Information, evidence and research for policy (ehm, health, actually): the vision of WHO Europe

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53 Member States    900 million population
Good luck with bridging this gap...

'Got an elbow joint?'
European Health Information Initiative (EHII)

- Provides overarching guidance for health information activities WHO Europe;
- Multi-partner network;
- 5 Steering Group meetings held to date;
- Doubled the number of members in the last 10 months.
WHO/EU collaboration towards a single integrated Health Information System for Europe (53 Member States)

Moscow Declaration 2010

Vilnius Declaration 2015

European Commission and WHO Regional Office for Europe: A shared vision for joint action

OECD a partner since 2012
The European Health Information Initiative is committed to improving the evidence on which policy is based and ultimately to creating a single health information system for Europe.
EHII participants: 27 and growing

Austria  Belgium  Finland  Georgia  Italy  Kazakhstan  Kyrgyzstan  Latvia  Lithuania  Malta  Netherlands  Poland  Portugal  Romania  Russian Federation  Slovenia  Sweden  Switzerland  Turkey  United Kingdom
Published 2016:
Greece  
Slovenia  
Moldova  

Next in line:
Bulgaria  
Georgia  
Russian Federation
Disseminating health information:
EURO public health journal

- Aimed at dissemination of best practices and successful implementation of evidence-informed policies;
- Bi-lingual (English/Russian);
- Quarterly publication;
- Theme-based;
- Peer reviewed.

Special theme for Regional Committee 2016: Evidence for policy
Why another journal: the gap

Fig 2: Origin of corresponding authors in Health Policy, 2009-2013. Size of blue bubbles represents the number of corresponding authors by country.
Demand-driven, policy-maker centered;
Summarizes the best available evidence for decision-making;
peer-reviewed, professionally written responses that are relevant, ready-to-use and evidence-informed;
WHO’s response in facilitating research use

- 69 synthesis reports published to-date – and more to come
EVIPNet Europe: mandate

- Promotes – in support of Health 2020 and the EHII – the systematic use of research evidence in policy-making to improve health systems through a networked structure;
- Increases country capacity in developing sound and effective health policies;
- Institutionalizes knowledge translation through the establishment of national advisory bodies ensuring that policies are grounded in research evidence.

‘Live’ in 19 countries in the European Region
European Health Information Initiative

Measurement  Access  Capacity Building  Networks  Strategy  Communication

World Health Organization
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR Europe
1. **Strengthening health information systems**, harmonizing health indicators and establishing an integrated health information system for the European Region;

2. **Establishing and promoting health research systems** to support the setting of public health priorities;

3. **Increasing country capacities** for the development of evidence-informed policies (**knowledge translation**);

4. **Mainstreaming the use of evidence, information and research** in the implementation of Health 2020 and other major regional policy frameworks.

Adopted by 53 Member States through resolution

Concrete actions for Member States (6) and WHO (4)
• ‘Lightening talk’ with high-level panel members:
  • Minister of Health, Malta;
  • Deputy Director, Federal Research Institute, Ministry of Health, Russian Federation;
  • Managing Director, EuroHealthNet;
  • Senior Project Lead, Health Indicators, OECD;
  • WHO Europe.

• Exploring challenges and solutions for health information in Europe;
• Calling for harmonization of indicators & single health information system for European Region;
• Calling for close collaboration of international organizations in health information.
CAPTURING CHANGE: HEALTH INFORMATION

Setting the scene

We can’t know every individual in our country - we need statistics!

How do we know the accuracy & completeness of our data?

The challenges are new and greater than ever:
WE NEED TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN EVIDENCE AND POLICY-MAKING

Need to make data internationally comparable to learn from each other! That’s why we’re in Gastein.

Panel Discussion

Politicians need to base their decisions more on evidence rather than just on politics.

Payment model for medicines: USE Vs PERFORMANCE

Data needs to be reliable, reproducible & translatable

Challenges: Lack of good outcomes/performance indicators

Solutions: Harmonization, standardization & networks

Networks are key to help countries to harmonize, standardize and improve health information systems and the use of evidence for policy-making

Need data to inform health in all policies and address health & well-being: living conditions, economic & employment conditions

The European Health Information Initiative brings solutions to the challenges - 6 strategic dimensions of work & now more than 25 partners

@WHO_Europe

DIR@euro.who.int
Current situation of health reporting in Europe
The future: Single health information system for Europe

Interoperability
Ability to exchange and make use of information

Harmonization
definition, classification and interpretation of data indicators
NEXT STEPS:

- WHO, OECD, EC to be more active working together
- Strengthen country health information networks to harmonize data collection and reporting
- Joint indicator set across three frameworks
- Define new (qualitative) evidence, research & data to address dimensions of well-being & health inequalities
- Meeting dedicated to health information system roadmap
“Without data you’re just another person with an opinion.”

- W. Edwards Deming, Data Scientist

Thank you
Спасибо
Merci
Danke
Capacity building: Autumn school of health information and evidence for policy making

Focus: Health 2020 monitoring (country case studies, inequalities, reporting, evidence for policy)

Since 2013 annually: Turkey, Poland, Russian Federation

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'Advanced course' added annually (June)

2016: Cyprus

Translating evidence into effective public health policy
Collaboration of WHO/EURO and Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation

- WHO/IHME Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2015;
- To collaborate on burden of disease assessments in European Region;
- To improve coherence of quantitative messages;
- To facilitate national burden of disease studies, including training;

Country interest increasing: Multiple countries completed, conducting or planning NBD studies.

WHO country profiles
Highlights on Health revitalized & to include burden information.

EURO and IHME joint work: joint missions to countries, training events.
Collaboration of WHO/EURO and Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation, IHME

- European Burden of Disease Network (EBoDN) established jointly;

Mapping and comparison of burden of disease studies in the European Region

Practical manual for national burden of disease studies to be developed by IHME

More from IHME colleagues this week!
Health information strategies

- Member States requested practical support tool
- Tool developed by Working Group (17 countries), co-chaired by Netherlands and Russian Federation
- Based on WHO HMN tools and materials, adapted to European context
- Available in English & Russian
- Piloted in three countries and revision under-way.
National eHealth Strategy Toolkit

• A resource for developing or renewing a country’s eHealth strategy
• From countries just setting out to those that have already invested in eHealth
• A framework and method for the development of a vision, action plan and monitoring framework

Source: Dr. Ramesh Krishnamurthy, WHO/HQ. Toolkit source: http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/75211/1/9789241548465_eng.pdf
Steering Group: 25 members

European Health Information Initiative

Measurement | Access | Capacity Building | Networks | Strategy | Communication

H2020, SDGs | HFA, Gateway, CHI, Panorama | Autumn School, Advanced Course | CARINFONET, Support tool, EVIPNet, SCHIN, European action plan | EBoDN
Why Europe needs the European Health Information Initiative:

• To broaden international cooperation and to support the development of the single European health information system;
• To improve health information and research in countries in the European Region;
• To call for other Member States and institutions to join and support this important effort.