Innovating care for people with multiple chronic conditions in Europe
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Action under the second objective: Promote health: ‘Increasing healthy life years and promoting healthy ageing’

Support to the European Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing

Start: 1 March, 2013

Duration: 38 months
Partners

NIVEL, Netherlands Institute for health services research (Netherlands)
TUB, Berlin University of Technology (Germany)
UEF, University of Eastern Finland (Finland)
INRCA, National Institute of Health and Science on Aging (Italy)
WARWICK, University of Warwick (UK)

Supported by Age platform & Eurocarers
ICARE4EU an international approach

“The ICARE4EU project aims to describe, analyze and disseminate innovative solutions of patient centered multidisciplinary care programmes for multimorbidity patients in 31 European countries.”

Instead of reinventing 31 wheels, learn from each other...
Fields of interest:

1. Management practice & professional competencies
2. Patient centeredness
3. Use of E-health
4. Financing systems

Each partner has specific expertise on one of these subjects.
Methods of data collection

Online survey:
1. Programme specific questionnaire
2. National level questionnaire

Additional data-set collected from international databases and publications

Site visits to examples of good practices
Which programmes?

- Aimed at adult people with multimorbidity
- Two or more medically diagnosed chronic / longlasting diseases, at least 1 somatic
- Cooperation of 2 or more services, at least 1 medical service
- Formalized cooperation (any form)
- Evaluable in some way
- Currently running, finished no longer than 24 months ago or start within next 12 months
Example from the Netherlands

- **INCA: Integrated Chronic Care model**
- This programme translated care standards in stepped care modules for several diseases as well as for disease transcending health aspects such as stress, smoking, physical activity or for instance somatisation.
- For each aspect the severity of the problem is mapped for each patient. If different aspects have the same health care need (e.g. specific diet plan or physical activity), the most intense stepped care module is chosen.
- Each patient gets a unique set of stepped care modules to tackle his or her specific health needs.
- Financing of the care patients need can also be determined based on which stepped care modules a patient needs, because it is easier to determine the cost per module.
Example from Finland

- **Patient as a Pilot Project (POTKU) 2010–2012**

  This project was administrated by one district hospital coordinated by a specific project coordinator. Organizations that were formally involved in the project were public primary care organizations (health centres) in 62 municipalities.

  - **Aim:** to develop care for people with chronic conditions, addressing explicitly also people with multi-morbidity as part of the target patient group.

  - The project design was based on the Chronic Care Model and aimed to improve all functions included in the model, setting the patient in the centre of the care; including also multi-discipline cooperation between health care professionals.

  - The project included co-operation with secondary-, social-, private and third sector-care etc. and was financed by the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs through the national development programme.
Example from Italy

- **IGEA: a chronic disease management project for people with diabetes**

- Project aim: to define a comprehensive strategy for implementing effective care for people with diabetes. Its goal is to ensure a person-centered, evidence-based, comprehensive and integrated model of care.

- It pays specific attention to the more complex target group, people with diabetes presenting multimorbid conditions.

- It is aimed to promote multi-professional team working and communication in a community of practice perspective, involving health professionals, persons with diabetes and other relevant stakeholders.

- A methodological guide has been designed to assist trainers' teams and a software has also been developed to assist the evaluation process through the 4-module training program.

- The project was partially funded by the Italian Centre for Disease Prevention and Control of the Ministry of Health.
Data collection is in progress

Identification of expert organizations successful in most countries.

4 stages of data collection:
1. Identify and list eligible programmes
2. Invite programmes to participate and monitor completion of questionnaire
3. Completion of national level questionnaire
4. Completion of evaluation form
**Additional data-set**

Information collected from existing databases:

– Population data
– Health data
– Characteristics of governance
– Health system data

Unfortunately not all preferred data available: **multimorbidity**, workforce of all care sectors involved (social care, home care and informal care), context of governmental influence

→ suggestions??
Good practices

Good not best

Identification of 2 good practices for each field of interest.

How to select these good practices? Which indicators, how to value each and how many?

– Evaluated and well-documented
– Best possible fit with selection criteria
– Objective indicators
Considerations to share with you

→ How do we include that “gut feeling”?

1st indicator based:
– Validation by cross-checking with all partners

2nd expert opinion based:
– Validation by cross-checking with country experts
– Include partner expertise

→ How about programmes that are overall good practices?
First impressions

- 18 out of 31 countries completed the country level questionnaire
- Data from 31 programmes from 7 countries

- Care programmes might not be available in all 31 European countries!?
Products of the ICARE4EU project

- Overview of innovative integrated care programmes, “state of the art”
- Country factsheets, describing the current situation of existing programmes and context in a specific country (selected countries)
- Case-reports, describing good practices for all 4 fields of interest
- Policy summaries, describing the overall status for all 4 fields of interest
- Several scientific articles by all partners
Thank you!

Stay tuned...

www.icare4eu.org

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