Presenting the European Observatory

NHS Confederation

Brussels, 21 January 2013

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Main principles

• Works as a partnership to understand and to develop responses to policy makers’ needs
• Generates evidence to answer policy questions by
  – Drawing on experts and extensive networks
  – Using comparative and meta analysis
• Develops practical lessons and options
• Tailors communications to bridge the gap between theory and practice
The European Observatory is a three-way partnership building bridges both across borders and between policy makers and researchers.
The Observatory’s governance

- Ownership – the Partners
- Hosting – WHO
- Work planning and evaluation – the Steering Committee
- Delivering the work – the « hubs » (Brussels, London, Berlin, Atlanta) and the networks
- Disseminating – working across networks
The European Observatory is a high-quality knowledge broker based on following principles:

**Translate**
Reorganise the evidence in a way that appeals to policy makers and in a language they understand.

**Trust**
High-quality evidence and a neutral stance recognising the real context and pressures of health systems.

**Tailored**
To the specific needs of policy makers.

**Timely**
Response to policy maker’s needs and requests.
What and How?

Core Mission: to support and promote evidence-based health policy-making.

Comparative analysis of existing evidence → Bridge between policymakers and researchers → Developing practical lessons and options in health policy-making.
Comparative Analysis: Tools

**Vertical: Country Monitoring (HiTs)**
- Describing national health systems
- Common template for direct comparison
- 53 European + selected OECD countries

**Horizontal: Health Systems and Policy Analysis**
- Detailed focus on one topic across national health systems
- Secondary research
Elements to describe a health system

- **Context** (geographical, social, economic, political, health status)
- **Organisation and governance** (incl. planning, decentralisation, regulation, information systems, HTA, patient empowerment)
- **Financing** (incl. sources, collection, pooling, OOPs, VHI, payment mechanisms)
- **Physical and human resources** (incl. health professionals, infrastructure, medical equipment, ICT)
- **Provision of services** (public health, PHC, inpatient care, pharmaceutical, LTcare, etc.)
- **Principal health reforms**
- **Assessment**
HiT health system reviews

Latest HiTs in 2012-2013:
- Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Italy-Veneto, Kazakstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Russia, Sweden, Turkey, UK-Wales/Northern-Ireland/Scotland, USA

- Forthcoming HiTs
  - Malta, Norway, Italy, France

- Articles in Eurohealth, Health Policy
Launch of HiT health system reviews

- Excellent to initiate or support national dialogues on health system reform
## LIST OF HSPM NETWORK MEMBERS

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<tr>
<th>Australia</th>
<th>University of Technology of Sidney</th>
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<td>Australia</td>
<td>School of Population Health, University of Queensland</td>
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<td>The European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research</td>
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<td>Finland</td>
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<td>France</td>
<td>IRDES, Institute for Research and Information in Health Economics</td>
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New online tool: www.hspm.org

THE HEALTH SYSTEMS AND POLICY MONITOR

is an innovative platform that provides a detailed description of health systems and provides up-to-date information on reforms and changes that are particularly policy relevant.

THE HSPM PLATFORM FEATURES THE FOLLOWING SERVICES

COUNTRIES

By selecting a country you will access a dedicated page that provides systematic descriptions of its health system and features up-to-date information on ongoing health reforms and policies.

Please select a country from the list

COMPARE COUNTRIES

This engine allows you to select different countries and compare their health systems. The system will automatically extract and collate the content from the published HIT for the selected countries and the selected topic.

Compare countries

HEALTH POLICY ARTICLES

The Observatory grants open access to Elsevier Health Policy Journal's articles published by its HSPM members.

Read
Governance and knowledge brokering (*)

- Regulating entrepreneurial behaviour (2004)
- Social health insurance systems (2004)
- Decentralization in health care (2007)
- Patients in decision making (2008)
- Nordic health systems (2009)
- Gender equity and health (2009)
- Hospital governance (2011)
- Health systems, health and wealth (2011)
- BRIDGE policy briefs and summaries on Information-Packaging and Interactive Knowledge-Sharing Mechanisms, Knowledge Brokering Organizational Models and promotion and support (2012)
- Strengthening Health Systems Governance in Europe (2013)
• Making decisions on public health (2004)
• Health in all Policies (2006)
• Screening in disease prevention (2006)
• Vertical programmes and population health strategies (2008)
• Health a vital investment (2007)
• Health impact assessment (2007)
• NCDs in the Russian Federation (2007)
• Health targets (2008)
• The challenge of communicable diseases (2008)
• Health in the EU: trends and analysis (2009)
• Migration and health (2011)
• Public health in Austria (2011)
• Inter-sectoral governance for health in all policies (2012)
• Health in all policies (2013)
• Economics of prevention (2013)
• Facets of public health (2013)
• Policy brief on influencing health behaviour (2013)
Financing – sustainability (*)

