Join us during this special one day event!

It will address the importance of learning from other countries’ health systems and service provision, especially in light of the similar challenges that countries face, such as ensuring healthy ageing, declining workforces and increasing cost pressures.

Aims of the meeting:

a) Improving the quality of international comparisons in health services and systems research in key topic areas, and

b) Assessing how such international research evidence can help (national) decision-makers identify suitable and responsive policies and practices.

Why should you attend?
The meeting is a unique opportunity

• If you are or wish to become involved in comparing research evidence on health care financing and service delivery across Europe.

• If you are a decision maker and want to find out which international insights are of use for your own country or institute.

• If you are a health care funder at national or international level and want to fine-tune your agenda with those of others.

About the conference
Combine two events: the meeting will take place as satellite event to the 5th European Public Health Conference (8-10 November 2012) in Malta.

Registration fee for the HSR working conference will be € 120 if you combine it with the EPH conference or € 160 if you only visit the working conference.

Registration at www.eupha.org. Early registration for the EPH conference until 15 September 2012. Already registered for the EPH conference: you can add the working conference at registration@eupha.org

Acknowledgements
The conference is organised by the network HSR-Europe and the EUPHA Section on HSR. It is made possible with funding from the EU Public Health Programme.
Programme

The event will not have usual ‘ten minute paper presentations’ but will focus on interaction and debate based on selected preparatory introductions. After a plenary opening presentation, focus will be on four exemplary topics in parallel workshops. The day will end with a plenary closing discussion with key stakeholders and the audience.

**Topic 1. Improving service delivery for non-communicable diseases, NCDs**

More and more European citizens will need care for chronic conditions, shifting the emphasis to a better integration of services, including community and preventive care. It raises questions such as:

- Which forms of (integrated) service delivery are most suitable and most cost-effective to improve care for NCDs?
- What is the surplus value of international comparisons in NCDs and how can we improve comparisons across Europe?

Introductory presentations provided by
- Dr Gauden Galea, Director, NCDs and Health Promotion, WHO
- Dr Ellen Nolte, Director, Health and Healthcare, RAND Europe

**Topic 2. Evaluating health care reforms and health care financing options**

With the continuing financial crisis, increasing pressures are being put on health care budgets, regardless of the method of funding health care. This means that many if not all countries and organisations are facing difficult decisions. We will tackle the following issues:

- Which reforms should or should not be considered when reforming the system’s financing, e.g. can we avoid increasing inequalities with rising co-payments?
- Will more private funding of health care facilities positively affect the costs and quality of providing care?

Introductory presentations provided by
- A representative from the WorldBank and a lead European health economist.

**Topic 3. Better using international (e.g. EU-funded) evidence at national level**

Ideally, cross-country comparisons will help stakeholders at national level make better informed decisions. But do we really achieve this potential? Help us determine:

- How to improve the implementation of international research by governments, health insurers or other stakeholders?
- How can national decision makers best find and use evidence, e.g. on comparative effectiveness, also give the often short time frames of policy cycles?

Introductory presentations provided by
- Dr Josep Figueras, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies
- Nick Fahy, independent policy advisor

**Topic 4. The fine-tuning of national and European research agendas**

With a large share of health care research being done at national level, it is vital that counties learn from each other and avoid duplication. In addition, there is a growing EU dimension in coordinating research efforts, e.g. through Joint Actions and Joint Programming Initiatives. We will discuss:

- How some countries establish their long term research agendas and how this can be of added value to other countries?
- How to establish a common framework and optimally allocate EU and national funds, including those of lower income countries?

Introductory presentations provided by
- Dr Barbara Kerstiëns, Head Sector Public Health, DG Research & Innovation, EC
- Representation of a national MoH or funder

Newsletter and update on final programme at www.healthservicesresearch.eu