

## COVID-19 EU Briefing 06 October 2021

### Recovery

#### Therapeutics

- A European Union advisory committee will [consider](#) starting an accelerated review for Merck's experimental antiviral pill against COVID-19 following the company's announcement that it will seek emergency-use authorization from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

### Member States

#### European Parliament

- The European Parliament plans to [introduce](#) as early as next week a requirement for proof of coronavirus vaccination, recovery or a negative test to enter its buildings in Strasbourg, Brussels and Luxembourg. The Parliament's labor union, the "Union Syndicale Luxembourg," denouncing the plan as "senseless and discriminatory." Political group leaders will debate the mandatory health pass on Thursday.

#### European Union

- The ECDC is [proposing](#) a revision of COVID-19 rules which could ease travel for vaccinated people and drop the colour-coded system. The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) made its non-binding proposal at meetings of EU health specialists this week

#### Finland, Denmark & Sweden

- [Finland](#), Denmark and Sweden will pause the use of Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine for men born in 1991 and later due to reports of a rare cardiovascular side effect

#### France

- France's health authority (HAS) is [recommending](#) a third COVID-19 vaccine booster shot for health workers

#### Greece

- Health Minister Thanos Plevris is [expected](#) to announce new benefits for vaccinated people, government spokesman Giannis Oikonomou confirmed, which according leaks, would include no longer being bound by existing restrictions, those vaccinated will probably also be able to move more freely, including to the country's so-called "red areas".

## Italy

- Seven months after the second dose, there is no [reduction](#) in the efficacy of COVID-19 mRNA vaccines in the general population in Italy, while a slight decline is seen for some specific groups, the National Health Institute (ISS) said on Wednesday.

## Lithuania

- The government has [proposed](#) to pay €100 to people aged 75 or old to take the COVID-19 vaccine, to boost the inoculation rate for the group

## Portugal

- Portugal will [give](#) a third dose of the coronavirus vaccine to people aged 65 and older from 11 October starting with the most vulnerable groups, such as care home residents and those over 80 years old.

## Romania

- The government has [suspended](#) non-emergency surgeries and admissions and is asking the EU for help with medical supplies, by activating the EU Civil Protection Mechanism

## Spain

- Spain has [approved](#) administering of third doses of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines for people aged 70 or over, the health ministry said.

## The Netherlands

- The Hague said the government had the right to [demand](#) proof of a COVID-19 vaccination or a recent negative coronavirus test to limit the spread of the coronavirus

*Source: DeHavillandEU*