- Purchasing to improve HS performance (2005)
- Private medical insurance in the UK (2006)
- Financing health care in the EU (2009)
- Financial sustainability in health systems (2009)
- Sustainable funding for long-term care (2009)
- Investing in hospitals of the future (2009)
- Capital investment for health (2009)
- Implementing financing reforms in CEE (2010)
- DRG systems in Europe (2011)
- Private health insurance and medical savings accounts – international and EU study (2013)
- Payment for performance (2013)
Financial crisis

- Health policy responses to the financial crisis (Policy summary 2012)
- @OBSfincrisis Twitter (2012)
- Health system responses to financial pressures in Ireland: policy options in an international context (2012)
- THE LANCET papers on health in Europe (2013)
- Health, health systems and the financial crisis in Europe. Impact and policy implications (Oslo II Policy summary 2013)
- HFCM Health and Financial Crisis Monitor (2013)
- Volume on impact of the financial crisis incl. 11 Country case studies (2013)
New online tool: www.hfcm.eu
Healthcare delivery and integration (*)

- Primary care in the driving seat (2006)
- Mental health policy and practice (2007)
- Caring for people with chronic conditions (2008)
- Responding to challenges of cancer (2008)
- Managing chronic conditions (2008)
- Settings for elderly care (2008)
- How can health systems respond to population ageing? (2009)
- Chronic disease management (2008)
- Telehealth in the provision of integrated care (2010)
- Tackling chronic disease in Europe (2010)
- Home care in the EU (NIVEL) + case studies (2013)
- Child health services (LSHTM) (2013)
- Paying for integrated care (Eurohealth 2013)
- Primary care in the EU (NIVEL) (2013)
- Chronic care in Europe (RAND) (2013)
- Cost-effectiveness of integrated care (Policy brief)
- Trends in healthcare provision (Policy brief)
Innovation and quality of care (*)

- Regulating pharmaceuticals in Europe (2004)
- Assuring quality in the EU (2008)
- Impact of HTA (2008)
- Ensuring value for money in health care (2008)
- Pharmaceutical policies in Finland (2008)
- HTA and health policy making in Europe (2008)
- Policies and incentives for antibiotic research (2010)
- Clinical guidelines in the EU (2013)
- Measuring and improving quality in European health systems (2013)
- Generic medicines (LSE 2013)
• Human resources for health (2006)
• Health workforce in Europe (2006)
• Migration of health professionals (2008)
• Optimal skill mix (2008)
• Life-long learning and revalidation (2008)
• Assessing future needs (2010)
• Adapting skills (2010)
• Working conditions (2010)
• Audit and feedback (2010)
• Nursing (RN4CAST) (2013)
• Policy briefs on skill mix and medical deserts
EU integration and mobility (*)

- Health policy and EU enlargement (2004)
- Patient mobility in the EU (2006)
- Health systems governance: the role of EU law and policy (2010)
- EU patient mobility and cross-border care (2011)
- Professional mobility in the EU (2011)
- European reference networks (2013)
- Health professional mobility in the EU: changing dynamics, changing responses? (2013)
- Evaluating care across borders (ECAB 2013)
- Health in EU policies (Policy summary 2013)
What and How?

Core Mission: to support and promote evidence-based health policy-making
Practical Lessons and Options: Tools

Assessing and Comparing Performance

- Provides better understanding of comparative performance
- Insight in the uses and abuses of comparative performance data
- Creates a toolbox for better measurement and analysis

Engaging Policy-makers

- Two channels: policy briefs and face-to-face policy dialogues
- Tailor-made, focussed on one specific issue
- Bring together evidence, assess options and formulate implementation roadmaps
Performance: comparison and assessment (*)

- Performance measurement for health system improvement (2009)
- Health systems performance comparison – an agenda for policy, information and research (2013)
- Successes and Failures of Health Policy in Europe. Four decades of divergent trends and converging challenges (2013)
- Health System Performance Comparison: New Directions in Research and Policy (Health Policy 2013)
- Health systems comparative trends EU/EFTA (2013)
- Health systems comparative trends NIS (2013)
- Population health domain report
- Efficiency domain report
Face to face dissemination formats

- Policy round table
- Evidence briefings
- Workshops
- Policy dialogues

Seniority of participants:
- Conferences
- Seminars
- Summer School

Decision making proximity
Policy dialogues: fostering interaction with policy makers

- Importance of personal face-to-face engagement
  - Chatham House rules
- Demand driven - Rapid / flexible response
- Highly focused
  - Marshall support for key decision points
  - Target small group of senior policy makers and top advisers
- Provide evidence tailored to policy needs
  - Structured along policy makers’ questions
  - Involvement of policy makers from other (relevant) countries and academics with an understanding of policy makers’ needs
  - Comparative evidence on alternative options
  - Emphasis on practical policy questions and implementation
- Neutral platform for discussion
  - Non-prescriptive
  - Initiate, stimulate, facilitate internal discussion
- Shared ownership: active participation of all participants, involvement of international partners
Policy dialogues

