



# IHI Call Days | Call 12

## RespiWatch EU

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# Challenges and objectives

## What problem(s) are you trying to solve

- **Real time cross border health threat assessment** in EU is a priority but implementation will structurally lead to significant challenges (agility, multicounty coordination, interface with private contributors, overlap with members states mandates). Industry can play an important role to make this happen
- There is currently no **platform at EU level to evaluate countermeasure** in case of a pandemics.
- US disinvestment in **surveillance** worldwide will most probably impact Europe capability in countermeasure design. **EU needs to build its sovereignty in this area**

## Which IHI specific objective(s) are you addressing?

IHI JU Specific Objective 4: 'exploit the full potential of digitalization and data exchange in healthcare'

## Which unmet public health need are you addressing?

Allow to identify cross border early outbreaks/epidemic related to respiratory pathogens and provide a platform for countermeasure performance assessment

# Your approach to solve the problem (1)

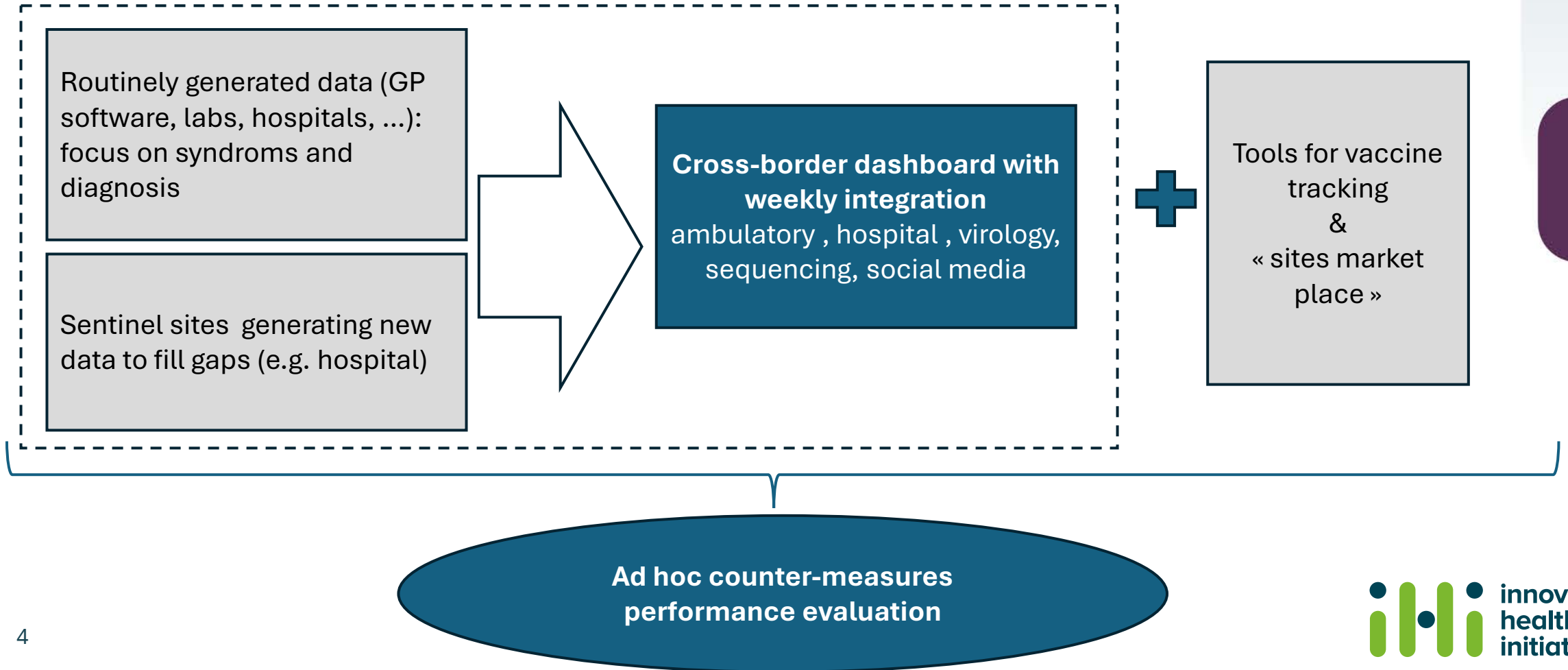
Technological developments have made it possible to collect and combine health data quicker and at much larger scale than was possible previously, The potential of these data for signal detection and surveillance remains largely untapped, particularly when combined with advanced analytics and AI

The project aims to develop an **EU cross-border real-time respiratory pathogens surveillance platform that can be used as a warm base evaluation platform for pandemic or seasonal countermeasures** . It will leverage digital, AI and new technologies and integrated various untraditional data sources.

It relies on previous proofs of concept (AIOLOS, GIHSN and IMI DRIVE) and combines them to address EU needs in term of seasonal outbreak monitoring and pandemic preparedness This co-construction between the public and private sector also aims at building trust and enabling a EU conducive environment.

# Your approach to solve the problem (2)

## Respiratory surveillance platform



# Is your project suitable for IHI?

- **IHI aims to fund large-scale projects focusing on health innovation. Explain why a public private collaboration is essential to develop your proposal**

This is a EU wide public health priority that requires EU agencies and MS involvement. Industry can play an important role to enable this innovative approach based on its know-how, agility and already several successful proof of concept. IHI projects are probably the best mechanisms for public and private sector to co-construct such a platform leveraging on existing governance frameworks.

- **Where do you see the contribution of industry in your proposal? Why do you require different health industry sectors (e.g. pharma, vaccines, biotech, medical devices, in vitro diagnostics, radiotherapy, medical imaging health ICT)?**

Industry stakeholders mainly involve vaccine and diagnostic

# Outcomes and Impact

- Allow to **identify early outbreaks/epidemic and take swift actions** , leveraging AI, digital and new data sources to track in real time respiratory syndromes cross border
- Scale up and **improve pathogens sequencing** to optimize countermeasure performance
- **Align ambition and define rules of engagement** between health authorities, EU agencies, academics and industry on seasonal and pandemic vaccines/countermeasure benefit/risk assessment. Reduce silo activities and the known duplication of efforts in this space by creating a **community of practice**
- Equip EU with a real time surveillance and a vaccine evaluation platform to **prepare for the next pandemic**. Enhance EU sovereignty on pandemic countermeasure assessment and strains selection

# Expertise and resources

- We have:
  - EFPIA/MedTech: 8 vaccine companies and 1 diagnostic company bringing about 25M€ worth in-kind contribution
  - expertise includes mainly epidemiology, data science, modeling, cross country coordination, agile methodology
  - Discussion are currently ongoing with EU institutions, public partners and SMEs who will fill most of the expertise/data access gaps
- We are looking for:
  - Additional real time (1 week lag max) EU data providers (hospital network, laboratory network, ambulatory care software developers,...)
  - AI and IT experts with a specific focus on surveillance and infectious disease epidemiology

# Additional information

Policy makers must adopt agile signal detection tools to strengthen epidemiological surveillance and improve pandemic preparedness – ScienceDirect, Health Policy, 26 juin 2025

AIOLOS website: <https://aiolos-project.org/>

GIHSN website: <https://gihsn.org/>