



**BioMed Alliance Annual Meeting
16 November 2012, Brussels**

DG Health and Consumers: Research priorities

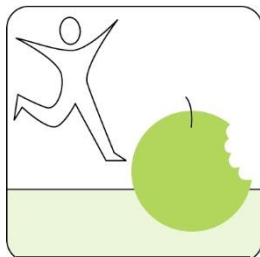
Tapani Piha

Head of Unit

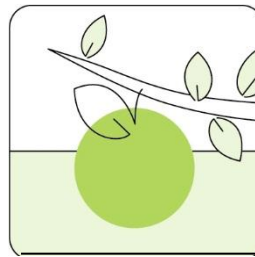
**for eHealth, Health Technology &
Risk Assessment and Science**

Health and Consumers DG

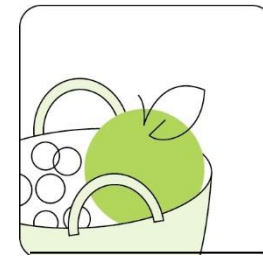
**Making Europe's citizens healthier,
safer and more confident**



Public Health



Food safety



Consumer Affairs

Basic Facts

- 900 staff
- Three sites
 - Brussels
 - Luxembourg
 - Grange, Ireland

5 EU Agencies

- European Medicines Agency
- European Centre for Disease Prevention & Control
- European Food Safety Authority
- Executive Agency for Health and Consumers
- Community Plant Variety Office

DG SANCO Management Plan 2012

We

- *Empower consumers – protect citizens in consumer markets*
- *Improve human health – protect health*
- *Ensure that all food is safe*
- *Protect animals and plant health*
- *Promote the humane treatment of animals*

The objective in research



Consumer Affairs



Public Health



Food Safety

to co-ordinate better research and innovation priorities with the policy agenda in the relevant areas over a sufficiently long period of time.

Key Interest in Societal Challenges

- Health, Demographic Change and Wellbeing
 - *Optimising the efficiency and effectiveness of healthcare system*
 - *Improving surveillance and preparedness*
- Inclusive, innovative and secure societies
- Food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research and the bio-economy

Optimising the efficiency and effectiveness of healthcare system

- **Health Technology Assessment**
 - *Methodologies for assessing complex health technologies and phasing out obsolete technologies.*
- **E-Health**
 - *Development and implementation innovative technologies and approaches: homecare, personalised health devices and services, e-prescription, adherence to treatment, e-tools for health.*
- **Sustainability of the health systems**
 - *Analytical and economics tools to evaluate the sustainability of health systems.*

Relevant link

- **Cross Border Healthcare Directive (2011/34)**

Improving surveillance and preparedness

- **Prevention, control and preparedness for communicable diseases outbreaks**

- ... *particularly new strategies for vaccination.*
- ... *for preventing major disease outbreaks, pandemic and all society preparedness.*

- **Chronic diseases**

- *risk factors and determinants for chronic diseases*
- *validate good practice for prevention and management*

Relevant link

- **Decision on serious cross border threat to health**
- **Commission initiative on chronic diseases 2013 work plan**

Consumer policy linked research

- **Harnessing ICTs in support of consumers:**
 - *technologies giving consumers greater control over their personal data in the digital environment*
 - *consumer vulnerability in the digital markets;*
 - *innovation in digital content distribution; support to market surveillance authorities of e-retail markets.*
- **Sustainable consumption**

Relevant link

- **Digital Agenda, Internal Market, Innovation Union Flagship Initiative**
- **Consumer Agenda 2014-2020**

Food safety related research

- Animal health, plant health, animal welfare and food safety
- Plant breeding
- Antimicrobial resistance
- Minimisation of food waste and packaging waste
- Biotechnology
- Chemical contaminants of food and feed
- Sustainability and Economics of the Food Chain

European Innovation Partnership for Active and Healthy Ageing

- Multiple links to many parts of H2020
- Innovative solutions and promoting science and technology around three pillars:
 - *prevention,*
 - *care and cure*
 - *independent living.*
- System or social innovation

Relevant link

- **European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing**

Horizontal issues of interest across several SANCO areas

- Safety of nanotechnologies in food and non-food consumer products
 - *Links: EU legislation on Cosmetics, General Product Safety, Toys, Food, Food Packaging, Food Additive and Novel Food, Medical Devices*
- Research into alternative methods to replace animal testing in safety assessments
 - *Links: Animal testing provisions in the Cosmetics Regulation, also for pharmaceuticals, food, pesticides, biocides. Work at OECD level, international cooperation.*

Horizontal issues of interest across several SANCO areas

- Tools and methods for the assessment of new scientific and technological developments and trends and their policy implications
 - *E.g. vaccines, medicines, medical devices, gene therapies, genetic testing*
 - *Tools to support policy making and regulatory needs*