

Conclusion and Next steps





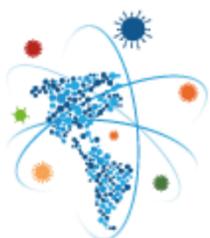
OPS



Organización
Panamericana
de la Salud



Organización
Mundial de la Salud
ORGANIZACIÓN PANAMERICANA DE LA SALUD
Américas



SARInet plus

Red de infecciones respiratorias agudas graves

REVELAC 



Annual Meeting 2026

March 24-26, 2026 – Panama City, Panama

This year's meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss key challenges and opportunities in respiratory virus surveillance in the Americas, share best practices in pandemic preparedness, review current prevention and control recommendations, and reflect on progress in vaccine effectiveness evaluation.

We look forward to your active participation and valuable contributions.

[Register for online participation](#)

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Presentations available for download are accessible by clicking on the linked titles

[Tuesday 24 March 2026](#)

[Wednesday 25 March 2026](#)

[Parallel sessions](#)

[Thursday 26 March 2026](#)

Tuesday 24 March 2026

Opening of the meeting

Schedule	Title
8:00-9:00	Accreditation
9:00-9:30	Official opening Ana Rivière Cinnamond, PAHO Representative in Panama Ashley Fowlkes, Epidemiologist, Influenza Division, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Wenqing Zhang, Head, Global Respiratory Threats, WHO Andrea Vicari, Unit Chief, Infectious Hazard Management, PAHO Fernando Boyd Galindo, Minister of Health of Panama
9:30-9:45	Agenda and objectives of the meeting PAHO
9:45-9:50	Security briefing
9:50-10:20	Keynote Address – A 15-Year Journey of the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness (PIP) Framework and the Evolving Landscape of the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS) Wenqing Zhang, WHO Anne Huvos, WHO
10:20-10:50	Coffee break and Group Photo

Network milestones over the coming year

[Dibujo]

Early Detection of Respiratory Pandemic threats in the Americas

Work on defining Event-based surveillance approaches to recommend

1

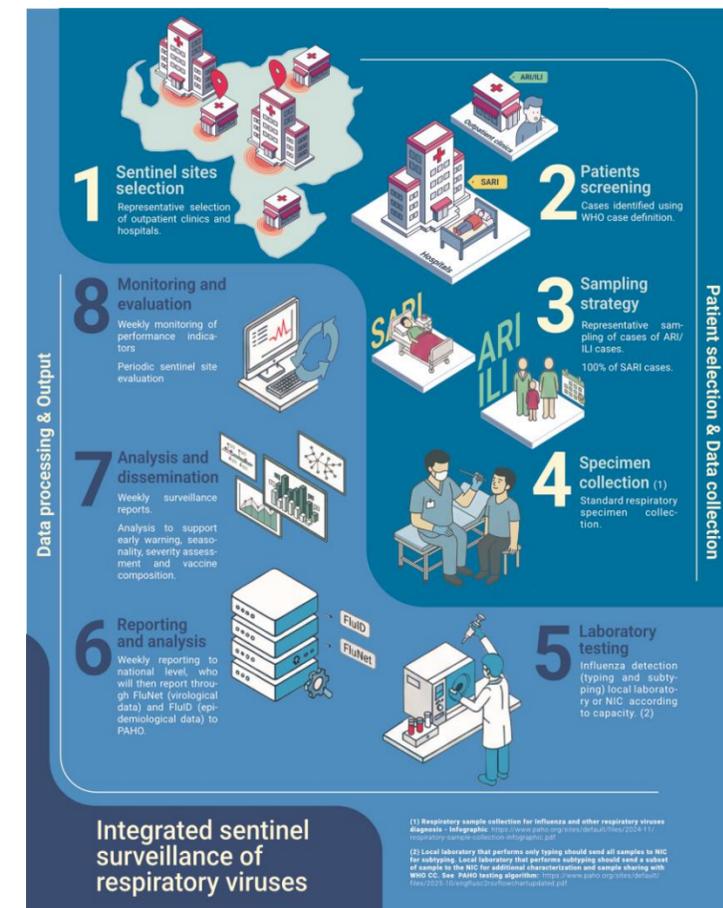
Technical Guidance for an Integrated Approach to Routine Surveillance of Respiratory Viruses in the Americas

