Health Information in the EU

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Health Information Unit

Mission of the Unit:

- Provision and analysis of data and information on public health through survey systems, health reports and indicators, particular Healthy Life Years to support the European Innovation Partnership (EIP) on Active and Healthy Ageing;
- Developing a strategy for long-term monitoring of European Core Health Indicators (ECHI);
- Health Economics: evidence and data on economic burden of diseases and return of investment in prevention;
- Joint work with DG RTD, JRC, EUROSTAT, WHO, OECD and European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies;
- Secretariat of the EU Scientific Committees on Consumer Safety (SCCS), Health and Environmental Risks (SCHER), Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks (SCENIHR).
"The Council of the EU invites the Commission and the Member States ... to cooperate with a view to establishing a sustainable and integrated EU health information system, built on what has been already achieved through different groups and projects, such as ECHI-ECHIM projects, exploring in particular the potential of a comprehensive European health information research infrastructure consortium as a tool. "
EU Experts Group on Health Information (EGHI)

The Experts Group on Health Information is a consultative structure with representatives from all the Member States to support the overall implementation mechanisms for the health strategy with regard to health information. In particular, EGHI:

- works together to agree on needs and solutions for European health information;
- assists in defining and overseeing technical work needed;
- acts as a platform for cooperation and collaboration on health information at European level.
European Core Health Indicators (ECHI)

Monitoring the health of the EU citizens

- Solid information on the health status of the EU citizens;
- Base for monitoring and setting of policies;
- Fourteen years of cooperation between the European Commission and EU Member States;
- Agreed shortlist of 88 indicators.
European Core Health Indicators (ECHI)

- Indicators are at the crossroads of policy questions and data sets

- ECHI Indicators
  - Cover all aspects of health
  - Recommendation for calculation
  - Documentation sheets for all 88 indicators

- Health topics
  - Health Status
  - Health Determinants
  - Health Care
  - Health Promotion

- Core indicators covering each topic

- The added value of ECHI
  - Well defined
  - Allow for comparison
  - Harmonization of data collected
European Core Health Indicators (ECHI)

Five main policy areas

- Health services and health care
  - Sustainable health care systems
  - Health system performance
  - Quality of care
  - Efficiency of care
  - Patient safety
  - Planning of health care resources
  - and health care cost

- Ageing and population
  - Healthy ageing
  - Ageing population
  - Maternal & perin. Health
  - Child health

- Health determinants
  - Health inequalities
  - Preventable health risks and lifestyle health behaviour

- Diseases and Mental health
  - Non-Communicable diseases
  - Chronic disease
  - Burden of Disease (BoD) and health threats
  - Communicable disease
  - Mental health

- Health in all Policies
  - Health in all Policies (including occupational and environmental health)
Health Information

Cooperation with other Commission services:

- EUROSTAT
- JRC, Institute for Health and Consumer Protection,
  - Data on rare diseases and on cancer

and international organisations:

- WHO
- OECD

- A legal instrument at EU level, to facilitate the joint establishment and operation of research infrastructure of European interest.
  - Directly applicable in the Member States
  - Legal personality recognized in all Member States
  - Qualifies as an international organization for the purposes of VAT (exemption under certain limits and conditions from VAT and excise duties) and Public Procurement Directives
Research Infrastructure on Health Information

**Rationale:**
- Research dimension of health information;
- Closer inter-action between research and public health communities;
- Research in health information and health data is a priority of Horizon 2020.

**Scope:**
- As comprehensive as possible
- Sustainable infrastructure optimising and supporting further research orientated work in the field
Research Infrastructure on Health Information

Infrastructure and scientific basis for the following tasks:

- Population health and health systems monitoring by using common validated indicators;
- Harmonized population based health examination surveys;
- Monitoring of impacts of environmental chemicals to health;
- Monitoring and reporting of perinatal and child health;
- Platform for population based registries for diseases;
- Platform for injury surveillance;
- Platform for Clinical and Administrative data on Health Care;
- Establishing standards and approaches for clinical and administrative health data collection and data sharing between countries;
- Support monitoring and evaluation of health care systems in interested countries.
Research Infrastructure on Health Information

Linking geographical information to health data:

- Electromagnetic fields
  - Detection and tracing of environmental conditions at places of residence of individuals exposed
  - Scientific Committee (SCENIHR) regularly evaluates latest knowledge on exposure to EMF

- Infectious diseases
  - Information and data on spreading of a disease, geographical areas concerned, places of residence and movement of persons infected
Research Infrastructure on Health Information

Possible cooperation on the implementation of INSPIRE

- Inter-linking data which are provided through INSPIRE with health data originating from health specific sources.