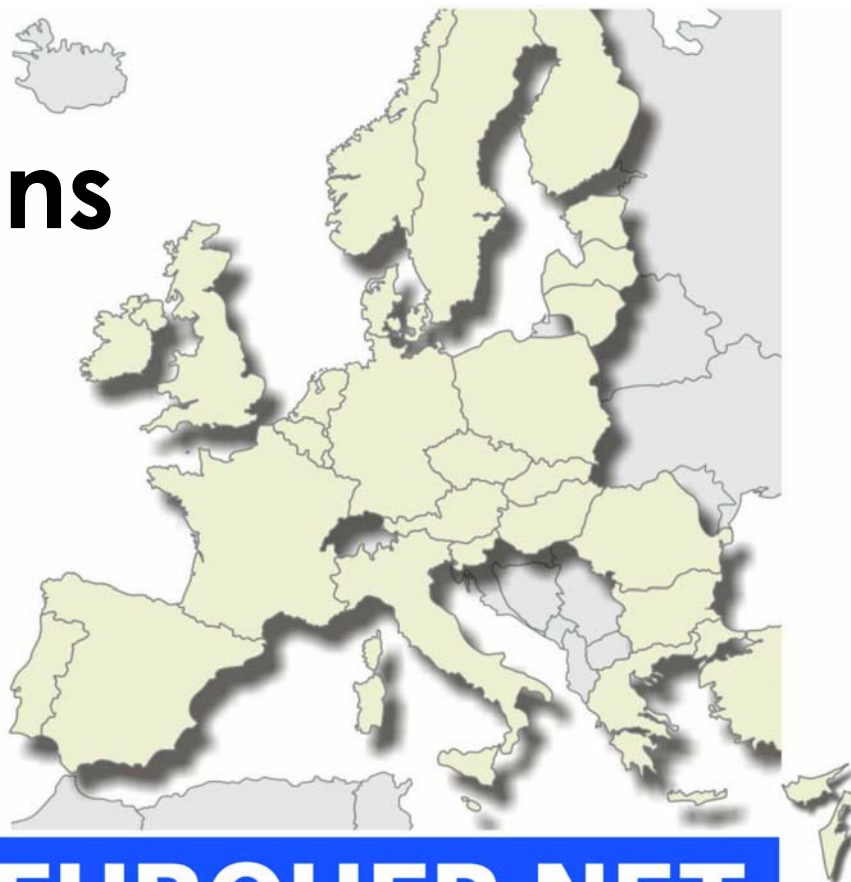




Conclusions



EUROHEP.NET

Surveillance and Prevention of
Vaccine Preventable **Hepatitis**



EUROHEP.NET: Why?

- project was in line with the demand from the network for the epidemiological surveillance and control of communicable diseases in the Community (EP and Council decision 2119/98/EC)
 - hepatitis A & B identified as priority disease for creating a disease specific network
- Monitor progress towards disease control target
- Aim at more coherence in disease control at European/Regional level
- Assist countries in their decision making process and priority setting for hepatitis A and B control measures;



EURO-HEPNET: why?

- Surveillance data are often under-used
 - as pre-implementation data to estimate the burden of disease
 - as post-implementation data to measure and monitor the effectiveness of HepB and hep A programmes
- useful for future control and adaptation of control measures
 - data of 28 countries will be validated, pooled, analysed, and if possible, standardised



Feasibility of the project: collaboration

- Fruitful and sustained collaboration
 - with 22 countries, starting with the first survey
 - feedback from 24 countries on the draft guidelines
 - 26 countries involved in at least one activity
- Use of electronic survey for 20/22 countries
- Use of the electronic platform can be improved

