

EDITORIAL

Measles, Rubella and Mumps in the Era of EliminationÀngela Domínguez^{1,2,*} and Isabel Peña-Rey^{2,3}¹*Department of Public Health. University of Barcelona, Spain*²*CIBER Epidemiology and Public Health (CIBERESP), Spain*³*National Epidemiology Centre, Carlos III Health Institute*

This issue of the Open Vaccine Journal includes a set of articles based on the “Measles, Rubella and Mumps in the Elimination Era Workshop” organized by CIBERESP, (Centros de Investigación Biomédica en Red Epidemiología y Salud Pública).

CIBERESP is one of nine CIBERs in Spain. CIBERs are funded by the Carlos III Health Institute, Madrid, and are defined as National Biomedical Research Centres in a specific area of knowledge. CIBERESP, which was formally created in November 2006 and commenced its activity in January 2007, focuses on epidemiology and public health.

CIBERESP, like the other CIBERs in Spain, is considered as a new type of research organization whose main objective is to add critical mass by agglutinating assets from different institutions, and to function as a research network.

CIBERESP is organized in various areas according to research field:

- Infectious diseases and international health,
- Chronic diseases,
- Environmental, occupational and reproductive health, and
- Evaluation of health policy and services.

One of the aims of the CIBERs ESP is to strengthen already excellent research groups by expanding their collaborative activities and finances and, ultimately, increase the research output and productivity of participating groups and therefore of Spain as a whole. Another aim of CIBERESP is to organize activities for the transfer of knowledge.

In May 2008, in Barcelona, the area of infectious diseases and international health organized a workshop aimed at reviewing the situation of measles, rubella and mumps in Spain and internationally. The workshop was directed at staff working in the surveillance of immunopreventable diseases from the Spanish Autonomous Regions and from the National Centers of Epidemiology and Microbiology, microbiologists, pediatricians, general practitioners and other professionals involved in the detection and control of these diseases.

The workshop was organized as a series of round tables on measles, rubella and mumps and the contents of these presentations, enriched by the comments of attendees, are now presented as original articles or reviews.

Because experience gained from control and elimination programs is useful not only for the specific disease at which they are aimed, but also for other diseases, we hope that the articles in this special issue will be of interest for all those working in the prevention and control of immunopreventable diseases.

Isabel Peña-Rey**Guest Editor**

Centro Nacional de Microbiología,
Instituto de Salud Carlos III,
Madrid, 28028
Spain
Tel: +34 918222636
Fax: +34 913877815
E-mail: sabela@isciii.es

Àngela Domínguez**Guest Editor**

Department of Public Health
University of Barcelona
Barcelona, 08036
Spain
Tel: 34 93 4025466
Fax: 34 93 4029084
E-mail: angela.dominguez@ub.edu

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