



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Public health



**COVID-19 AND MENTAL HEALTH:
TAKING FORWARD THE LESSONS LEARNED.**



Wednesday 21 September 2022, 10.30 – 12.00 CEST Brussels Time

Dear stakeholders,

We invite you to join this webinar on **COVID-19 and mental health: taking forward the lessons learned.**

The COVID-19 pandemic has shed light on mental health. The first signs of the mental health impact of the pandemic became apparent already after a few months. In trying to address the impact of COVID-19 on mental health, over a period of more than two years, we have learned important lessons. It is crucial now to investigate whether and how the different lessons have been taken forward (i.e., the issues have successfully been tackled) and – if not- what the hurdles have been and what is needed to make progress. This will enable us to build a Europe which is more resilient and better prepared to face future crisis.

The webinar will take place on the EU Health Policy Platform, in the framework of the “COVID-19 and Mental Health Support” Stakeholders Network. This network space was set up by DG SANTE in May 2020, in order to support the efforts on the ground of social and health stakeholders, encourage them to discuss and share information on COVID-19-related mental health issues, and to develop a set of guidance documents that can help address the mental health aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The webinar is open to all stakeholders.

The objective of this webinar is to share knowledge and experiences related to concrete actions carried out to address the lessons we have learned from the COVID-19 pandemic, in relation to mental health. The Webinar will also provide an opportunity to reflect on whether the actions taken to address the lessons learned are being sustained, embedded in changes in practices or in policies and supported through adequate funding.

Building on the recommendations put forward by WHO’s ‘Technical Advisory Group on the mental health impacts of COVID-19 in the WHO European Region’, the webinar will focus on three main lessons:

- The importance to live and work in an environment that is positive for mental health
- The importance to put in place tailored actions to address mental health needs of potentially vulnerable groups
- The importance of ensuring sufficient capacity and quality within mental health services to meet diverse and increased needs.

[Register here](#)

Once registered, you will receive the link and the registration ID to join the webinar on Wednesday 21 September 2022.

If you have any further questions, please contact sante-hpp@ec.europa.eu

We are looking forward to welcoming you online.

The EU Health Policy Platform team



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 Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety
 Unit C2 – Health information and integration in all policies
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The EU Health Policy Platform will host a live webinar, following this **agenda**:

10.30 – 10.35	Welcome to the webinar Marianne Takki, Team leader on health promotion, disease prevention and management of non-communicable diseases, DG SANTE
10.35 – 10.37	Introduction to the webinar Claudia Marinetti, Director, Mental Health Europe
10.37 – 10.47	Overview of lessons learned on the mental health impacts of COVID-19 as identified by WHO Technical Advisory Group on the mental health impacts of COVID-19 Ledea Lazari, Regional Adviser for Mental Health, WHO Regional Office for Europe organisation
Taking forward the lessons learned: examples from practice and policy	
Lesson learned n. 1	Ensuring a living and working environment that is positive for mental

10.47 – 10.55	Promoting students’ wellbeing: experiences from the Netherlands 1. Felix Bolinski, Research Associate mental health, Trimbos instituut 2. Teun Zwemmer and Thijs de Jongh, Thrive
10.55 – 11.05	Q&A session Chaired by Claudia Marinetti, Director, Mental Health Europe
Lesson learned n. 2	Tailored actions addressing the needs of vulnerable groups
11.05 – 11.15	Mental health promotion for refugee women: experience from Austria Sabine Kampmüller, Managing Director, Afya
11.15 – 11.20	Q&A session Chaired by Claudia Marinetti, Director, Mental Health Europe
Lesson learned n. 3	Meeting diverse and increased needs: ensuring sufficient capacity and quality within mental health services
11.20 – 11.30	Slovenian experience: changes in services and policies Matej Vinko, Public Health Specialist, Slovenian National Public Health Institute
11.30 -11.35	Q&A session Chaired by Claudia Marinetti, Director, Mental Health Europe
Looking Ahead	
11.35 – 11.43	Mitigating the impact of future crisis on mental health: the Mental Wellbeing Impact Assessment tool Nerys Edmonds, Principal Health Impact Assessment Development Officer, Public Health Wales
11.43 – 11.53	The Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Minimum Services Package - For an effective MHPSS emergency response Caoimhe Nic a' Bháird, MHPSS & Child Protection in Emergencies Expert Consultant, UNICEF
11.53 – 11.58	Q&A session Chaired by Claudia Marinetti, Director, Mental Health Europe
11.58 – 12.00	Closing remarks Claudia Marinetti, Director, Mental Health Europe



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