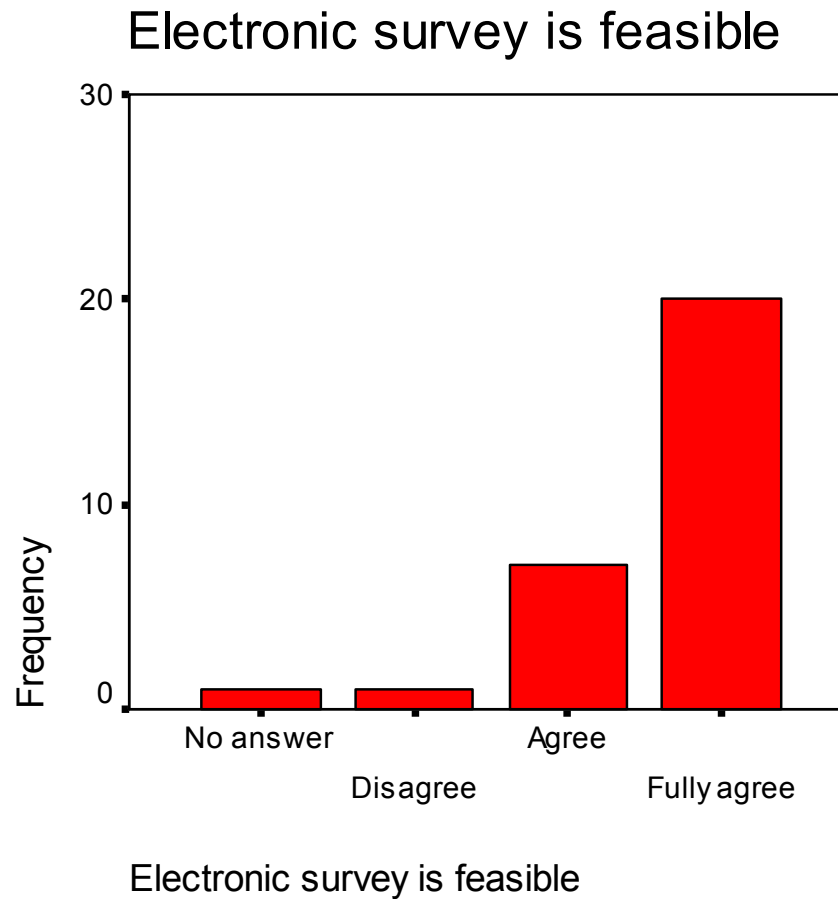


The website can be used to exchange information





An electronic survey is feasible





Lessons learnt from the workshops

- Within the proposed recommendations priorities should be indicated
 - Age categories, case definitions, outbreak definition,
 - Burden of disease measurement
- EU network needs data for specific EU objectives; countries can continue to collect data for country-specific objectives
- Linkage of surveillance data with other data bases is a problem (privacy issues)
- Rationale behind surveillance at EU level should be made more clear to motivate collaboration.



EUROHEP.NET: feasibility objectives

- Take stock and analyse existing surveillance systems on vaccine preventable viral hepatitis +
- Take stock of viral hepatitis vaccination programmes +
- Collate information for possible adaptation or simplification of hepatitis B vaccination programmes +
- Identify the necessary requirements for decision on hepatitis A vaccination programmes +