Interim version

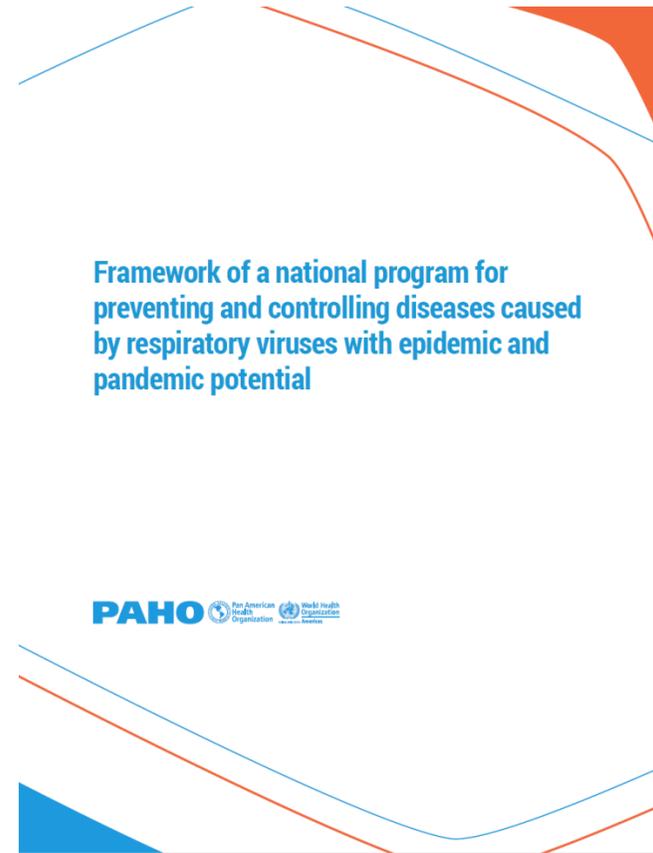
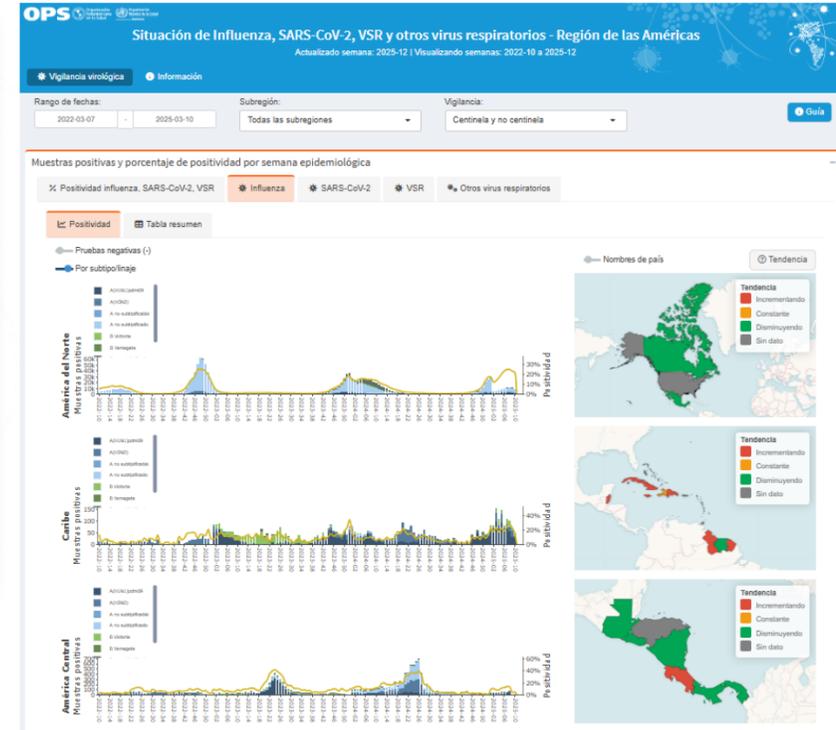
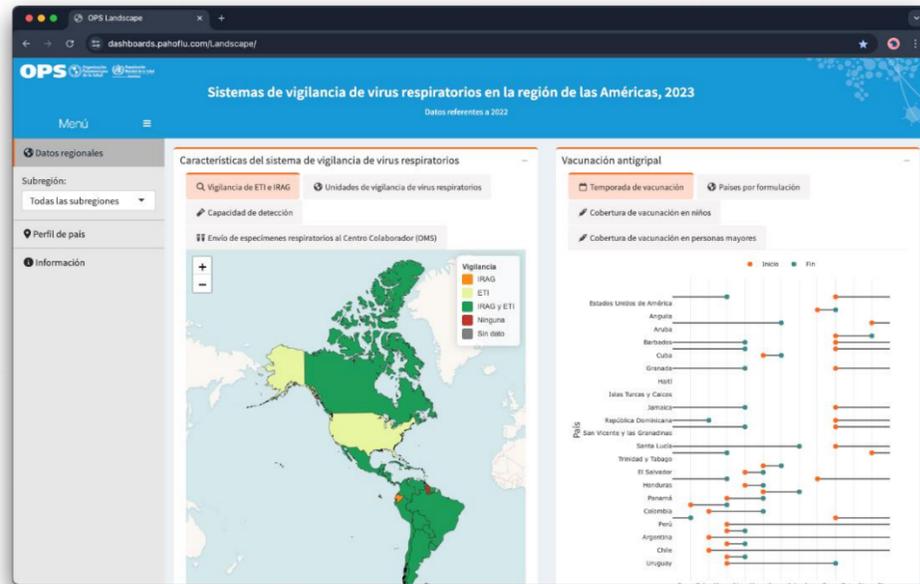
PAHO Pan American Health Organization World Health Organization Americas Region

