WHO Information sessions
Preparedness and Resilience for Emerging Threats (PRET)

Incorporating lessons learned from
Influenza A (H1N1)pdm09 pandemic and the COVID-19 pandemic

Planning for respiratory pathogen pandemics in Argentina

Dr. Carlos Maria Giovacchini,
Director of Epidemiology,
Ministry of Health of Argentina
Planning and Coordination

Building on lessons learned
Planning must be multisectoral and multilevel
- Maximize available resources
- Build technical coherence
- Increase coordination and reduce duplication of efforts

Have a preparedness plan with multisectoral participation and dialogue, the plan is a “living document”, not a static document (with monitoring and continuous improvement)

- This plan is built and sustained by intersectoral actors.
- Coordination Unit for the preparation and response to Public Health Events of International Importance articulated with SINAGIR.
- Steered from the highest political level (Cabinet of Ministers of the Argentine).
- With the capacity to mobilize resources to implement/sustain measures
- Review of legal/regulatory provisions for planning and response
Planning for respiratory pathogen pandemics in Argentina
Capacities needed for operations before, during and after a pandemic.

Adaptive Recovery and Response Plan

Flexible with transparency in the determination and adjustment of prevention measures
Equitable distribution of resources to respond to emergencies

- Technical and political leadership in the response
- Monitoring, development and strengthening
- Prevention and control
- Health services
- Evaluation and research
- Maintenance of improvements (HR, Technology)
- Risk communication and community engagement
One of the main lessons learned is that a pandemic is NOT only a health problem but also a social, economic, and cultural one that impacts all spheres of life of societies.

- Making health and life a priority is a political decision and depends on the value systems of societies and governments.
- Adequate preparedness should always include anticipating how health (including mental health), social (acceptability of measures), and economic (sustainability of measures) impacts will be mitigated.

Pandemic preparedness and response must be framed in a global and regional and recognize the contexts at national, and subnational context

- Achieve equitable access to resources, knowing that each country will start from different levels of development of its health, economic and social system.
- Crises weigh more heavily on those who enter it most disadvantaged (risk groups and vulnerable populations). For this reason, it is essential to rethink how we prepare as humanity for the upcoming challenges that we must face.
Thank you!
Muchas gracias!