Cyprus

This document is a compilation of all questions, justifications, and sources used to determine the 2021 Global Health Security Index scores for Cyprus. For a category and indicator-level summary, please see the Country Profile for Cyprus.

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Category 1: Preventing the emergence or release of pathogens with potential for international concern

1.1 ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (AMR)

1.1.1 AMR surveillance, detection, and reporting

1.1.1a

Is there a national AMR plan for the surveillance, detection, and reporting of priority AMR pathogens?

Yes, there is evidence of an AMR plan, and it covers surveillance, detection, and reporting = 2, Yes, there is evidence of an AMR plan, but there is insufficient evidence that it covers surveillance, detection, and reporting = 1, No evidence of an AMR plan = 0

Current Year Score: 2

Cyprus has a national AMR plan for the surveillance, detection and reporting of priority AMR pathogens. In 2012, the Cypriot Ministry of Heath adopted the National Strategy to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance to Antibiotics, which was developed in collaboration with the National Committee for Antibiotics [1]. This strategy addresses the issue of antimicrobial resistance in both humans and animals, laying out a strategy to combat AMR, including surveillance, detection measures in National's Hospital Mircobiological department, diagnosis, use of antibiotics, disease control, reporting, training and research [1, 2]. While a 2017 report by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) states that the National Strategy to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance to Antibiotics did not include monitoring arrangements, the Global Database for the Tripartite Antimicrobial Resistance developed by World Health Organization (WHO) reports that a national monitoring and surveilance system was established in 2019 [3, 4]. The system records the total sales of antimicrobials and monitors the antibiotic use at the sub-national level [4]. The WHO database also reports that the Cypriot system of AMR surveillance is monitoring for priority animal pathogens, zoonotic and commensal bacterial isolates and priority foodborne pathogens and/or relevant indicator bacteria [4].

[1] Ministry of Health. December 2012. "National Strategy to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance to Antibiotics." ("Εθνική Στρατηγική για την Αντιμετώπιση της Μικροβιακής Αντοχής στα Αντιβιοτικά.")

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/0/6b4121829d8502a5c2257c210026e74c/\$FILE/ATTLV98V/%CE%95%CE%98%CE%9D%CE%99%CE%99%CE%9A%CE%91%CE%A4%CE%91%CE%A4%CE%97%CE%93%CE%99%CE%9A%CE%97%20%CE%91%20%CE%A4%CE%95%CE%9B%CE%99%CE%9A%CE%9F.pdf]. Accessed 3 March 2021.

- [2] World Health Organization. "Library of national action plans". [https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/cyprus-national-action-plan-on-antimicrobial-resistance]. Accessed 2 March 2021.
- [3] Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. "Policies to combat antimicrobial resistance".

[https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/9789264307599-8-en/index.html? itemId=/content/component/9789264307599-8-en]

[4] World Health Organization, 2019. "Global Database for the Tripartite Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Country Self-assessment Survey (TrACSS)" [http://amrcountryprogress.org/]. Accessed 4 March 2021.

1.1.1b

Is there a national laboratory/laboratory system which tests for priority AMR pathogens?

All 7 + 1 priority pathogens = 2, Yes, but not all 7+1 pathogens = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1



Cyprus's national laboratory system conducts surveillance for at least some out of 7+1 AMR priority pathogens with designated sentinel sites. Since 2013, the National Strategy to Combat AMR Pathogens tests for E. coli, K. pneumonia, Salmonella spp.and S.aureus, but the it does not refer to the rest [1]. There is no information on Shigella or N. gonorrheae AMR testing, and the accreditation certificate of the Microbiology Department of Nicosia General Hospital does not refer to any relevant tests [2, 3]. The ECDC EARS-Net surveillance data from 2014 to 2017 confirm that Cyprus collects data for E. coli, K. pneumonia and S. pneumonia (in addition to S.aureus). [2]. The National system of AMR surveillance checks for priority animal and foodborne pathogens with a national reference laboratory participating in external quality assurance and reporting AMR surveillance with good quality standards [4].

[1] National Antibiotics Commitee. December 2014. "National Surveilance System on Antimicrobial Resistance to Antibiotics." ("Εθνικό Σύστημα Επιτήρησης Μικροβιακής Αντοχής.")

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/0/6b4121829d8502a5c2257c210026e74c/\$FILE/%CE%95%CE%BA%CE%B8%CE%B5%CF%83%CE%B7%20%CE%95%CE%A3%CE%9C%CE%91%202013.pdf]. Accessed 3 March 2021.

[2] European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). 2017. "Surveillance of antimicrobial resistance in Europe". [https://ecdc.europa.eu/sites/portal/files/documents/AMR-surveillance-EARS-Net-2017-updated-dec-18.pdf]. Accessed 4 March 2021.

[3] Microbiologia Department of Nicosia General Hospital. "Accreditation Certificate (Πιστοποιητικό Διαπίστευσης)". [http://www.mcit.gov.cy/mcit/cys/cys.nsf/All/675FAFBBF35D5489C2257DFD003E496D/\$file/L017-

- 3,%201%CE%B7%20%CE%B5%CF%80%CE%B9%CF%84%20
- [3].pdf?OpenElement]. Accessed 16 March 2021.
- [4] World Health Organization, 2019. "Global Database for the Tripartite Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Country Self-assessment Survey (TrACSS)" [http://amrcountryprogress.org/]. Accessed 4 March 2021.

1.1.1c

Does the government conduct environmental detection or surveillance activities (e.g., in soil, waterways) for antimicrobial residues or AMR organisms?

Yes = 1 , No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no publicly available evidence that Cyprus conducts environmental tests for AMR pathogens or antimicrobial residues. According to the National Strategy to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance to Antibiotics, which was published in 2012, the veterinary services of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment carry out activities related to the control and surveillance of AMR organisms in living chickens, turkeys and pigs for slaughter or breeding, but the strategy does not mention testing the environment [1]. There is no mention of testing for AMR pathogens or antimicrobial residues in the environment on the website of the Ministry of Health [2]. There is no further information in World Health Organization Library of action plans [3].

[1] Ministry of Health. December 2012. "National Strategy to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance to Antibiotics." ("Εθνική Στρατηγική για την Αντιμετώπιση της Μικροβιακής Αντοχής στα Αντιβιοτικά.")

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/0/6b4121829d8502a5c2257c210026e74c/\$FILE/ATTLV98V/%CE%95%CE%98%CE%9D%CE%99%CE%9A%CE%97%20%CE%A4%CE%A1%CE%91%CE%A4%CE%97%CE%93%CE%99%CE%9A%CE%97%20%CE%91%20%CE%A4%CE%95%CE%9B%CE%99%CE%9A%CE%9F.pdf]. Accessed 3 March 2021.

- [2] Ministry of Health of the Republic of Cyprus. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/]. Accessed 4 March 2020
- [3] World Health Organization. "Library of national action plans". [https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/cyprus-national-action-plan-on-antimicrobial-resistance]. Accessed 2 March 2021.



1.1.2 Antimicrobial control

1.1.2a

Is there national legislation or regulation in place requiring prescriptions for antibiotic use for humans?

Yes = 2, Yes, but there is evidence of gaps in enforcement = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

Cyprus has no regulations in place requiring prescriptions for the sale of antibiotics for human use. Law 70/2001 on pharmaceuticals for human consumption sets out the prescription requirements for drugs in Cyprus, but the criteria set in article 79 make no mention of antibiotics [1]. A 2017 European Commission report on antimicrobial resistance and antibiotic use in the European Union, notes that Cyprus has high levels of antibiotic usage without a prescription [2]. The report states that in Cyprus the main source of non-prescribed use of antibiotics (over 80%) is over-the-counter sales in pharmacies [2]. The report estimates that non-prescribed antibiotics represents 10% of antibiotic use in the country [2]. A 2020 academic paper attests that use of antibiotics without prescription remains widespread in Cyprus [3]. While the Ministry of Health runs awareness campaigns on bacterial resistance and over-use of antibiotics, the campaigns can only advise citizens not to use antibiotics without prescriptions, and do not refer to prohibition [4]. There is no evidence of a legal requirement for prescription on the websites of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Health Pharmaceuticals Services, the regulator, or in the National Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy. [5, 6, 7].

[1] Government Gazzette. Law 70/2001 "On pharmaceuticals for human consumption (Ο Περί Φαρμάκων Ανθρώπινης Χρήσης (Ἑλεγχος Ποιότητας, Προμήθειας και Τιμών) Νόμος του 2001 (70(I)/2001))" ("https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/phs/phs.nsf/All/ADB44106C00F5343C22585990041A9D3/\$file/N70(I)%20%CF%84%CE%BF%CF%85%202001.pdf?OpenElement"). [http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/enop/non-ind/2001_1_70/full.html]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

[2] European Commission. 2017. Antimicrobial resistance and causes of non-prudent use of antibiotics in human medicine in the EU. [https://ec.europa.eu/health/amr/sites/amr_arna_report_20170717_en.pdf]]. Accessed 04 March 2021. [3] R. Wesgate C. Evangelista R. Atkinson A. Shepard O. Adegoke J.-Y. Maillard. 2020. "Understanding the risk of emerging bacterial resistance to over the counter antibiotics in topical sore throat medicines". Journal of Applied Microbiology 129:916-925.

[4] Ministry of Health and National Commitee of Antibiotics. "Responsible Use of Antibiotics: What You Should Know?. ("Υπεύθυνη Χρήση Αντιβιοτικών: Τι Πρέπει Να Γνωρίζετε;"). [https://www.antibiotics-awareness.cy/.]. Accessed 04 March 2021

- [5] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument].]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [6] Ministry of Health. Pharmaceuticals Services. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/phs/phs.nsf/]. Accessed 7 March 2021.
- [7] Ministry of Health. December 2012. "National Strategy to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance to Antibiotics." ("Εθνική Στρατηγική για την Αντιμετώπιση της Μικροβιακής Αντοχής στα Αντιβιοτικά.")

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/0/6b4121829d8502a5c2257c210026e74c/\$FILE/ATTLV98V/%CE%95%CE%98%CE%9D%CE%99%CE%9A%CE%97%20%CE%A3%CE%A4%CE%A1%CE%91%CE%A4%CE%97%CE%93%CE%99%CE%9A%CE%97%20%CE%9CKCE%91%20%CE%A4%CE%95%CE%9B%CE%99%CE%9A%CE%9F.pdf]. Accessed 4 March 2021.

1.1.2b

Is there national legislation or regulation in place requiring prescriptions for antibiotic use for animals?

Yes = 2, Yes, but there is evidence of gaps in enforcement = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 2



In Cyprus there is legislation in place requiring prescriptions for antibiotic use for animals, and there is no evidence of gaps in enforcement. The National Strategy to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance to Antibiotics, adopted by the Cypriot Ministry of Heath in 2012 and developed in collaboration with the National Committee for Antibiotics, explicitly states that, according to Law No. 4069 on Veterinary Products (adopted 2006 and last amended in 2011), antibiotics are prescription-only medicines [1]. This is also stated in the Veterinary Service's instructions on "Antimicrobial Resistance and rational use of antibiotics" [2]. Article 82 of Law 4069 describes all of the categories of veterinary medicines that are prescription-only, incorporating the European Union (EU) regulations contained in Directive 2001/82/EC (and especially articles 66 and 67 thereof), [3, 4, 5]. In addition, an EU report on "Sales of veterinary antimicrobial agents in 30 European countries in 2016" indicates (on page 158) that all veterinary medicinal products containing antimicrobials are prescription-only medicines in Cyprus [6]. This report elaborates that veterinary antibiotics are dispensed either by pharmacies or veterinary clinics, and that veterinarians are only allowed to administer them to animals under their direct personal responsibility. [6] It also states that medicated feed containing antimicrobials are only manufactured on a prescription basis, and only by authorized feed mills. [6]

[1] Ministry of Health. December 2012. "National Strategy to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance to Antibiotics ("Εθνική Στρατηγική για την Αντιμετώπιση της Μικροβιακής Αντοχής στα Αντιβιοτικά.")

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/0/6b4121829d8502a5c2257c210026e74c/\$FILE/ATTLV98V/%CE%95%CE%98%CE%98%CE%9D%CE%99%CE%9A%CE%91%CE%A4%CE%91%CE%A4%CE%97%CE%93%CE%99%CE%9A%CE%97%20%CE%91%20%CE%A4%CE%95%CE%9B%CE%99%CE%9A%CE%9F.pdf]. Accessed 4 March 2021.

[2] Vetinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture. "Antimicrobial Resistance and rational use of antibiotics ("Μικροβιακή Αντοχή και ορθολογιστική χρήση αντιβιοτικών")

[http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/vs/vs.nsf/All/964F195665D0A2F1C2257D11002AFD9F/\$file/antimicrobials.pdf]. Accessed 5 March 2021.

- [3] Government Gazzette. 4069 17 February 2006. "On Medicines for Vetinary Use (Περί Κτηνιατρικών Φαρμακευτικών Προϊόντων)". [http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/arith/2006_1_010.pdf]. Accessed 4 March 2021.
- [4] Ministry of Health. 4281 21 April 2011. "On Medicines for Vetinary Use (Περί Κτηνιατρικών Φαρμακευτικών Προϊόντων)". [http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/arith/2011 1 061.pdf]. Accessed 4 March 2021.
- [5] European Parliament. Directive 2001/82/EC. [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32001L0082]. Accessed 5 March 2021
- [6] European Union. 2018. "Sales of veterinary antimicrobial agents in 30 European countries in 2016".

[http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/vs/vs.nsf/All/8F96A980392828A3C2257F47003865E9/\$file/sales%20of%20veterinary%20anti microbial%20agents%20in%2030%20eu-eea%20countries%20in%202016.pdf]. Accessed 4 March 2021.

1.2 ZOONOTIC DISEASE

1.2.1 National planning for zoonotic diseases/pathogens

1.2.1a

Is there national legislation, plans, or equivalent strategy documents on zoonotic disease? Yes = 1 , No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

Cyprus has legislation and plans on zoonotic disease. Law 3517/2001, a general law on animal health, explicitly defines zoonotic diseases in article 2 and in article 3 states that the scope of this law is to regulate the general framework under which responsibilities, powers, activities and tasks of the competent Vetinary Authority aimed at ensuring animal health, and protecting public health from zoonoses [1]. More specifically, article 4 of this law notes that the director of the Veterinary Services of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and the Environment is responsible for multiple actions, including



performing health checks, controlling exports and movement of animals within the country, and prevention [1]. Articles 8-16 of the law describe the specifics of the tasks, such as, among others, the administrative powers of the director of the Veterinary Services (article 8), the provisions for vetinary checks (article 9) and the disposal of animals and animal products in the respective markets (article 10), so that the general scope of the law (article 3) is met. [1]. Furthermore, the Multiannual National Control Plan of 2018 includes provisions related to both surveillance and control measures in order to meet the third target of the section Animal Health and Welfare, that is, "the reduction, treatment and eradication of animal diseases, and zoonoses, that exist in Cyprus" [2]. These measures include spot checks, limits on imports, training of staff and disposal of contaminated material (especially sections 5.6-5.9) [2]. Among a series of actions described in section 6, the plan also includes laboratory checks in (a) the Laboratory of Food Control of Animal Origin of the Veterinary Services for the examinations: all kinds of microbiological tests; antimicrobial inhibitors in meat (FPT); antimicrobial agents in milk (Delvo test); staphylococcal enterotoxin; aflatoxin M1 in milk and dairy products; somatic cells in milk; various physicochemical, organoleptic and parasitological examinations, (b) the Trichinella Laboratory for the examinations: control of Trichinella in all pig slaughterhouses and (c) the State's General Laboratory for the examinations of general Chemical analyses; Histamine control [2].

[1] Government Gazzette. Law 3517/2001 "On Animal Health Act 2001 (Ο περί της Υγείας των Ζώων Νόμος του 2001)" ("http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/arith/2001_1_109.pdf"). Accessed 04 March 2021.

[2] Ministry of Agriculture. "Multiannual National Control Plan, April 2018 (Πολυετές Εθνικό Σχέδιο Ελέγχου)". [http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/vs/vs.nsf/All/0E8AB607B103D38BC225826D0034E0CB/\$file/Cyprus'%20MANCP%202016-2018.pdf?OpenElement]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

1.2.1b

Is there national legislation, plans or equivalent strategy document(s) which includes measures for risk identification and reduction for zoonotic disease spillover events from animals to humans?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

Cyprus has a national strategy documents that include measures for risk identification and reduction for zoonotic disease spillover events from animals to humans. The National Strategy to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance to Antibiotics, adopted by the Cypriot Ministry of Heath in 2012 and developed in collaboration with the National Committee for Antibiotics, explicitly indicates that the Veterinary Services of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment are developing the following activities with regard to microbial resistance to zoonotic bacteria: prevalence studies and testing for antimicrobial resistance in flocks of chickens, turkeys and pigs for slaughter, and in breeding pigs and hens; the same activities in chicken carcasses; and application of hygiene measures in farms [1]. According to the Multiannual National Control Plan developed by the Ministry of Health on 2010, and published on July 2011, meat production laboratories that increase likelihood of occurrence of risk during the processing stages are considered high-risk facilities and possible pathways for transmission of zoonotic diseases from animals to humans [2]. Facilities such as red and white meat slaughterhouses (poultry slaughterhouses and rabbit slaughterhouses), dairies, white meat laboratories and meat processing laboratories are considered to be of high risk and show a higher percentage of non-compliance with European Union directives [2]. The plan also indentifies possible reasons causing these risks, such as inadequate training of food managers and operators in the application of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) principles due to financial costs and reduced of interest to HACCP consultants [2]. The Multiannual National Control Plan also includes specific measures to reduce zoonotic disease spillover events from animals to humans. The salmonella control program in breeding flocks aims to reduce the prevalence of serotypes referred to in European Regulation No 200/2010 (p. 12), and the District Veterinary Offices prepare an annual sampling schedule on poultry farms in the framework of the official controls, which they submit to the Sector of Animal's Health and Welfare, to monitor proper compliance [2]. There is also an avian influenza surveillance program, which includes



sampling in all units of organized poultry farming, as well as sampling of wild migratory birds, while the the Sector of Animal's Health and Welfare provides the Laboratory of Veterinary Services at the beginning of the year with a list of poultry establishments to be sampled, as well as an annual sampling schedule prepared by the Provincial Veterinary Offices, in order for the Laboratory of Veterinary Services to plan its work [2].

[1] Ministry of Health. December 2012. "National Strategy to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance to Antibiotics ("Εθνική Στρατηγική για την Αντιμετώπιση της Μικροβιακής Αντοχής στα Αντιβιοτικά.)"
[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/0/6b4121829d8502a5c2257c210026e74c/\$FILE/ATTLV98V/%CE%95%CE%98%CE%9D%CE%99%CE%9A%CE%97%20%CE%9A%CE%91%CE%A4%CE%97%CE%93%CE%99%CE%9A%CE%97%20%CE%99%CE%9A%CE%95%CE%9B%CE%99%CE%9A%CE%91. Accessed 4 March 2021.
[2] Ministry of Agriculture. July 2011. "Multiannual National Control Plan, 2010 (Πολυετές Εθνικό Σχέδιο Ελέγχου)".
[http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/vs/vs.nsf/All/BF78099E98232FFFC225793B00366E8C/\$file/FINAL%20Annual%20Report%2020 10.pdf?OpenElement]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

1.2.1c

Is there national legislation, plans, or guidelines that account for the surveillance and control of multiple zoonotic pathogens of public health concern?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

Cyprus has legislation and plans in place that cover both surveillance and control of zoonotic diseases. The "Multi-annual Control Plan 2016-2018", jointly developed by the Ministries of Health and Agriculture, explicitly mentions zoonotic diseases and sets out general, all-encompassing plans for surveillance and the organizations responsible for it. Several diseases are named explicitly, including brucellosis, avian flu, foot and mouth disease, Salmonella and swine fever. The plan includes both surveillance and control measures, such as spot checks, limits on imports, training of staff, and disposal of contaminated material [1]. Law 109/2001, a general law on animal health, also mentions zoonotic disease. Article 3 notes that the Director of the Veterinary Services of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and the Environment is responsible for multiple actions, including performing health checks, controlling exports and movement of animals within the country, as well as prevention [2].

[1] Ministry of Agriculture. "Multiannual National Control Plan, April 2018 (Πολυετές Εθνικό Σχέδιο Ελέγχου)". [http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/vs/vs.nsf/All/0E8AB607B103D38BC225826D0034E0CB/\$file/Cyprus'%20MANCP%202016-2018.pdf?OpenElement]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

[2] Government of Cyprus. Law 109/2001. "On animal health", Article 3, purpose (Ο Περί Υγείας των Ζώων Νόμος 2001 (109/2001)). [http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/enop/non-ind/2001_1_109/full.html]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

1.2.1d

Is there a department, agency, or similar unit dedicated to zoonotic disease that functions across ministries? Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

Cyprus does not have a dedicated zoonotic disease agency that functions across ministries, although there is evidence of inter-agency cooperation. The Director of Health Services at the Ministry of Health is the national coordinator for interagency cooperation as set out in chapter 4 of the Multiannual National Control Plan (adopted 2018). The plan states that the collaborating parties include the State General Laboratory, the Veterinary Services and the Department of Agriculture. The



requirement is that should an incident be brought to their attention/jurisdiction it is mandatory for them to cooperate with each other. The ultimate remit is with the Ministry of Health, however [1]. There is no evidence of an agency that sits across ministries on the websites of the Ministry of Health or the Ministry of Agriculture [2, 3].

[1] Ministry of Agriculture. "Multiannual National Control Plan, April 2018 (Πολυετές Εθνικό Σχέδιο Ελέγχου)". [http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/vs/vs.nsf/All/0E8AB607B103D38BC225826D0034E0CB/\$file/Cyprus'%20MANCP%202016-2018.pdf?OpenElement]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

[3] Ministry of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/ministry/mission/?lang=en]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

1.2.2 Surveillance systems for zoonotic diseases/pathogens

1.2.2a

Does the country have a national mechanism (either voluntary or mandatory) for owners of livestock to conduct and report on disease surveillance to a central government agency?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

Cyprus has a national mandatory mechanism for owners of livestocks to report on disease surveillance to local authorities, but no central government authority is notified via any standard procedure. According to the Ministry of Agriculture's website, livestock owners need to inspect their livestock at least daily and report suspicions of disease to the Veterinary Services in District Veterinary Offices [1]. Cyprus is split into five administrative districts, and the contact details of the officer responsible for each district are publicly available online [2]. Article 6, paragraph 2, of the Animal Health Law (Law 109/2001) outlines this requirement, stating that the reporting is to be done via the district veterinary office or, failing that, the police [3]. However no relevant reports are published by the District Veterinary Offices and there are no publicly available standard operating procedures that outline what the District Veterinary Offices do with the information they receive [4]. Moreover, the Special Audit report by the Cyprus Republic on the Veterinary Services, published in January 2020, states on page 23 that the Veterinary Services do not carry out checks to verify the implementation of the mandatory requirements for owners of livestocks to report [5]. This report's recommendation states that Vetinerary Services should take the necessary measures in a timely manner to ensure the smooth and correct implementation of reporting [5].

[1] Department of Agriculture. August 2007. "Responsibilities of Livestock Owners (Οι Υποχρεώσεις των Gεωργών και των Κτηνοτρόφων)": Section 13, protection of livestock, page 39.

[http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/da/da.nsf/All/5CEBC87FDE211E07C225800A00405309/\$file/%CE%A5%CE%A0%CE%9F%CE%A7%CE%A1%CE%95%CE%A9%CE%A3%CE%99%CE%A3%20%CE%93%CE%95%CE%A9%CE%A1%CE%93%CE%A9%CE%A9%CE%A9%CE%A9%CE%A9%CE%A9%CE%A9%CE%A9%CE%A9%CE%A9%CE%A9%CE%A4%CE%9F%CE%A4%CE%A1%CE%9F%CE%A6%CE%A9%CE%A9 final.pdf?OpenElement]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

- [2] Ministry of Agriculture. Veterinary Services. [http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/vs/vs.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [3] Government of Cyprus. Law 109/2001 on animal health (Ο Περί Υγείας των Ζώων Νόμος 2001 (109/2001)). [http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/enop/non-ind/2001_1_109/full.html]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [4]. Vetinerary Services.

 $[http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/vs/vs.nsf/AdvancedSearch_en/AdvancedSearch_en?OpenForm\&q=\&p=1\&w=\&t=\&s=\%CE\%BC\%CE\%B7\%CF\%84\%CF\%81\%CF\%8E\%CE\%B1\%20\%CE\%B6\%CF\%8E\%CF\%89\%CE\%BD\&L=E\&e=]. Accessed 16 March 2021.$

[5] Audit Agency of the Republic of Cyprus. 08 January 2020. "Special report. Checks of Vetinerary Services (Ειδική έκθεση.



Έλεγχος Κτηνιατρικών Υπηρεσιών")".

[http://www.audit.gov.cy/audit/audit.nsf/41478C08256AABA4C22584E900284FAB/\$file/2020%2001%2008%20-%20%CE%84%CE%95%CE%BB%CE%B5%CE%B3%CF%87%CE%BF%CF%82%20%CE%9A%CF%84%CE%B7%CE%BD%CE%B9%CE%B1%CF%84%CF%81%CE%B9%CE%BA%CF%8E%CE%BD%20%CE%A5%CF%80%CE%B7%CF%81%CE%B5%CF%83%CE%B9%CF%8E%CE%BD.pdf]. Accessed 16 March 2021

1.2.2b

Is there legislation and/or regulations that safeguard the confidentiality of information generated through surveillance activities for animals (for owners)?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

There is evidence that animal surveillance data is subject to confidentiality requirements. The Multi-annual National Control Plan, developed jointly by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Agriculture and adopted in 2018, states that surveillance activities are conducted confidentially and that the results fall within the remit of professional confidentiality. Subsection 5.1.2 of the plan notes that personnel collecting data are required to keep information confidential outside of required professional reporting, and that inspectors must sign confidentiality forms. The plan does not specify what information is protected, but rather states that staff are required not to reveal any information that they attain while performing their duties. [1] There is no additional evidence available on the websites of the Ministry of Health or the Ministry of Agriculture. [2, 3]

- [1] Ministry of Agriculture. "Multiannual National Control Plan, April 2018 (Πολυετές Εθνικό Σχέδιο Ελέγχου)". [http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/vs/vs.nsf/All/0E8AB607B103D38BC225826D0034E0CB/\$file/Cyprus'%20MANCP%202016-2018.pdf?OpenElement]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/ministry/mission/?lang=en]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

1.2.2c

Does the country conduct surveillance of zoonotic disease in wildlife (e.g., wild animals, insects, other disease vectors)? Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

Cyprus conducts surveillance of zoonotic disease in wild animal populations. The Ministry of Agriculture's National Surveillance Plan, developed in April 2018, notes in Section 5.7.3 that migratory bird populations are surveyed for avian flu and that wild and farmed game animals are also checked by the Ministry's Vetinary Services [1]. No further evidence of wildlife surveys is available on the websites of the Wildlife Service or the Ministry of Health [2, 3].

