SANTÉ PUBLIQUE FRANCE was created from the merger of 3 health agencies and meets the need for a leading centre of public health expertise in France – following the example set in other major countries. With expertise in epidemiology, prevention and working with the general public, the new national public health Agency is involved in a wide range of activities – from serving as a knowledge base to involvement in actual operations.

The mission of Santé publique France is to effectively protect people’s health. Through its work in epidemiological monitoring and surveillance, it anticipates and alerts; through its sound knowledge of healthcare prevention schemes and its mechanisms to prepare health emergencies, it assists the main players involved in public healthcare. The Agency is represented at regional level in France and measures public health status so as to roll out its schemes and target the general public as effectively as possible. Its overarching aim is to build accurate knowledge so it can put forward appropriate solutions.

Operating at the heart of a vast network of partners and working alongside organisations in the field that it helps to manage and coordinate, the Agency develops independent scientific expertise on which it bases its programming strategy, organises its operations and makes decisions regarding the distribution of its resources. This knowledge – regularly updated – is made available to the relevant authorities to inform health policies, and to safeguard and promote health.

The Agency’s initiatives target both decision-makers and the general public, making social inequality in the area of healthcare – which is extremely pronounced among different socio-professional categories in France – central to the work it does. Doing this requires a scientific approach that takes all sections of the general public into account, regardless of their environment, their social status or their lifestyle, and which results in a strong regional dynamic – including in the French overseas territories.

In order to keep pace with new digital technologies and the trend towards big data, the Agency possesses modern resources not only to build its expertise, but also to scale up its initiatives – particularly in the areas of health communication and promotion. Santé publique France uses social marketing, social networks, collaborative tools and customised remote support and prevention means to provide healthcare professionals and the general public with exactly the support they need, perfectly meeting their needs.

The 625 professionals making up the Agency all provide their skills to serve citizens’ health. Together, we can ensure that Santé publique France is able to meet its aim: take action to ensure everybody’s health!
## Santé publique France: its missions

- Epidemiological observation and monitoring of the health of the population
- Monitoring health risks threatening populations
- Promoting health and reducing health risks
- Developing prevention and education initiatives for health
- Preparing and developing solutions to counter threats, alerts and health emergencies
- Launching the health alert system

### Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anticipate</th>
<th>Understand</th>
<th>Take Action</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Detect</strong> health risks and provide the state with the information it needs for decision-making purposes</td>
<td><strong>Improve</strong> knowledge on the population health status, behaviour and health risks</td>
<td><strong>Promote</strong> good health, improve environments</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Implement</strong> a nationwide monitoring and surveillance system</td>
<td><strong>Design</strong> intervention strategies for health prevention and promotion</td>
<td><strong>Test</strong> and implement prevention programmes, address health emergencies</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Managing and maintaining</strong> the warning system</td>
<td><strong>Health surveillance</strong>: diseases, environments and lifestyles</td>
<td><strong>Communication</strong> social marketing, remote support</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monitoring and analysing</strong> signals</td>
<td><strong>Surveys</strong>, contracts and protocols associated with research</td>
<td><strong>Network</strong> facilitation, deployment, mobilisation</td>
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<td><strong>Investigation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Health impact</strong> assessment</td>
<td><strong>Knowledge</strong> transfer and partnerships</td>
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<td><strong>Evaluation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Intervention</strong> in emergency situations</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Expertise</strong></td>
<td><strong>Creation</strong> of tools, methods and frameworks</td>
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### Professions

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Coordination</strong> unit</td>
<td><strong>Study results</strong>, expertise reports, open data</td>
<td><strong>Public information</strong> and support schemes</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Daily</strong> alert and monitoring bulletins</td>
<td><strong>Intervention</strong> frameworks and scientific publications</td>
<td><strong>Intervention tools</strong> and prevention equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Investigation</strong> reports and scientific publications</td>
<td><strong>Opinions</strong> and recommendations</td>
<td><strong>Coordination</strong>, implementation, training</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Intervention</strong> programmes and strategies</td>
<td><strong>Mobilisation</strong> of reservists and strategic stock</td>
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<td><strong>Feedback</strong></td>
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### Deliverables

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<tr>
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2016, NEW NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY

SANTÉ PUBLIQUE FRANCE
Taking action for the health of everyone
Interventions to serve populations

UNDERSTAND IN ORDER TO ACT

All healthcare policies are underpinned by up-to-date knowledge of all the main risk factors – particularly those which affect the most vulnerable – and by studies of the frequency and severity of illnesses. Santé publique France has a wide range of tools for identifying signals, informing its prevention strategies, promoting health and reducing risks. These include monitoring, conducting surveys, carrying out surveillance, performing assessments and defining – and tracking – health indicators.

