Syndromic Surveillance Survey, Assessment towards Guidelines for Europe

The Triple-S project was launched in 2010 for a 3-year period.
• Coordinated by the French Institute for Public Health Surveillance (InVS).
• Involves 24 organisations from 13 countries.
• Both human and veterinary syndromic surveillance (SyS) are considered.

Objectives
• Review and analyse SyS activities across Europe.
• Support the implementation of SyS systems in European Union Member States, while respecting the diversity of health systems and potential data sources for syndromic surveillance.
• Propose a European Union strategy for SyS.

Syndromic Surveillance is the real-time (or near real-time) collection, analysis, interpretation and dissemination of health-related data to enable the early identification of the impact (or absence of impact) of potential human or veterinary public-health threats which require public health action.

Methods
The Triple-S project is divided into six work packages (WP):
1. Coordination (InVS - France) / 2. Dissemination (SMI - Sweden) / 3. Evaluation (SSI - Denmark);
4. Inventory of existing systems of SyS (ISS - Italy):
   • identify persons at the country level for animal and human SyS in the European Union,
   • collection of detailed characteristics of established, pilot and planned systems (literature + questionnaire);
5. Site visit, knowledge transfer and data sources description/Assessment (UM - The Netherlands):
   • in-depth analysis of visited systems through eight site visits,
   • stimulate exchange of knowledge and expertise,
   • Guidelines for the assessment of data sources;
6. Guidelines for Implementing a SyS in European Countries (InVS - France):
   • provide scientific and technical guidance for the implementation of syndromic surveillance systems,
   • proposal for an European Union strategy for SyS.

Results
• Production of tools: fact sheets on different data sources, list of available systems, guidelines for implementing a SyS system, guidelines of assessment of data sources…
• Creation of a network of syndromic surveillance experts in Europe

Conclusions
The project will increase the European capacity to monitor public health burden (morbidity & mortality) for expected and unexpected events & enhance the evidence base for public health action.

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