- [1] Ministry of Agriculture. "Multiannual National Control Plan, April 2018 (Πολυετές Εθνικό Σχέδιο Ελέγχου)". [http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/vs/vs.nsf/All/0E8AB607B103D38BC225826D0034E0CB/\$file/Cyprus'%20MANCP%202016-2018.pdf?OpenElement]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/ministry/mission/?lang=en]. Accessed 04 March 2021.



1.2.3 International reporting of animal disease outbreaks

1.2.3a

Has the country submitted a report to OIE on the incidence of human cases of zoonotic disease for the last calendar year? Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

2019

OIE WAHIS database

1.2.4 Animal health workforce

1.2.4a

Number of veterinarians per 100,000 people

Input number

Current Year Score: 16.6

2019

OIE WAHIS database

1.2.4b

Number of veterinary para-professionals per 100,000 people

Input number

Current Year Score: 7.43

2019

OIE WAHIS database

1.2.5 Private sector and zoonotic

1.2.5a

Does the national plan on zoonotic disease or other legislation, regulations, or plans include mechanisms for working with the private sector in controlling or responding to zoonoses?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that Cyprus has a specific mechanism for working with the private sector. The Multiannual National Control Plan, the main plan governing control of and response to zoonotic disease, does not refer to mechanisms to collaborate with the private sector and it only refers to state's authorities [1]. There is also no evidence on the websites of the Ministries of Health or Agriculture [2, 3].



- [1] Ministry of Agriculture. "Multiannual National Control Plan, April 2018 (Πολυετές Εθνικό Σχέδιο Ελέγχου)". [http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/vs/vs.nsf/All/0E8AB607B103D38BC225826D0034E0CB/\$file/Cyprus'%20MANCP%202016-2018.pdf?OpenElement]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/ministry/mission/?lang=en]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

1.3 BIOSECURITY

1.3.1 Whole-of- government biosecurity systems

1.3.1a

Does the country have in place a record, updated within the past five years, of the facilities in which especially dangerous pathogens and toxins are stored or processed, including details on inventories and inventory management systems of those facilities?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no public evidence of a record or inventory of dangerous pathogens. No evidence of such a store of pathogens or toxins is available on the websites of the Cyprus Research Institute, the Ministry of Health, the Public Health Service, the State General Laboratory, the Ministry of Defense, the Department of Agriculture, or the Department of the Environment [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7]. Although Cyprus has submitted Confidence Building Measures every year since 2011, access to the reports is restricted, and it is not known if they contain information on this matter [8]. The Verification Research, Training and Information Centre has no relevant information either [9].

- [1] Cyprus Research Centre. [http://www.moec.gov.cy/kee/en/index.html]. Accessed 27 September 2018.
- [2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [3] Public Health Service of the Ministry of Health.
- [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/mphs/phs.nsf/DMLindex en/DMLindex en?opendocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [4] State General Laboratory [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/sgl/sgl.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [5] Ministry of Defence. [https://mod.gov.cy/en/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [6] Department of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/ministry/mission/?lang=en]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [7] Department of the Environment
- [http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/environment/environmentnew.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [8] United Nations. Biological Weapons Convention Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal. [https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/cyprus]. Accessed 04 March 2021. [09] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre database [https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/c/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.



1.3.1b

Does the country have in place legislation and/or regulations related to biosecurity which address requirements such as physical containment, operation practices, failure reporting systems, and/or cybersecurity of facilities in which especially dangerous pathogens and toxins are stored or processed?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that Cyrpus has biosecurity regulations or legislation. There is no evidence of such legislation or regulations on the websites of the Cyprus Research Institute, the Ministry of Health, the Public Health Service, the State General Laboratory, the Ministry of Defense, the Department of Agriculture or the Department of the Environment [1,2,3,4,5,6,7]. Although Cyprus has submitted Confidence Building Measures every year since 2011, access to the reports is restricted, and it is not known if they contain information on this matter [8]. The Verification Research, Training and Information Centre has no relevant information [9].

- [1] Cyprus Research Centre. [http://www.moec.gov.cy/kee/en/index.html]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [3] Public Health Service of the Ministry of Health.
- [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/mphs/phs.nsf/DMLindex_en/DMLindex_en?opendocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [4] State General Laboratory [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/sgl/sgl.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [5] Ministry of Defence. [https://mod.gov.cy/en/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [6] Department of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/ministry/mission/?lang=en]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [7] Department of the Environment
- [http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/environment/environmentnew.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [8] United Nations. Biological Weapons Convention Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal. [https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/cyprus]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [9] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre database [https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/c/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

1.3.1c

Is there an established agency (or agencies) responsible for the enforcement of biosecurity legislation and regulations? Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

Cyrpus does not have an established agency for the enforcement of biosecurity legislation or regulations. There is no evidence of such an agency on the websites of the police, the Cyprus Research Institute, the Ministry of Health, the Public Health Service, the State General Laboratory, the Ministry of Defense, the Department of Agriculture, or the Department of the Environment [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7]. Although Cyprus has submitted Confidence Building Measures every year since 2011, access to the reports is restricted, and it is not known if they contain information on this matter [8]. The Verification Research, Training and Information Centre has no relevant information [9].

- [1] Cyprus Research Centre. [http://www.moec.gov.cy/kee/en/index.html]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March



2021.

[3] Public Health Service of the Ministry of Health.

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/mphs/phs.nsf/DMLindex_en/DMLindex_en?opendocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

- [4] State General Laboratory [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/sgl/sgl.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [5] Ministry of Defence. [https://mod.gov.cy/en/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [6] Department of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/ministry/mission/?lang=en]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [7] Department of the Environment

[http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/environment/environmentnew.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

- [8] United Nations. Biological Weapons Convention Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal. [https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/cyprus]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [9] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre database [https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/c/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

1.3.1d

Is there public evidence that shows that the country has taken action to consolidate its inventories of especially dangerous pathogens and toxins into a minimum number of facilities?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

Cyrpus does not have a record or inventory of dangerous pathogens, or of efforts to consolidate any inventories. No evidence of consolidation efforts is available on the websites of the Cyprus Research Institute, the Ministry of Health, the Public Health Service, the State General Laboratory, the Ministry of Defense, the Department of Agriculture or the Department of the Environment [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7]. Although Cyprus has submitted Confidence Building Measures every year since 2011, access to the reports is restricted, and it is not known if they contain information on this matter [8]. The Verification Research, Training and Information Centre has no relevant information [9].

- [1] Cyprus Research Centre. [http://www.moec.gov.cy/kee/en/index.html]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [3] Public Health Service of the Ministry of Health.
- [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/mphs/phs.nsf/DMLindex en/DMLindex en?opendocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [4] State General Laboratory [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/sgl/sgl.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [5] Ministry of Defence. [https://mod.gov.cy/en/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [6] Department of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/ministry/mission/?lang=en]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [7] Department of the Environment

[http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/environment/environmentnew.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

- [8] United Nations. Biological Weapons Convention Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal. [https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/cyprus]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [9] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre database [https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/c/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.



1.3.1e

Is there public evidence of in-country capacity to conduct Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)—based diagnostic testing for anthrax and/or Ebola, which would preclude culturing a live pathogen?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is insufficient evidence that Cyprus can conduct polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests for anthrax or ebola. The State Health Services Organization's website states that the Clinical Laboratory of Limassol General Hospital offers real-time PCR for the detection of genetic material, but it does not specify for which the diseases. [1] Neither Limassol General Hospital nor its Clinical Laboratory has a website. No additional evidence is available on the websites of the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Defense or the Department of Agriculture [2, 3, 4].

[1] State Health Services Organization, Clinical Laboratory of Limassol General Hospital.

[https://www.shso.org.cy/2020/05/19/%ce%ba%ce%bb%ce%b9%ce%bd%ce%b9%ce%ba%cf%8c-

%ce%b5%cf%81%ce%b3%ce%b1%cf%83%cf%84%ce%ae%cf%81%ce%b9%ce%bf-%cf%84%ce%bf%cf%85-

%ce%b3%ce%b5%ce%bd%ce%b9%ce%ba%ce%bf%cf%8d-%ce%bd%ce%bf%cf%83%ce%bf%ce%ba/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

- [2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/ministry/mission/?lang=en]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [4] Ministry of Defence. [https://mod.gov.cy/en/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

1.3.2 Biosecurity training and practices

1.3.2a

Does the country require biosecurity training, using a standardized, required approach, such as through a common curriculum or a trainthe-trainer program, for personnel working in facilities housing or working with especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, or biological materials with pandemic potential?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

Cyrpus does not have any requirements for biosecurity training, using a standardized, required approach, such as through a common curriculum or a trainthe-trainer program, for personnel working in facilities housing or working with especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, or biological materials with pandemic potential. There is no evidence of such a training on the websites of the Cyprus Research Institute, the Ministry of Health, the Public Health Service, the State General Laboratory, the Ministry of Defense, the Department of Agriculture or the Department of the Environment, the police academy or the University of Cyprus [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9] Although Cyprus has submitted Confidence Building Measures every year since 2011, access to the reports is restricted, and it is not known if they contain information on this matter [10]. The Verification Research, Training and Information Centre has no relevant information [11].

- [1] Cyprus Research Centre. [http://www.moec.gov.cy/kee/en/index.html]. Accessed 04 March 2021
- [2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [3] Public Health Service of the Ministry of Health.
- $[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/mphs/phs.nsf/DMLindex_en/DMLindex_en?opendocument]. \ Accessed \ 04 \ March \ 2021.$
- $[4] State General Laboratory. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/sgl/sgl.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 and the context of the c$



March 2021.

- [5] Ministry of Defence. [https://mod.gov.cy/en/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [6] Department of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/?s=&lang=en]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [7] Department of the Environment.

[http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/environment/environmentnew.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021

[8] Police Academy. "Syllabus 2019-2020 (ΑΣΤΥΝΟΜΙΚΗ ΑΚΑΔΗΜΙΑ ΚΥΠΡΟΥ ΟΔΗΓΟΣΣΠΟΥΔΩΝ 2019-2020)".

[https://www.police.gov.cy/police/police.nsf/All/CFACEA69D2056F29C22585220051AA5B/\$file/%CE%91%CE%91%CE%9A_FI NAL web.pdf?OpenElement]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

[9] University of Cyprus, Department of Biological Sciences. Courses overview 2017-2018.

[http://www.ucy.ac.cy/biol/el/academicprogramms/courses-overview]. Accessed 27 September 2018.

[10] United Nations. Biological Weapons Convention Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal. [https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/cyprus]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

[11] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre database [https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/c/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

1.3.3 Personnel vetting: regulating access to sensitive locations

1.3.3a

Do regulations or licensing conditions specify that security and other personnel with access to especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, or biological materials with pandemic potential are subject to the following checks: drug testing, background checks, and psychological or mental fitness checks?

Personnel are subject to all three of these checks = 3, Personnel are subject to two of these checks = 2, Personnel are subject to one of these checks = 1, Personnel are not subject to any of these checks = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that Cyprus requires personnel with access to especially dangerous pathogens, toxins or biological materials with pandemic potential to undergo any kinds of checks. Law 3096, on Safety and Health in Employment (adopted in 1996 and last amended in 2015) describes the broader legal framework that employers must follow to ensure the safety of their employees, and states that employers should ensure the health of their employees through regular checks of their mental and physical wellbeing, but it does not specifically mention personnel with access to dangerous biological materials, drug tests, or background checks [1, 2]. In addition, section 2.3 of the Guide on Management and Security in Hospital Activities (published by the Ministry of Employment, Welfare and Social Security - 2015), which is titled "Regulations for Chemical and Biological Agents", lists various requirements for employers whose staff work with chemically or biologically hazardous materials, but does not mention drug tests, background checks, or psychological/mental fitness checks. [3] The Verification Research, Training and Information Centre has no relevant information [4]. There is no evidence of such training on the websites of the Cyprus Research Institute, the Ministry of Health, the Public Health Service, the State General Laboratory, the Ministry of Defense, the Department of Agriculture or the Department of the Environment, the police academy or the University of Cyprus [5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13] Although Cyprus has submitted Confidence Building Measures every year since 2011, access to the reports is restricted, and it is not known if they contain information on this matter [14].

- [1] Government Gazette. Law 3096 11 November 1996. "On Safety and Health at Workplace Act 1996 ("Ο περί Ασφαλείας και Υγείας στην Εργασία Νόμος του 1996")". [http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/indexes/1996_1_89.html]. Accessed 06 march 2021
- [2] Government of Cyprus. Law 3487 06 April 2001. "On Health and Safety at Workplace, ("Οι περί Ασφάλειας και Υγείας στην



Εργασία (Βιολογικοί Παράγοντες)")". [http://www.cylaw.org/KDP/data/2001 1 144.pdf]. Accessed 06 March 2021.

[3] Ministry of Employment, Welfare and Social Security. 2015. "Guide on Management and Security in Hospital Activities" (Οδηγός Διαχείρισης και Ασφάλειας Υγείας στις Νοσοκομειακές Δραστηριότητες")".

[http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/mlsi/dli/dliup.nsf/All/9F1582EBA76780CBC2257E0A0039580A/\$file/ODHGOS_NOSOKOMIAKES_FIN AL WEB.pdf]. Accessed 06 march 2021.

- [4] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre database [https://www.vertic.org/search-page/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [5] Cyprus Research Centre. [http://www.moec.gov.cy/kee/en/index.html]. Accessed 04 March 2021
- [6] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [7] Public Health Service of the Ministry of Health.
- [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/mphs/phs.nsf/DMLindex_en/DMLindex_en?opendocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [8] State General Laboratory. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/sgl/sgl.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [9] Ministry of Defence. [https://mod.gov.cy/en/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [10] Department of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/?s=&lang=en]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [11] Department of the Environment.

[http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/environment/environmentnew.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

[12] Police Academy. "Syllabus 2019-2020 (Οδηγός Σπουδών 2019-2020)".

[https://www.police.gov.cy/police/police.nsf/All/CFACEA69D2056F29C22585220051AA5B/\$file/%CE%91%CE%91%CE%9A_FINAL web.pdf?OpenElement]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

[13] University of Cyprus, Department of Biological Sciences. Courses overview 2017-2018.

[http://www.ucy.ac.cy/biol/el/academicprogramms/courses-overview]. Accessed 27 September 2018.

[14] United Nations. Biological Weapons Convention Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal. [https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/cyprus]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

1.3.4 Transportation security

1.3.4a

Does the country have publicly available information on national regulations on the safe and secure transport of infectious substances (specifically including Categories A and B)?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

Cyprus has regulations covering the transportation of Category A and B infectious substances. Law 3815 on the Road Transport of Dangerous Goods, which was adopted on 2004, outlines the regulatory framework for the transport of dangerous materials and intergrates the European Council Directives 94/55/EC, 95/50/EC, 96/35/EC and 2000/18/EC. [1] Article 22A of this law defines the Category A and B substances [1]. The scope of the law is to establish the standards of packaging for such materials during transportation, the provision of guidelines for the professional training of drivers who transport such materials, and the control of vehicles used for that purpose [1]. The law requires compliance with the provisions as outlined in the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR), which includes detailed rules on the transportation of Category A and B infectious substances [1, 2]. Although Cyprus has submitted Confidence Building Measures every year since 2011, access to the reports is restricted, and it is not known if they contain information on this matter [3].



[1] Government Gazzette. Law 3815 05 March 2004. "On the transport of dangerous goods (Ο Περί Οδικής Μεταφοράς Επικίνδυνων Εμπορευμάτων")". [http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/arith/2004_1_029.pdf] Accessed 06 March 2021.

[2] United Nations. 2016. "The European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR)". [http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/danger/publi/adr/adr2017/ADR2017E_web.pdf]. Accessed 06 March 2021.

[3] United Nations. Biological Weapons Convention Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal. [https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/cyprus]. Accessed 06 March 2021.

1.3.5 Cross-border transfer and end-user screening

1.3.5a

Is there legislation and/or regulations in place to oversee the cross-border transfer and end-user screening of especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, and pathogens with pandemic potential?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

Cyprus has regulations in place to oversee the cross-border transfer and end-user screening of especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, and pathogens with pandemic potential. End-user screening is mandated by the European Union's Regulation No 428/2009 Setting up a Community Regime for the Control of Exports, Transfer, Brokering and Transit of Dual-Use Items. In its list of items covered by the term "dual-use", the regulation includes 91 pathogens and toxins: 32 human viruses, 17 animal viruses, 4 rickettsiae, 15 bacteria, 19 toxins, 2 fungi and 2 mycoplasmas [1]. Among others, this includes the pathogens and toxins associated with plague, cholera, encephalitis, ebola, dengue fever, anthrax, salmonellosis, brucellosis, shigellosis, yellow fever and botulism. However, the list omits pathogens and toxins associated with some major infectious diseases, such as influenza and tuberculosis. The regulation states that export authorization is subject to identification of the end-user and intended use [1]. It further states that dual-use items may not be exported when the exporter is informed by member state authorities that they are intended for the production of weapons of mass destruction, or for military use more broadly where the destination country is subject to an arms embargo imposed by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) or United Nations Security Council [1].

[1] European Council. 2009. Council Regulation (EC) No 428/2009 of 5 May 2009 setting up a Community regime for the control of exports, transfer, brokering and transit of dual-use items. EUR-Lex. [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:32009R0428]. Accessed 06 march 2021.

1.4 BIOSAFETY

1.4.1 Whole-of-government biosafety systems

1.4.1a

Does the country have in place national biosafety legislation and/or regulations?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

Cyprus has biosafety regulations in place. Law 3487, which was adopted in 2001, regulates the exposure of employees to harmful biological substances, and pertains principally to laboratory workers. It includes details on reporting to the authorities the use of biological agents that constitute a workplace safety risk (article 15), as well as employer requirements to reduce risks for workers working with dangerous biological agents (articles 17 and 18). The law covers a variety of topics,



such as the detection and assessment of biological hazards, the replacement of such substances with safer alternatives where possible, measures of hygiene and personal protection, training of employees, and a mandatory requirement to maintain a list of employees exposed to such substances as well as monitoring the health status of employees [1]. Although Cyprus has submitted Confidence Building Measures every year since 2011, access to the reports is restricted, and it is not known if they contain information on this matter [2]. In addition, the Guide on Management and Security in Hospital Activities (published by the Ministry of Employment, Welfare and Social Security on 2015), which is titled "Regulations for Chemical and Biological Agents", states that the employers have to assess and evaluate the risks posed by work with chemically or biologically hazardous agents, ensure the selection and use of appropriate control measures [3]. These include the use of an appropriate level of restraint for the biological agents they may use, ensure the maintenance, inspection and testing of control measures, such as microbiological safety inclusions, maintain lists of employees exposed to organic risk groups for 40 years, notify the Labor Inspection Department of the intention to use or store organic for the first time risk groups and for each subsequent use a new biological agent, provide adequate health supervision to employees, provide information, guidance and training to employees on the risks and precautions to be taken [3]. The employers have also to apply procedures for the medical monitoring of their employees, arrange for the use of personal protective equipment and offer vaccination of employees when effectively available vaccines [3].

- [1] Government of Cyprus. Law 3487 06 April 2001. "On Health and Safety at Workplace, ("Οι περί Ασφάλειας και Υγείας στην Εργασία (Βιολογικοί Παράγοντες)")". [http://www.cylaw.org/KDP/data/2001_1_144.pdf]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [2] United Nations. Biological Weapons Convention Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal. [https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/cyprus]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Employment, Welfare and Social Security. 2015. "Guide on Management and Security in Hospital Activities" (Οδηγός Διαχείρισης και Ασφάλειας Υγείας στις Νοσοκομειακές Δραστηριότητες")".
- $[http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/mlsi/dli/gliup.nsf/All/9F1582EBA76780CBC2257E0A0039580A/\$file/ODHGOS_NOSOKOMIAKES_FINAL_WEB.pdf]. Accessed 06 march 2021$

1.4.1b

Is there an established agency responsible for the enforcement of biosafety legislation and regulations? Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

Cyprus has an agency with oversight of biosafety regulations. Law 3487, which was adopted on 2001, regulates the exposure of employees to harmful biological substances and covers a variety of topics such as the detection and assessment of biological dangers, hygiene and personal protection measures, and employee training. According to the Article 5 of the law 3487 the empoyer should provide a risk asssessment to the Inspector (and according to the following articles to the chief inspector, if required) whenever requested [1]. While law 3487 does not describe the position of Inspector and Chief Inspector, the Department of Labor Inspection's website clearly refers to law 3487 as the legislative framework for biosafety enforcement, and states that the Department for Labor Inspection is responsible for such enforcement and then explaining the relevant biological agents, where these can be found and how to deal with them [1, 2]. Although Cyprus has submitted Confidence Building Measures every year since 2011, access to the reports is restricted, and it is not known if they contain information on this matter [3]. There is no evidence of such training on the websites of the Cyprus Research Institute, the Ministry of Health, the Public Health Service, the State General Laboratory, the Ministry of Defense, the Department of Agriculture or the Department of the Environment, the police academy or the University of Cyprus [4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12]

[1] Government of Cyprus. Law 3487 06 April 2001. "On Health and Safety at Workplace, ("Οι περί Ασφάλειας και Υγείας στην Εργασία (Βιολογικοί Παράγοντες)")". [http://www.cylaw.org/KDP/data/2001_1_144.pdf]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
[2] Department of Labour Inspection. "Safety and Health at Work: Biological Factors ("Ασφάλεια και Υγεία στην Εργασία")".



[http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/mlsi/dli/dliup.nsf/All/8CC0DF271271C8CDC2257E2D00409F64?OpenDocument]

[http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/mlsi/dli/dliup.nsf/pagem2_gr/pagem2_gr?OpenDocument].Accessed 06 March 2021.

- [3] United Nations. Biological Weapons Convention Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal. [https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/cyprus]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [4] Cyprus Research Centre. [http://www.moec.gov.cy/kee/en/index.html]. Accessed 04 March 2021
- [5] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [6] Public Health Service of the Ministry of Health.

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/mphs/phs.nsf/DMLindex en/DMLindex en?opendocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

- [7] State General Laboratory. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/sgl/sgl.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [8] Ministry of Defence. [https://mod.gov.cy/en/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [9] Department of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/?s=&lang=en]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [10] Department of the Environment.

[http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/environment/environmentnew.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

[11] Police Academy. "Syllabus 2019-2020 (Οδηγός Σπουδών 2019-2020)".

[https://www.police.gov.cy/police/police.nsf/All/CFACEA69D2056F29C22585220051AA5B/\$file/%CE%91%CE%91%CE%9A_FINAL web.pdf?OpenElement]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

[12] University of Cyprus, Department of Biological Sciences. Courses overview 2017-2018.

[http://www.ucy.ac.cy/biol/el/academicprogramms/courses-overview]. Accessed 27 September 2018.

[13] United Nations. Biological Weapons Convention Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal. [https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/cyprus]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

1.4.2 Biosafety training and practices

1.4.2a

Does the country require biosafety training, using a standardized, required approach, such as through a common curriculum or a trainthe-trainer program, for personnel working in facilities housing or working with especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, or biological materials with pandemic potential?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that Cyprus requires biosafety training through a standardized approach. Article 11 of Law 3487, which was adopted in 2001, states that employers are responsible for training employees who might be exposed to harmful substances at work, and that this training should include information and guidelines regarding potential health dangers, covering a wide range of issues such as precautionary measures to avoid exposure to dangerous substances, the use of protective equipment, and the measures in place in the event of an accident or for the prevention of such an accident. Furthermore, this law states that the training should take place at the beginning of the employment, be adapted for the evolution of these dangers and periodically repeated. It pertains principally to laboratory workers, who are mentioned repeatedly throughout. However, there is no specific provision for the training to be standardized or uniform through a common curriculum [1]. There is no further evidence available through the Ministry of Health or Ministry of Agriculture and the Environment [2, 3]. Although Cyprus has submitted Confidence Building Measures every year since 2011, access to the reports is restricted, and it is not known if they contain information on this matter [4]. The Verification Research, Training and Information Centre has no relevant information [5].



- [1] Government of Cyprus. Law 3487 06 April 2001. "On Health and Safety at Workplace, ("Οι περί Ασφάλειας και Υγείας στην Εργασία (Βιολογικοί Παράγοντες)")". [http://www.cylaw.org/KDP/data/2001_1_144.pdf]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Agriculture. Rural Development and the Environment.
- [https://moa.gov.cy/?s=%CE%B5%CE%BA%CF%80%CE%B1%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B5%CF%85%CF%83%CE%B7].Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [4] United Nations. Biological Weapons Convention Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal. [https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/cyprus]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [5] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre database [https://www.vertic.org/search-page/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

1.5 DUAL-USE RESEARCH AND CULTURE OF RESPONSIBLE SCIENCE

1.5.1 Oversight of research with especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, pathogens with pandemic potential and/or other dual-use research

1.5.1a

Is there publicly available evidence that the country has conducted an assessment to determine whether ongoing research is occurring on especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, pathogens with pandemic potential and/or other dual-use research? Yes = 1. No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no public available evidence that Cyprus has conducted an assessment of dual use research taking place in the country. Cyprus has outlined ethical guidelines for corporate research and development and has a National Bioethics Commission with responsibility for monitoring biological research. However, there is no evidence via the National Bioethics Commission or the ethical guidelines of assessments of dual use research [1, 2]. There is also no evidence on the websites of the Ministries of Defense, Health or Agriculture [3, 4, 5]. This is confirmed in the Official Journal of European Union, which outlines which European countries have implemented measures on dual use controls [6]. Although Cyprus has submitted Confidence Building Measures every year since 2011, access to the reports is restricted, and it is not known if they contain information on this matter [7]. The Verification Research, Training and Information Centre has no relevant information [8].

- [1] National Bioethics Commission. March 2018. ""Annual Report (""E τ ήσια Έκθεση"")"".[http://www.bioethics.gov.cy/Moh/cnbc/cnbc.nsf/All/CC977801C9F716B0C2258260001EDFD6/\$file/%CE%95%C F%84%CE%AE%CF%83%CE%B9%CE%B1%20%CE%88%CE%BA%CE%B8%CE%B5%CF%83%CE%B7%202015-2017.pdf?OpenElement]. Accessed 06March 2021.
- [2] National Bioethics Committee of Cyprus. 14 November 2006. ""Ethical Rules and Regulations governing corporate research and development (""Hθικοί Κανόνες και Κώδικες που διέπουν την Εταιρική Έρευνα και Ανάπτυξη"")"". [http://www.bioethics.gov.cy/Moh/cnbc/cnbc.nsf/0/C8C7F6127FD16626C2257CB4003BB543/\$file/%CE%97%CE%B8%CE%B9%CE%BA%CE%BF%CE%AF%20%CE%9A%CF%8E%CE%B4%CE%B9%CE%BA%CE%B5%CF%82%20%CE%BA%CE%B1%CE%B1%CE%B9% 20%CE%9A%CE%B1%CE%BD%CE%B5%CF%82%20%CF%80%CE%B5%CF%85%20%CE%94%CE%B9%CE%AD %CF%80%CE%BF%CF%85%CE%BD%20%CE%B7%CE%BD%20%CE%95%CF%84%CE%B1%CE%B9%CF%81%CE%B9%CE%BA%CE%AE%20%CE%88%CF%81%CE%B5%CF%85%CE%BD%CE%B1%20%CE%B1%CE%B9%20%CE%91%CE%BD%C E%AC%CF%80%CF%84%CF%85%CE%BD%CE%B7%20-%2014%2011%2006.pdf]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Defence. [http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/mod.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 06 March 2021.