As far as prevention and health promotion are concerned, Santé publique France identifies needs and innovative initiatives, designs programmes and operations, and then tests them before promoting them. Since its key role is to provide expertise, it supports and complements organisations involved in reducing risks, preventing illnesses or promoting health.

PROTECT PEOPLE

As far as health security is concerned, Santé publique France’s role is to identify risks, issue warnings in a timely manner, and implement appropriate solutions. In the event of a health emergency, the Agency is able to mobilise all the material resources it needs on behalf of the government within 24 hours in order to bolster existing structures. It can also call upon its 2000 reservists.

“Like all industrialised countries, France now has a public healthcare system set up to understand, explain, safeguard, protect and promote people’s health, and which is able to take action in the event of a health emergency”.

KEYS VALUES

- General interest and public function
- Equity for the population
- Long-term responsiveness and involvement
- Innovation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGENTS</th>
<th>MILLION EUROS</th>
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<td>625</td>
<td>190</td>
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OPERATING BUDGET
MODERNISE INFORMATION SYSTEMS
FOR THE BIG DATA ERA

Monitoring is inextricably linked with surveillance. Both can be used to collect, analyse and then interpret health data – the first for the purposes of health security, and the second in order to track the state of people’s health and the way in which it is changing. They are essential decision-support tools when it comes to public healthcare. The digital revolution serves as an opportunity to act more effectively: new tools are now available for making use of the data collected, for sharing information and to help with health prevention. To take full advantage of these tools, Santé publique France is able to:

- digitise its surveillance systems;
- adopt methods for analysing large databases;
- develop social marketing strategies mainly based on the Internet, mobile apps and social networks.

PROMOTE HEALTH

The Agency:
- Develops schemes based on evidence-based data;
- informs and supports people, promotes healthy lifestyle choices;
- formulates a strong partnership policy in order to mobilise and support organisations working out in the field across all regions.

In order to ensure its effectiveness, it focuses its efforts on priority programmes, for which the resources that it uses are fine-tuned and systematically evaluated.

ISSUE OPINIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

There are high numbers of referrals; literature has to be analysed, investigations sometimes need to be carried out and opinions and recommendations formulated. The Agency’s independent opinions and its rigorous approach are what gives it its legitimacy.

Tools that match our ambitions

15
INTRODUCTION UNITS
AT REGIONAL LEVEL (REGIONAL HEALTHCARE MONITORING UNIT)

2000
RESERVISTS

83
REFERRALS RECEIVED IN 2014 AND 2015 (OF WHICH 45 FROM REGIONAL HEALTH AGENCIES)
Scientific expertise: at the core of the Agency

COLLABORATE WITH RESEARCH INITIATIVES

Nowadays, research is essential for building knowledge. Santé publique France overall strategy involves:
- effectively using theoretical health prevention/promotion knowledge;
- providing answers to new methodological questions, particularly regarding the development of large databases;
- implementing and supporting innovations out on the field, based on “intervention research” and health impact assessments;
- enhancing data and scientific experience, while continuing with initiatives to publish and developing partnerships with research structures (staff exchanges, calls for projects, coordinated projects with other agencies, etc.).

REGIONAL INTERVENTION UNITS TASKED WITH MONITORING AND SURVEILLANCE

The Agency is responsible for a nationwide monitoring and surveillance system. For the purposes of fulfilling its mandate across the country, it has a number of regional health monitoring units which support the managing directors of regional health agencies tasked with monitoring, surveillance and issuing health alerts.

BOLSTER THE NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTHCARE NETWORK

Santé publique France has been tasked with setting up and running the Réseau national de santé publique (National public health network), which brings together the networks responsible for the monitoring and surveillance of public health and those responsible for prevention/health promotion. It is partly thanks to the members of this network that the Agency is able to fully perform its tasks.

OPEN UP TO EUROPE AND THE REST OF THE WORLD

The Agency’s initiatives are in line with a worldwide movement to create institutes which bring together all of the various public health roles at a time when the challenges facing healthcare are becoming increasingly internationalised. The Agency is involved in a number of European and international networks so that it can improve its practices and showcase French expertise.

“Santé publique France aspires to being a leading public health centre, underpinned by rigorous expertise and a scientific outlook, working alongside research and geared towards the various challenges facing society”.

GOVERNANCE

The Agency’s governance is underpinned by founding principles of open-mindedness and dialogue, ensuring transparency. It has 4 committees: the Executive Board, the Scientific Board, the Ethics and Professional Conduct Board and the Committee for Openness and Dialogue.

65

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

2

JOURNALS:
BEH AND LA SANTÉ EN ACTION