Sentinel surveillance:

- Monitoring and evaluation tools
- Training package



Network milestones over the coming year



Americas' Mortality Monitoring Network (AMoMo)



Justification Objectives Countries Methodology

AMoMo is a regional initiative led by PAHO for the early detection of mortality anomalies. Through process standardization and the use of unified statistical methodologies, it seeks to transform heterogeneous information from each country into a system of comparable metrics, facilitating a coherent regional vision that streamlines evidence-based strategic decision-making.

Capacity installation in the pilot countries
Network expansion
First publication of data

Update in capacity level based on New resources



Update on landscape of surveillance system
28/51 countries/territories sent their data

Regional dashboard
Integration of genomic surveillance data

Network milestones over the coming year



Protocolo
Carga de enfermedad por virus sincicial respiratorio (VRS)

PAIS

Estudios sobre la Carga Médica de Enfermedades Respiratorias asociadas al Virus Respiratorio Sincicial en la Región de las Américas
– Grupo de Trabajo de Carga de Enfermedad SARI-net Plus

OPS/OMS

IHM/PHE, OPS/OMS

**Implement RSV
Burden of Disease protocol**

Evidence-based Clinical Practice
Guideline for Respiratory Syncytial
Virus (RSV): Recommendations of the
Pan American Health Organization



Washington DC, 2026

**Review of clinical Management guidelines
For respiratory virus diseases, incl. RSV**

**Manual para la estimación de la carga
económica de virus respiratorios en
América Latina y el Caribe**

Nelson J. Alvis-Zakzuk

Paula Couto

Yury García

Jorge Jara

Organización Panamericana de la Salud

2026

**Implementation of economic burden analysis
To guide public Health decision making**



Network milestones over the coming year



30.ª CONFERENCIA SANITARIA PANAMERICANA
74.ª SESIÓN DEL COMITÉ REGIONAL DE LA OMS PARA LAS AMÉRICAS
Washington, D.C., EUA, del 26 al 30 de septiembre del 2022