- [4] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [5] Ministry of Agriculture. Rural Development and the Environment.

[https://moa.gov.cy/?s=%CE%B5%CE%BA%CF%80%CE%B1%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B5%CF%85%CF%83%CE%B7].Accessed 06 March 2021.

- [6] Official Journal of the European Union. Information on measures adopted by Member States in conformity with Articles 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 17 and 22 of Council Regulation (EC) No 28/2009 setting up a Community regime for the control of exports, transfer, brokering and transit of dual-use items. [http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/august/tradoc_154880.pdf]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [7] United Nations, Biological Weapons Convention Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal. [https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/cyprus]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [8] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre database [https://www.vertic.org/search-page/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

1.5.1b

Is there legislation and/or regulation requiring oversight of research with especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, pathogens with pandemic potential and/or other dual-use research?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that Cyprus has regulations requiring oversight of dual use research. Law 3558, which was adopted in 2001 and amended in 2010, creates the Bioethics Commission, which is responsible for the oversight of all research, but the law does not specifically mention dual use research. [1,2] There no evidence of a requirement for oversight of dual use research on the websites of the Ministries of Defense, Health or Agriculture [3, 4, 5]. Furthermore, although the European Commission has regulations on export control of dual use items, its documentation indicates that Cyprus has not yet implemented these measures [6, 7]. Although Cyprus has submitted Confidence Building Measures every year since 2011, access to the reports is restricted, and it is not known if they contain information on this matter [8]. The Verification Research, Training and Information Centre has no relevant information [9].

- [1] Government of Cyprus. Law 3558 14 December 2001. "On Bioethics ("Ο περί Βιοηθικής νόμους του 2001")". [http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/arith/2001 1 150.pdf]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [2] National Bioethics Committee. [http://www.bioethics.gov.cy/Moh/cnbc/cnbc.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Defence. [http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/mod.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [4] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [5] Ministry of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [6] European Commission. "Dual-use trade controls". May 2018. [http://ec.europa.eu/trade/import-and-export-rules/export-from-eu/dual-use-controls]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [7] Official Journal of the European Union. 2016. "Information on measures adopted by Member States setting up a Community regime for the control of exports, transfer, brokering and transit of dual-use items".
- [http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/august/tradoc_154880.pdf].Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [8] United Nations. Biological Weapons Convention Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal. [https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/cyprus]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [9] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre database [https://www.vertic.org/search-page/]. Accessed 04



March 2021.

1.5.1c

Is there an agency responsible for oversight of research with especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, pathogens with pandemic potential and/or other dual-use research?

Yes = 1 , No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that Cyprus has an agency responsible for oversight of dual use research. Law 3558, which was adopted in 2001 and amended in 2010, creates the Bioethics Commission, which is responsible for the oversight of all research, but the law does not specifically mention dual use research. [1,2] There no evidence of a requirement for oversight of dual use research on the websites of the Ministries of Defense, Health or Agriculture [3, 4, 5]. Furthermore, although the European Commission has regulations on export control of dual use items, its documentation indicates that Cyprus has not yet implemented these measures [6, 7]. Although Cyprus has submitted Confidence Building Measures every year since 2011, access to the reports is restricted, and it is not known if they contain information on this matter [8]. The Verification Research, Training and Information Centre has no relevant information [9].

- [1] Government of Cyprus. Law 3558 14 December 2001. ""On Bioethics (""Ο περί Βιοηθικής νόμους του 2001"")"". [http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/arith/2001_1_150.pdf]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [2] National Bioethics Committee. [http://www.bioethics.gov.cy/Moh/cnbc/cnbc.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Defence. [http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/mod.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 06 March 2021
- [4] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 06 March 2021
- [5] Ministry of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [6] European Commission. ""Dual-use trade controls"". May 2018. [http://ec.europa.eu/trade/import-and-export-rules/export-from-eu/dual-use-controls]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [7] Official Journal of the European Union. 2020. ""Council Regulation (EC) No 428/2009 of 5 May 2009 setting up a Community regime for the control of exports, transfer, brokering and transit of dual-use items: Information on measures adopted by Member States in conformity with Articles 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 17 and 22"".
- [https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2020/january/tradoc_158576.pdf].Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [8] United Nations. Biological Weapons Convention Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal. [https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/cyprus]. Accessed 06 March 2021.
- [9] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre database [https://www.vertic.org/search-page/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [9] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre database [https://www.vertic.org/search-page/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

1.5.2 Screening guidance for providers of genetic material

1.5.2a

Is there legislation and/or regulation requiring the screening of synthesized DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) against lists of known pathogens and toxins before it is sold?

Yes = 1, No = 0



Current Year Score: 0

There is no publicly available evidence that Cyprus has a legislation and/or regulation requiring the screening of synthesized DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) against lists of known pathogens and toxins before it is sold. Law 3759/2003 on the protection of public health from genetically modified organisms provides regulations on synthesized or modified DNA, however, it does not include a requirement to screen the DNA before it is sold [1]. It covers a wide variety of topics regarding synthesized or modified DNA strains, from assessing environmental dangers before release to record- keeping of these strains for public information purposes, but does not include any provision for screening the DNA before the sale. The Law aligns Cyprus legislation with Directive 2001/18 EC, Directive 97/35 EC, Directive 94/15 EC, decision 94/211 of the European Commission, decision 92/146 of the European Economic Community and decision 91/596 of the European Coal and Steel Community [1]. There is no further evidence of a policy requiring DNA to be screened is available via the Ministries of Health, Transport, Defence, or Agriculture and the Environment [2, 3, 4, 5]. Although Cyprus has submitted Confidence Building Measures every year since 2011, access to the reports is restricted, and it is not known if they contain information on this matter [6]. The Verification Research, Training and Information Centre has no relevant information [7].

- [1] Government of Cyprus. Law 3759 03 October 2003. "On the protection of public health from genetically modified organisms (Νόμος που προβλέπει για τη λήψη μέτρων προστασίας της ανθρώπινης υγείας και του περιβάλλοντος από την ελευθέρωση στο περιβάλλον ή τη διάθεση στην αγορά γενετικά τροποποιημένων οργανισμών, για τις προϋποθέσεις χορήγησης της σχετικής άδειας και για συναφή θέματα")". [http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/arith/2003_1_160.pdf]. Accessed 07 march 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 07 march 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment. [https://moa.gov.cy/]. Accessed 07 march 2021.
- [4] Ministry of Transport. [http://www.mcw.gov.cy/mcw/mcw.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 8 January 2019.
- [5] Ministry of Defence. [http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/mod.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 07 march 2021
- [6] United Nations. Biological Weapons Convention Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal. [https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/cyprus]. Accessed 07 march 2021.
- [7] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre database [https://www.vertic.org/search-page/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

1.6 IMMUNIZATION

1.6.1 Vaccination rates

1.6.1a

Immunization rate (measles/MCV2)

Immunization rate (measles/MCV2), 95% or greater = 2, 80-94.9% = 1, Less than 80%, or no data = 0

Current Year Score: 1

2019

World Health Organization



1.6.1b

Are official foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) vaccination figures for livestock publicly available through the OIE database? Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

2020

OIE WAHIS database

Category 2: Early detection and reporting for epidemics of potential international concern

2.1 LABORATORY SYSTEMS STRENGTH AND QUALITY

2.1.1 Laboratory testing for detection of priority diseases

2.1.1a

Does the national laboratory system have the capacity to conduct diagnostic tests for at least 5 of the 10 WHO-defined core tests?

Evidence they can conduct 5 of the 10 core tests and these tests are named = 2, Evidence they can conduct 5 of the 10 core tests and the tests are not named = 1, No evidence they can conduct 5 of the 10 core tests = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is insufficient evidence that Cyprus can conduct at least five of the ten WHO-defined core tests. The State Health Services Organization's website states that the Clinical Laboratory of Limassol General Hospital offers real-time PCR for the detection of genetic material, some other general tests such as blood tests, biochemical, bionalysis, but it does not specify the diseases it can conduct these tests for [1]. No mention of testing for influenza virus, HIV, tuberculosis, salmonella (S.Typhi), polio or malaria is available on the websites of the Ministry of Health or the State Health Services Organization; neither Limassol General Hospital nor its Clinical Laboratory has a website [2, 3]. No information was found on the four country-defined tests on the websites of the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Defense or the Department of Agriculture [3, 4, 5].

[1] State Health Services Organization, Clinical Laboratory of Limassol General Hospital.

[https://www.shso.org.cy/2020/05/19/%ce%ba%ce%bb%ce%b9%ce%bd%ce%b9%ce%ba%cf%8c-white.]

%ce%b5%cf%81%ce%b3%ce%b1%cf%83%cf%84%ce%ae%cf%81%ce%b9%ce%bf-%cf%84%ce%bf%cf%85-

%ce%b3%ce%b5%ce%bd%ce%b9%ce%ba%ce%bf%cf%8d-%ce%bd%ce%bf%cf%83%ce%bf%ce%ba/]. Accessed 04 March 2021

- [2] State Health Services Organization. [https://www.shso.org.cy/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- $[4] \ Ministry \ of \ Agriculture. \ [https://moa.gov.cy/ministry/mission/?lang=en]. \ Accessed \ 04 \ March \ 2021.$



[5] Ministry of Defence. [https://mod.gov.cy/en/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

2.1.1b

Is there a national plan, strategy or similar document for conducting testing during a public health emergency, which includes considerations for testing for novel pathogens, scaling capacity, and defining goals for testing?

Yes, there is evidence of a plan, and it includes considerations for testing for novel pathogens, scaling capacity, and defining goals for testing = 2, Yes, there is evidence of a plan, but there is insufficient evidence that it includes considerations for testing for novel pathogens, scaling capacity, and defining goals for testing = 1, No evidence of a plan = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that Cyprus has a national plan, strategy or other similar document for conducting testing during a public health emergency. There is evidence that the country has a plan on pandemics (Amphitriti/Amfitriti) in place, but this plan is not available via the Ministry of Health or the Civil Defence Department websites [1, 2, 3, 4]. The Ministry of Health has a section on its website titled "Health Strategies" which includes a range of strategies, but none of these relate to public health emergencies or testing during emergencies [1]. In its section on the programs, the Ministry of Health website includes no plans related to testing during a public health emergency [2]. No additional evidence is available on the websites the Ministry of Defense or the Department of Agriculture [5, 6]. The website for the COVID-19 pandemic does not include a strategy for the development of a testing plan [7].

[1] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre: Mission.

[http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/cjrcc.nsf/cjrcc45 en/cjrcc45 en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

[2] Civil Defense, Ministry of Interior. 26 January 2017. "Civil Protection Presentation about ZENON ("Ημερίδα Πολιτικής Άμυνας ")".

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/All/24E60616EC4B94D3C22584F90028B021/\$file/%CE%A0%CE%B1%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%85%CF%83%CE%AF%CE%B1%CF%83%CE%B7%20%CE%97%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B1%CF%82. pptx]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

- [3] Preparedness for Appropriate Accommodation in Emergency Shelters European Union Project. Workshop presentation: "Cyprus Emergency Plans and Practices". [http://www.paces-
- project.eu/images/content/ScenarioWorkshop/Presentations/8_Cyprus_Contigency_Plans_and_Practices_P_Liassides.pdf]. Accessed 4 October 2018.
- [4] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/page76_gr/page76_gr?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021
- [5] Ministry of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/ministry/mission/?lang=en]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [6] Ministry of Defence. [https://mod.gov.cy/en/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [7] COVID-19 website. [https://www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus/categories/press]. Accessed 01 May 2021.

2.1.2 Laboratory quality systems

2.1.2a

Is there a national laboratory that serves as a reference facility which is accredited (e.g., International Organization for Standardization [ISO] 15189:2003, U.S. Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments [CLIA])?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1



There is evidence that Cyprus has an accredited reference facility is in place. The Department of Microbiology at the Nicosia General Hospital serves as a reference facility laboratory for Cyprus and it is accredited by the Cyprus Organization for the Promotion of Quality [1]. It has received a ISO 15189 certification (quality and competence in medical laboratories) issued on 1 November 2019, and it is valid until November 2021. Six laboratories of the Microbiology Department are accredited by the Cyprus Organization for the Promotion of Quality Cyprus Accreditation Body (CYS-CySAB). The Quality System of the Department meets the requirements of the revised standard ISO 15189:2012 for more than 37 accredited methods, which corresponds to 94% of the laboratory's reports in 2017. [1, 2]

[1] Cyprus Organization for the Promotion of Quality. 16 May 2018. "Accreditation Ψertificate("Πιστοποιητικό Διαπίστευσης")".[http://www.meci.gov.cy/mcit/cys/cys.nsf/All/675FAFBBF35D5489C2257DFD003E496D/\$file/L017-3,%201%CE%B7%20%CE%B5%CF%80%CE%B9%CF%84%20 [3].pdf?OpenElement]. Accessed 07 March 2021.

2.1.2b

Is there a national laboratory that serves as a reference facility which is subject to external quality assurance review? Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

There is evidence that Cyprus has a national laboratory that serves as a reference facility that is subject to external quality assurance (EQA) review. The Department of Microbiology at the Nicosia General Hospital serves as a reference facility laboratory for Cyprus and it is accredited by the Cyprus Organization for the Promotion of Quality [1]. It has received a ISO 15189 certification (quality and competence in medical laboratories) issued on 1 November 2019, and it is valid until November 2021. The ISO 15189 certification requires external quality assurance review. A report titled "External quality assessment scheme for diphtheria diagnostics 2013" from the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control states that Nicosia General Hospital Microbiology Department, which is in Cyprus, participated in EQA for diphtheria diagnostics in 2013 [2]. The 2010 version of the same report similarly notes the involvement of Nicosia General Hospital Microbiology Department in that year [3]. Additionally, there are some private laboratories in Cyprus that are subject to EQA such as the Cytogenetics and Genomics Department of the Cyprus Insitute of Neurology and Genetics, the laboratory at Lito Private Hospital, and Chem Lab. [4,5, 6].

- [1] Cyprus Organization for the Promotion of Quality. 16 May 2018. "Accreditation Ψertificate("Πιστοποιητικό Διαπίστευσης")".[http://www.meci.gov.cy/mcit/cys/cys.nsf/All/675FAFBBF35D5489C2257DFD003E496D/\$file/L017-3,%201%CE%B7%20%CE%B5%CF%80%CE%B9%CF%84%20
- [3].pdf?OpenElement]. Accessed 07 March 2021.
- [2] EU, European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). "External quality assessment scheme for diphtheria diagnostics 2013". [https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/media/en/publications/Publications/diptheria-diagnostic-eqa-2013.pdf]. Accessed 08 March 2021.
- [3] EU, European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). "External quality assessment scheme for diphtheria diagnostics 2010".
- [https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/media/en/publications/Publications/1108_TER_EQA_diphtheria_2010.pdf]. Accessed 08 March 2021.
- [4] Cyprus Insitute of Neurology and Genetics. Cytogenetics and Genomics Department [https://www.cing.ac.cy/en/about-us/biomedical-sciences-/cg]. Accessed 16 March 2021.
- [5] Lito private hospital. Laboratory. [https://www.litohospital.org.cy/index.php/specialties-services/laboratory]. Accessed 16 March 2021.



[6] Chem Lab. [http://www.chem-lab.com.cy/el/profil/eleghos-poiothtas]. Accessed 16 March 2021.

2.2 LABORATORY SUPPLY CHAINS

2.2.1 Specimen referral and transport system

2.2.1a

Is there a nationwide specimen transport system?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is insufficient evidence of a nationwide specimen transport system in Cyprus. Although the WHO Strategic Partnership for International Health Regulations (2005) and Health Security (SPH) country profile for Cyprus give the country a score of 100% on the indicator of a "Specimen transport and referral system" question as part of its self assessment, there is no publicly available evidence of the nationwide specimen transport system on the websites of the Ministries of Health, Transport, or Agriculture and the Environment [1, 2, 3, 4, 5].

- [1] World Health Organisation. "2018 Cyprus | Strategic Partnership For IHR And Health Security (SPH)." [https://extranet.who.int/sph/2018-cyprus]. Accessed 07 march 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 07 march 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment. [https://moa.gov.cy/]. Accessed 07 march 2021.
- [4] Ministry of Transport. [http://www.mcw.gov.cy/mcw/mcw.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 07 march 2021.

2.2.2 Laboratory cooperation and coordination

2.2.2a

Is there a plan in place to rapidly authorize or license laboratories to supplement the capacity of the national public health laboratory system to scale-up testing during an outbreak?

Yes = 2, Yes, but there is evidence of gaps in implementation = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that Cyprus has plan in place to rapidly authorize or license laboratories to supplement the capacity of the national public health laboratory system to scale-up testing during an outbreak. There is evidence that the country has a plan on pandemics (Amphitriti/Amfitriti) in place, but this plan is not available via the Ministry of Health or the Civil Defence Department websites [1, 2, 3]. The Ministry of Health has a section on its website titled "Health Strategies", which includes a range of strategies, but none of these are related to expanding or supplementing the capacity of the national public health laboratory system to scale up testing during an outbreak [3]. In its section on the programs, the Ministry of Health website includes no plans related to rapidly authorize or license laboratories to supplement the capacity of the national public health laboratory system to scale-up testing during an outbreak [3]. No additional evidence is available on the websites the Department of Agriculture or the Ministry of Defence [4, 5].

[1] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre: Mission.
 [http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/cjrcc.nsf/cjrcc45_en/cjrcc45_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
 [2] Civil Defense, Ministry of Interior. 26 January 2017. ""Civil Protection Presentation about ZENON (""Ημερίδα Πολιτικής



Άμυνας "")"".

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/All/24E60616EC4B94D3C22584F90028B021/\$file/%CE%A0%CE%B1%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%85%CF%83%CE%AF%CE%B1%CF%83%CE%B7%20%CE%97%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B1%CF%82. pptx]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

- [3] Preparedness for Appropriate Accommodation in Emergency Shelters European Union Project. Workshop presentation: ""Cyprus Emergency Plans and Practices"". [http://www.paces-
- project.eu/images/content/ScenarioWorkshop/Presentations/8_Cyprus_Contigency_Plans_and_Practices_P_Liassides.pdf]. Accessed 4 October 2018.
- [4] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/page76_gr/page76_gr?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [5] Ministry of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/ministry/mission/?lang=en]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [6] Ministry of Defence. [https://mod.gov.cy/en/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

2.3 REAL-TIME SURVEILLANCE AND REPORTING

2.3.1 Indicator and event-based surveillance and reporting systems

2.3.1a

Is there evidence that the country is conducting ongoing event-based surveillance and analysis for infectious disease?

Yes, there is evidence of ongoing event-based surveillance and evidence that the data is being analyzed on a daily basis = 2, Yes, there is evidence of ongoing event-based surveillance, but no evidence that the data are being analyzed on a daily basis = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no publicly available evidence of ongoing event-based surveillance and analysis for infectious disease. There is evidence that the country has a plan on pandemics (Amphitriti/Amfitriti) in place, but this plan is not available via the Ministry of Health or the Civil Defence Department websites [1, 2, 3]. The Ministry of Health has a section on its website titled "Health Strategies", which includes a range of strategies, but none of these are related to ongoing event-based surveillance and analysis for infectious disease [3]. In its section on the programs, the Ministry of Health website includes no plans related to conducting ongoing event-based surveillance and analysis for infectious disease [3]. No additional evidence is available on the website of the Department of Agriculture [4].

- [1] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre: Mission.
- [http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/cjrcc.nsf/cjrcc45_en/cjrcc45_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [2] Civil Defense, Ministry of Interior. 26 January 2017. ""Civil Protection Presentation about ZENON (""Ημερίδα Πολιτικής Άμυνας "")"".
- [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/All/24E60616EC4B94D3C22584F90028B021/\$file/%CE%A0%CE%B1%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%85%CF%83%CE%AF%CE%B1%CF%83%CE%B7%20%CE%97%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B1%CF%82. pptx]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [3] Preparedness for Appropriate Accommodation in Emergency Shelters European Union Project. Workshop presentation: ""Cyprus Emergency Plans and Practices"". [http://www.paces-
- project.eu/images/content/ScenarioWorkshop/Presentations/8_Cyprus_Contigency_Plans_and_Practices_P_Liassides.pdf]. Accessed 4 October 2018.
- [4] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/page76_gr/page76_gr?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.



[5] Ministry of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/ministry/mission/?lang=en]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

2.3.1b

Is there publicly available evidence that the country reported a potential public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) to the WHO within the last two years?

Yes = 1 , No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no publicly available information on public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) reporting by Cyprus to the WHO. The Disease Outbreak News does not include recent records of notifications, and there is no evidence via the Ministry of Health that Cyprus has reported a potential public health emergency of international concern including Covid-19 to the WHO in the last two years. [1, 2]

[1] World Health Organization. Disease Outbreak News: Cyprus. [http://www.who.int/csr/don/archive/country/cyp/en/]. Accessed 07 March 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health. Announcements.

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/dmlannouncements_en/dmlannouncements_en?OpenDocument&Start=1&Count= 1000&Collapse=1]. Accessed 07 March 2021.

2.3.2 Interoperable, interconnected, electronic real-time reporting systems

2.3.2a

Does the government operate an electronic reporting surveillance system at both the national and the sub-national level? Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is insufficient evidence that the government of Cyprus operates an electronic reporting surveillance system at either the national or sub-national level. The Cyprus Statistical Authority's latest report on year 2018 states that data on patients admitted for treatment and discharged from Government hospitals (discharges) are collected electronically from all hospitals [1]. All data are sent to the Statistical Service in the form of microdata and their processing, analysis and tabulation is done by Officers of the Service [1]. There is no additional evidence regarding the system covering laboratories and there is no pertinent evidence in the Ministry of Health or Ministry of Agriculture [2, 3].

- [1] Cyprus Statistical Authority. 2020. ""Health and Hospital Statistics 2018 (Στατιστικές Υγείας και Νοσοκομείων 2018"")""[https://www.mof.gov.cy/mof/cystat/statistics.nsf/All/F9690C2D35652CB5C2257726003DDA8F/\$file/HEALTH_HOS PITAL STATS-2018-EL-130520.pdf?OpenElement]. 07 March 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 07 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Agriculture. [http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/da/da.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 07 March 2021.

2.3.2b

Does the electronic reporting surveillance system collect ongoing or real-time laboratory data?

Yes = 1, No = 0



Current Year Score: 0

There is no publicly available evidence that Cyprus' national electronic health surveillance system collects ongoing/real-time laboratory data. The Cyprus Statistical Authority explicitly states that the electronic health surveillance system collects data on patient hospitalizations, but does not incorporate laboratory data. Data is also collected at patient discharge, not during hospitalization [1]. In addition, the annual report 'Health and Hospital Statistics 2018' presents data from previous years, such as the 2020's report which includes data for 2016-2018 [1]. There is no evidence of real-time laboratory data integration via the Ministry of Health or Ministry of Agriculture [2, 3].

- [1] Cyprus Statistical Authority. 2020. "Health and Hospital Statistics 2018 (Στατιστικές Υγείας και Νοσοκομείων 2018")"[https://www.mof.gov.cy/mof/cystat/statistics.nsf/All/F9690C2D35652CB5C2257726003DDA8F/\$file/HEALTH_HOSPI TAL_STATS-2018-EL-130520.pdf?OpenElement]. 07 March 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 07 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Agriculture. [http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/da/da.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 07 March 2021.

2.4 SURVEILLANCE DATA ACCESSIBILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

2.4.1 Coverage and use of electronic health records

2.4.1a

Are electronic health records commonly in use?

Electronic health records are commonly in use = 2, Electronic health records are not commonly in use, but there is evidence they are used = 1, No evidence electronic health records are in use = 0

Current Year Score: 1

In Cyprus electronic health records (EHRs) arein use. The Geneal Health System (GHS) of Cyprus is a centralized information system with two important subsystems: the Beneficiary Portal and the Provider Portal, which are available online via the GHS website to beneficiaries (patients) and healthcare providers respectively [1]. Access to these portals requires the establishment of an access account via the GHS website and an activation through a secure procedure, set in accordance with the information security policy of the Health Insurance Oganization [1]. Beneficiaries are able to do the following via the Beneficiary Portal: enrol as a GHS beneficiary, register with the personal doctor of their choice, submit questions, lodge complaints, access their personal information, access their medical history and the medical history of their children, and access directories of providers [1]. Providers can use the corresponding Provider Portal to execute all the required functions of the GHS such as: apply for enrolment and contracting, access their personal information, manage the beneficiaries list (for personal doctors), issue and execute referrals, issue and execute prescriptions for pharmaceutical and consumable products, issue and execute orders (or referrals) for laboratory and diagnostic tests, submit lab and diagnostic tests results, access and update beneficiaries' electronic files, submit payment requests, submit questions, lodge complaints, receive automated reminders and announcements. All providers who are under a contract with the Health Insurance Oganization, as well as their paramedical and support staff, have access to the Provider Portal. [1] On 26 September 2018, the health minister declared the project of national implementation of expansion of electronic health records to be concluded [2]. Data published data in September 2019 give the numbers of healthcare providers under contract with the Health Insurance Oganization as follows: 397 personal doctors for adults, 130 pediatricians, 833 specialist doctors, 519 pharmacies, and 136 clinical laboratories. [3]



- [1] General Healthcare System. "What functionalities are provided by the GHS IT system? ("Ποιες είναι οι λειτουργίες του Συστήματος Πληροφορικης;")". [https://www.gesy.org.cy/sites/Sites?d=Desktop&locale=en_US&lookuphost=/en-us/&lookuppage=hioinformationtechnologysys;]. Accessed 07 March 2021.
- [2] Ministry of health, speeches, speech by minister Patsalis in the e-health workshop September 26, 2018. "Electronic Health (e-Health): Necessity for successful implementation of a General Health Plan ("Ηλεκτρονική Υγεία (e-Health): Αναγκαιότητα για επιτυχημένη εφαρμογή ενός Γενικού Σχεδίου Υγείας"):

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/MOH/MOH.nsf/0/f84a5e98c472f7b6c2257cf900219ea2?OpenDocument&print&Click=]. Accessed 07 March 2021.

- [3] Health Insurance Organization. "Tables with data on the first three
- [3] months of operation of General Healthcare System ("Πίνακες με στοιχεία σχετικά με τους πρώτους τρείς
- [3] μήνες λειτουργίας του ΓεΣΥ")".