- Key strategic questions / demand driven
- Rapid response / adapted to policy cycle
- Target small group of senior policy makers
- Supported by evidence on alternative options
- Emphasis on implementation
- Informal character, Chatham House rules, neutral platform
OBS policy dialogues (2007-2013 selection)

- Health system performance and financial deficits (Croatia 2007)
- Public private partnerships in health care provision (Moldova 2007)
- Assessing possible directions for the Community action on health care services - expert panel dialogues (EU Belgium 2007)
- Human Resources for Health (Albania 2008)
- The reform of public health and the role of SANEPID (Kyrgyzstan 2008)
- Insurance competition and voluntary health insurance (Poland 2009)
- Health in All Policies (HiAP) (Belgium 2009)
- Human Resources in health and social care (Czech Republic 2009)
- Health in All Policies (HiAP) (Latvia 2009)
- Increasing choice of primary health care providers (Finland 2010)
- Reforming health insurance (Bulgaria 2010)
- Investing in Europe’s health workforce of tomorrow (EU Brussels 2010)
- Public/Private Partnerships in health care (Bosnia-Herzegovina 2010)
- Alternative payment systems for primary health care (France 2010)
- Health professional mobility in the EU (Hungary 2011)
- Changing the hospital payment system (Bulgaria 2011)
- Pay-for-performance - P4P (Norway 2011)
- Rethinking the role of national governments in decentralised health systems (Sweden 2012)
- Rethinking the role and governance of hospitals (Croatia 2012)
- Moving toward universal health coverage (Moldova 2012)
- Introducing health technology assessment (Turkey 2012)
- Pharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement (Slovak Rep. 2013)
- Primary care reform (Austria 2013)
Baltic policy dialogue series (2004-2013)

- Health financing and purchasing services (Tallinn 2004);
- Human resources (Vilnius 2005);
- Provider networks and integrated care (Riga 2006);
- Governance of hospitals and health financing agencies to enhance health system performance (Pärnu 2007);
- Policy options and governance issues in the field of public health (Vilnius 2008);
- Health system responses to the global economic crisis: exploring health policy options and strategies (Riga 2009);
- Ensuring access to medicines: harnessing health policies in face of the crisis (Tallinn 2010);
- Implementing integrated public health strategies to improve health and reduce health inequities (Vilnius 2010);

- Reforming the hospital sector: exploring new ways of payment and governance (Riga 2012).
- Free movement in health care: a sub-regional approach to cross-border care and health professional mobility (Tallinn, 28-29 November 2013)
Observatory Venice Summer school

- Human Resources for Health (2007)
- Hospital Re-engineering (2008)
- Innovation and HTA: Improving Health System Quality (2009)
- Impact of EU law (2010)
- Ageing and health systems’ responses (2011)
- Health systems performance (2012)
- Innovation in public health (2013)
May 2010

Dear Willy Palm,

Welcome to the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies E-Bulletin.

This E-Bulletin can also be viewed at http://www.euro.who.int/en/home/projects/observatory/publications/e-bulletins

This issue:
1. New Observatory web site
3. Summer school deadline extended to June 7th
5. New HiTs on Italy, the Netherlands, Georgia and Korea
6. Nordic health care book now free to download

1. New Observatory web site

We are excited to announce the launch of a NEW Observatory web site. The fresh design aims to be more user friendly in terms of look and feel. We hope you like it! As always, you can visit us at http://www.healthobservatory.eu
Follow us on Twitter

@OBSHealth
available on www.healthobservatory.eu
The health workforce: an example of how the Observatory works in practice

Dr Matthias Wismar
Senior Health Policy Analyst
Dissemination – target group
Informal meeting of Ministers for Health, 05 April 2011

- Prague, Venice, Stockholm 2009
- Leuven 2010
- European Parliament 2011
- Belgian Presidency 2010
- Slovenia 2010
- Lithuania 2010
- Hungary 2011
Skill mix: “thinking out of the box”

- Don’t start with the professions
- Start with projected patient needs
- Start with models of integrated and coordinated health care delivery systems
- Factor in workforce interests
1. Strengthen workforce strategies
Health Professional Mobility in a Changing Europe

New dynamics, mobile individuals and diverse responses

Edited by
James Buchan
Matthias Wismar
Irene A. Glinos
Jeni Bremner

Health Professional Mobility and Health Systems

Evidence from 17 European countries

Edited by
Matthias Wismar
Claudia B. Maier
Irene A. Glinos
Gilles Dussault
Josep Figueras
European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

Analysing Health Systems and Policies

www.healthobservatory.eu