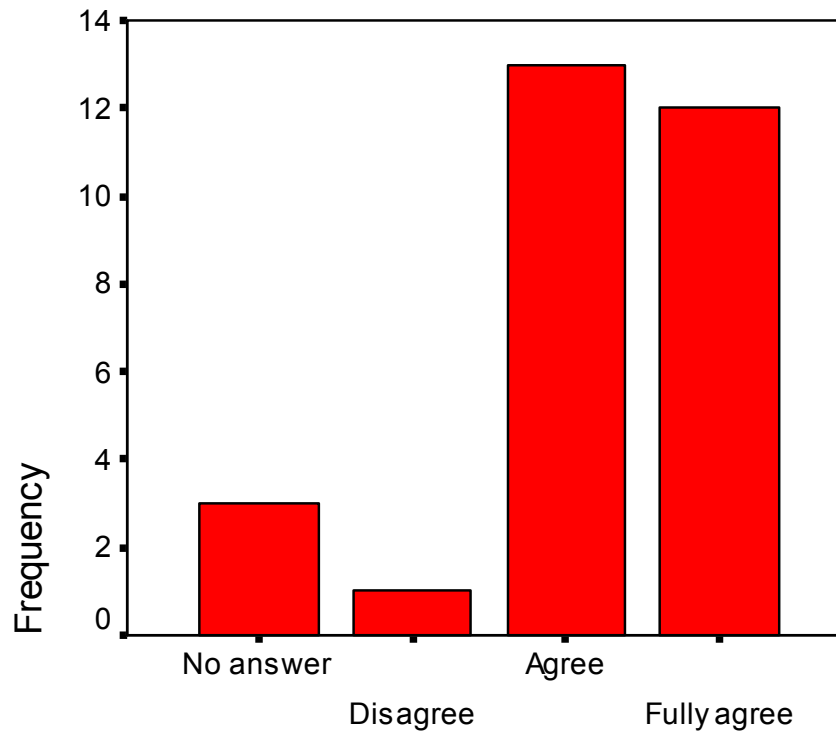
EURO-HEPNET: feasibility objectives

- Disseminate the results +
- formulate draft guidelines for the surveillance systems to the EC, to enhance uniform measurement and reporting: -
 - of vaccine preventable viral hepatitis
 - of disease burden +
 - of the hepatitis B vaccination effectiveness
- Identify hurdles +
- ***formulate the essential requirements for a vaccine preventable hepatitis surveillance network*** **to be done**