[https://www.pio.gov.cy/assets/pdf/newsroom/2019/09/%CE%9F%CE%A1%CE%93%CE%91%CE%9D%CE%99%CE%A3%CE%9CE%A3%CE%9CE%A3%CE%91%CE%B%CE%9B%CE%99%CE%A3%CE%97%CE%A3%20%CE%A5%CE%93%CE%95%CE%999%CE%A3.pdf]. Accessed 08 March 2021.

2.4.1b

Does the national public health system have access to electronic health records of individuals in their country? Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

Electronic health records (EHR) of individuals in Cyprus can be accessed by the public health system. The General Healthcare System (GHS) has the legal right to process the sensitive personal data that is necessary for the fulfillment of its mission, and for the fulfillment of its obligations to the beneficiaries according to the (GHS) Laws of 2017 [1]. Law 4606/2017 states, in article 38 which add the amendment of article 54C, that subject to the provisions of this law and other relevant regulations, internal regulations and decisions and for the purpose of creating and updating an integrated register of beneficiaries, the relevant state authority has the right to receive and processes personal data from the files kept by the state of Cyprus and the authorities of local government [2]. Cyprus's public health system consists of the GHS, which is a healthcare system with the aim of delivering quality healthcare services to beneficiaries. [3] The main features of the system are: universal coverage of the population, equal and equitable treatment of all beneficiaries, provision of a comprehensive package of healthcare service, freedom of choice of provider by the beneficiaries, and social reciprocity. For the implementation of the GHS, a special fund was established for purposes of gathering the relevant contributions, and from which all payments to providers of healthcare services will be made. The GHS fund is administered by the Health Insurance Organization (HIO). [4]

- [1] General Healthcare System. "How is personal data security assured? ("Πώς διασφαλίζεται η προστασία προσωπικών δεδομένων;")". [https://www.gesy.org.cy/sites/Sites?d=Desktop&locale=en_US&lookuphost=/en-us/&lookuppage=hiopersonaldataprotection]. Accessed 16 March 2021.
- [2] Government of Cyprus. 4606 26 June 2017. "The General Health System (Amending) Law of 2017 (Ο περί Γενικού Συστήματος Υγείας (Τροποποιητικός) Νόμος του 2017)". [http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/arith/2017_1_074.pdf]. Accessed 16 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Health. "Organisation under Ministry's Supervision ("Οργανισμοί κάτω από την εποπτεία του Υπουργείου")". [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/page42 gr/page42 gr?OpenDocument]. Accessed 07 March 2021.
- [4] General Healthcare System. "What are the main features of the GHS? ("Ποιες είναι οι λειτουργίες του Συστήματος Πληροφορικης;")". [https://www.gesy.org.cy/sites/Sites?d=Desktop&locale=en_US&lookuphost=/en-us/&lookuppage=hioghsprinciples]. Accessed 07 March 2021.



2.4.1c

Are there data standards to ensure data is comparable (e.g., ISO standards)?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence of data standards for the electronic health records (EHR) system in Cyprus. Although the General Healthcare System provides information regarding the audit and supervision mechanisms (Supervision Commissioner as independent state authority) and the way the personal data's security is assured, it does not explicitly refer to ISO or other similar standards [1]. There is no evidence of data standards on the websites of the Ministry of Health or the State's Health Organization Services [2, 3].

[1] General Healthcare System. "Control and Supervision ("Ελεγχος και επίβλεψη")".

[https://www.gesy.org.cy/sites/Sites?d=Desktop&locale=en_US&lookuphost=/en-

us/&look uppage = hio control and supervisionghs]

[https://www.gesy.org.cy/sites/Sites?d=Desktop&locale=en_US&lookuphost=/en-us/&lookuppage=hiopersonaldataprotection]. Accessed 07 March 2021..

[2] Ministry of Health. e-health project (Ηλεκτρονική Υγεία). 21 November 2014.

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/cbh/cbh.nsf/page20_gr/page20_gr?OpenDocument]. Accessed 07 March 2021.

[3] State Health Organization Services. [https://www.shso.org.cy/en/nicosia-hospitals/nicosia-general-hospital/information/]. Accessed 07 March 2021

2.4.2 Data integration between human, animal, and environmental health sectors

2.4.2a

Is there evidence of established mechanisms at the relevant ministries responsible for animal, human, and wildlife surveillance to share data (e.g., through mosquito surveillance, brucellosis surveillance)?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no publicly available evidence of established mechanisms at the relevant ministries responsible for animal, human, and wildlife surveillance to share data in Cyprus. Although there is evidence of a system in place for collaboration between agencies, there is no specific evidence of surveillance data sharing. Chapter 4 of the 'multiannual National Control Plan', which was jointly developed by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture, is dedicated to interagency coordination and cooperation [1]. The plan notes that the responsible agencies will communicate with each other via letters, circulars, facsimiles and by telephone for ongoing issues and in emergency response. It also makes mention of an annual meeting to review implementation of the plan [1]. Page 21 of the plan establishes both a standing and an events-based mechanism and states that: "at least once a year, meetings of representatives of the competent authorities will take place; correspondence (paper or electronic) to monitor the implementation of control plans and the preparation of the annual report. Meetings will also be held in case of emergencies. Cooperation between competent authorities shall be by letters, circulars, facsimiles, by telephone and by meetings [1]. No further information on the system was found on the websites of the Ministry of Health or Ministry of Agriculture and the Environment [2, 3].

[1] Ministry of Agriculture. ""Multiannual National Control Plan, April 2018 (Πολυετές Εθνικό Σχέδιο Ελέγχου)"". [http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/vs/vs.nsf/All/0E8AB607B103D38BC225826D0034E0CB/\$file/Cyprus'%20MANCP%202016-2018.pdf?OpenElement]. Accessed 04 March 2021.



- [2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/ministry/mission/?lang=en]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

2.4.3 Transparency of surveillance data

2.4.3a

Does the country make de-identified health surveillance data on infectious diseases publicly available via reports (or other format) on government websites (such as the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, or similar)?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

Cyprus does not make de-identified health surveillance data on disease outbreaks publicly available via reports on government websites on a regular basis. The Health Surveilance Unit of the Ministry of Health publishes reports with statistics on such topics as causes of death, cancer, and other diseases, but these are not produced with a fixed regularity [1]. For example, there is just one report on causes of death, with statistics covering the period 2004-2013, and there is just one report on diabetes incidence, which is from 2016. The Cyprus Statistical Authority produced its last report on health and hospitals in 2020 and inluded data for the time span 2016–2018 [2]. The website of the Ministry of Health has a page dedicated to data regarding infectious diseases, but this page is empty [3]. The Cyprus Statistical Authority's 2020 report on "Statistics On Health and Hospitals" has only a table on the discharged patients for 2016-2018 for the following categories: neoplasm, diseases of the circulatory system, diseases of the respiratory system, diseases of the digestive system, diseases of the urogenital system, other diseases [4]. There is no further evidence on the websites of the General Healthcare System or the State's Health Organization Services [5, 6].

- [1] Ministry of Health. "Health Surveilance Unit (Μονάδα Παρακολούθησης Υγείας")". [https://www.moh.gov.cy/Moh/MOH.nsf/All/EAB246092F8DB793C225798F003F56DB?OpenDocument]. Accessed 07 March 2021.
- [2] Cyprus Statistical Authority. 2020. "Statistics On Health and Hospitals (" Στατιστικές Υγείας και Νοσοκομείων ")"[https://www.mof.gov.cy/mof/cystat/statistics.nsf/All/F9690C2D35652CB5C2257726003DDA8F/\$file/HEALTH_HOSPITAL_ STATS-2018-EL-130520.pdf?OpenElement]. Accessed 07 March 2021.
- [3] Cyprus Statistical Authority. 2020. "Health and Hospital Statistics 2018 (Στατιστικές Υγείας και Νοσοκομείων 2018")"[https://www.mof.gov.cy/mof/cystat/statistics.nsf/All/F9690C2D35652CB5C2257726003DDA8F/\$file/HEALTH_HOSPI TAL STATS-2018-EL-130520.pdf?OpenElement]. 07 March 2021.
- [4]. Ministry of Health. "Health Surveilance Unit, Infectious diseases (Μονάδα Παρακολούθησης Υγείας, δεδοένα νοσηρότητας")"[https://www.moh.gov.cy/Moh/MOH.nsf/All/E017A55ED3E12E18C225798F0040D0B7?OpenDocument]./]. Accessed 07 March 2021.
- [5] General Healthcare System. [https://www.gesy.org.cy/]. Accessed 07 March 2021.
- [6] State Health Organization Services. [https://www.shso.org.cy/en/nicosia-hospitals/nicosia-general-hospital/information/]. Accessed 07 March 2021.

2.4.3b

Does the country make de-identified COVID-19 surveillance data (including details such as daily case count, mortality rate, etc) available via daily reports (or other formats) on government websites (such as the Ministry of Health, or similar)? Yes = 1, No = 0



Current Year Score: 1

Cyprus makes de-identified COVID-19 surveillance data available via daily reports on government websites. On the Cypriot government's open data website, COVID-19 data collected by the Epidemiological Surveillance Unit of the Ministry of Health are published on a daily basis [1]. The data include daily numbers of new cases, new deaths, hospitalised cases, severe cases, cases in intensive care units, incubated cases, polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests, rapid antigen (RAT) tests, total cases, total deaths, total PCR tests, and total RA tests. [1] The government also maintains a separate COVID-19 portal including general information about the disease, press releases, guidelines and decrees. [2]

[1] Government of Cyprus. Open Data website. "Daily Dissemination Statistics of COVID-19 disease in Cyprus ("Ημερήσια Στατιστικά Διασποράς της νόσου COVID-19 στην Κύπρο")". [https://www.data.gov.cy/node/4617?language=en]. Accessed 07 March 2021.

2.4.4 Ethical considerations during surveillance

2.4.4a

Is there legislation and/or regulations that safeguard the confidentiality of identifiable health information for individuals, such as that generated through health surveillance activities?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

Cyprus has legislation safeguarding the confidentiality of identifiable health information. Law 4670/2018 on the Processing of Personal Information, which integrates Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016, regulates the broader legal framework for the data protection of individuals [1]. Article 2 of the law defines biometric data as including, among others: data associated with the physical, biological or behavioral characteristics of a natural person; genetic data (including, among others, data associated with the analysis of a biological sample of a natural person); and personal data (including, among others, data associated with specific physical, physiological, genetic, psychological characteristics). [1] Articles 5 to 10 of the law regulate the conditions under which a state authority can process an individual's data as defined in article 2, and explicitly as described in the articles of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 [1]. In particular, article 8 regulates the processing of the data of minors, and article 9 regulates the processing of genetic and biometric data (for insurance purposes) [1].

[1] Government of Cyprus. Law 4670 31 July 2018. "On the protection of persons from the processing of their data, 31 July 2018 (Ο περί της Προστασίας των Φυσικών Προσώπων Έναντι της Επεξεργασίας των Δεδομένων Προσωπικού Χαρακτήρα και της Ελεύθερης Κυκλοφορίας των Δεδομένων αυτών Νόμος του 2018).

[http://www.dataprotection.gov.cy/dataprotection/dataprotection.nsf/all/DE97F6F59835A03AC22582DD003D895E/\$file/%C E%9D%CF%8C%CE%BC%CE%BF%CF%82%20125(%CE%99) 2018.pdf?openelement]. Accessed 07 March 2021.

2.4.4b

Is there legislation and/or regulations safeguarding the confidentiality of identifiable health information for individuals, such as that generated through health surveillance activities, include mention of protections from cyber attacks (e.g., ransomware)?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1



Cyprus's legislation safeguarding the confidentiality of identifiable health information for individuals includes protections from cyber-attacks. Law 4670/2018 on the Protection of Persons from the Processing of Their Data applies the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) to Cypriot law, and requires appropriate measures on data protection to be implemented by the Commissioner for Personal Data Protection. [1] However, this law does not mention cyber-attacks. [1. Law 4770/2020 on the Protection of Individuals Against the Processing of Personal Data Character and Free Movement of Data, which integrates the Directive (EU) 2016/1148 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 July 2016 Concerning Measures for a High Common Level of Security of Network and Information Systems Across the Union, in article 6 defines the competent national authority for security networks and systems information and cybersecurity and its responsibilities and limitations, but its does not explicitly mention health data [2, 3]. However, article 2 of the law 4670/2018 states healthrelated data such as biometric data, which includes, among others, data associated with physical, biological or behavioral characteristics natural person, genetic data, which includes, among others, data associated with the analysis of a biological sample of that natural person and personal data, which includes, among others, data associated with specific physical, physiological, genetic, psychological [1]. Nonetheless, GDPR, which itself applies in Cyprus, includes specific provisions to protect data against cyber attacks, including a requirement that data held by state authorities must be overseen by a dedicated data protection officer who is proficient in dealing with cyber-attacks, and a requirement to inform all individuals affected by a data breach within 72 hours. [4]

[1] Government of Cyprus. Law 4670 31 July 2018. "On the protection of persons from the processing of their data, 31 July 2018 (Ο περί της Προστασίας των Φυσικών Προσώπων Έναντι της Επεξεργασίας των Δεδομένων Προσωπικού Χαρακτήρα και της Ελεύθερης Κυκλοφορίας των Δεδομένων αυτών Νόμος του 2018).

 $[http://www.dataprotection.gov.cy/dataprotection/dataprotection.nsf/all/DE97F6F59835A03AC22582DD003D895E/\$file/\%CE\%9D\%CF\%8C\%CE\%BF\%CF\%82\%20125(\%CE\%99)_2018.pdf?openelement]. Accessed 07 March 2021.$

[2] Commissioner for Data Protection. "Legislation ("Νομοθεσία")".

[http://www.dataprotection.gov.cy/dataprotection/dataprotection.nsf/page3d_gr/page3d_gr?opendocument]. Accessed 08 March 2021.

[3] Government of Cyprus. Law 4770 12 Auguest 2020. "On The Network and Information Systems Security Law of 2020 ("Ο περί Ασφάλειας Δικτύων και Συστημάτων Πληροφοριών Νόμος του 2020")".

[http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/arith/2020_1_089.pdf]. Accessed 07 March 2021.

[4] European Union. 27 April 2016. "Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation)". [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32016R0679&from=EN]. Accessed 17 March 2021.

2.4.5 International data sharing

2.4.5a

Has the government made a commitment via public statements, legislation and/or a cooperative agreement to share surveillance data during a public health emergency with other countries in the region?

Yes, commitments have been made to share data for more than one disease = 2, Yes, commitments have been made to share data only for one disease = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 2

Cyprus has made a commitment to share surveillance data for more than one disease during public health emergencies with other countries in the region. As a member of the European Union (EU), Cyprus is part of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Controls Early Warning and Response System (EWRS). The EWRS is a platform to allow exchange of information on risk assessment and risk management for more timely, efficient and coordinated public health action. The



EWRS is used for notifications on outbreaks, exchanging information and decisions about the coordination of measures among Member States. Over the years, the EWRS has shared data to support health crisis related to severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), ebola virus disease, avian influenza in humans and other communicable diseases [1]. Article 9 of chapter IV of the EU Decision on Serious Cross-Border Threats to Health notes that the European Commission shall make available to the national authorities through the EWRS any information that may be useful for coordinating the response. This includes information related to serious cross-border threats to health, public health measures related to serious cross-border threats to health transmitted through rapid alert and information systems established under other provisions of EU law or the Euratom Treaty [2].

[1] European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. Early Warning and Response System (EWRS).
[https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/early-warning-and-response-system-ewrs]. Accessed 07 March 2021.
[2] Official Journal of the European Union. "Decision No 1082/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2013 on Serious Cross-Border Threats to Health and Repealing Decision No 2119/98/EC".
[https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/preparedness_response/docs/decision_serious_crossborder_threats_221020 13_en.pdf]. Accessed 07 March 2021.

2.5 CASE-BASED INVESTIGATION

2.5.1 Case investigation and contact tracing

2.5.1a

Is there a national system in place to provide support at the sub-national level (e.g. training, metrics standardization and/or financial resources) to conduct contact tracing in the event of a public health emergency?

Yes, there is evidence that the national government supports sub-national systems to prepare for future public health emergencies = 2, Yes, there is evidence that the national government supports sub-national systems, but only in response to active public health emergencies = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is insufficient evidence that Cyprus has a national system or plan to provide support at the sub-national level to conduct contact tracing in response to active or future public health emergencies. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Research Center on Interactive Media, Smart Systems and Emerging Technologies and the Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy jointly developed the COVTRACER application for mobile devices, which is intended to enable contact tracing for people infected with COVID-19 [1]. This application allows the checking of user tracking paths, so as to identify the locations visited by the diagnosed carrier and to facilitate timely intervention, such as temporary evacuations and disinfection [1]. According to article 45, section 8E of Law 4680/2018 on the Protection from Ionized Radiation of Both Nuclear and Radiologic Safety, every company or employer sets up an appropriate management and management system, which ensures, inter alia, that where possible, the radiation sources under the responsibility of the undertaking or employer become identifiable and traceable or, where this is not possible, there are alternative procedures for identifying and tracking sources of these [2]. However this provision concerns only radiation, and does not cover pandemics or epidemics. [2] There is no evidence of a general plan for contact tracing in different public health emergencies, including on the website of the Ministry of Health [3].

[1] Government of Cyprus, The National Open Data Portal. "Initiatives to address the challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic in Cyprus ("Πρωτοβουλίες για αντιμετώπιση των προκλήσεων που σχετίζονται με την πανδημία του COVID-19 στην Κύπρο")".

[https://www.data.gov.cy/story/%CF%80%CF%81%CF%89%CF%84%CE%BF%CE%B2%CE%BF%CF%85%CE%BB%CE%AF%CE%BF%CF%80%CF%8



B5%CF%82-%CE%B3%CE%B9%CE%B1-

%CE%B1%CE%BD%CF%84%CE%B9%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%84%CF%8E%CF%80%CE%B9%CF%83%CE%B7-

%CF%84%CF%89%CE%BD-%CF%80%CF%81%CE%BF%CE%BA%CE%BB%CE%AE%CF%83%CE%B5%CF%89%CE%BD-

%CF%80%CE%BF%CF%85-%CF%83%CF%87%CE%B5%CF%84%CE%AF%CE%B6%CE%BF%CE%BD%CF%84%CE%B1%CE%B9-

%CE%BC%CE%B5-%CF%84%CE%B7%CE%BD-%CF%80%CE%B1%CE%BD%CE%B4%CE%B7%CE%BC%CE%AF%CE%B1-

%CF%84%CE%BF%CF%85-covid-19-%CF%83%CF%84%CE%B7%CE%BD] [https://covid-19.rise.org.cy/en/] Accessed 04 March 2021.

[2] Government Gazette. Law 4680 21 December 2018. "On the protection from ionized radiation of both nuclear and radiologic safety and protection law of 2018("Ο περί προστασίας από ιονίζουσες ακτινοβολίες πυρηνικής και ραδιολογικής ασφάλειας και προστασίας νόμος οτυ 2018")".

[http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/mlsi/dli/dliup.nsf/B4D71EB2D39138D2C225837B00283D6C/\$file/N_164(I)_2018.pdf]. Accessed 07 march 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

2.5.1b

Does the country provide wraparound services to enable infected people and their contacts to self-isolate or quarantine as recommended, particularly economic support (paycheck, job security) and medical attention?

Yes, both economic support and medical attention are provided = 2, Yes, but only economic support or medical attention is provided = 1. No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no public evidence that Cyprus provides wraparound services to enable infected people and their contacts to self-isolate as recommended. Article 21 of Law 4248/2010 on Social Insurance contains allowances such as maternity, sickness benefit, unemployment benefit, old age pension, disability pension, widow's pension, orphan allowance, allowance for absence from work, marriage aid, childbirth aid and funeral aid [1, 2]. However, this law does not mention financial support for people self-isolating due to an infectious disease or any other relevant medical care. There is no evidence of financial or medical wraparound services for people required to self-isolate on the websites of the Ministry of Health or the State's Health Service Organization [3].

- [1] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/]. Accessed 07 March 2021.
- [2] Government of Cyprus. Law 4248 2 July 2010. "On Social Insurance (Περί Κοινωνικών Ασφαλίσεων)".

[http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/arith/2010 1 059.pdf]. Accessed 16 March 2021.

[3] State Health Organization. [https://www.shso.org.cy/]. Accessed 07 March 2021.

2.5.1c

Does the country make de-identified data on contact tracing efforts for COVID-19 (including the percentage of new cases from identified contacts) available via daily reports (or other format) on government websites (such as the Ministry of Health, or similar)?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

Cyprus does not make de-identified data on contact tracing efforts for COVID-19 available via daily reports on government websites. COVID -19 data is available on the government's open data website, but this does not include data on contact tracing efforts [1]. There are some press releases from the Minsitry of Health regarding contact tracing information, such as



one from 11 April 2020 titled "With reference from the Personal Physician to the algorithm base or through tracing Public Health Clinics continue their operation", and one from 22 February 2021 titled "Increased transmission of the virus within the family and at work areas ascertained by tracking". [2, 3] These press releases include in brief a broader picture of the contact tracing situation, but do not contain detailed data and are not published regularly [2, 3]. There is no further relevant information on the website of the Ministry of Health [4].

- [1] Government of Cyprus. Open Data website. "Daily Dissemination Statistics of COVID-19 disease in Cyprus ("Ημερήσια Στατιστικά Διασποράς της νόσου COVID-19 στην Κύπρο")". [https://www.data.gov.cy/node/4617?language=en]. Accessed 07 March 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Health. Press Release 11 April 2020. "With reference from the Personal Physician to the algorithm base or through tracing Public Health Clinics continue their operation("Με παραπομπή από τον Προσωπικό Ιατρό στη βάση αλγόριθμου ή μέσω της ιχνηλάτησης συνεχίζουν τη λειτουργία τους τα Ιατρεία Δημόσιας Υγείας")". [https://www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus/press/11042020_3.pdf]. Accessed 07 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Health. Press Release 22 February 2021. "Increased transmission of the virus within the family and at work areas ascertained by tracking ("Αυξημένη η μετάδοση του ιού ενδο-οικογενειακά και σε εργασιακούς χώρους διαπιστώνεται από την ιχνηλάτηση")". [https://www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus/press/11042020_3.pdf]. Accessed 07 March 2021.
- [4] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 07 March 2021.

2.5.2 Point of entry management

2.5.2a

Is there a joint plan or cooperative agreement between the public health system and border control authorities to identify suspected and potential cases in international travelers and trace and quarantine their contacts in the event of a public health emergency?

Yes, plan(s)/agreement(s) are in place to prepare for future public health emergencies = 2, Yes, but plan(s)/agreement(s) are in place only in response to active public health emergencies = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that Cyprus has a joint plan or cooperative agreement between the public health system and border control authorities to monitor suspected and potential cases for international travelers in the event of an active or future public health emergency. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Cyprus' Press and Information Center has published a "destination protocol" for coming to Cyprus, which defines the guidelines and procedures for an individual to enter the country, depending on their country of origin, but it does not address cooperation between the public health system and border control authorities, and it does not have any applicability to future pandemics [1]. There is no evidence of a relevant plan or agreement on the websites of the Ministry of Health, the Cyprus Flight Pass Agency or the Cyprus Shipping Deputy Ministry [2, 3, 4].

- [1] Press and Information Center. "COVID-19 Destination Protocol for coming to Cyprus ("COVID 19 Πρωτόκολλο Προορισμού Κύπρος")". [https://www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus/pdf/18_1o.pdf]. Accessed 08 March 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Health [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 07 March 2021.
- [3] Cyprus Flight Pass. [https://cyprusflightpass.gov.cy/el/application-process]. Accessed 08 March 2021.
- [4] Cyprus Shipping Deputy Ministry.
- [https://www.dms.gov.cy/dms/shipping.nsf/all/166E6CF7C8831788C2258538003A7C72?opendocument]. Accessed 08



March 2021.

2.6 EPIDEMIOLOGY WORKFORCE

2.6.1 Applied epidemiology training program, such as the field epidemiology training program, for public health professionals and veterinarians (e.g., Field Epidemiology Training Program [FETP] and Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians [FETPV])

2.6.1a

Does the country meet one of the following criteria?

- Applied epidemiology training program (such as FETP) is available in country
- Resources are provided by the government to send citizens to another country to participate in applied epidemiology training programs (such as FETP)

Needs to meet at least one of the criteria to be scored a 1 on this measure. , Yes for both = 1 , Yes for one = 1 , No for both = 0

Current Year Score: 1

Cyprus provides resources for applied field epidemiology outside the country, but there is no evidence that field epidemiology training is available in Cyprus. The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) offers fellowships individually to European Union citizens, including citizens of Cyprus, for FETP training [1]. There is evidence that citizens of Cyprus have previously participated in training [2]. The Ministry of Health does not provide information on field epidemiology training available in country [3].

- [1] European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. Introduction to EPIET/EUPHEM. [https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/epiet-euphem/about/intro]. Accessed 08 March 2021.
- [2] European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. Training strategy for intervention epidemiology in the European Union

[https://ecdc.europa.eu/sites/portal/files/media/en/publications/Publications/0810_MER_Training_Strategy_for_Intervention Epidemiology.pdf]. Accessed 08 March 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 08 March 2021.

2.6.1b

Are the available field epidemiology training programs explicitly inclusive of animal health professionals or is there a specific animal health field epidemiology training program offered (such as FETPV)?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

Field epidemiology training programs available to Cypriot citizens are explicitly inclusive of animal health professionals. The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control's fellowships for EPIET (field epidemiology training) and EUPHEM (public health microbiology), which cover Cypriots citizens, are both explicitly available to holders of degrees in veterinary medicine, among other subjects. [1] In addition, according to article 9, section Aiii, of Law 169/1990, titled "Appropriate Knowledge of Veterinary Education", all veterinarians are required to take courses in epidemiology in order to be allowed to practise. [2]



[1] European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. Call for ECDC Fellowship Programme.

[https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/about-us/work-us/call-ecdc-fellowship-programme-epiet-and-euphem-paths]. Accessed 08 March 2021.

[2] Government of Cyprus. Law 169/1990 on the practice of veterinary medicine, 1990 (Ο περί της Ασκήσεως της Κτηνιατρικής και της Εγγραφής Κτηνιάτρων Νόμος του 1990 169/1990). [http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/enop/non-ind/1990 1 169/full.html]. Accessed 08 March 2021.

2.6.2 Epidemiology workforce capacity

2.6.2a

Is there public evidence that the country has at least 1 trained field epidemiologist per 200,000 people? Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2020

Completed JEE assessments; Economist Impact analyst qualitative assessment based on official national sources, which vary by country

Category 3: Rapid response to and mitigation of the spread of an epidemic

3.1 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PLANNING

3.1.1 National public health emergency preparedness and response plan

3.1.1a

Does the country have an overarching national public health emergency response plan in place which addresses planning for multiple communicable diseases with epidemic or pandemic potential?

