within their populations

### **Improvements to make it easier to promote and administer vaccines:**

- Expand communication and behavioral training for addressing vaccine hesitancy.
- Implementing automatic reminders and alerts for HCP and patients to improve uptake and empower self-care (done for breast screening).
- Start vaccine education from schools, with strong, solid and evidence-based knowledge.

# Recording and reporting of vaccination data in Portugal, including coverage rate, vaccine impact monitoring and vigilance practices



## Vaccine Effectiveness (VE) Monitoring in Portugal

- Portugal has a **longstanding vaccine effectiveness monitoring system**, especially for influenza (since 2005) coordinated by INSA (National Health Institute)
- Participation in European multicentre VE studies (I-Move and VEBIS) enables methodological consistency
- Networks include primary care and electronic health registries, expanded during COVID-19 to track severe outcomes in older adults.
- **VE can studies assess via TNCC study designs:**
  - Variant-specific performance
  - Time since vaccination
  - Effectiveness in risk groups and chronic disease populations

# Recording and reporting of vaccination data in Portugal, including coverage rate, vaccine impact monitoring and vigilance practices



## Vaccine Effectiveness (VE) Monitoring in Portugal

- VE is consistently higher for preventing severe outcomes (hospitalisation, death) compared to mild illness.
- Impact studies estimate prevented hospitalisations and consultations, demonstrating the value of seasonal vaccination even when VE is moderate or circulation is low
- VE results need clear communication adapted to target group to avoid misinterpretation, particularly when effectiveness is modest or variable across age groups.
- ***Translating VE into tangible metrics (e.g., beds saved, hospitalisations avoided) helps maintain HCP/public trust and support uptake.***

# Recording and reporting of vaccination data in Portugal, including coverage rate, vaccine impact monitoring and vigilance practices



## Pharmacovigilance in Portugal

- Vaccine safety monitoring is conducted through the **National Pharmacovigilance System**, managed by INFARMED.
- Vaccine safety is tracked through Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) **reported by healthcare professionals and the public.**
- AEFIs are classified into **five categories**: product-related, quality defects, immunization errors, anxiety-related events, and coincidental events.
- INFARMED validates reports, conducts safety assessments, and **submits data monthly to EMA and WHO.**
- Portuguese Safety communication follows EMA guidelines focusing **on clarity, scientific basis, and audience adaptation** to build trust and avoid misunderstanding

# Analyse the population's vaccination demand and acceptance, addressing issues such as **vaccine confidence**



- Vaccine hesitancy is a psychological state of doubt and indecision, not the same as outright refusal, and it varies widely across countries and populations
- Portugal has above average confidence in vaccines compared to EU. But still face challenges, full adherence to NVP decreases with age and there remain local pockets of lower coverage.
- **In Portugal**, hesitancy is shaped by safety concerns, efficacy doubts, education, nationality, and trust in healthcare workers.

## **Improving responses to vaccine hesitancy involves:**

- Better communication on vaccines (“opening the black box”), grounded in democratic values, transparency, and accountability.
- The boundary between legitimate doubts and ideological opposition (current growth in populism) remains unclear, complicating communication strategies.
- Viewing vaccine communication not as “soft skills” but as essential competencies for HCWs, requires:
  - Building trust
  - Managing information overload without losing transparency
  - Addressing emotions, fears, and lived experiences
  - Supporting HCWs’ own hesitations and communication challenges

# Analyse the population's vaccination demand and acceptance, addressing issues such as **vaccine confidence**



## Beliefs and attitudes toward Influenza and COVID-19 vaccination in Portugal

### Influenza

*ECOS Portuguese household panel survey (health belief model assessment of rationale for non-vaccination of influenza vaccine)*

- **Susceptibility** is the most prevailing rationale (people believing they are already healthy, never get sick or are not part of high-risk group)  
**Severity** (perceiving influenza as severe) **is not the main driver** for decision making.
- Internal barriers (fear of side effects, distrust, preference for alternatives) are more influential than external/logistical barriers for non-vaccination

Past influenza vaccination behaviour and general trust in healthcare are important promoters of future influenza vaccination

### COVID-19

Health belief model assessment of beliefs and perceptions related to COVID-19 vaccination (2021)

- Media were a key cue to action for COVID-19 vaccination: **High trust in government/scientific authorities** in Portugal likely made media messages more effective

Present the strategies and programs implemented in Portugal to **vaccinate specific adult population groups**, highlighting the challenges and opportunities.



## Healthcare Workers (HCWs)

- HCWs face higher infection risks, making vaccination a crucial patient safety and occupational health measure
- Vaccines such as influenza, COVID-19, hepatitis B, measles, rubella, and others are recommended and mostly free for healthcare workers in Portugal.
- Vaccination uptake is lower than desired among HCWs, with common refusal reasons including fear of side effects and doubts about vaccine effectiveness.
- Efforts to improve coverage focus on education, convenient access, and support from occupational health services.
- Need for **organizational conditions that facilitate vaccination**, not just individual healthcare worker engagement, highlighting institutional responsibility

# Present the strategies and programs implemented in Portugal to **vaccinate specific adult population groups**, highlighting the challenges and opportunities.



## Pregnancy

In Portugal, vaccination during pregnancy is **optional, free of charge**, and **does not require a prescription**. DGS recommendations (Blue Book) include:

- **Tdap** to protect newborns from pertussis.
- **HBV, MenACWY, Pn20/Pn23, Hib** for pregnant women in high-risk groups.
- **IPV** for pregnant women who are unvaccinated.
- **MMR** avoided during pregnancy, give passive immunoglobulin if exposed and vaccinate postpartum.
- **Varicella** recommended pre-conception; immunoglobulin offered after exposure.
- **COVID-19 & Influenza** recommended in any trimester.
- **HAV, Typhoid, Yellow Fever** if travel-related risk.
- **RSV** (Abrysvo®) approved but not in NVP and costs €200 euro; many women choose nirsevimab for newborn passive protection.