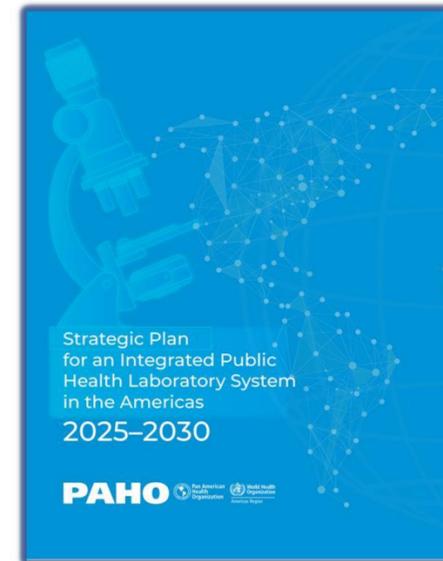
Punto 4.7 del orden del día provisional

CSP30/12
30 de agosto del 2022
Original: inglés

ESTRATEGIA DE VIGILANCIA GENÓMICA REGIONAL PARA LA PREPARACIÓN Y RESPUESTA A EPIDEMIAS Y PANDEMIAS

Introducción

1. En la vigilancia genómica se aprovechan los avances en la biología molecular para descubrir agentes patógenos, rastrear su evolución, categorizar su diferenciación en nuevos linajes y variantes, y determinar las cadenas de transmisión y las fuentes de infección (1, 2). En los últimos años, han surgido nuevas tecnologías de secuenciación genómica y bioinformática, las cuales permiten una aplicación más amplia y oportuna en respuesta a brotes de enfermedades y epidemias. En estos eventos, los datos de vigilancia genómica, junto con la información clínica y epidemiológica, se han utilizado en la evaluación constante del riesgo que presenta la situación de salud pública; en la toma de decisiones continua sobre las medidas sociales y de salud pública; en el desarrollo de vacunas, opciones terapéuticas y pruebas de diagnóstico; y en la evaluación de su efectividad.



- **Ensure implementation of Laboratory Quality Policies and Biosafety and Biosecurity procedures**
- **Implement the Strategic Plan for an Integrated Public Health Laboratory System in the Americas**

- **Strengthen laboratory response**
- **Consolidate genomic surveillance integrating with animal health**
- **Strengthen timely sharing of zoonotic influenza virus samples with WHO CC to support risk assessment and selection of CVVs**



Network milestones over the coming year



- **PRET-based table top exercise to improve intersectorial work**
- **SimEx:**
 - Multi-country SimEx
 - Development of a package for Carribean context
- **Regional guidance on Public Health and social measures**
- **Update pandemic preparedness plans:**
 - Include corpse management and IPC in clinical Management component



**Translation into Spanish
More countries to engage**





About SARInet plus

The Severe Acute Respiratory Infections network (SARInet plus) is a regional collaboration of professionals within hospitals, laboratories, and associated organizations who participate in SARS surveillance in the Americas. SARInet plus consists of diverse institutions, countries, and organizations that are involved with SARS surveillance. Each plays an important role in helping to improve the SARInet collaboration and enhance understanding of the epidemiology of influenza and other respiratory viruses (ORV).

- Regional cooperation**
We bring together laboratories, hospitals, and public health authorities in the Americas to strengthen surveillance of severe respiratory infections.
- Technical coordination and working groups**
We bring working groups together to define priorities, share best practices, and strengthen regional capacities.
- Community**
Through the SARInet Plus community, professionals collaborate, exchange experiences, and access resources to improve the health response in the region.

About Respiratory Viruses

Respiratory infections caused by viruses such as influenza, SARS-CoV-2, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) pose a significant threat to public health in the Americas. These viruses affect the respiratory system and can cause symptoms ranging from mild to severe illness, especially in vulnerable populations such as young children, older adults, and people with chronic diseases.

- Influenza**
Influenza is an acute viral infection that affects the respiratory system. It is caused by type A and B viruses, which circulate seasonally throughout the world. Influenza can cause mild to severe illness, especially in young children, older adults, and people with chronic medical conditions. Influenza surveillance is key to detecting outbreaks and preparing public health responses.
- SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)**
SARS-CoV-2 is the coronavirus responsible for the COVID-19 pandemic, declared in 2020. It mainly affects the respiratory system and can cause anything from mild infections to severe illness or death. Over time, multiple variants have emerged, making genomic surveillance essential. Although it is no longer considered an international emergency, it remains an active threat to public health.
- Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)**
RSV is a common virus that affects people of all ages, but poses a greater risk to infants, young children, and older adults. It is a major cause of lower respiratory infections, such as bronchitis and pneumonia. Although it usually circulates seasonally, its behavior can change depending on environmental and epidemiological factors.

Resources Featured

- THE EARLY DETECTION OF HUMAN CASES OF AVIAN INFLUENZA A(H5N1)**
Recommendations for the early detection of human cases of Avian Influenza A(H5N1)
27/06/2025
- Caribbean countries strengthen pandemic preparedness through virtual learning series**
27/06/2025
- The implementation of the PAHOMoMo project for monitoring excess mortality associated with respiratory diseases in the countries of the Americas is progressing**
27/06/2025

News & Events

- Caribbean health professionals strengthen critical care skills to improve preparedness and response to severe acute respiratory infections**
27/06/2025
- Workshop Framework for a National Program for the Prevention and Control of Diseases Caused by Respiratory Viruses with Epidemic and Pandemic Potential**
27/06/2025
- Regional Workshop in Brazil Enhances Capacity to Measure Influenza Burden and Vaccination Impact**
27/06/2025



Webinar Recordings

15 webinar recordings

Search [] All Types [v] All Years [v] All Regions [v] Most recent [v]