Evidence that there is a plan in place, and the plan is publicly available = 2, Evidence that the plan is in place, but the plan is not publicly available OR, Disease-specific plans are in place, but there is no evidence of an overarching plan = 1, No evidence that such a plan or plans are in place = 0

Current Year Score: 1

Cyprus has an overarching national public health emergency response plan that addresses multiple communicable diseases with pandemic potential, but it is not publicly available. The Basic National Plan "ZENON", in place since 2013, is Cyprus's general emergency response plan, which identifies 22 possible crisis situations, including pandemics [1, 2, 4]. There is evidence that the country has a plan covering exposure to high-risk biological agents, which is called Lido (or Leto), and another covering pandemics, which is called Amphitriti (Amfitriti), both in place since 2013 [3, 4]. However, neither plan is publicly available, including on the websites of the Ministry of Health and the Civil Defence Department, which houses the national emergency operations centre [5, 6].



[1] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre: Mission.

[http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/cjrcc.nsf/cjrcc45_en/cjrcc45_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

[2] Civil Defense, Ministry of Interior. 26 January 2017. "Civil Protection Presentation about ZENON ("Ημερίδα Πολιτικής Άμυνας ")".

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/All/24E60616EC4B94D3C22584F90028B021/\$file/%CE%A0%CE%B1%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%85%CF%83%CE%AF%CE%B1%CF%83%CE%B7%20%CE%97%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B1%CF%82. pptx]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

- [3] Preparedness for Appropriate Accommodation in Emergency Shelters European Union Project. Workshop presentation: "Cyprus Emergency Plans and Practices". [https://docplayer.gr/30061054-Cyprus-emergency-plans-and-practices-panayiotis-liassides.html]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [4] Kathimerini news. 29 July 2018. "In Cyprus we have a Crisis Plan. The Basic National Plan "Zenon", for the treatment of natural and other disasters and which has been prepared in 2013 (Στην Κύπρο έχουμε Σχέδιο για κρίσεις. Το Βασικό Εθνικό Σχέδιο «Ζήνων», για την αντιμετώπιση φυσικών και άλλων καταστροφών και το οποίο έχει εκπονηθεί το 2013)". [https://m.kathimerini.com.cy/gr/kypros/stin-kypro-exoyme-sxedio-gia-kriseis]. Accessed 16 March 2021.
- [5] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/page76_gr/page76_gr?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

[6] Civil Defence. "Regulations ("Νομοθεσία")". [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/home/home?openform]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

3.1.1b

If an overarching plan is in place, has it been updated in the last 3 years?

Yes = 1, No /no plan in place= 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that the national public health emergency response plan in Cyprus has been updated the last 3 years. The country's emergency operations are guided by the Basic National Plan "ZENON", in place since 2013, in which 22 possible crisis situations are identified, including pandemics. There is no evidence of when this plan was last updated [1, 2, 3]. The plan covering exposure to high-risk biological agents, which is called Lido (or Leto), and the plan covering pandemics, which is called Amphitriti (Amfitriti), both in place since 2013, are not publicly available, including on the websites of the Ministry of Health and the Civil Defence Department, and there is no public information about when these were last updated. [3, 4, 5, 6].

[1] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre: Mission.

[http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/cjrcc.nsf/cjrcc45 en/cjrcc45 en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

[2] Civil Defense, Ministry of Interior. 26 January 2017. "Civil Protection Presentation about ZENON ("Ημερίδα Πολιτικής Άμυνας ")".

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/All/24E60616EC4B94D3C22584F90028B021/\$file/%CE%A0%CE%B1%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%85%CF%83%CE%BF%CE%B5%CF%83%CE%BF%CE%B1%CF%82.pptx]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

- [3] Kathimerini news. 29 July 2018. "In Cyprus we have a Crisis Plan. The Basic National Plan "Zenon", for the treatment of natural and other disasters and which has been prepared in 2013 (Στην Κύπρο έχουμε Σχέδιο για κρίσεις. Το Βασικό Εθνικό Σχέδιο «Ζήνων», για την αντιμετώπιση φυσικών και άλλων καταστροφών και το οποίο έχει εκπονηθεί το 2013)".
- $[https://m.kathimerini.com.cy/gr/kypros/stin-kypro-exoyme-sxedio-gia-krise is]. \ Accessed\ 16\ March\ 2021.$
- [4] Preparedness for Appropriate Accommodation in Emergency Shelters European Union Project. Workshop presentation: "Cyprus Emergency Plans and Practices". [https://docplayer.gr/30061054-Cyprus-emergency-plans-and-practices-panayiotis-liassides.html]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [5] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/page76_gr/page76_gr?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March



2021.

[6] Civil Defence. "Regulations ("Νομοθεσία")". [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/home/home?openform]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

3.1.1c

If an overarching plan is in place, does it include considerations for pediatric and/or other vulnerable populations? Yes = 1, No /no plan in place= 0

Current Year Score: 0

Although there is national public health emergency response plan in Cyprus there is no evidence of whether if it includes details relating to vulnerable populations. The country's emergency operations are guided by the Basic National Plan, "ZENON", in place since 2013, in which 22 possible crisis situations are identified, including pandemics [1, 2, 3]. The plans covering exposure to high-risk biological agents f?? called Lido (or Leto) f?? and pandemics f?? called Amphitriti (Amfitriti) f?? have both been in place since 2013, but are not publicly available, including on the websites of the Ministry of Health and the Civil Defence Department, and there is no public information about whether these address vulnerable populations [3, 4, 5, 6].

[1] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre: Mission.

[http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/cjrcc.nsf/cjrcc45 en/cjrcc45 en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

[2] Civil Defense, Ministry of Interior. 26 January 2017. "Civil Protection Presentation about ZENON ("Ημερίδα Πολιτικής Άμυνας ")".

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/All/24E60616EC4B94D3C22584F90028B021/\$file/%CE%A0%CE%B1%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%85%CF%83%CE%AF%CE%B1%CF%83%CE%B7%20%CE%97%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B1%CF%82. pptx]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

[3] Kathimerini news. 29 July 2018. "In Cyprus we have a Crisis Plan. The Basic National Plan "Zenon", for the treatment of natural and other disasters and which has been prepared in 2013 (Στην Κύπρο έχουμε Σχέδιο για κρίσεις. Το Βασικό Εθνικό Σχέδιο «Ζήνων», για την αντιμετώπιση φυσικών και άλλων καταστροφών και το οποίο έχει εκπονηθεί το 2013)".

[https://m.kathimerini.com.cy/gr/kypros/stin-kypro-exoyme-sxedio-gia-kriseis]. Accessed 16 March 2021.

- [4] Preparedness for Appropriate Accommodation in Emergency Shelters European Union Project. Workshop presentation: "Cyprus Emergency Plans and Practices". [https://docplayer.gr/30061054-Cyprus-emergency-plans-and-practices-panayiotis-liassides.html]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [5] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/page76_gr/page76_gr?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [6] Civil Defence. "Regulations ("Νομοθεσία")". [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/home/home?openform]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

3.1.1d

Does the country have a publicly available plan in place specifically for pandemic influenza preparedness that has been updated since 2009?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2020



WHO Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security (SPH)

3.1.2 Private sector involvement in response planning

3.1.2a

Does the country have a specific mechanism(s) for engaging with the private sector to assist with outbreak emergency preparedness and response?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence of a mechanism for collaboration with the private sector during an emergency outbreak in Cyprus. No such evidence exists on the websites of the Ministry of Health or the Civil Defence Department, which houses the country's emergency operations centre. [1, 2]

Although Cyprus has a national emergency response plan – the Basic National Plan, "ZENON", which identifies pandemics as one of 22 crisis situations, as well as plans covering health emergencies, Lido/Leto and Amphitriti/Amfitriti – none of these are available on the websites of either the Ministry of Health or the Civil Defence Department. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5] There is no evidence of a private sector collaboration plan via the Health Insurance Organization, which is the public health service provider for Cyprus. [6]

- [1] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021
- [2] Civil Defence. http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/moiup/moi.nsf/All/6B48B6E29B1EE7FAC225841D003071C4?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre: Mission.
- $[http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/cjrcc.nsf/cjrcc45_en/cjrcc45_en?OpenDocument]. \ Accessed \ 04 \ March \ 2021.$
- [4] Civil Defense, Ministry of Interior. 26 January 2017. "Civil Protection Presentation about ZENON ("Ημερίδα Πολιτικής Άμυνας ")".
- [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/All/24E60616EC4B94D3C22584F90028B021/\$file/%CE%A0%CE%B1%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%85%CF%83%CE%AF%CE%B1%CF%83%CE%B7%20%CE%97%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B1%CF%82.pptx]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [5] Preparedness for Appropriate Accommodation in Emergency Shelters European Union Project. Workshop presentation: "Cyprus Emergency Plans and Practices". [https://docplayer.gr/30061054-Cyprus-emergency-plans-and-practices-panayiotis-liassides.html]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [6] Health Insurance Organization. [http://www.hio.org.cy/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

3.1.3 Non-pharmaceutical interventions planning

3.1.3a

Does the country have a policy, plan and/or guidelines in place to implement non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs) during an epidemic or pandemic?

Yes, a policy, plan and/or guidelines are in place for more than one disease= 2, Yes, but the policy, plan and/or guidelines exist only for one disease = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1



Cyprus has a policy, plan and/or guidelines in place to implement non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs) during an epidemic or pandemic, but only for one disease. There is no evidence of a multi-disease plan on the websites of the Ministry of Health, the Civil Defense Department (which houses the emergency operations center) or the Health Insurance Organization (the public health service provider) [1, 2. 3]. However, there is an action plan for the response to one disease, namely the COVID-19 pandemic [4]. This plan does address NPIs, but it is not applicable more generally. [4] Although Cyprus has a national emergency response plan – the Basic National Plan, "ZENON", which identifies pandemics as one of 22 crisis situations, as well as plans covering health emergencies, Lido/Leto and Amphitriti/Amfitriti – none of these are available on the websites of either the Ministry of Health or the Civil Defence Department [1, 2, 3, 6, 7].

- [1] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [2] Civil Defence. http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/moiup/moi.nsf/All/6B48B6E29B1EE7FAC225841D003071C4?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [3] Health Insurance Organization. [http://www.hio.org.cy/]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [4] Coronovirus COVID -19. Information for the public. [https://www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus/categories/info]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [5] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre: Mission.
- [http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/cjrcc.nsf/cjrcc45_en/cjrcc45_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.
- [6] Civil Defense, Ministry of Interior. 26 January 2017. "Civil Protection Presentation about ZENON ("Ημερίδα Πολιτικής Άμυνας ")".

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/All/24E60616EC4B94D3C22584F90028B021/\$file/%CE%A0%CE%B1%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%85%CF%83%CE%AF%CE%B1%CF%83%CE%B7%20%CE%97%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B1%CF%82.pptx]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

[7] Preparedness for Appropriate Accommodation in Emergency Shelters European Union Project. Workshop presentation: "Cyprus Emergency Plans and Practices". [https://docplayer.gr/30061054-Cyprus-emergency-plans-and-practices-panayiotis-liassides.html]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

3.2 EXERCISING RESPONSE PLANS

3.2.1 Activating response plans

3.2.1a

Does the country meet one of the following criteria?

- Is there evidence that the country has activated their national emergency response plan for an infectious disease outbreak in the past year?
- Is there evidence that the country has completed a national-level biological threat-focused exercise (either with WHO or separately) in the past year?

Needs to meet at least one of the criteria to be scored a 1 on this measure. , Yes for both = 1 , Yes for one = 1 , No for both = 0

Current Year Score: 1

There is evidence that Cyprus activated their national emergency response plan for an infectious disease outbreak in the past year, but there is no evidence that it has completed a national-level biological threat-focused exercise in the past year. Cyprus has activated their national emergency response plan for an infectious disease outbreak in the past year to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic. The Amphitriti/Amfitriti plan, which covers health emergencies, was activated on 3 April 2020 by the Social Welfare Services in order to help vulnerable groups of the population, according to a Civil Defence Department



announcement [1]. Local news websites also reported the activation of the Amphitriti/Amfitriti plan, also transmitting information such as calculations of the potential number of patients who will need inpatient care, intensive care, or a ventilator, as well as calculations of the number of hospital beds that will be required for the treatment of patients, the hospitals that will undertake the treatment of patients, arrangements for the examination and treatment of other patients, calculations of the number of necessary staff, equipment, pharmaceuticals and consumables [2, 3]. However, no further evidence of the plan's implementation is available on the websites of the Ministry of Health or the Civil Defence Department, which houses the country's emergency operations centre [4, 5]. There is no evidence that the country has completed a national-level biological threat-focused exercise (either with WHO or separately) in the past year in these sources, either [6, 7].

[1] Civil Defence. 03 April 2020. "Civil Defense is assisting in the fight to reduce COVID-19 ("Η Πολιτική Άμυνα συνδράμει στον αγώνα για περιορισμό του COVID-19")". [https://civildefence.com.cy/i-politiki-amyna-syndramei-ston-agona-gia-periorismo-tou-covid-19/]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[2] Ant1comcy. 11 January 2021. "Revelation of ANT1: Delayed years the "Amphitrite" Plan for dealing with epidemics [VIDEO]("Αποκάλυψη ANT1: Με καθυστέρηση χρόνων το Σχέδιο «Αμφιτρίτη» για αντιμετώπιση επιδημιών [BINTEO]")". [https://extranet.who.int/sph/after-action-review]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[3] Φilnews. "The coronavirus also tried "Amphitrite" ("Ο κορωνοϊός δοκίμασε και την «Αμφιτρίτη»")" [https://www.philenews.com/koinonia/eidiseis/article/925132/o-koronoios-dokimase-kai-tin-amfitriti]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

3.2.1b

Is there evidence that the country in the past year has identified a list of gaps and best practices in response (either through an infectious disease response or a biological-threat focused exercise) and developed a plan to improve response capabilities?

Yes, the country has developed and published a plan to improve response capacity = 2, Yes, the country has developed a plan to improve response capacity, but has not published the plan = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that Cyprus has in the past year identified a list of gaps and best practices in response (either through an infectious disease response of a biological-threat focused exercise) and developed a plan to improve response capabilities. No AAR report or other relevant evidence is available via the World Health Organization portal and country page [1, 2, 3]. There is no such evidence on the websites of the Ministry of Health or the Civil Defence Department, which houses the emergency operations centre [4, 5].

[4] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

3.2.2 Private sector engagement in exercises

3.2.2a

Is there evidence that the country in the past year has undergone a national-level biological threat-focused exercise that has included private sector representatives?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0



There is no evidence that Cyprus has in the past year undergone a national-level biological threat-focused exercise that has included private sector representatives. No evidence of such an exercise is available on the World Health Organization portal and country page [1, 2, 3]. There is no relevant evidence via the Ministry of Health or the Civil Defence Department, which houses the emergency operations centre [4, 5].

- [1] World Health Organization. "After Action Review Last". 20 Jan 2021. [https://extranet.who.int/sph/after-action-review?region=All&country=301]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [2] World Health Organization. "Country Profiles". [https://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/cyprus]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [3] World Health Organization. "Simulation Exercise". [https://extranet.who.int/sph/simulation-exercise?region=All&country=301]. Accessed 14 March 2021.
- [4] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [5] Civil Defence. http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/moiup/moi.nsf/All/6B48B6E29B1EE7FAC225841D003071C4?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

3.3 EMERGENCY RESPONSE OPERATION

3.3.1 Emergency response operation

3.3.1a

Does the country have in place an Emergency Operations Center (EOC)?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

Cyprus has in place an Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The country's emergency operations centre, Zenon, operating under the Civil Defence Department, is tasked with contributing to the management and efficient response to national crises, and its operation is governed by Cyprus emergency response plan, the Basic National Plan, "ZENON", in which 22 possible crisis situations are identified, including pandemics [1, 2, 3]. The Emergency Operations Center is also involved in "providing emergency and appropriate healthcare" via the special forces unit of Ambulance Service of the Ministry of Health [4]. The Center has also participated in Joint Search and Rescue (SAR) Exercise SAREX called ?®CYFRA 01/21? , which was conducted with personnel of the Republic of Cyprus, France and specialized registered nurses of the State Health Services Organization [5].

[1] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre: Mission.

[http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/cjrcc.nsf/cjrcc45_en/cjrcc45_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[2] Civil Defense, Ministry of Interior. 26 January 2017. "Civil Protection Presentation about ZENON ("Ημερίδα Πολιτικής Άμυνας ")".

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/All/24E60616EC4B94D3C22584F90028B021/\$file/%CE%A0%CE%B1%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%85%CF%83%CE%BF%CE%B5%CF%83%CE%BF%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%B4%CE%B1%CF%82.pptx]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

- [3] Preparedness for Appropriate Accommodation in Emergency Shelters European Union Project. Workshop presentation: "Cyprus Emergency Plans and Practices". [https://docplayer.gr/30061054-Cyprus-emergency-plans-and-practices-panayiotis-liassides.html]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [4] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre: "E-D Units / Ambulance Service / Ministry of Health. (Αρχική Σελίδα / Μονάδες Ε-Δ / Υπηρεσία Ασθενοφόρων/ Υπουργείου Υγείας)".



[http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/cjrcc.nsf/cjrcc28 en/cjrcc28 en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 16 March 2021.

[5] Press and Information Office. Press Release: Joint Search and Rescue (SAR) Exercise SAREX «CYFRA 01/21».

[https://www.pio.gov.cy/en/press-releases-article.html?id=18245#flat]. Accessed 16 March 2021.

3.3.1b

Is the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) required to conduct a drill for a public health emergency scenario at least once per year or is there evidence that they conduct a drill at least once per year?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that the country's emergency operations centre operating under the Civil Defence Department (Zenon) is required to conduct an annual drill or that it conducts an annual drill. There is no evidence of such a requirement in the law setting up the Emergency Operations Centre, Law 2869/1994 on the international agreement for naval search and rescue [1]. There is evidence that drills are conducted, such as "Participation of Cyprus in the Greek Exercise E-D "AETOS 2020" or "Joint Search-Rescue Exercise of Cyprus - Great Britain under the KSED "SAREX CYPUK - 01/18" (04/03/2019)" but no detail on their frequency is available [2, 3, 4]. There is no evidence of a requirement to conduct annual drills on the websites of either the Ministry of Health or the Civil Defence Department [5, 6].

[1] Government of Cyprus. Law 2869 24 March 1994, on the international agreement for Naval search and rescue (Ο περί της Διεθνούς Σύμβασης για τη Ναυτική Έρευνα και Διάσωση του 1979 (Κυρωτικός) και περί Συναφών Θεμάτων Νόμος του 1994 (Ν. 5(III)/1994)). [http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/arith/1994] 3 005.pdf]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[2] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre. "Participation of Cyprus in the Greek Exercise E-D "AETOS 2020" ("Συμμετοχή της Κύπρου στην Ελληνική Άσκηση Ε-Δ «ΑΕΤΟΣ 2020»")".

 $[http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/cjrcc.nsf/AdvancedSearch_gr/AdvancedSearch_gr?OpenForm\&q=\&p=1\&w=\&t=\&s=\%CE\%B1\%CF\%83\%CE\%BA\%CE\%BA\%CE\%B5\%CE\%B9\%CF\%82\&L=G\&e=\&i=1]. 10 March 2021.$

[3] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre. |Joint Search-Rescue Exercise of Cyprus - Great Britain under the KSED "SAREX CYPUK - 01/18" (04/03/2019) (" Κοινή Άσκηση Έρευνας-Διάσωσης Κύπρου – Μεγάλης Βρετάνιας υπό το ΚΣΕΔ «SAREX CYPUK - 01/18» (04/03/2019)")".

 $[http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/cjrcc.nsf/AdvancedSearch_gr/AdvancedSearch_gr?OpenForm\&q=\&p=1\&w=\&t=\&s=\%CE\%B1\%CF\%83\%CE\%BA\%CE\%BA\%CE\%B5\%CE\%B9\%CF\%82\&L=G\&e=\&i=1]. 10 March 2021.$

[4] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre: latest news.

[http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/cjrcc.nsf/cjrcc17_en/cjrcc17_en?OpenDocument]. 10 March 2021.

[5] Ministry of Health [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[6] Civil Defence. [http://www.moi.gov.cy/]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

3.3.1c

Is there public evidence to show that the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has conducted within the last year a coordinated emergency response or emergency response exercise activated within 120 minutes of the identification of the public health emergency/scenario?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence to show that the EOC of Cyprus can conduct, or has conducted within the last year, a coordinated emergency response or emergency response exercise activated within 120 minutes of the identification of the public health



emergency. Although there is evidence of plans for naval search and rescue that detail processes for ensuring response time within 30 minutes, and of Cyprus having a national emergency response plan, the Basic National Plan, titled, "ZENON", which identifies pandemics as one of 22 crisis situations, as well as plans covering health emergencies, Lido/Leto and Amphitriti/Amfitriti" none of these are available on the websites of either the Ministry of Health or the Civil Defence Department, so it is not possible to confirm if plans for a coordinated emergency response are in place for pandemic response [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]. The Amphitriti plan was enabled in 2020, but according to the announcement of the Civil Defence Department on the activation of the plan, it was activated at least a month after the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in Cyprus [7]. No further evidence of a coordinated emergency response or response exercise is available via the Ministry of Health, the Civil Defence Department or the Ministry of Defence [5, 6, 8].

[1] Joint Rescue Coordinator Center. May 2018. ""Naval Search and Rescue Plan Nearchos"".

[http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/CJRCC.nsf/cjrcc24_en/6F38E915F51F693BC22583B6002A7FB2/\$file/SAR%20PLAN%20NEARC HOS.pdf]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[2] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre: Mission.

[http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/cjrcc.nsf/cjrcc45 en/cjrcc45 en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

[3] Civil Defense, Ministry of Interior. 26 January 2017. ""Civil Protection Presentation about ZENON (""Ημερίδα Πολιτικής Άμυνας "")"".

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/All/24E60616EC4B94D3C22584F90028B021/\$file/%CE%A0%CE%B1%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%85%CF%83%CE%AF%CE%B1%CF%83%CE%B7%20%CE%97%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B1%CF%82. pptx]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

- [4] Preparedness for Appropriate Accommodation in Emergency Shelters European Union Project. Workshop presentation: ""Cyprus Emergency Plans and Practices"". [https://docplayer.gr/30061054-Cyprus-emergency-plans-and-practices-panayiotis-liassides.html]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [5] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [6] Civil Defence. [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/index en/index en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [7] Civil Defence. 03 April 2020. ""Civil Defense is assisting in the fight to reduce COVID-19 (""Η Πολιτική Άμυνα συνδράμει στον αγώνα για περιορισμό του COVID-19"")"". [https://civildefence.com.cy/i-politiki-amyna-syndramei-ston-agona-gia-periorismo-tou-covid-19/]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [8] Ministry of Defence. [http://www.mod.gov.cy/]. Accessed 10 March 2021

3.4 LINKING PUBLIC HEALTH AND SECURITY AUTHORITIES

3.4.1 Public health and security authorities are linked for rapid response during a biological event

3.4.1a

Does the country meet one of the following criteria?

- Is there public evidence that public health and national security authorities have carried out an exercise to respond to a potential deliberate biological event (i.e., bioterrorism attack)?
- Are there publicly available standard operating procedures, guidelines, memorandums of understanding (MOUs), or other agreements between the public health and security authorities to respond to a potential deliberate biological event (i.e., bioterrorism attack)?

Needs to meet at least one of the criteria to be scored a 1 on this measure., Yes for both = 1, Yes for one = 1, No for both = 0

Current Year Score: 0



There is no public evidence that Cyprus has carried out an exercise responding to a potential deliberate biological threat or that there are collaboration procedures in place between public health and security authorities to respond to such threats. Cyprus's Nutritional Crisis Management plan f?? which is not publicly available f?? covers, according to a 2012 document from the Ministry of Agriculture called "Goals and most important ongoing actions to achieve the goals of Veterinary Services", risks related to microbiological, chemical and physical hazards in food of animal origin and bioterrorism. [1] However, there is no evidence in the Ministry of Agriculture's publication or on the websites of the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Defence, or the Civil Defence Department, that the plan outlines procedures for cooperation between the public health and security authorities to respond to a potential deliberate biological event. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]. Although there is evidence of a plan on high-risk biological agents, the plan is not publicly available and is uncertain if it includes provisions for joint response to a biological event by public health and security agencies [6]. A 2016 document by the Cyprus Civil Defence Department, co-funded by the European Union Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Agency, indicates that there are two plans focused on health-related threats: the Lido (or Leto) plan, which focuses on exposure of individuals to high-risk biological agents, and the Amfitriti plan, which addresses pandemics. [1] However, neither plan is publicly available, including on the websites of the Ministry of Health, the Civil Defence Department, the Ministry of Defence or the Ministry of Agriculture, and there is no evidence in these sources of an exercise to respond to a potential deliberate biological event or procedures for public health and security authorities to coordinate such a response. [2, 3, 4, 5, 6]

[2] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre: Mission.

[http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/cjrcc.nsf/cjrcc45_en/cjrcc45_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 04 March 2021.

3.5 RISK COMMUNICATIONS

3.5.1 Public communication

3.5.1b

Does the risk communication plan (or other legislation, regulation or strategy document used to guide national public health response) outline how messages will reach populations and sectors with different communications needs (eg different languages, location within the country, media reach)?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no publicly available evidence that Cyprus' risk communication plan (or other legislation, regulation or strategy document used to guide national public health response) outline how messages will reach populations and sectors with different communications needs as Cyprus does not have a risk communications plan for public health emergencies. Although there is evidence that there are two plans addressing public health emergencies (Lido/Leto and Amphitriti/Amfitriti) under the national health emergency plan, "ZENON", neither plan is publicly available via the Ministry of Health, Civil Defence or Ministry of Defence, and no other evidence of a public health risk communication plan is available via any of these sources [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]. There is a communications plan incorporated into the naval search and rescue-specific plan, which incorporates elements of the generalized emergency communication infrastructure, but it does not refer to any public health emergencies. [7]. The government utilizes media platforms during emergencies according to the Basic Cyprus Law Chapter 300A, Article 44 on emergency sitations, which allows the cabinet to order the transmission of pertinent public announcements on state radio [8]. However, no provision in the law refers to public health explicitly [8].

[1] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre: Mission.
 [http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/cjrcc.nsf/cjrcc45_en/cjrcc45_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
 [2] Civil Defense, Ministry of Interior. 26 January 2017. ""Civil Protection Presentation about ZENON (""Ημερίδα Πολιτικής



Άμυνας "")"".

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/All/24E60616EC4B94D3C22584F90028B021/\$file/%CE%A0%CE%B1%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%85%CF%83%CE%AF%CE%B1%CF%83%CE%B7%20%CE%97%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B1%CF%82. pptx]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[3] Preparedness for Appropriate Accommodation in Emergency Shelters European Union Project. Workshop presentation: ""Cyprus Emergency Plans and Practices"". [https://docplayer.gr/30061054-Cyprus-emergency-plans-and-practices-panayiotis-liassides.html]. Accessed 10 March 2021

[4] Ministry of Health. ""Health Strategic Plans (""Στρατηγικές Υγείας"")"".