Time investment in this project was acceptable

Time investment was acceptable

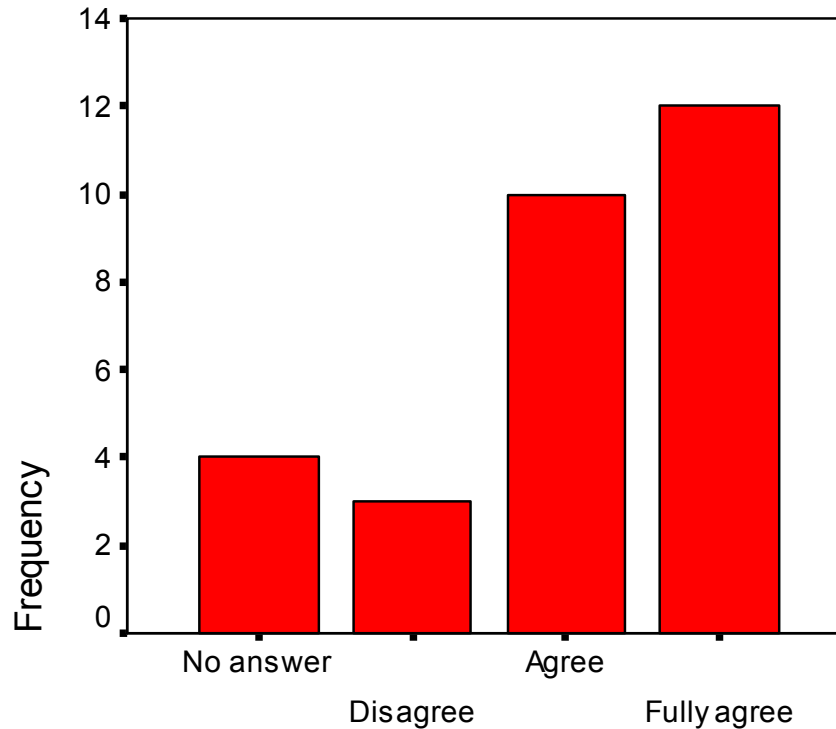


Time investment was acceptable



Feedback received on the projects' progress was sufficient

Received feedback on projects' p

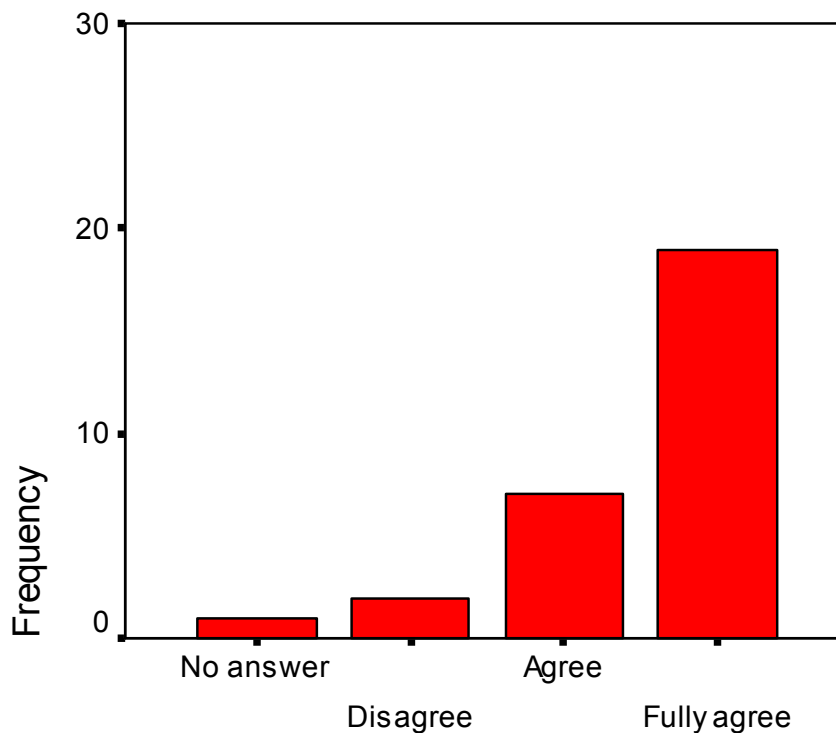


Received feedback on projects' process was su



Feedback received during this meeting was as expected

Feedback during this meeting was:

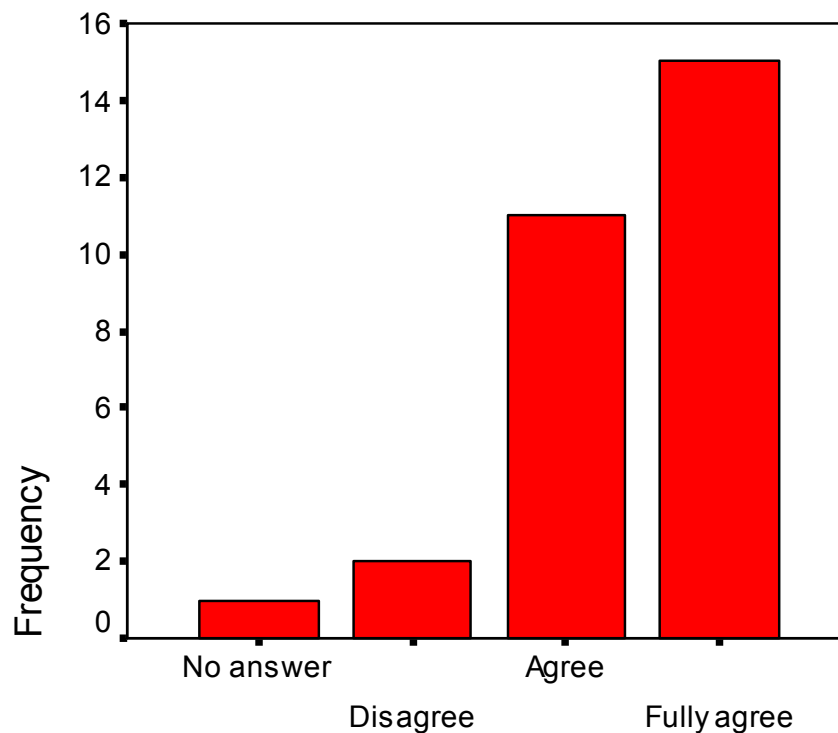


Feedback during this meeting was as expected



EUROHEP.NET results are useful at regional/national level

Results are useful at regional/nat

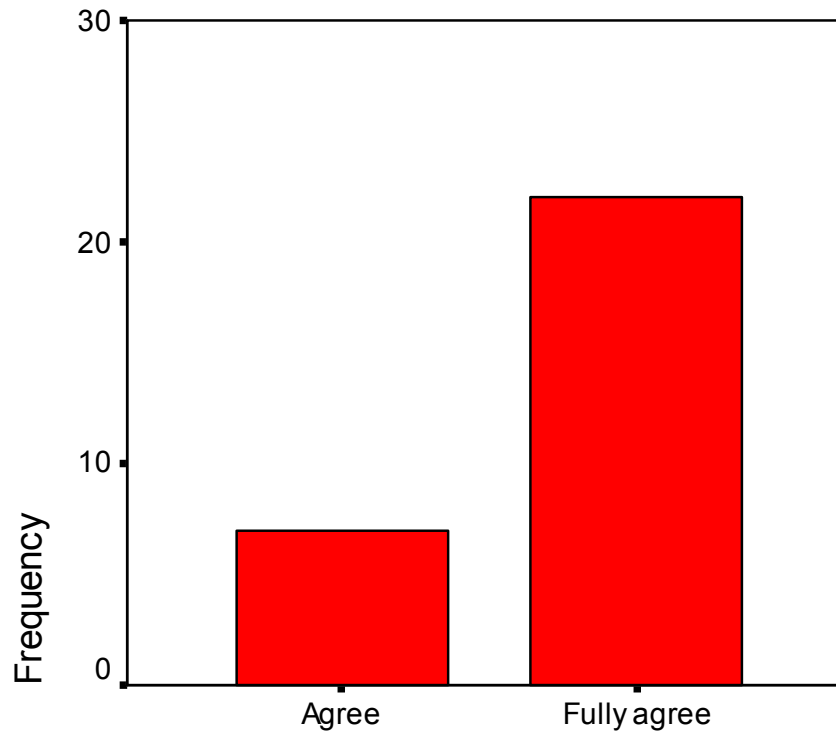


Results are useful at regional/national level



EUROHEP.NET results are useful at EU level (my opinion)