Webinar Recording

Strengthening Intersectoral Response to Avian Influenza A(H5) in Latin America

05/02/2026 View

Webinar Recording

Strengthening intersectoral response to Avian Influenza A(H5) in the Caribbean subregion

04/02/2026 View

Webinar Recording

Current seasonal influenza situation and public health Recommendations in the Americas

15/01/2026 View

Webinar Recording

Launch of PAHO Respiratory Viruses Surveillance Dashboard

27/06/2025 View

Webinar Recording

Advances and challenges for the implementation of the Respiratory Protection Program in the Americas

27/06/2025 View

Webinar Recording

CIPCIZA intersectoral recommendations for surveillance in wildlife, domestic animals, and humans

27/06/2025 View

October - December 2025

SARInet plus

Newsletter

Happy Holidays to our colleagues and partners across the SARInet plus Network!

As we reflect on a year marked by challenges and constant change, we recognize the resilience, commitment, and collaboration that have strengthened our community. In an evolving global context, working together has made us more connected, adaptable, and prepared.

Thank you for being part of SARInet plus and for your continued dedication. May the holiday season be a time for rest and renewal, and may the coming year bring new opportunities to keep building a healthier and safer future together.

Regional meetings

Americas' Mortality Monitoring Network (AMoMo)

With PAHO's technical support, 14 countries in the Americas have officially launched AMoMo, a regional mortality monitoring network built on the SARInet Plus infrastructure that strengthens preparedness, response, and resilience to respiratory threats by integrating epidemiological, laboratory, and vital statistics data, and by promoting transparency, data quality, and cross-country cooperation to better detect and respond to excess mortality.

[Read more](#) [Watch Video](#)

Laboratories of the Severe Acute Respiratory Infections Network (SARInet plus Lab)

The first in-person SARInet plus Laboratory Regional Meeting since 2019 brought together 29 representatives from National Influenza Centers and national reference laboratories from 25 countries in the Americas to strengthen technical cooperation, share experiences, and enhance regional integration in respiratory virus surveillance, covering topics such as integrated virological and genomic surveillance, simulation exercises, and new tools for quality and biosafety.

[Read more](#) [Watch Video](#)

REVELAC-i

INMUNIZACIONES



GENERAR INFORMACION ESTRATEGICA

- Mejorar la completitud de variables críticas para la evaluación de efectividad para vacunas influenza y VRS
- Realizar evaluaciones de impacto para apoyar políticas de vacunación
- Utilizar los datos generados para fortalecer los programas y optimizar las campañas de vacunación

APOYAR PROGRAMAS INMUNIZACIONES

- Fortalecer programas de inmunización de influenza
 - Evaluaciones del programa
 - Aumentar coberturas en grupos prioritarios
 - Mejorar monitoreo y reporte de coberturas
 - Caribe
- Apoyar la introducción y M&E de la inmunización VRS
- Fortalecer capacidades de preparación pandémica

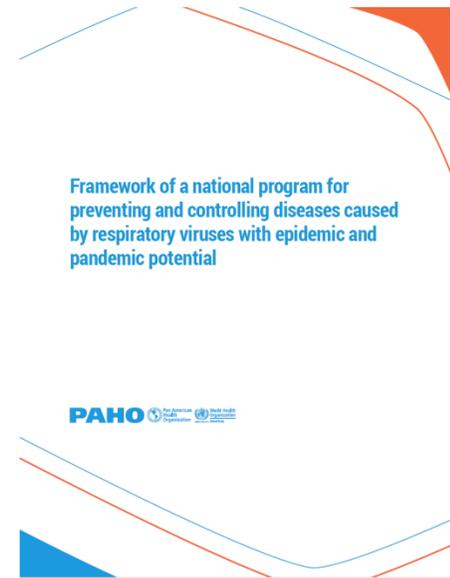
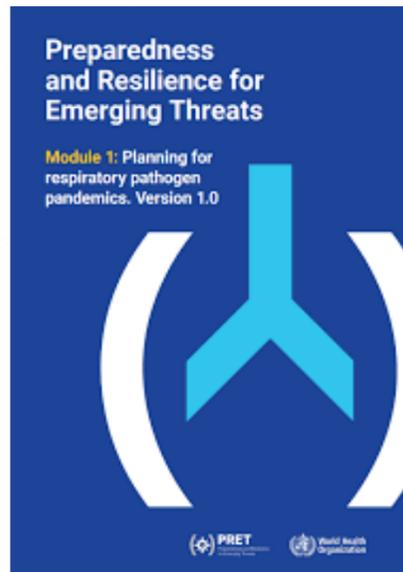