 $[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/page75_gr/page75_gr?OpenDocument]. \ Accessed \ 10 \ March \ 2021.$

- [5] Civil Defence. ""Regulations (""Νομοθεσία"")"". [http://www.moi.gov.cy/]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [6] Ministry of Defence. [https://mod.gov.cy/]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [8] Basic Cyprus Law Chapter 300A Article 44 (Ο περί Ραδιοφωνικού Ιδρύματος Κύπρου Νόμος).

[http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/enop/non-ind/0_300A/division-dd8336b59d-8895-4399-9b9d-42228e9baeae.html]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

3.5.1 Risk communication planning

3.5.1a

Does the country have in place, either in the national public health emergency response plan or in other legislation, regulation, or strategy documents, a section detailing a risk communication plan that is specifically intended for use during a public health emergency?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

Cyprus does not have a publicly available risk communications plan for public health emergencies. Although there is evidence that there are two plans addressing public health emergencies (Lido/Leto and Amphitriti/Amfitriti) under the national health emergency plan, "ZENON", neither plan is publicly available via the Ministry of Health, Civil Defence or Ministry of Defence, and no other evidence of a public health risk communication plan is available via any of these sources [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]. There is a communications plan incorporated into the naval search and rescue-specific plan, which incorporates elements of the generalized emergency communication infrastructure, but it does not refer to any public health emergencies. [7]. On the contrary, in section 3 "Mission" states that " the establishment, coordination, control and direction of the SAR operations for the purpose of locating and rescuing persons whose lives are in danger as a result of aeronautical or maritime accidents within and/or outside the region of responsibility of the JRCC, in the least possible time" [7]. The government utilizes media platforms during emergencies according to the Basic Cyprus Law Chapter 300A, Article 44 on emergency sitations, which allows the cabinet to order the transmission of pertinent public announcements on state radio [8]. However, no provision in the law refers to public health explicitly [8].

[3] Civil Defense, Ministry of Interior. 26 January 2017. "Civil Protection Presentation about ZENON ("Ημερίδα Πολιτικής Άμυνας ")".

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/All/24E60616EC4B94D3C22584F90028B021/\$file/%CE%A0%CE%B1%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%85%CF%83%CE%AF%CE%B1%CF%83%CE%B7%20%CE%97%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B1%CF%82.pptx]. Accessed 04 March 2021.



3.5.1c

Does the risk communication plan (or other legislation, regulation or strategy document used to guide national public health response) designate a specific position within the government to serve as the primary spokesperson to the public during a public health emergency?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that the risk communication plan in Cyprus designates a specific position within the government to serve as the primary spokesperson to the public during a public health emergency as Cyprus does not have a publicly available risk communications plan for public health emergencies. Although there is evidence that there are two plans addressing public health emergencies (Lido/Leto and Amphitriti/Amfitriti) under the national health emergency plan, "ZENON", neither plan is publicly available via the Ministry of Health, Civil Defence or Ministry of Defence, and no other evidence of a public health risk communication plan, or a position designated to serve as the primary spokesperson during a public health emergency, is available via any of these sources [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]. There is a communications plan incorporated into the naval search and rescue-specific plan, which incorporates elements of the generalized emergency communication infrastructure, but it does not refer to any public health emergencies. [7]. The government utilizes media platforms during emergencies according to the Basic Cyprus Law Chapter 300A, Article 44 on emergency sitations, which allows the cabinet to order the transmission of pertinent public announcements on state radio [8]. However, no provision in the law refers to public health explicitly [8].

[1] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre: Mission.

[http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/cjrcc.nsf/cjrcc45 en/cjrcc45 en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[2] Civil Defense, Ministry of Interior. 26 January 2017. ""Civil Protection Presentation about ZENON (""Ημερίδα Πολιτικής Άμυνας "")"".

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/All/24E60616EC4B94D3C22584F90028B021/\$file/%CE%A0%CE%B1%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%85%CF%83%CE%AF%CE%B1%CF%83%CE%B7%20%CE%97%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B1%CF%82. pptx]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

- [3] Preparedness for Appropriate Accommodation in Emergency Shelters European Union Project. Workshop presentation: ""Cyprus Emergency Plans and Practices"". [https://docplayer.gr/30061054-Cyprus-emergency-plans-and-practices-panayiotis-liassides.html]. Accessed 10 March 2021
- [4] Ministry of Health. ""Health Strategic Plans (""Στρατηγικές Υγείας"")"".
- [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/page75_gr/page75_gr?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [5] Civil Defence. ""Regulations (""Νομοθεσία"")"". [http://www.moi.gov.cy/]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [6] Ministry of Defence. [https://mod.gov.cy/]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [8] Basic Cyprus Law Chapter 300A Article 44 (Ο περί Ραδιοφωνικού Ιδρύματος Κύπρου Νόμος).

[http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/enop/non-ind/0_300A/division-dd8336b59d-8895-4399-9b9d-42228e9baeae.html]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

3.5.2 Public communication

3.5.2a

In the past year, is there evidence that the public health system has actively shared messages via online media platforms (e.g. social media, website) to inform the public about ongoing public health concerns and/or dispel rumors, misinformation or disinformation?



Public health system regularly shares information on health concerns = 2, Public health system shares information only during active emergencies, but does not regularly utilize online media platforms = 1, Public health system does not regularly utilize online media platforms, either during emergencies or otherwise = 0

Current Year Score: 2

There is evidence that the public health system in Cyprus has actively shared messages via online media platforms to inform the public about ongoing public health concerns and dispel rumors, misinformation or disinformation, in the past year, in particular related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The General Administration of Civil Denfense has used content either produced by itself or by other state webpages, and shared on Twitter, to inform the public about issues related to COVID-19, including pandemic prevention measures, definition of "close contacts" of infected persons, and rules for self-isolation. [1, 2, 3] The Civil Defense Department also has a news section on its website that has been, over the past year, regularly updated with articles regarding COVID-19. [4]. Moreover, the Web Portal of the Republic of Cyprus, which is available from Ministry's of Health website, has over the past year regularly informed the public on health-related concerns and it has also a Twitter account [5, 6]. This Twitter account has, in the past year, posted about such topics as cancer, blood donation, and food items thought to be contaminated [7, 8, 9, 10]. Furthermore, the Ministry of Health has used its Facebook page to inform the public about public health issues such as blood donation, the West Nile virus, diabetes, HIV, and mouth cancer. [11, 12, 13, 14, 15]

[6] Civil Defence. [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

3.5.2b

Is there evidence that senior leaders (president or ministers) have shared misinformation or disinformation on infectious diseases in the past two years?

No = 1, Yes = 0

Current Year Score: 1

There is no evidence that senior leaders (president or ministers) have shared misinformation or disinformation on infectious diseases in the past two years. No such evidence is available via major national or international news outlets [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7].

[7] Civil Defence. 03 April 2020. "Civil Defense is assisting in the fight to reduce COVID-19 ("Η Πολιτική Άμυνα συνδράμει στον αγώνα για περιορισμό του COVID-19")". [https://civildefence.com.cy/i-politiki-amyna-syndramei-ston-agona-gia-periorismo-tou-covid-19/]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

3.6 ACCESS TO COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE

3.6.1 Internet users

3.6.1a

Percentage of households with Internet Input number

Current Year Score: 86.06

2019



International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

3.6.2 Mobile subscribers

3.6.2a

Mobile-cellular telephone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants

Input number

Current Year Score: 143.85

2019

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

3.6.3 Female access to a mobile phone

3.6.3a

Percentage point gap between males and females whose home has access to a mobile phone

Input number

Current Year Score: 5.0

2019

Gallup; Economist Impact calculation

3.6.4 Female access to the Internet

3.6.4a

Percentage point gap between males and females whose home has access to the Internet

Input number

Current Year Score: 2.0

2019

Gallup; Economist Impact calculation

3.7 TRADE AND TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

3.7.1 Trade restrictions

3.7.1a

In the past year, has the country issued a restriction, without international/bilateral support, on the export/import of medical goods (e.g. medicines, oxygen, medical supplies, PPE) due to an infectious disease outbreak?

Yes = 0, No = 1



Current Year Score: 0

There is evidence that Cyprus, in the pas year, has issued a restriction, without international/bilateral support, on the export/import of medical goods (e.g. medicines, oxygen, medical supplies, PPE) due to an infectious disease outbreak. On 14 March 2020, in light of the pandemic, the European Union (EU), of which Cyprus is a member, adopted Regulation 2020/402, under which special authorization was required to export personal protective equipment (masks, gloves, goggles, face shields and overalls) out of the EU. [1] On 23 April 2020 this was superseded by a new regulation, numbered 2020/568, under which authorization was required to export personal protective equipment out of the EU, except to Albania, Andorra, Bosnia, the Faroe Islands, Gibraltar, Iceland, Kosovo, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, Norway, North Macedonia, San Marino, Serbia and Switzerland. [2] No further evidence is available via major national or international news outlets or the ministries of Defense. [3].

- [1] Euopean Commission. Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/402 of 14 March 2020. "Making the exportation of certain products subject to the production of an export authorisation." [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32020R0402]. Accessed 7 August 2020.
- [2] Euopean Commission. Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/568 of 23 April 2020. "Making the exportation of certain products subject to the production of an export authorisation." [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32020R0568]. Accessed 7 August 2020.
- [3] Ministry of Defence. [http://www.mod.gov.cy/]. Accessed 10 March 2021

3.7.1b

In the past year, has the country issued a restriction, without international/bilateral support, on the export/import of non-medical goods (e.g. food, textiles, etc) due to an infectious disease outbreak?

Yes = 0, No = 1

Current Year Score: 1

There is no evidence that Cyprus has issued a restriction, without international/bilateral support, on the export/import of non-medical goods (eg: food, textiles, etc) due to an infectious disease outbreak in the past year. There is no evidence of such a restriction on the websites of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Health or the Ministry of Agriculture, or in Cypriot news media. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7].

- [1] Ministry of Foreign Affairs. [https://mfa.gov.cy/el/search-results.html?search=%CF%80%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%B9%CE%BF%CF%81%CE%B9%CF%83%CE%BC%CF%8C%CF%82&id=316]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/ministry/mission/?lang=en]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [4] Ant1comcy. [https://www.ant1.com.cy/]. Accessed 16 March 2021.
- [5] Øilnews. [https://www.philenews.com/]. Accessed 16 March 2021.
- [6] Alpha cy. [https://www.alphacyprus.com.cy/]. Accessed 16 March 2021.
- [7] Kathimerini news. [https://www.kathimerini.com.cy/gr/]. Accessed 16 March 2021.



3.7.2 Travel restrictions

3.7.2a

In the past year, has the country implemented a ban, without international/bilateral support, on travelers arriving from a specific country or countries due to an infectious disease outbreak?

Yes = 0, No = 1

Current Year Score: 0

Cyprus has, in the past year, implemented a ban, without international/bilateral support, on travelers arriving from a specific country or countries due to an infectious disease outbreak. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Cyprus's Press and Information Center has published a "destination protocol" for coming to Cyprus, which defines the guidelines and procedures for an individual to enter the country, depending on country of origin [1]. The Protocol separates countries into four colour-coded categories: green, orange, red and gray. [2] Travelers arriving from "green" countries are subject to no restrictions, while those from "orange" and "red" countries must undergo testing and/or isolation requirements. [2] From countries classified as gray, travel to Cyprus is forbidden, except in a small number of circumstances (citizens of Cyprus, the European Economic Area or Switzerland; families of Cypriot citizens; and legal residents of Cyprus). [2] The categorization of countries is updated weekly, but as of March 2021, Cyprus classifies all of the world as gray, except 43 named countries, most of which are in Europe. [3]

[1] Press and Information Center. "COVID-19 Destination Protocol for coming to Cyprus ("COVID 19 – Πρωτόκολλο Προορισμού – Κύπρος")". [https://www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus/pdf/18_1o.pdf] [https://cyprusflightpass.dev.cytacom.com/uploads/df8d97a194.pdf]. Accessed 08 March 2021. [2] Government of the Republic of Cyprus. "COVID-19 Destination Protocol, Cyprus." 1 March 2021. [https://cyprusflightpass.dev.cytacom.com/uploads/df8d97a194.pdf]. Accessed 08 March 2021. [3] Government of the Republic of Cyprus. "Prerequisites for travellers flying to the Republic of Cyprus." [https://cyprusflightpass.gov.cy/uploads/docs/ca578302fa.pdf]. Accessed 12 March 2021.

Category 4: Sufficient and robust health sector to treat the sick and protect health workers

4.1 HEALTH CAPACITY IN CLINICS, HOSPITALS, AND COMMUNITY CARE CENTERS

4.1.1 Available human resources for the broader healthcare system

4.1.1a

Doctors per 100,000 people

Input number

Current Year Score: 195.09



2016

WHO; national sources

4.1.1b

Nurses and midwives per 100,000 people

Input number

Current Year Score: 525.12

2016

WHO; national sources

4.1.1c

Does the country have a health workforce strategy in place (which has been updated in the past five years) to identify fields where there is an insufficient workforce and strategies to address these shortcomings?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

Cyprus has a healthcare workforce strategy which has been updated in the past five years. The country has a detailed national workforce strategy in place, "Forecasts of Employment Needs in the Cyprus Economy 2017-2027", covering multiple fields, including the medical profession (related figures in section 4.3.11). It was updated in 2017 and covers the decade to 2027. On page 33, it stipulates that the demand for medical personnel such as doctors, nurses and other health professionals will increase by 4% by then [1]. It also explores strategies for avoiding shortages, including changes to education, but none specifically related to health (section 3.1 and 3.2) [1].

[1] Cyprus Human Resource Development Authority. October 2017. Employment needs forecast 2017-2027 (Προβλέψεις Αναγκών Απασχόλησης στην Κυπριακή Οικονομία 2017-2027).

[http://www.hrdauth.org.cy/images/media/assetfile/%CE%A0%CF%81%CE%BF%CE%B2%CE%BB%CE%AD%CF%88%CE%B5% CE%B9%CF%82%20%CE%91%CE%BD%CE%B1%CE%B3%CE%BA%CF%8E%CE%BD%20%CE%91%CF%80%CE%B1%CF%83%CF% 87%CF%8C%CE%BB%CE%B7%CF%83%CF%82%20%CF%83%CF%84%CE%B7%CE%BD%20%CE%9A%CF%85%CF%80% CF%81%CE%B9%CE%B1%CE%BA%CE%BF%CE%B0%CE%BF%CE%BD%CE%BF%CE%BC%CE%AF%CE%B1 %202017-2027%20(%CE%9F%CE%BA%CF%84%CF%8E%CE%B2%CF%810001.pdf]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

4.1.2 Facilities capacity

4.1.2a

Hospital beds per 100,000 people

Input number

Current Year Score: 340

2017



WHO/World Bank; national sources

4.1.2b

Does the country have the capacity to isolate patients with highly communicable diseases in a biocontainment patient care unit and/or patient isolation room/unit located within the country?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

There is evidence that Cyprus has capacity to isolate patients with highly communicable diseases.

There is, legislation on isolation. The law 3497/2001 on licensing private care facilities requires that each such facility have a special isolation unit. Section VII of that law, titled "Patients infected with a contagious disease should be treated in this area" lays out exact instructions on where these isolation units should be located within the building, describes the layout of the room, such as the distance between the bed and the wall, the nature of the bedding and the curtains, as well as the furniture that is allowed in the room. The law also notes that ventilation must go "inside out" and that the entrance to the isolation room must have a separate room for decontamination and sterilisation [1]. The State Health Services Organization has published guidelines on the operation of public hospitals, for instance banning visits, in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic, but does not make any indication that they any of them have the capacity to isolate patients with highly communicable diseases [2]. There is no further information on such capacity via the Ministry of Health, which has a Press Release, from 2011, about 'Measures to prevent the transmission of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS),' but no isolation capacity is mentioned [3]. Cypriot hospitals do not have their own websites.

[1] Government of Cyprus. Law 3497 4.5.2001. "On private hospital care facilities (Ο Περί Ιδιωτικών Νοσηλευτηρίων (Ελεγχος Ίδρυσης και Λειτουργίας)")" [http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/enop/non-ind/2001_1_90/full.html] Accessed 11 March 2021. [2] State Health Services Organization. "Measures for the operation of Public Hospitals ("Μέτρα για τη λειτουργία των Δημόσιων Νοσηλευτηρίων")". [https://www.shso.org.cy/2020/03/16/%ce%bc%ce%ad%cf%84%cf%81%ce%b1-%ce%b3%ce%b9-ce%b1-%cf%84%ce%b7-%ce%bb%ce%b5%ce%b9%cf%84%ce%bf%cf%85%cf%81%ce%b3%ce%b1-%cf%84%cf%89%ce%bd-%ce%b4%ce%b7-%ce%bc%cf%8c%cf%83%ce%b9%cf%89%ce%bd-%ce%bd/], [https://www.shso.org.cy/2020/03/24/3319/]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health. "Measures to prevent the transmission of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) ("Μέτρα προφύλαξης μετάδοσης του Σοβαρού Οξέος Αναπνευστικού Συνδρόμου(SARS)")"

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/All/08B90DF8917A889FC225786E004A3E29?OpenDocument&highlight=%CE%B1%CF%80%CE%BF%CE%BC%CF%8C%CE%BD%CF%89%CF%83%CE%B7]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

4.1.2c

Does the country meet one of the following criteria?

- Is there evidence that the country has demonstrated capacity to expand isolation capacity in response to an infectious disease outbreak in the past two years?
- Is there evidence that the country has developed, updated or tested a plan to expand isolation capacity in response to an infectious disease outbreak in the past two years?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

0



[1] Government of Cyprus. Law 3497 4.5.2001. "On private hospital care facilities (Ο Περί Ιδιωτικών Νοσηλευτηρίων (Ελεγχος Ίδρυσης και Λειτουργίας)")" [http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/enop/non-ind/2001_1_90/full.html] Accessed 11 March 2021.

[2] State Health Services Organization. "Measures for the operation of Public Hospitals ("Métp α γι α τη λειτουργί α των Δημόσιων Νοσηλευτηρίων")". [https://www.shso.org.cy/2020/03/16/%ce%bc%ce%ad%cf%84%cf%81%ce%b1-%ce%b3%ce%b9%ce%b1-%cf%84%ce%b7-%ce%bb%ce%b5%ce%b9%cf%84%ce%bf%cf%85%cf%81%ce%b3%ce%af%ce%b1-%cf%89%ce%bd-%ce%b4%ce%b7%ce%bc%cf%82%cf%83%ce%b9%cf%89%ce%bd-%ce%bd/],

[https://www.shso.org.cy/2020/03/24/3319/]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health. "Measures to prevent the transmission of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) ("Μέτρα προφύλαξης μετάδοσης του Σοβαρού Οξέος Αναπνευστικού Συνδρόμου(SARS)")"

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/All/08B90DF8917A889FC225786E004A3E29?OpenDocument&highlight=%CE%B1%CF%80%CE%BF%CE%BC%CF%8C%CE%BD%CF%89%CF%83%CE%B7]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

4.2 SUPPLY CHAIN FOR HEALTH SYSTEM AND HEALTHCARE WORKERS

4.2.1 Routine health care and laboratory system supply

4.2.1a

Is there a national procurement protocol in place which can be utilized by the Ministries of Health and Agriculture for the acquisition of laboratory supplies (e.g. equipment, reagents and media) and medical supplies (e.g. equipment, PPE) for routine needs?

Yes for both laboratory and medical supply needs = 2, Yes, but only for one = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 2

Cyprus has a procurement protocol that government agencies can access to acquire materials such as laboratory equipment and reagents, as well as medical supplies. The country's public procurement directorate runs a web-based system called E-PPS, a secure, interoperable web application of the Republic of Cyprus, which permits implementation of electronic procedures in conducting public procurement tenders in Cyprus [1]. The Minsitry of Health has in the past year used the E-PPS to acquire laboratory equipment and reagents, as well as medical supplies; it has run tenders, for example, for the "supply of COVID-19 rapid antigen test", "Masks for their use with C-PAP and BIPAP devices for the needs of patients within the GESS" and "Supply of consumables for measuring hemoglobin of blood donors during the process of blood donation with the provision of accompanying equipment, for the needs of the Blood Center" [2, 3, 4]. The E-PPS has been used by the Minsitry of Agriculture for procurements such as "the purchase of plant protection products and plant protection products" or "the supply of plant protection products and plant protection products for the needs of Plant Protection Associations" [5, 6].

[1] Cyprus eProcurement Platform (Ηλεκτρονικό Σύστημα Σύναψης Συμβάσεων Κύπρου).

[https://www.eprocurement.gov.cy/epps/DisplayHeaderStaticTextAction.do] Accessed 10 March 2021.

[2] Public Procurement Directorate. "Tender for the Supply of Automatic Devices for Delivery of Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (C-PAP), Levels of Positive Diarrheal Positive Pressure (BIPAP) and Masks for their use with C-PAP and BIPAP devices for the needs of patients within the GESS (Διαγωνισμός για την Προμήθεια Αυτόματων Συσκευών Χορήγησης Συνεχούς Θετικής Πίεσης Αεραγωγών (C-PAP), Συσκευών Διεπίπεδης Διαρινικής Θετικής Πίεσης (BIPAP) και Μασκών για χρήση τους με τις συσκευές C-PAP και ΒΙΡΑΡ για τις ανάγκες των ασθενών στα πλαίσια του ΓεΣΥ)".

[https://www.eprocurement.gov.cy/epps/cft/prepareViewCfTWS.do?resourceId=4637148]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[3] Public Procurement Directorate. "Tender: Tender for the supply of COVID-19 rapid antigen test for the needs of the Ministry of Health, S.Y.12 / 21 (Διαγωνισμός: Διαγωνισμός για την προμήθεια τεστ ταχείας ανίχνευσης αντιγόνου COVID-19



για τις ανάγκες του Υπουργείου Υγείας , Σ.Υ.12/21)".

[https://www.eprocurement.gov.cy/epps/cft/prepareViewCfTWS.do?resourceId=4629994]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[4] Public Procurement Directorate. "Supply of consumables for measuring hemoglobin of blood donors during the process of blood donation with the provision of accompanying equipment, for the needs of the Blood Center ("Προμήθεια αναλωσίμων για μέτρηση αιμοσφαιρίνης αιμοδοτών κατά τη διαδικασία της αιμοδοσίας με παροχή συνοδού εξοπλισμού, για τις ανάγκες του Κέντρου Αίματος")". [https://www.eprocurement.gov.cy/epps/cft/prepareViewCfTWS.do?resourceId=4561204]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[5] Public Procurement Directorate. "Framework agreement for the purchase of plant protection products and plant protection products ("Συμφωνία Πλαίσιο για την αγορά φυτοπροστατευτικών προϊόντων και μέσων φυτοπροστασίας")". [https://www.eprocurement.gov.cy/epps/cft/prepareViewCfTWS.do?resourceId=3470739]. Accessed 10 March 2021. [6] Public Procurement Directorate. "Framework agreement for the supply of plant protection products and plant protection products for the needs of Plant Protection Associations. ("Συμφωνία Πλαίσιο για τη προμήθεια φυτοπροστατευτικών προϊόντων και μέσων φυτοπροστασίας για τις ανάγκες των Συνδέσμων Προστασίας Φυτών.")". [https://www.eprocurement.gov.cy/epps/cft/prepareViewCfTWS.do?resourceId=1521299]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

4.2.2 Stockpiling for emergencies

4.2.2a

Does the country have a stockpile of medical supplies (e.g. MCMs, medicines, vaccines, medical equipment, PPE) for national use during a public health emergency?

Yes = 2, Yes, but there is limited evidence about what the stockpile contains = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

Cyprus has a stockpile of medical supplies for national use during a public health emergency but limited evidence of what they contain. According to the representative of the the Association of Medical and Scientific Use interviewed by the press on April 2020, the outbreak of COVID-19 found Cyprus with deficienct supplies of medical equipment, but it had sufficient stocks of protective gloves [1]. Since then, Cyprus has joined the European Union's RescEU stockpile system, which creates common stocks of protective and other vital medical equipment that can be distributed throughout participating states in cases of cross-border threats to health. [2, 3] The system was created in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, but is intended for use in any future situation when national health systems are inundated with patients. [2, 3] The system contains personal protective equipment, including masks and gloves, however there is no further evidence about what the stockpile contains. [2, 3]. In terms of a stockpile of medical countermeasures (MCM), the Cyprus Association of Research and Development Pharmaceutical Companies reported in 2013 that both the private and public sectors had sufficient stockpiles of medicines and that there were no shortages in the market due to the financial crisis that the country was experiencing at the time, but it did not provide any further details about these stockpiles [1]. Cyprus has access to the European Union's RescEU stockpile system for public health emergencies, but there is no evidence that this system includes MCM. [2, 3, 4, 7] In April 2020, the Cyprus Association of Research and Development Pharmaceutical Companies announced that during the COVID-19 pandemic, it would ensure an adequate supply of medicine and supply of medicine to patients who need them, but it did not explicitly refer to the existence of stockpiles [5]. The two plans addressing public health emergencies (Lido/Leto and Amphitriti/Amfitriti) under the national health emergency plan, "ZENON", are not publicly available [6, 7]. There is no evidence of other stockpiles on the websites of the Ministry of Health, the State Health Services Organization, the Pharmaceutical Services, or the Ministry of Defense [5, 6, 7, 8].

[1] Alpha news. Interview of the representative of the the Association of Medical and Scientific Use. 24 April 2020. "Are there sufficient stocks in case of mandatory mask use? ("Υπάρχουν επαρκή αποθέματα σε περίπτωση υποχρεωτικής χρήσης μάσκας)" [https://www.alphanews.live/cyprus/yparhoyn-eparki-apothemata-se-periptosi-ypohreotikis-hrisis-maskas].



Accessed 11 March 2021.

- [2] European Commission. European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations. Last updated 11/01/2021. rescEU. [https://ec.europa.eu/echo/what/civil-protection/resceu_en]. Accessed 11 March 2021.
- [3] Kathimerini newspaper. 03 April 2020. "EU: 10 things it does to fight the coronavirus ("E.E.: 10 πράγματα που κάνει για να καταπολεμήσει τον κορωνοϊό")". [https://m.kathimerini.com.cy/gr/kosmos/koronoios-10-pragmata-poy-kanei-i-e-e-gia-naton-katapolemisei]. Accessed 11 March 2021.
- [4] Civil Defense, Ministry of Interior. 26 January 2017. "Civil Protection Presentation about ZENON ("Ημερίδα Πολιτικής Άμυνας ")".

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/All/24E60616EC4B94D3C22584F90028B021/\$file/%CE%A0%CE%B1%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%85%CF%83%CE%BF%CE%B1%CF%83%CE%B7%20%CE%97%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B1%CF%82. pptx]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[5] Ministry of Health.

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/AdvancedSearch_gr/AdvancedSearch_gr?OpenForm&q=&p=1&w=&t=&s=%CE%B1%CF%80%CF%8C%CE%B8%CE%B5%CE%BC%CE%B1&L=G&e=&i=1]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[6] State Health Services Organization.

