The Commission Communication issued on 27 April 2022 already outlined actions to undertake and implement in the following months. It provided an overview of policies and strategies that the Commission and EU bodies, such as the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), have already launched and intended to launch.

ECDC published a technical report on ‘Implications of the emergence and spread of the SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern BA.4 and BA.5 for the EU/European Economic Area’.

The COVID-19 epidemiological situation including the arise of new variants of concern has been periodically discussed within the Health Security Committee meetings that take place weekly or biweekly under the coordination of the Commission.

On the 18 July 2022, ECDC released guidance on surveillance of COVID-19 and respiratory viruses and public health considerations for COVID-19 vaccination strategies focusing both on the second booster dose of current vaccines and on possible strategies for the autumn/winter suggesting the use of new vaccines and integrated vaccination campaigns for COVID-19 and influenza.

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