Country support

Reach out to your PAHO country office
We are here to Support YOU



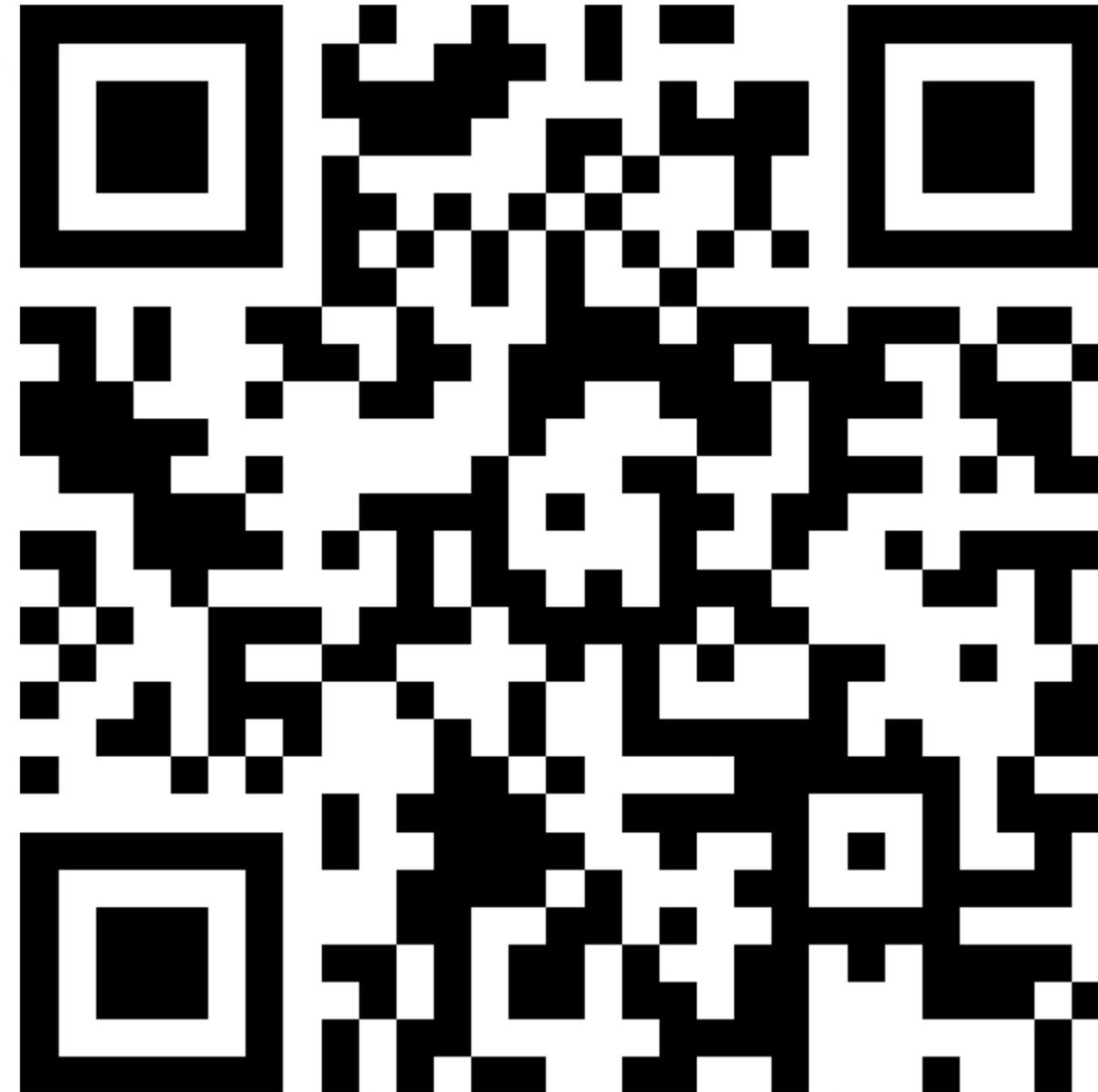
EVIR



What would you like to see
in the agenda next year?



SARINET PLUS
REVELAC-i
REGIONAL MEETING



SARINET PLUS
REVELAC-i
REGIONAL MEETING