[https://www.shso.org.cy/?s=%CE%B1%CF%80%CF%8C%CE%B8%CE%B5%CE%BC%CE%B1]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[7] Pharmaceutical Services.

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/phs/phs.nsf/SearchResults_el/SearchResults_el?OpenForm&q=&p=1&w=&t=&s=%CE%B1%C F%80%CF%8C%CE%B8%CE%B5%CE%B1&L=G&e=&i=1]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[8] Civil Defence or Ministry of Defence. [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/home/home?openform]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

4.2.2b

Does the country have a stockpile of laboratory supplies (e.g. reagents, media) for national use during a public health emergency?

Yes = 2, Yes, but there is limited evidence about what the stockpile contains = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is insufficient evidence that Cyprus maintains a stockpile of laboratory supplies for national use during a public health emergency. Cyprus however is a member of the European Union's RescEU stockpile system, which creates common stocks of protective and other vital medical equipment that can be distributed throughout participating states in cases of cross-border threats to health. [1, 2] The system was created in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, but is intended for use in any future situation when national health systems are inundated with patients. [1, 2] According to the Official Journal of the European Union (dated 19 March 2020), the stockpile includes laboratory supplies such as sampling material, laboratory reagents, equipment and consumables, including RT-PCR reagents, suchasenzymes, RNA extractionreagents, RNA extraction machine time, PCR machine time, primer and probe reagents, positive control reagents, PCR laboratory consumables (e.g. tubes, plates) and disinfectants, to ensure laboratory diagnosis capacity for one or more cases of serious cross-border threats to health. [3] There is no further information about stockpiles of laboratory supplies on the websites of the Ministry of Health, the State Health Services Organization, the Pharmaceutical Services, or the Ministry of Defense [4, 5, 6, 7].

- [1] European Commission. European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations. Last updated 11/01/2021. rescEU. [https://ec.europa.eu/echo/what/civil-protection/resceu en]. Accessed 11 March 2021.
- [2] Kathimerini. 03 April 2020. "EU: 10 things it does to fight the coronavirus ("E.E.: 10 πράγματα που κάνει για να καταπολεμήσει τον κορωνοϊό")". [https://m.kathimerini.com.cy/gr/kosmos/koronoios-10-pragmata-poy-kanei-i-e-e-gia-naton-katapolemisei]. Accessed 11 March 2021.
- [3] European Commission. 19 March 2020. "Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/414 of 19 March 2020 amending



Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/570 as regards medical stockpiling rescEU capacities (notified under document C(2020) 1827)." [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32020D0414&from=GA]. Accessed 25 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health.

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/AdvancedSearch_gr/AdvancedSearch_gr?OpenForm&q=&p=1&w=&t=&s=%CE%B1%CF%80%CF%8C%CE%B8%CE%B5%CE%BC%CE%B1&L=G&e=&i=1]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[5] State Health Services Organization.

[https://www.shso.org.cy/?s=%CE%B1%CF%80%CF%8C%CE%B8%CE%B5%CE%BC%CE%B1]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[6] Pharmaceutical Services.

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/phs/phs.nsf/SearchResults_el/SearchResults_el?OpenForm&q=&p=1&w=&t=&s=%CE%B1%CF%80%CF%8C%CE%B8%CE%B5%CE%BC%CE%B1&L=G&e=&i=1]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[7] Civil Defence or Ministry of Defense. [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/home/home?openform]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

4.2.2c

Is there evidence that the country conducts or requires an annual review of the national stockpile to ensure the supply is sufficient for a public health emergency?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that Cyprus conducts or requires an annual review of the national stockpile to ensure the supply is sufficient for a public health emergency. Cyprus has not undertaken any exercise or published any sort of documentation indicating that stockpiles are reviewed. In April 2020, the Cyprus Association of Research and Development Pharmaceutical Companies announced that during the COVID-19 pandemic it would ensure an adequate supply of medicine and supply of medicine to patients who need them, but it did not explicitly refer to the existence of stockpiles or any relevant assessment [2]. The two plans addressing public health emergencies (Lido/Leto and Amphitriti/Amfitriti) under the national health emergency plan, "ZENON", are not publicly available [2]. There is no evidence of other stockpiles on the websites of the Ministry of Health, the State Health Services Organization, the Pharmaceutical Services, or the Ministry of Defense [3, 4, 5].

[1] Pharmaceutical Services.

 $[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/phs/phs.nsf/SearchResults_el/SearchResults_el?OpenForm\&q=\&p=1\&w=\&t=\&s=%CE\%B1\%CF\%80\%CF\%8C\%CE\%B8\%CE\%B5\%CE\%B1\&L=G\&e=\&i=1]. Accessed 11 March 2021.$

[2] Civil Defense, Ministry of Interior. 26 January 2017. "Civil Protection Presentation about ZENON ("Ημερίδα Πολιτικής Άμυνας ")".

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/All/24E60616EC4B94D3C22584F90028B021/\$file/%CE%A0%CE%B1%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%85%CF%83%CE%AF%CE%B1%CF%83%CE%B7%20%CE%97%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B1%CF%82. pptx]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health.

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/AdvancedSearch_gr/AdvancedSearch_gr?OpenForm&q=&p=1&w=&t=&s=%CE%B1%CF%80%CF%8C%CE%B8%CE%B5%CE%BC%CE%B1&L=G&e=&i=1]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[4] State Health Services Organization.

[https://www.shso.org.cy/?s=%CE%B1%CF%80%CF%8C%CE%B8%CE%B5%CE%BC%CE%B1]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[5] Civil Defence or Ministry of Defence. [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/home/home?openform]. Accessed 11 March 2021.



4.2.3 Manufacturing and procurement for emergencies

4.2.3a

Does the country meet one of the following criteria?

- Is there evidence of a plan/agreement to leverage domestic manufacturing capacity to produce medical supplies (e.g. MCMs, medicines, vaccines, equipment, PPE) for national use during a public health emergency?
- Is there evidence of a plan/mechanism to procure medical supplies (e.g. MCMs, medicines, vaccines, equipment, PPE) for national use during a public health emergency?

Needs to meet at least one of the criteria to be scored a 1 on this measure., Yes for both = 1, Yes for one = 1, No for both = 0

Current Year Score: 1

There is insufficient evidence that Cyprus has a plan or mechanism to produce medical supplies for national use during a public health emergency, but there is evidence that Cyprus has a mechanism to procure medical supplies. In June 2014, Cyprus signed the Joint Procurement Agreement to produce medical countermeasures, which ensures that European Union (EU) members states have access to medical countermeasures from abroad if necessary when a serious cross-border threat to health is registered. The agreement aims to "secure more equitable access to specific medical countermeasures and improced security of supply", as well as balancing prices for EU members. It is also designed to ensure the acquisition of vaccines, antivirals and medical countermeasures for serious cross-border threats to health [1, 2]. The two plans addressing public health emergencies (Lido/Leto and Amphitriti/Amfitriti) under the national health emergency plan, "ZENON", are not publicly available [3, 4]. There is no evidence that Cyprus has a plan, or a program or guideline to leverage domestic manufacturing capacity to produce medical supplies for national use during a public health emergency via the Ministry of Health, the State Health Services Organization, the Pharmaceutical Services, a Ministry of Health unit, the Cyprus Association of Research and Development Pharmaceutical Companies and Civil Defence or Ministry of Defence websites [5, 6, 7, 8, 9].

[1] Offsite news. Interview of the of the Minister of Health 09 April 2020. ""Cyprus orders a procurement for 9 million masks for the entire population (""Σε προμήθεια 9εκ. μασκών για όλο τον πληθυσμό προχωρά η Κύπρος"")"" [https://www.offsite.com.cy/eidiseis/topika/se-promitheia-9ek-maskon-gia-olo-ton-plithysmo-prohora-i-kypros]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[2] Cyprus eProcurement Platform (Ηλεκτρονικό Σύστημα Σύναψης Συμβάσεων Κύπρου).

[https://www.eprocurement.gov.cy/epps/DisplayHeaderStaticTextAction.do] Accessed 10 March 2021.

[3] Cyprus eProcurement Platform (Ηλεκτρονικό Σύστημα Σύναψης Συμβάσεων Κύπρου). ""Tender for the Supply of Automatic Devices Forced Installation of Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (C-PAP), Deep Positive Pressure Devices (BIPAP) and Masks for use with the C-PAP and BIPAP application for information on the language components of the GSS (""Διαγωνισμός για την Προμήθεια Αυτόματων Συσκευών Χορή εγκατάσταση Συνεχούς Θετικής Πίεσης Αεραγωγών (C-PAP), Συσκευές Διεπίπεδες Διαρινικής Θετικής Πίεσης (BIPAP) και Μασκών για χρήση με την εφαρμογή C-PAP και ΒΙΡΑΡ για πληροφορίες σχετικά με τα στοιχεία της γλώσσας του ΓΣΥ"")"".

[https://www.eprocurement.gov.cy/epps/cft/prepareViewCfTWS.do?resourceId=4637148] Accessed 10 March 2021.

[4] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre: Mission.

[http://www.mod.gov.cy/mod/cjrcc.nsf/cjrcc45_en/cjrcc45_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[5] Civil Defense, Ministry of Interior. 26 January 2017. ""Civil Protection Presentation about ZENON (""Ημερίδα Πολιτικής Άμυνας "")"".

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/All/24E60616EC4B94D3C22584F90028B021/\$file/%CE%A0%CE%B1%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%85%CF%83%CE%AF%CE%B1%CF%83%CE%B7%20%CE%97%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B1%CF%82. pptx]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[6] Cyprus Association of Research and Development Pharmaceutical Companies. [http://kefea.org.cy/el/]. Accessed 11 March 2021

[7] Ministry of Health.



[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/AdvancedSearch_gr/AdvancedSearch_gr?OpenForm&q=&p=1&w=&t=&s=%CE%B1%CF%80%CF%8C%CE%B8%CE%B5%CE%BC%CE%B1&L=G&e=&i=1]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[8] State Health Services Organization.

 $[https://www.shso.org.cy/?s=\%CE\%B1\%CF\%80\%CF\%8C\%CE\%B8\%CE\%B5\%CE\%BC\%CE\%B1]. \ Accessed \ 11 \ March \ 2021.$

[9] Pharmaceutical Services.

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/phs/phs.nsf/SearchResults_el/SearchResults_el?OpenForm&q=&p=1&w=&t=&s=%CE%B1%CF%80%CF%8C%CE%B8%CE%B5%CE%BC%CE%B1&L=G&e=&i=1]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[10] Civil Defence or Ministry of Defence. [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/home/home?openform]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

4.2.3b

Does the country meet one of the following criteria?

- Is there evidence of a plan/agreement to leverage domestic manufacturing capacity to produce laboratory supplies (e.g. reagents, media) for national use during a public health emergency?
- Is there evidence of a plan/mechanism to procure laboratory supplies (e.g. reagents, media) for national use during a public health emergency?

Needs to meet at least one of the criteria to be scored a 1 on this measure., Yes for both = 1, Yes for one = 1, No for both = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is insufficient evidence that Cyprus plan or mechanism to procure or to leverage domestic manufacturing capacity to produce laboratory supplies (e.g. reagents, media) for national use during a public health emergency. The Cyprus eProcurement Platform has procurements for laboratory supplies such as the "Tender on the purchase of services from mobile rapid antigen sampling units for covid-19" and the "Offer for the Supply of Diffusion Solutions 27/2021 "[1, 2]. In December 2020 the major Cypriot health-related news website YgeiaWatch reported that the State Organization Health Service had announced that it was taking all necessary steps to be able to ensure the largest possible number of fast PCR reagents, but it did not provide details on the mechanism by which it was doing so [3]. The two plans addressing public health emergencies (Lido/Leto and Amphitriti/Amfitriti) under the national health emergency plan, "ZENON", are not publicly available [4, 5]. There is also no evidence of a plan/mechanism to leverage domestic manufacturing capacity to produce laboratory supplies on the websites of the Ministry of Health, the State Health Services Organization, the Pharmaceutical Services, a Ministry of Health unit, the Cyprus Association of Research and Development Pharmaceutical Companies and Civil Defence or Ministry of Defence [6, 7, 8, 9, 10].

- [1] Cyprus eProcurement Platform (Ηλεκτρονικό Σύστημα Σύναψης Συμβάσεων Κύπρου). 05 March 2021. "Tender on the purchase of services from mobile rapid antigen sampling units for covid-19 ("Διαγωνισμός αγοράς υπηρεσιών από κινητές μονάδες δειγματοληψίας ταχείας ανίχνευσης αντιγόνου για covid-19")".
- [https://www.eprocurement.gov.cy/epps/cft/prepareViewCfTWS.do?resourceId=4637148]. Accessed 10 March 2021. [2] Cyprus eProcurement Platform (Ηλεκτρονικό Σύστημα Σύναψης Συμβάσεων Κύπρου). 02 March 2021. "Offer for the Supply of Diffusion Solutions Φ.Υ.Υ 27/2021 (ΟΚΥΠΥ) ("Προσφορά για την Προμήθεια Διαλυμάτων Διάχυσης Φ.Υ.Υ 27/2021(ΟΚΥΠΥ)")". [https://www.eprocurement.gov.cy/epps/cft/prepareViewCfTWS.do?resourceId=4639189]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [3] YgeiaWatch. "Actions are taken for as many fast PCR reagents as possible ("Γίνονται ενέργειες για όσο το δυνατό μεγαλύτερο αριθμό γρήγορων αντιδραστηρίων PCR")" [https://www.offsite.com.cy/eidiseis/topika/se-promitheia-9ek-maskon-gia-olo-ton-plithysmo-prohora-i-kypros]. Accessed 11 March 2021. [4] Ministry of Defence. Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Centre: Mission. [https://www.ygeiawatch.com.cy/news/eidhseis/okypy-ginontai-energeies-gia-oso-to-dynato-megalytero-ariomo-grhgorwn-antidrasthriwn-pcr]. Accessed 11 March 2021.
- [5] Civil Defense, Ministry of Interior. 26 January 2017. "Civil Protection Presentation about ZENON ("Ημερίδα Πολιτικής



Άμυνας ")".

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/All/24E60616EC4B94D3C22584F90028B021/\$file/%CE%A0%CE%B1%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%85%CF%83%CE%BF%CE%B1%CF%83%CE%B7%20%CE%97%CE%BC%CE%B5%CF%81%CE%AF%CE%B4%CE%B1%CF%82. pptx]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[6] Cyprus Association of Research and Development Pharmaceutical Companies. [http://kefea.org.cy/el/]. Accessed 11 March 2021

[7] Ministry of Health.

 $[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/AdvancedSearch_gr/AdvancedSearch_gr?OpenForm\&q=\&p=1\&w=\&t=\&s=\%CE\%B1 \%CF\%80\%CF\%8C\%CE\%B8\%CE\%B5\%CE\%B1\&L=G\&e=\&i=1]. Accessed 11 March 2021.$

[8] State Health Services Organization.

[https://www.shso.org.cy/?s=%CE%B1%CF%80%CF%8C%CE%B8%CE%B5%CE%BC%CE%B1]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[9] Pharmaceutical Services.

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/phs/phs.nsf/SearchResults_el/SearchResults_el?OpenForm&q=&p=1&w=&t=&s=%CE%B1%CF%80%CF%8C%CE%B8%CE%B5%CE%B1&L=G&e=&i=1]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

[10] Civil Defence or Ministry of Defence. [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/home/home?openform]. Accessed 11 March 2021.

4.3 MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES AND PERSONNEL DEPLOYMENT

4.3.1 System for dispensing medical countermeasures (MCM) during a public health emergency

4.3.1a

Does the country have a plan, program, or guidelines in place for dispensing medical countermeasures (MCM) for national use during a public health emergency (i.e., antibiotics, vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics)?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that Cyprus has a plan for dispensing medical countermeasures. The Ministry of Interior's website states that the ministry's Welfare Department is charged with ensuring the provision of food, accommodation, clothing, footwear and healthcare to citizens who have been affected by natural or man-made disasters, but it does not mention dispensing medical countermeasures [1]. There is no evidence of a plan for dispensing medical countermeasures on the websites of the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Defense or the Ministry of Interior [2, 3, 4].

[1] Civil Defence. Welfare. [http://www.moi.gov.cy/MOI/CD/cd.nsf/welfare_el/welfare_el?opendocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health.

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/AdvancedSearch_gr/AdvancedSearch_gr?OpenForm&q=&p=1&w=&t=&s=%CE%B4 %CE%B9%CE%B1%CE%BD%CE%BF%CE%BC%CE%AE&L=G&e=&i=1]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[3] Ministry of Defence. [https://mod.gov.cy/search-

results.html?search=%CE%B4%CE%B9%CE%B1%CE%BD%CE%BF%CE%BC%CE%AE&id=135]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[4] Ministry of Interior. [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/moi.nsf/index_gr/index_gr?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.



4.3.2 System for receiving foreign health personnel during a public health emergency

4.3.2a

Is there a public plan in place to receive health personnel from other countries to respond to a public health emergency? Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that Cyprus has a plan in place to receive health personnel from other countries. Cyprus participates in the European Union (EU) Civil Protection Mechanism, but does not participate in the European Emergency Response Capacity or in the European Medical Corps. [1, 2, 3] Cyprus' participating body in the Civil Protection Mechanism is the country's Civil Defence Force, but there is no evidence on the Force's website, or elsewhere in the public domain, of a plan to receive health personnel from other countries to respond to a public health emergency, whether in the Civil Protection Mechanism or otherwise. [4, 5] Specifically, no evidence of such a plan is available on the websites of the Ministries of Health or Defence [6, 7].

- [1] European Commission (EC). 2020. "EU Civil Protection Mechanism". [http://ec.europa.eu/echo/what/civil-protection/mechanism_en]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [2] European Commission (EC). 2020. "European Emergency Response Capacity�.

 $[https://ec.europa.eu/echo/what/civil-protection/european-emergency-response-capacity_en]. \ Accessed \ 10 \ March \ 2021.$

- [3] European Commission (EC). 2018. "European Medical Corps�. [https://ec.europa.eu/echo/what-we-do/civil-protection/european-medical-corps_en]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [4] Civil Defence. "EU Civil Protection Mechanism".

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/euucpm_en/euucpm_en?opendocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

- [5] Civil Defence. [http://www.moi.gov.cy/]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [6] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[7] Ministry of Defence. [http://www.mod.gov.cy/]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

4.4 HEALTHCARE ACCESS

4.4.1 Access to healthcare

4.4.1a

Does the constitution explicitly guarantee citizens' right to medical care?

Guaranteed free = 4, Guaranteed right = 3, Aspirational or subject to progressive realization = 2, Guaranteed for some groups, not universally = 1, No specific provision = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2020

World Policy Analysis Center

4.4.1b

Access to skilled birth attendants (% of population)



Input number

Current Year Score: 97.4

2014

WHO/World Bank/United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

4.4.1c

Out-of-pocket health expenditures per capita, purchasing power parity (PPP; current international \$)

Input number

Current Year Score: 1084.64

2017

WHO Global Health Expenditure database

4.4.2 Paid medical leave

4.4.2a

Are workers guaranteed paid sick leave?

Paid sick leave = 2, Unpaid sick leave = 1, No sick leave = 0

Current Year Score: 2

2020

World Policy Analysis Center

4.4.3 Healthcare worker access to healthcare

4.4.3a

Has the government issued legislation, a policy, or a public statement committing to provide prioritized healthcare services to healthcare workers who become sick as a result of responding to a public health emergency?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence of a provision for the priority treatment of healthcare professionals in Cyprus. No evidence of such a policy is available via the Ministry of Health or Civil Defence [1, 2]. There is also no evidence in the Law 3497/2001 on The General Healthcare System, which describes the functions of the healthcare system in Cyprus [3].

- [1] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_gr/index_gr?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [2] Civil Defence. [http://www.moi.gov.cy/MOI/CD/cd.nsf/home/home?OpenForm]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [3] Government of Cyprus. Law 3497 4 May 2001 The General Healthcare System Law of 2001 [https://www.gesy.org.cy/en-



us/pressrelease/2001-1-089pperi-genikoy-systimatos-ygerias-nomos-1.pdf]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

4.5 COMMUNICATIONS WITH HEALTHCARE WORKERS DURING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

4.5.1 Communication with healthcare workers

4.5.1a

Is there a system in place for public health officials and healthcare workers to communicate during a public health emergency?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is insufficient evidence that Cyprus has a system in place for public health officials and healthcare workers to communicate during a public health emergency. The Communications Department of the Civil Defence Force is responsible for coordinating communication in emergencies. It collects and transmits information on the emergency and coordinates response units. Wireless radio and wired telecommunication networks, as well as satellite and electronic means are used for communication [1]. However, there is no evidence of a system specifically targeting communication between public health officials and health workers; there is no reference to such a system on the websites of the Civil Defence Department or the Ministry of Health [1, 2].

[1] Communications Office, Civil Defence Department.

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/communications_en/communications_en?opendocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021. [2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

4.5.1b

Does the system for public health officials and healthcare workers to communicate during an emergency encompass healthcare workers in both the public and private sector?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is insufficient evidence that Cyprus has a system in place for public and private health officials and healthcare workers to communicate during a public health emergency. The Communications Department of the Civil Defence Force is responsible for coordinating communication in emergencies. It collects and transmits information on the emergency and coordinates response units. Wireless radio and wired telecommunication networks, as well as satellite and electronic means are used for communication [1]. However, there is no evidence of a system specifically targeting communication between public health officials and health workers or of the communication system explicitly including healthcare workers, whether in the public or private sector; there is no such evidence on the websites of the Civil Defence Department or the Ministry of Health [1, 2].

[1] Communications Office, Civil Defence Department.

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/communications_en/communications_en?opendocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March



2021.

4.6 INFECTION CONTROL PRACTICES AND AVAILABILITY OF EQUIPMENT

4.6.1 Healthcare associated infection (HCAI) prevention and control programs

4.6.1a

Is there evidence that the national public health system is monitoring for and tracking the number of healthcare associated infections (HCAI) that take place in healthcare facilities?

Yes = 1. No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is insufficient evidence that the national public health system in Cyprus is monitoring for and tracking the number of healthcare associated infections (HCAI) that take place in healthcare facilities. Cyprus tracks healthcare-associated infections (HCAI), but reports on them only sporadically. The Ministry of Health has a department dedicated to HCAI which is responsible for effective prevention of HCAI through informing the public and healthcare professionals, and supporting the production of scientific knowledge on the issue. [1] It has developed, in collaboration with the National Committee for Antibiotics and the Central Committee for Infection Control of the Ministry of Health, the Clinical Guidelines for the Control and Prevention of Infections in Health Care Areas. The guidelines have been shared with public and private sector physicians and nurses. While there is evidence that the country monitors HCAI, reporting is sporadic: the latest available report dates back to 2015 [1].

[1] Ministry of Health. Healthcare Associated Infections (Λοιμώξεις που Σχετίζονται με την Παροχή Υπηρεσιών Υγείας). [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/All/6B4121829D8502A5C2257C210026E74C]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

4.7 CAPACITY TO TEST AND APPROVE NEW MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES

4.7.1 Regulatory process for conducting clinical trials of unregistered interventions

4.7.1a

Is there a national requirement for ethical review (e.g., from an ethics committee or via Institutional Review Board approval) before beginning a clinical trial?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

There is a national requirement for ethical review for clinical trials. The National Bioethics Committee is responsible for clinical trials, and applicants submit forms to the Committee for approval, depending on the nature or stage of the clinical trials. The Committee comprises four people with a social sciences background, four with a medical or biology-related background, and four from any other field in which they are recognized [1, 2]. According to Regulation 3850/2004, Article 11.4, a clinical trial only begins when the National Bioethics Committee and the Medicines Council agree that expected therapeutic benefits, and public health considerations, outweigh the risks. Trials are constantly monitored for compliance



with regulations and continue only if compliance is ensured and the Medicines Board does not notify reasoned objections [3].

[1] National Bioethics Committee. Mission (Εθνικής Επιτροπή Βιοηθικής Κύπρου, Αποστολή).

[http://www.bioethics.gov.cy/Moh/cnbc/cnbc.nsf/page51_gr/page51_gr?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[2] National Bioethics Committee. Members (Εθνικής Επιτροπή Βιοηθικής Κύπρου, Μέλη).

[http://www.bioethics.gov.cy/Moh/cnbc/cnbc.nsf/dmlrec gr/dmlrec gr?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[3] Government of Cyprus. Regulation 3850 30 April 2004. "The Drugs for Human Use (Good Clinical Practice) Regulations 2004 ("Οι περί Φαρμάκων Ανθρώπινης Χρήσης (Ορθή Κλινική Πρακτική) Κανονισμοί του 2004")".

[http://www.cylaw.org/KDP/data/2004 1 452.pdf]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

4.7.1b

Is there an expedited process for approving clinical trials for unregistered medical countermeasures (MCM) to treat ongoing epidemics?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence of an expediced process for approving clinical trials for unregistered medical countermesasures to treat ongoing epidemics in Cyprus. The National Bioethics Committee of Cyprus, which is responsible for clinical trials, does appear to have an expedited process for any kind of clinical trials in the event of public health emergencies, including pandemics [1]. There is also no further evidence from the Ministry of Health. [2].

[1] National Bioethics Committee.

[http://www.bioethics.gov.cy/Moh/cnbc/cnbc.nsf/dmlform_gr/dmlform_gr?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

4.7.2 Regulatory process for approving medical countermeasures

4.7.2a

Is there a government agency responsible for approving new medical countermeasures (MCM) for humans? Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

Cyprus has an agency responsible for approving new medical countermeasures for humans. Responsibility for approving new pharmaceuticals for circulation in the Cypriot market lies with the Pharmaceutical Service of the Ministry of Health [1]. Its Pharmaceutical Service is responsible for reviewing applications to market new medications [1]. According to the Article 9.1a of the 3496/2001, the Council of Medicines of the Pharmaceutical Service provides for the control of new medicinal products which are imported into or manufactured in Cyprus [2]. The article states that no pharmaceutical product can circulate in Cyprus unless it has a valid marketing authorization or licence from the Council of Medicines [2].

[1] Ministry of Health. Pharmaceutical Service.

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/phs/phs.nsf/mission el/mission el?opendocument]. Accessed 12 March 2021.

[2] Government of Cyprus. Law 3496 4 May 2001. "On Drugs for Human Use (Quality Control, Supply and Prices) Law of 2001 ("Ο Περί Φαρμάκων Ανθρώπινης Χρήσης (Ἑλεγχος Ποιότητας, Προμήθειας και Τιμών) Νόμος του 2001")".

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/phs/phs.nsf/All/ADB44106C00F5343C22585990041A9D3/\$file/N70(I)%20%CF%84%CE%BF%



CF%85%202001.pdf?OpenElement]. Accessed 12 March 2021.

