



CONSIDE

CONSORTIUM FOR THE STANDARDIZATION
OF INFLUENZA SEROEPIDEMIOLOGY

4th international CONSIDE meeting Cape Town, South Africa

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What is CONWISE?

- CONsortium for the Standardization of Influenza Seroepidemiology
- A network of actively engaged partners
- >100 members from >20 countries



Why CONWISE?

- 2009 pandemic: seroepidemiology protocols were not ready or not standardised
- Results were delayed
- Need to do better!



History

- 1st international meeting in Ottawa, Canada, in February 2011, hosted by the Public Health Agency of Canada.
- Decision to form a working group and start developing protocols –ECDC agreed to be secretariat
- 2nd international meeting in Stockholm, Sweden in December 2011, hosted by the ECDC.
- Adoption of name and logo of CONWISE
- 3rd international meeting, with a regional focus on South and East Asia, in January 2013 in Hong Kong, hosted by the University of Hong Kong.
- Publications: Laurie et al. 2012; Van Kerkhove et al. 2013



Objectives of CONWISE

- To develop generic seroepidemiologic protocols that can be used in pandemic outbreak settings
- To develop minimum list of epidemiological data for routine collection of sera
- To improve the quality of seroepidemiology laboratory testing
- To develop better ways to quickly deliver results in an epidemic or pandemic situation.
- To consider how to make serological work and seroepidemiology of influenza sustainable
- Consider future global funding options



Specific aims of this workshop

- Finalise CONSISE seroepidemiology protocol templates and question bank for field validation
- Review of laboratory assay comparisons and future work on standardisation of laboratory methods
- Discuss the role and lessons to be learned from CONSISE involvement in MERS-CoV and influenza A(H7N9)
- Involve more experts and end users in discussion of CONSISE activities
- Promote wider use of CONSISE tools and network for influenza and emerging respiratory viruses



Organizing committee

- Maria Van Kerkhove
 - John Wood
 - Othmar Engelhardt
 - Angus Nicoll
 - Eeva Broberg
 - Luciana Muresan
 - Lynne Pryor
- CONSISE steering committee: Steven Riley, Anthony Mounts, Wenqing Zhang, Karen Laurie, Jackie Katz, Timothy Uyeki, Malik Peiris, Ben Cowling, Katja Hoeschler, Richard Pebody, Peter Horby, Marianne van der Sande, Olav Hungnes, Monique St. Laurent, Maria Van Kerkhove, John Wood, Othmar Engelhardt, Eeva Broberg and Angus Nicoll

