Newsletter December 2017

Committee	**Workforce Planning**	**Outcomes-based Healthcare**	**Robotics, a.i., & Precision Medicine**	**Antimicrobial Resistance**	**Vaccines**
Top Message	Europe is running out of doctors and nurses says the big joint EU commission report 'State of Health in the EU'. EHP's Health Workforce Planning Committee calls for immediate action to tackle increasing shortages of health professionals, which is threatening the resilience of health care systems all over Europe.	Today, 20% of healthcare spending is wasted on ineffective care (OECD). What if patient outcomes became the foundation for health policy decisions in EU Member States? The EHP Committee on Outcomes-Based Healthcare believes it is high time stakeholders pooled their expertise, aligned their interests, and embraced this paradigm shift to preserve the sustainability of EU healthcare systems.	Is Europe prepared for revolutionary innovation in medical technologies and treatments? The European Commission has set an agenda for digital health, but how can we commercialize these innovations? We will voice the young professionals' view on how to bring digital health from market to patient. More about our work here.	By 2050, antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is predicted to cause 10 million deaths globally if not addressed properly. Tackling AMR is a shared responsibility, and we will do our part: follow our journey as we develop innovative policy recommendations! More about our work here.	Many well-known preventable and almost eradicated diseases have recently made a comeback across member states, mostly due to the increasing vaccines hesitancy. Following these outbreaks, the European Vaccine Initiative committee aims to provide recommendations that help promote and improve rates of vaccination across the EU.

MAKE HEALTH GREAT AGAIN

EUROPEAN HEALTH PARLIAMENT

Johnson & Johnson   EPF   eu 40°   College of Europe Collège d'Europe   Google   POLITICO

The 'State of Health in the EU' report, which includes 28 individual country reports, is a two year initiative by the European Commission to provide policy makers with factual and comparative data on health and health systems in the EU. From the report, we learn that Health Workforce Planning in the EU has never been more critical. Lack of capacity to measure and monitor the supply of health workforce is making it impossible for member states to set the right quota. Better working conditions and bigger pay checks in big cities are attracting more and more health workforce, leaving poorer countries and rural areas severely understaffed. If we want to ensure good quality primary care for all EU citizens, we have to act now. For that purpose, the Health Workforce Planning Committee of the European Health Parliament is intensely working on writing effective policy recommendations for the EU to #MakeHealthGreatAgain.

In a context of limited public resources and increased focus on universal health coverage, containing the costs of treatment and care while improving outcomes for patients and society at large has become the priority for healthcare systems. However, EU countries are often not ready to adopt outcomes-based healthcare at the operational level. Many are calling for healthcare systems to be more integrated and patient-centered. Payment mechanisms should be based on outcomes rather than services. Incentives for innovation should primarily reward long-term benefits. But these changes do not come without challenges. Which metrics and indicators should be used to measure outcomes? How can countries build harmonized, data-driven healthcare systems across the EU be build, while safeguarding privacy? How can it be ensured that patients have a say in determining new standards of care? Together with stakeholders, the EHP Committee on Outcomes-Based Healthcare systems is seeking actionable solutions to these serious issues.

Medical technology is developing at speeds never seen before: tech giants are investing in AI, pharma companies edit genes, and robotic surgeons may soon start operating. The technology is already here and will soon enter the market. But health care systems need to catch up. How do we get these technologies from market to patient, the European Parliament asked? EU policymakers everywhere are facing the same challenges: how to share records, how to keep health care affordable, and who will bear responsibility if AI makes a mistake? And are patients even ready for eHealth? The EHP Committee on Robotics, AI & Precision Medicine is currently developing policy recommendations that will benefit patients, enable SMEs to make technologies accessible, and give advice on how the public and private sectors can work together to ensure that European health care remains at the forefront. Do get in touch – we want to hear from you!

The global public health threat posed by antimicrobial resistance (AMR) has been acknowledged at the highest political level. Now it's time to act: AMR must be addressed through a comprehensive, "one-health" approach encompassing human, animal health and the environmental dimension. Our AMR Committee is already at work towards innovative policy recommendations aiming to, inter alia: preserve the effectiveness of existing antibiotics, and promoting their appropriate use; better detect and prevent infections to decrease the need for antibiotics; stimulate R&D and create a sustainable marketplace for new antibiotics, vaccines, rapid diagnostics and alternative technologies. Finally, we want to contribute towards improving general education and awareness-raising among the general public: watch our video pledge on the occasion of the European Antibiotic Awareness Week!

Vaccines represent one of the most efficient and cost-effective achievements in public health. Human beings have benefited from vaccinations for over a century. In fact, vaccines contribute to saving millions of lives every year, prevent infectious diseases and significantly reduce the costs related to hospitalization and treatment of related sicknesses. The massive usage of vaccines has proven so effective that some diseases, such as measles, were nearly forgotten in Europe by the 1990s. Yet, in the recent years, these diseases have made a comeback, mostly due to growing "Anti-Vaxxer" movements, misinformation, distrust of pharma companies and decreased confidence in governments or experts. It is unacceptable that in 2017 there are children dying of diseases that should have been eradicated in Europe. Hence, our European Vaccine Initiative committee will strive to develop recommendations aimed at reducing vaccines hesitancy, encouraging the uptake of vaccination, and tackling the European cross-border dimension of the issue.

Johnson&Johnson   EPF   eu40°   College of Europe / Collège d'Europe   Google   POLITICO