Present the strategies and programs implemented in Portugal to **vaccinate specific adult population groups**, highlighting the challenges and opportunities.



## **Pregnancy**

### **Vaccine uptake in pregnant women (Portugal):**

- 84% received **Tdap** (2023)
- COVID-19 uptake dropped by 36% from 23/24 to 24/25
- 65% received influenza vaccine in 2023/24
- **Drivers of vaccine hesitancy in pregnancy:** safety worries, fear of adverse events, lack of clinician recommendation, and low perception of disease severity.

# Present the strategies and programs implemented in Portugal to **vaccinate specific adult population groups**, highlighting the challenges and opportunities.



## Older Adults (65+ years)

Portuguese DGS guidelines do **not** provide a dedicated vaccination chapter for older adults (65+), which is a gap.

### Current recommendations for older adults

#### 1) National Vaccination Program

- Only **Td (tetanus/diphtheria)** is specifically recommended and free for 60+

#### 2) Regulatory Guidelines (“Normas”)

- **Influenza:** Free for 60+ years; ages 60–84 years can be vaccinated in pharmacies or primary care; those 85+ years and LTCF residents receive free high-dose vaccine in primary care.
- **COVID-19:** Free seasonal booster for 60+ years; 60–84 years can be vaccinated in pharmacies or primary care; 85+ years only in primary care. An adjuvanted recombinant vaccine exists but is paid and not reimbursed.
- **Pneumococcal (Pn23, PCV20):** Recommended for all 65+ years but requires prescription; for all groups (except immunocompromised) co-payment 37–69%.
- **HZ, RSV, Pertussis:** Not included in current national DGS recommendations
- Scientific societies have been publishing position papers supporting vaccination of older adults with several vaccines

Present the strategies and programs implemented in Portugal to **vaccinate specific adult population groups**, highlighting the challenges and opportunities.



## **Older Adults (65+ years)**

### **Vaccine uptake in older adults (Portugal)**

- **Influenza:** Good uptake in 85+ years but declining in groups <79 years over recent years.
- **COVID-19:** Declining uptake across all older age groups.
- **Td:** ~87% coverage
- **Pneumococcal Disease:** Low uptake (~19%).

# Present the strategies and programs implemented in Portugal to **vaccinate specific adult population groups**, highlighting the challenges and opportunities.



## **Immunocompromised Individuals**

- Vaccine responses differ widely across immunosuppressed groups (e.g., cancer vs. transplant), but current guidelines lack this granularity
- COVID-19 continues to circulate, and while immunocompromised individuals are recognized as being at higher risk, there is still limited understanding of how specific types of immunosuppression affect COVID-19 outcomes.
- Current Blue Book recommendations therefore group many immunosuppressed conditions together.
- Ongoing studies aim to provide enough data and statistical power to assess how vaccination affects outcomes across different types of immunosuppression.
- Specialists lack clear, consistent guidance on vaccine timing around treatments; clearer guidance is needed
- Pre-treatment vaccination remains essential for improving protection in transplant and cancer patients.

# Factors contributing to **Portugal's high childhood and influenza vaccination coverage**, and examine how these may **inform adult immunization strategies**



## **Key Factors Driving High Childhood & Influenza Vaccine Coverage in Portugal**

- Universal, free, long-standing program with strong political commitment.
- National Vaccination Registration and Management Platform, centralized digital registry, and easy tracking.
- Vaccination integrated with routine child health visits, reducing missed opportunities.
- High public trust in vaccines and health authorities.
- Strong professional engagement through paediatric societies, guidelines, and communication campaigns.
- Success of the paediatric program shows **that removing cost and access barriers** increases uptake; adult vaccination could benefit from similar simplification.
- **High trust enables strong coverage:** Public confidence in the childhood program suggests that clear, consistent adult messaging can counteract hesitancy and misinformation.

# Future prospects and potential solutions to overcome barriers and enhance adult immunization efforts in Portugal and other European countries.



## Expand the Life-Course Vaccination Strategy

- Maintain a life course vaccination calendar more inclusive for (older) adults, aligning Portugal with EU and WHO IA2030 recommendations.
- Integrate vaccination for adults into healthy ageing and longevity policies, recognizing immunization as a contributor to multiple SDGs.

## Expand Funding & Improve Affordability

- Explore income-based reimbursement or partial co-payment models to ensure affordability for low-income adults.
- Expand the NVP to include more vaccines and remove prescription requirements.
- Further improve procurement systems to have substantial savings and possibilities to introduce more vaccines into the NVP

## Improve Communication & Build Trust

- Implement targeted, evidence-based communication that links vaccination to healthy ageing, chronic disease prevention, and quality of life.
- Counter misinformation with early, clear, and audience-specific messaging that balances scientific accuracy with accessible, emotionally resonant communication
- Treat the population as partners rather than targets in vaccination campaigns
- Translating VE/coverage rates into tangible metrics (e.g., beds saved, hospitalisations avoided) helps maintain HCP/public trust and support uptake.

# Future prospects and potential solutions to overcome barriers and enhance adult immunization efforts in Portugal and other European countries.



## Training / information access

- Provide structured, ongoing HCP vaccination training
- Provide easier access (e.g. “norms”/“Blue Book”) **“and easy format”** to updated clear knowledge and resources

## Logistics:

- Maintain and expand vaccination sites through NHS–pharmacy collaboration
- Actively invite eligible groups and remove barriers (self-scheduling, “Open House”)

Thank you!  
Obrigada!