4.7.2b

Is there an expedited process for approving medical countermeasures (MCM) for human use during public health emergencies?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

Cyprus has an expedited process for approving medical countermeasures for human use during public health emergencies. The Law 3496/2001 on Drugs for Human Use, in article 9, authorizes the Council of Medicines to temporarily permit distribution of "a medicinal product for which a marketing authorization has not been issued under the provisions of this Law, in order to deal with suspected or confirmed spread of pathogens" [1]. However, neither this law nor any other legislation or other evidence available on the websites of the Pharmaceutical Service, the Ministry of Health, or the National Bioethics Committee provides further details on the issuance of temporary distribution permits. [1, 2, 3, 4].

[1] Government of Cyprus. Law 3496 4 May 2001. "On Drugs for Human Use (Quality Control, Supply and Prices) Law of 2001 ("Ο Περί Φαρμάκων Ανθρώπινης Χρήσης (Ελεγχος Ποιότητας, Προμήθειας και Τιμών) Νόμος του 2001")". [http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/enop/non-ind/2001 1 70/full.html]. Accessed 12 March 2021.

- [2] Ministry of Health. Pharmaceutical Service. [www.moh.gov.cy/phs/]. Accessed 7 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 7 March 2021.
- [4] National Bioethics Committee. [http://www.bioethics.gov.cy/Moh/cnbc/cnbc.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 7 March 2021.

Category 5: Commitments to improving national capacity, financing plans to address gaps, and adhering to global norms

5.1 INTERNATIONAL HEALTH REGULATIONS (IHR) REPORTING COMPLIANCE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

5.1.1 Official IHR reporting

5.1.1a

Has the country submitted IHR reports to the WHO for the previous calendar year?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

2020



World Health Organization

5.1.2 Integration of health into disaster risk reduction

5.1.2a

Are epidemics and pandemics integrated into the national risk reduction strategy or is there a standalone national disaster risk reduction strategy for epidemics and pandemics?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence of a risk reduction plan which addresses pandemics in Cyprus. No evidence of such a plan is available via the Ministry of Health or the Civil Defence Department, either as part of a national risk reduction strategy or in the form of a standalone pandemic risk reduction strategy [1, 2].

[1] Ministry of Health. "Health Strategies (Στρατηγικές Υγείας")".

[https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/page75_gr/page75_gr?OpenDocument]. Accessed 12 March 2021.

[2] Civil Defence Department. [http://www.moi.gov.cy/MOI/CD/cd.nsf/home/home?openform]. Accessed 12 March 2021.

5.2 CROSS-BORDER AGREEMENTS ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND ANIMAL HEALTH EMERGENCY RESPONSE

5.2.1 Cross-border agreements

5.2.1a

Does the country have cross-border agreements, protocols, or MOUs with neighboring countries, or as part of a regional group, with regards to public health emergencies?

Yes = 2, Yes, but there is evidence of gaps in implementation = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 2

Cyprus has cross-border agreements, as part of a regional group, with regards to public health emergencies, and there is no evidence of gaps in implementation. As a member state of the European Union (EU), Cyprus is one of the stakeholders of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). The ECDC, among other responsibilities, provides support to EU member states during public health emergencies. [1, 2] In addition, within the EU, the Health Security Committee (HSC) provides a platform for the health ministries of member states (including Cyprus) to coordinate national responses to cross-border public health emergencies. [3, 4]

- [1] European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. "ECDC activities on epidemic intelligence and outbreak response". [https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/about-us/what-we-do/ecdc-activities-epidemic-intelligence-and-outbreak-response]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [2] European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. "Preparedness". [https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/about-us/what-we-do/preparedness]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [3] European Commission. "Health Security Committee members".
- [https://ec.europa.eu/health/preparedness_response/risk_management/hsc/members_en]. Accessed Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [4] European Union (EU). 2013. "Decision No 1082/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October



2013 on serious cross-border threats to health and repealing Decision No 2119/98/EC".

[https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/preparedness_response/docs/decision_serious_crossborder_threats_221020 13_en.pdf]. Accessed Accessed 10 March 2021.

5.2.1b

Does the country have cross-border agreements, protocols, or MOUs with neighboring countries, or as part of a regional group, with regards to animal health emergencies?

Yes = 2, Yes, but there is evidence of gaps in implementation = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 2

Cyprus has cross-border agreements on animal health emergencies as part of a regional group, and there is no evidence of gaps in implementation. Cyprus, as a member of the European Union (EU), is included in the coverage of the Veterinary Emergency Team, set up by the European Commission in 2007 [1, 2]. According to the European Commission's website, the Veterinary Emergency Team includes experts in the fields of veterinary sciences, virology, wildlife, laboratory testing, risk management and other relevant areas. [1] The experts are on stand-by, ready to respond in animal health situations [1]. From this list of experts, the Commission will select ad hoc team members in the event that a request for assistance is submitted by an EU country or a non-EU country during an animal health emergency. The Commission informs EU countries through the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed on the activities of the team [1]. The Veterinary Emergency Team has most recently conducted missions in Poland (addressing avian influenza in Junuary 2020) [3]. In December 2014 and January 2015, the Emergency Team assisted Cyprus in response to an outbreak of Lumpy Skin Disease [3].

[1] European Commission. "Veterinary Emergency Team". [https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-diseases/emergency-team en] Accessed 10 March 2021.

[2] European Commission. "EU Veterinary Emergency Team 2018".

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/animals/docs/ad_emergency_cvet_experts.pdf] Accessed 10 March 2021.

[3] European Commission. "EU Veterinary Emergency Team missions".

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/animals/docs/ad_emergency_cvet_experts_missions.pdf] Accessed 10 March 2021.

5.3 INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

5.3.1 Participation in international agreements

5.3.1a

Does the county have signatory and ratification (or same legal effect) status to the Biological Weapons Convention?

Signed and ratified (or action having the same legal effect) = 2, Signed = 1, Non-compliant or not a member = 0

Current Year Score: 2

2021

Biological Weapons Convention



5.3.1b

Has the country submitted confidence building measures for the Biological Weapons Convention in the past three years?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

2021

Biological Weapons Convention

5.3.1c

Has the state provided the required United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1540 report to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (1540 Committee)?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

2021

Biological Weapons Convention

5.3.1d

Extent of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1540 implementation related to legal frameworks and enforcement for countering biological weapons:

Very good (60+ points) = 4, Good (45–59 points) = 3, Moderate (30–44 points) = 2, Weak (15–29 points) = 1, Very weak (0–14 points) or no matrix exists/country is not party to the BWC = 0

Current Year Score: 4

2021

Biological Weapons Convention

5.3.2 Voluntary memberships

5.3.2a

Does the country meet at least 2 of the following criteria?

- Membership in Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA)
- Membership in the Alliance for Country Assessments for Global Health Security and IHR Implementation (JEE Alliance)
- Membership in the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction (GP)
- Membership in the Australia Group (AG)
- Membership in the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI)

Needs to meet at least two of the criteria to be scored a 1 on this measure. , Yes for five = 1 , Yes for four = 1 , Yes for three = 1 , Yes for two = 1 , Yes for one = 0 , No for all = 0



Global Health Security Agenda; JE Alliance; Global Partnership; Australia Group; PSI

5.4 JOINT EXTERNAL EVALUATION (JEE) AND PERFORMANCE OF VETERINARY SERVICES PATHWAY (PVS)

5.4.1 Completion and publication of a Joint External Evaluation (JEE) assessment and gap analysis

5.4.1a

Has the country completed a Joint External Evaluation (JEE) or precursor external evaluation (e.g., GHSA pilot external assessment) and published a full public report in the last five years?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2021

WHO Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security (SPH); Global Health Security Agenda

5.4.1b

Has the country completed and published, within the last five years, either a National Action Plan for Health Security (NAPHS) to address gaps identified through the Joint External Evaluation (JEE) assessment or a national GHSA roadmap that sets milestones for achieving each of the GHSA targets?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2021

WHO Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security (SPH); Global Health Security Agenda

5.4.2 Completion and publication of a Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) assessment and gap analysis

5.4.2a

Has the country completed and published a Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) assessment in the last five years?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2021

OIE PVS assessments



5.4.2b

Has the country completed and published a Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) gap analysis in the last five years? Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2021

OIE PVS assessments

5.5 FINANCING

5.5.1 National financing for epidemic preparedness

5.5.1a

Is there evidence that the country has allocated national funds to improve capacity to address epidemic threats within the past three years?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that Cyprus has allocated national funds to improve capacity to address epidemic threats within the past three years. The annual budget allocation to the Ministry of Health increased by 9% from 2020 to 2021 (from US\$ 1.11 billion to US\$ 1.22 billion), but there is no evidence in the Ministry of Finance's presentation on the state budget for 2021 that the allocation hike is intended to improve capacity to fight future epidemic threats [1, 2, 3]. There is no relevant evidence on the websites of the Ministry of Health or the Ministry of Agriculture [4, 5].

- [1] Finance Ministry, government budget 2021, (Επεξηματικό Υπόμνημα Κρατικός Προϋπολογισμός 2021) [https://issuu.com/ministryoffinance-cyprus/docs/mnimonia_sineik_budg21?fr=sNjNlNjE2Njc1MTk]. Accessed 10 March 2021
- [2] Brief Blog News. "Budget: The 4 Ministries that absorb 62% of the expenses ("Προϋπολογισμός: Τα 4 Υπουργεία που απορροφούν το 62% των δαπανών"). [https://www.brief.com.cy/analyseis/proypologismos-ta-4-ypoyrgeia-poy-aporrofoyn-62-ton-dapanon]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [3] Kathimerini newspaper. "The Minister of Finance in Parliament for the 2021 budget (Ο ΥΠΟΙΚ στην Βουλή για τον προϋπολογισμό του 2021")". [https://www.kathimerini.com.cy/gr/oikonomiki/oikonomia/o-ypoik-stin-olomeleia-tis-boylis-gia-ton-kratiko-proypologismo-toy-2021]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [4] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [5] Ministry of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/ministry/mission/?lang=en]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

5.5.2 Financing under Joint External Evaluation (JEE) and Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) reports and gap analyses

5.5.2a

Does the Joint External Evaluation (JEE) report, National Action Plan for Health Security (NAPHS), and/or national GHSA roadmap allocate or describe specific funding from the national budget (covering a time-period either in the future or within the past five years) to address the identified gaps?



Yes = 1, No/country has not conducted a JEE = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2021

WHO Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security (SPH); Global Health Security Agenda

5.5.2b

Does the Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) gap analysis and/or PVS assessment allocate or describe specific funding from the national budget (covering a time-period either in the future or within the past five years) to address the identified gaps?

Yes = 1, No/country has not conducted a PVS = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2021

OIE PVS assessments

5.5.3 Financing for emergency response

5.5.3a

Is there a publicly identified special emergency public financing mechanism and funds which the country can access in the face of a public health emergency (such as through a dedicated national reserve fund, an established agreement with the World Bank pandemic financing facility/other multilateral emergency funding mechanism, or other pathway identified through a public health or state of emergency act)?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that Cyprus has a publicly identified special emergency public financing mechanism and funds which it can access in the face of a public health emergency. The country is not eligible for the World Bank Pandemic Financing Facility [1]. Page 602 of the National Budget 2021 includes a provision for EUR 50,000 (USD 60,000) to pay for medical workers' overtime during emergencies "just like the COVID-19 pandemic" [2]. There is no relevant evidence on the websites of the Ministry of Health, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the Ministry of Agriculture [3, 4, 5].

- [1] World Bank. Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility. [https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/pandemics/brief/fact-sheet-pandemic-emergency-financing-facility]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [2] Finance Ministry, government budget 2021, (Επεξηματικό Υπόμνημα Κρατικός Προϋπολογισμός 2021) [https://issuu.com/ministryoffinance-cyprus/docs/mnimonia_sineik_budg21?fr=sNjNlNjE2Njc1MTk]. Accessed 10 March 2021
- [3] Ministry of Foreign Affairs. [http://www.mfa.gov.cy/mfa/mfa2016.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [4] World Health Organization. Cyprus: news.
- [http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/cyprus/news/news?root_node_selection=71743]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- $[5] \ United \ Nations. \ [https://search.un.org/results.php?tpl=un\&lang=en\&query=cyprus\&cbunFilters_unNews=on]. \ Accessed \ Properties \ Propert$



10 March 2021.

5.5.4 Accountability for commitments made at the international stage for addressing epidemic threats

5.5.4a

Is there evidence that senior leaders (president or ministers), in the past three years, have made a public commitment either to:

- Support other countries to improve capacity to address epidemic threats by providing financing or support?
- Improve the country's domestic capacity to address epidemic threats by expanding financing or requesting support to improve capacity?

Needs to meet at least one of the criteria to be scored a 1 on this measure., Yes for both = 1, Yes for one = 1, No for both = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence that senior leaders in Cyprus have, in the past three years, made a public commitment either to support other countries to improve capacity to address epidemic threats by providing financing or support or to improve the country's domestic capacity to address epidemic threats by expanding financing or requesting support to improve capacity. Although budget allocations to the Ministry of Health have increased from 2020 to 2021 by 9% (from €927 million to €1,02 billion), there is no indication that this spending hike relies on international support; in the Ministry of Finance's presentation of the state budget for 2021, there was no reference to such transfers [1, 2]. There is no evidence of commitments to provide or request international support to improve capacity to address epidemic threats via the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, World Health Organization or the United Nations. [3, 4, 5, 6].

- [1] Brief Blog News. "Budget: The 4 Ministries that absorb 62% of the expenses ("Προϋπολογισμός: Τα 4 Υπουργεία που απορροφούν το 62% των δαπανών"). [https://www.brief.com.cy/analyseis/proypologismos-ta-4-ypoyrgeia-poy-aporrofoyn-62-ton-dapanon]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [2] Kathimerini newspaper. "The Minister of Finance in Parliament for the 2021 budget (Ο ΥΠΟΙΚ στην Βουλή για τον προϋπολογισμό του 2021")". [https://www.kathimerini.com.cy/gr/oikonomiki/oikonomia/o-ypoik-stin-olomeleia-tis-boylis-gia-ton-kratiko-proypologismo-toy-2021]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [4] Ministry of Foreign Affairs. [http://www.mfa.gov.cy/mfa/mfa2016.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [5] World Health Organization. Cyprus: news.
- [http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/cyprus/news/news?root_node_selection=71743]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [6] United Nations. [https://search.un.org/results.php?tpl=un&lang=en&query=cyprus&cbunFilters_unNews=on]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

5.5.4b

Is there evidence that the country has, in the past three years, either:

- Provided other countries with financing or technical support to improve capacity to address epidemic threats?
- Requested financing or technical support from donors to improve the country's domestic capacity to address epidemic threats?

Needs to meet at least one of the criteria to be scored a 1 on this measure., Yes for both = 1, Yes for one = 1, No for both = 0



Current Year Score: 0

There is insufficient evidence that Cyprus has, in the past three years, provided or received international support to enhance capacity to address epidemic threats. There is no evidence of such support on the Georgetown Infectious Disease Atlas (GIDA) Global Health Security Tracking Dashboard to refer to Cyprus either as recepient or as funder [1]. There is no additional evidence on such transfers via the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, World Health Organisation, and the United Nations [2, 3, 4, 5].

[1] Georgetown Infectious Disease Atlas (GIDA). Global Health Security

Tracker.[https://tracking.ghscosting.org/details/922/funder]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

- [2] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Foreign Affairs. [http://www.mfa.gov.cy/mfa/mfa2016.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [4] World Health Organization. Cyprus: news.

[http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/cyprus/news/news/news?root node selection=71743]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

[5] United Nations. [https://search.un.org/results.php?tpl=un&lang=en&query=cyprus&cbunFilters_unNews=on]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

5.5.4c

Is there evidence that the country has fulfilled its full contribution to the WHO within the past two years?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2021

Economist Impact analyst qualitative assessment based on official national sources, which vary by country

5.6 COMMITMENT TO SHARING OF GENETIC AND BIOLOGICAL DATA AND SPECIMENS

5.6.1 Commitment to sharing genetic data, clinical specimens, and/or isolated specimens (biological materials) in both emergency and nonemergency research

5.6.1a

Is there a publicly available plan or policy for sharing genetic data, clinical specimens, and/or isolated specimens (biological materials) along with the associated epidemiological data with international organizations and/or other countries that goes beyond influenza?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no evidence of a publicly available plan or policy in Cyprus for sharing genetic data, epidemiological data, clinical specimens, and/or isolated specimens (biological materials) with international organizations and/or other countries that goes beyond influenza (during a public health emergency). Cyprus shares a range of epidemiological data as indicated by the



country-specific cooperation report issued by the World Health Organization. The exact nature of the data is not specified in the document, however [1]. Cyprus has committed to share epidemiological surveillance data continuously with the EU and its member states. The Annex of Decision No 1082/2013/EU has established the communicable diseases and related special health issues that are to be notified to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. [2] However, it is not clear if this includes a provision for sharing genetic data, clinical specimens, and/or isolated specimens (biological materials) during a public health emergency. There is also no evidence of any relevant plan or policy on the websites of the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, the Civil Defence Department, or in other publicly available sources. [3, 4, 5]

[1] World Health Organization. Country Cooperation Strategy: Cyprus.

[http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/180616/ccs_cyp_en.pdf;jsessionid=0DA13C0F6B31424D07D7A9B3D62709 CD?sequence=1]. Accessed 13 March 2021.

- [2] Official Journal of the European Union (EU). 2013. "Decision No 1082/2013/EU of the European Parliament and the Council of 22 October 2013 on serious cross-border threats to health and repealing Decision No 2119/98/EC (Text with EEA relevance)". L 293. [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32013D1082&from=en]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [4] Ministry of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/ministry/mission/?lang=en]. Accessed 10 March 2021.
- [5] Civil Defence. [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/cd/cd.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021. "

5.6.1b

Is there public evidence that the country has not shared samples in accordance with the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness (PIP) framework in the past two years?

Yes = 0, No = 1

Current Year Score: 1

There is no public evidence from local and international media outlets or through the World Health Organization that Cyprus has not shared samples in accordance with the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness framework in the past two years [1].

[2] Official Journal of the European Union (EU). 2013. "Decision No 1082/2013/EU of the European Parliament and the Council of 22 October 2013 on serious cross-border threats to health and repealing Decision No 2119/98/EC (Text with EEA relevance)". L 293. [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32013D1082&from=en]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

5.6.1c

Is there public evidence that the country has not shared pandemic pathogen samples during an outbreak in the past two years?

Yes = 0, No = 1

Current Year Score: 1

There is no evidence from local or international media outlets or through the World Health Organization that Cyprus has not shared pandemic pathogen samples during an outbreak in the past two years [1]. There is no evidence that Cyprus does not share COVID-19 samples; on the contrary, the country's medical schools participate in a study on COVID-19 antibodies [2].



[3] Ministry of Health. [https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument]. Accessed 10 March 2021.

Category 6: Overall risk environment and vulnerability to biological threats

6.1 POLITICAL AND SECURITY RISK

6.1.1 Government effectiveness

6.1.1a

Policy formation (Economist Intelligence score; 0-4, where 4=best)

Input number

Current Year Score: 2

2020

Economist Intelligence

6.1.1b

Quality of bureaucracy (Economist Intelligence score; 0-4, where 4=best)

Input number

Current Year Score: 2

2020

Economist Intelligence

6.1.1c

Excessive bureaucracy/red tape (Economist Intelligence score; 0-4, where 4=best)

Input number

Current Year Score: 3

2020

Economist Intelligence

6.1.1d

Vested interests/cronyism (Economist Intelligence score; 0-4, where 4=best)

Input number



Current Year Score: 2
2020
Economist Intelligence
6.1.1e Country score on Corruption Perception Index (0-100, where 100=best) Input number Current Year Score: 57
2020
Transparency International
6.1.1f Accountability of public officials (Economist Intelligence score; 0-4, where 4=best Input number Current Year Score: 3

6.1.1g

2020

Human rights risk (Economist Intelligence score; 0-4, where 4=best)

Input number

Current Year Score: 3

2020

Economist Intelligence

Economist Intelligence

6.1.2 Orderly transfers of power

6.1.2a

How clear, established, and accepted are constitutional mechanisms for the orderly transfer of power from one government to another?

Very clear, established and accepted = 4, Clear, established and accepted = 3, One of the three criteria (clear, established, accepted) is missing = 2, Two of the three criteria (clear, established, accepted) are missing = 1, Not clear, not established, not accepted = 0



Economist Intelligence

6.1.3 Risk of social unrest

6.1.3a

What is the risk of disruptive social unrest?

Very low: Social unrest is very unlikely = 4, Low: There is some prospect of social unrest, but disruption would be very limited = 3, Moderate: There is a considerable chance of social unrest, but disruption would be limited = 2, High: Major social unrest is likely, and would cause considerable disruption = 1, Very high: Large-scale social unrest on such a level as to seriously challenge government control of the country is very likely = 0

Current Year Score: 2

2021

Economist Intelligence

6.1.4 Illicit activities by non-state actors

6.1.4a

How likely is it that domestic or foreign terrorists will attack with a frequency or severity that causes substantial disruption? No threat = 4, Low threat = 3, Moderate threat = 2, High threat = 1, Very high threat = 0

Current Year Score: 3

2021

Economist Intelligence

6.1.4b

What is the level of illicit arms flows within the country?

4 = Very high, 3 = High, 2 = Moderate, 1 = Low, 0 = Very low

Current Year Score: 0

2020

UN Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

6.1.4c

How high is the risk of organized criminal activity to the government or businesses in the country?

Very low = 4, Low = 3, Moderate = 2, High = 1, Very high = 0



Economist Intelligence

6.1.5 Armed conflict

6.1.5a

Is this country presently subject to an armed conflict, or is there at least a moderate risk of such conflict in the future? No armed conflict exists = 4, Yes; sporadic conflict = 3, Yes; incursional conflict = 2, Yes, low-level insurgency = 1, Yes; territorial conflict = 0

Current Year Score: 2

2021

Economist Intelligence

6.1.6 Government territorial control

6.1.6a

Does the government's authority extend over the full territory of the country?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2021

Economist Intelligence

6.1.7 International tensions

6.1.7a

Is there a threat that international disputes/tensions could have a negative effect?

No threat = 4, Low threat = 3, Moderate threat = 2, High threat = 1, Very high threat = 0

Current Year Score: 2

2021

Economist Intelligence

6.2 SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

6.2.1 Literacy

6.2.1a

Adult literacy rate, population 15+ years, both sexes (%)



Input number

Current Year Score: 98.7

2011

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); The Economist Intelligence Unit

6.2.2 Gender equality

6.2.2a

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Gender Inequality Index score

Input number

Current Year Score: 0.91

2018

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); The Economist Intelligence Unit

6.2.3 Social inclusion

6.2.3a

Poverty headcount ratio at \$1.90 a day (2011 PPP) (% of population)

Input number

Current Year Score: 0

2017

World Bank; Economist Impact

6.2.3b

Share of employment in the informal sector

Greater than 50% = 2, Between 25-50% = 1, Less than 25% = 0

Current Year Score: 0

The latest available data suggests that the share of employment in informal sector is below 25%. International sources such as the European Commission and the International Labour Organization indicate a rate between 13% (2013) and 15% (2017) [1, 2]. The Minister of Labour, Welfare and Social Security, Mrs Zeta Emilianidou stated in November 2020 that the rate of employment in the informal sector was close to 12% [3].

[4] Ministry of Agriculture. [https://moa.gov.cy/ministry/mission/?lang=en]. Accessed 10 March 2021.



6.2.3c

Coverage of social insurance programs (% of population)

Scored in quartiles (0-3, where 3=best)

Current Year Score: 2

2016, or latest available

World Bank; Economist Impact calculations

6.2.4 Public confidence in government

6.2.4a

Level of confidence in public institutions

Input number

Current Year Score: 1

2021

Economist Intelligence Democracy Index

6.2.5 Local media and reporting

6.2.5a

Is media coverage robust? Is there open and free discussion of public issues, with a reasonable diversity of opinions? Input number

Current Year Score: 1

2021

Economist Intelligence Democracy Index

6.2.6 Inequality

6.2.6a

Gini coefficient

Scored 0-1, where 0=best

Current Year Score: 0.33

Latest available.

World Bank; Economist Impact calculations



6.3 INFRASTRUCTURE ADEQUACY

6.3.1 Adequacy of road network

6.3.1a

What is the risk that the road network will prove inadequate to meet needs?

Very low = 4, Low = 3, Moderate = 2, High = 1, Very high = 0 Current Year Score: 3

2021

Economist Intelligence

6.3.2 Adequacy of airports

6.3.2a

What is the risk that air transport will prove inadequate to meet needs?

Very low = 4, Low = 3, Moderate = 2, High = 1, Very high = 0 Current Year Score: 3

2021

Economist Intelligence

6.3.3 Adequacy of power network

6.3.3a

What is the risk that power shortages could be disruptive?

Very low = 4, Low = 3, Moderate = 2, High = 1, Very high = 0 Current Year Score: 2

2021

Economist Intelligence

6.4 ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS

6.4.1 Urbanization

6.4.1a

Urban population (% of total population)

Input number



World Bank

6.4.2 Land use

6.4.2a

Percentage point change in forest area between 2006-2016

Input number

Current Year Score: -0.0

2008-2018

World Bank; Economist Impact

6.4.3 Natural disaster risk

6.4.3a

What is the risk that the economy will suffer a major disruption owing to a natural disaster?

Very low = 4, Low = 3, Moderate = 2, High = 1, Very high = 0

Current Year Score: 4

2021

Economist Intelligence

6.5 PUBLIC HEALTH VULNERABILITIES

6.5.1 Access to quality healthcare

6.5.1a

Total life expectancy (years)

Input number

Current Year Score: 80.83

2018

United Nations; World Bank, UNICEF; Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME); Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) World Factbook

6.5.1b

Age-standardized NCD mortality rate (per 100 000 population)

Input number



WHO
6.5.1c
Population ages 65 and above (% of total population)
Input number
Current Year Score: 14.05
2019
World Bank
6.5.1d
Prevalence of current tobacco use (% of adults)
Input number
Current Year Score: 36.7
2018
World Bank
6.5.1e
Prevalence of obesity among adults
Input number
Current Year Score: 21.8
2016
WHO
6.5.2 Access to potable water and sanitation

Current Year Score: 284.2

2019

2017

Input number

Percentage of homes with access to at least basic water infrastructure



UNICEF; Economist Impact

6.5.2b

Percentage of homes with access to at least basic sanitation facilities

Input number

Current Year Score: 99

2017

UNICEF; Economist Impact

6.5.3 Public healthcare spending levels per capita

6.5.3a

Domestic general government health expenditure per capita, PPP (current international \$)

Input number

Current Year Score: 1123.49

2018

WHO Global Health Expenditure database

6.5.4 Trust in medical and health advice

6.5.4a

Trust medical and health advice from the government

Share of population that trust medical and health advice from the government, More than 80% = 2, Between 60-80%, or no data available = 1, Less than 60% = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2018

Wellcome Trust Global Monitor 2018

6.5.4b

Trust medical and health advice from medical workers

Share of population that trust medical and health advice from health professionals, More than 80% = 2, Between 60-80%, or no data available = 1, Less than 60% = 0

Current Year Score: 1

2018



Wellcome Trust Global Monitor 2018