

#### **TESTING PHASE**

**AN OVERVIEW** 

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## **Target Population**



Two populations – Maltese and Sicilian:

- Maltese students aged between 12 years and 18 years
- Sicilian adults
  - Demographics
  - Feasability of a screening program
  - Cost-Benefit analysis
  - Assess familial relationship patterns
  - Data collection for computer decision support system



## Reaching out



- Reaching the child through his/her school
  - Support by the Education Department
  - Support by Private and Church Schools
  - School Management key role in reaching students
- Routes to achieve Public Awareness
  - Information compaigns
  - Social Media and School Portal
  - Parents' information document with link to online registration (including GDPR Consent Form and Questionnaire)



#### Consent



- Voluntary participation & GDPR consent forms
- Key role of the school co-ordination
  - Send out information document via email to parents/guardians
  - Agree testing date
  - Facilitate testing phase
- Target testing period
  - April-June 2023



## Testing day – Brief



- Trained staff visit school
- Child's Candidate Number and name checked and confirmed with school co-ordinating person
- Estimated contact time with the child is about 2-3 minutes collection time of blood specimen
- Data input and interpretation of point of care result



#### Point of Care Test



- Stages
  - Sample collection Child interaction sta
    - Spring loaded lancet relatively painless
    - Collection of a small blood sample
    - Child returns to class



- Mixing of blood sample with special solution
- Inoculation of the Point of Care Test
- Timing and interpretation of result + photographic evidence



#### Follow-Up



- Medical team
  - Audit of data input and result interpretation
  - Negative result : Email sent to parent/guardian
  - Positive result : Database query and patient recall
  - Offer for further testing Parental decision (voluntary)





# THANK YOU