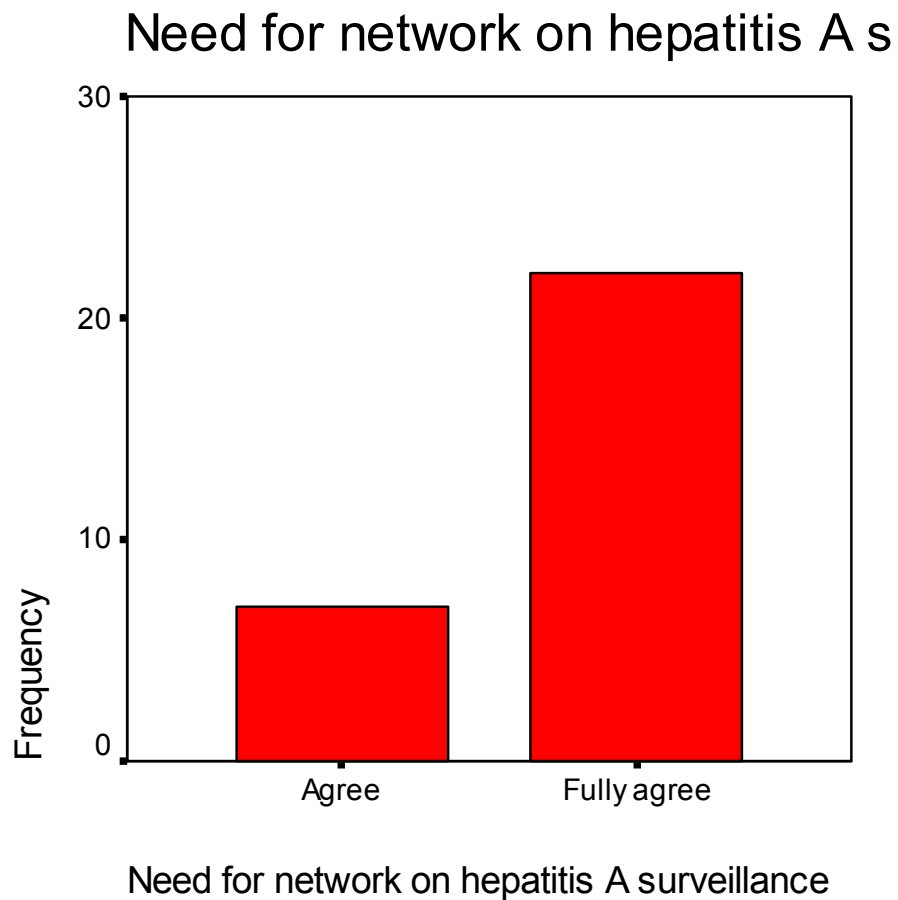
Results are, to my opinion, useful



Results are, to my opinion, useful at EU level

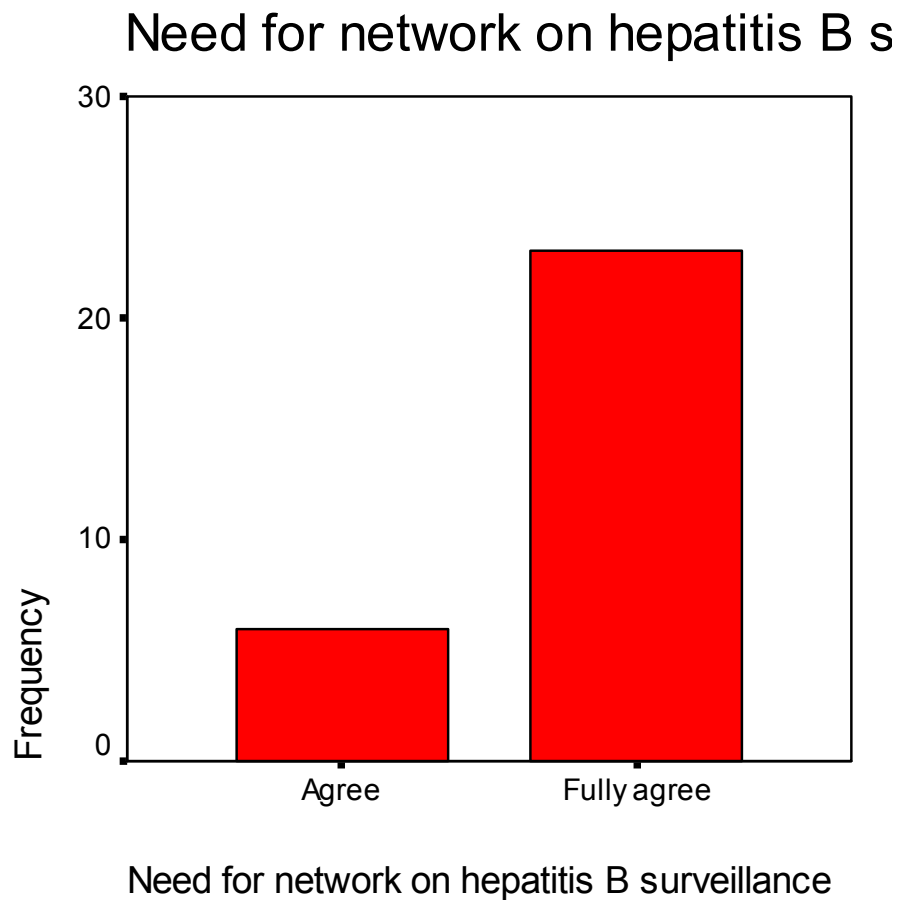


There is a need for a network on hepatitis A surveillance





There is a need for a network on hepatitis B surveillance





Need for a network: comments

- Having to report to one body would be lovely
 - ECDC-based if possible
- Network should at EU/WHO level
 - Which data to collect
 - How to influence policy and implement programmes at national and EU level
- ECDC should be developed, to
 - coordinate efforts
 - share information
 - Assure regular updates



Eurohep.net: still needs to be done

- Validation of the adapted guidelines
- Communication of the adapted guidelines to EC (DG Research, DG Sanco, ECDC) & WHO
- Dissemination of the meeting presentations through the Eurohep.net website, after approval of the speakers
- Contact other project leaders of related projects
 - To avoid future overlap, waste of resources, ...
 - To increase mutual expertise (cross fertilization)
 - Incorporation of sero-epidemiology and molecular typing in surveillance activities
- Submit final Eurohep.net report to EC



To be planned

- Take stock on the other hepatitis A and B prevention measures, besides vaccination
- Update of the Eurohep.net data (>2001)
- Improve of communication between DG and ECDC and WHO