

## Minutes Annual meeting HSR Section of EUPHA Malta 2012

Chair: Peter Groenewegen (on behalf of Judith de Jong)

Vice- president: Tit Albreht

### 1 Welcome and opening

The meeting starts with a welcome and opening of the meeting by Peter Groenewegen, on behalf of Judith de Jong (who could not attend this meeting). Vice-president Tit Albreht joined the meeting later.

### 2 Summary of minutes EUPHA Copenhagen 2011

A summary of last year's minutes is provided by Willemijn Schäfer. Main points mentioned are:

- Last year we discussed possible future activities, including:
  - o The preparation of a Policy brief on HSR;
  - o Facilitating an HSR Key note at EUPHA 2013
  - o Submission of HSR articles in the European Journal for Public Health (EJPH) (which has a higher impact than the usual European journals for HSR)
  - o Call for specific abstracts
  - o The use of social media
- The pre-conferences on Health Services Research (organised by HSR-Europe\* in collaboration with the section on HSR) and Patient Experiences prior to the EUPHA 2012 conference
- The role of the HSR section in the coordination of workshops. Many of the HSR projects only result in posters (also this year).

All section members are invited to provide the president Judith the Jong with the names possible speakers names for a key not lecture on HSR at EUPHA 2013. Names can be send to her via email ([j.dejong@nivel.nl](mailto:j.dejong@nivel.nl)).

Another point that is discussed is the judging of the abstracts. There is a general consensus that the HSR related abstracts should be judged by at least one expert in the field of HSR. This will be put forward to the EUPHA office to take into account for next year's conference.

### 3 Activities of the section since Copenhagen 2011

- a. Newsletters  
Since Copenhagen 2011 four newsletters have been sent. The group discusses what the expected rate of newsletters is. The conclusion is that this depends on the topics and that the number per year should not be too high. One newsletter every two to three months is considered appropriate.
- b. Pre- conferences in Malta 2012

This year two pre-conferences were related to health services research:

- The pre-conference titled 'Strengthening the European Dimension in Health Services Research' (see point 4);
- The pre-conference on 'Integrating the patient's perspective in public health and health care'. Jany Rademakers provides a summary of this pre-conference. There were more than 30 presentations. Instead of the traditional presentations, it was chosen to have 4 minutes presentations with 4 slides. It became evident that this worked really well and helped the presenters to concentrate on the most important messages. The presentations also led to a lot of discussion. The presentations varied from qualitative outcome indicators to the more quantitative outcomes. Around 40 persons attended the pre-conference (and they stayed the whole day).

#### **4 Pre- conferences Malta 2012**

This year a satellite working conference on HSR was organized by EUPHA's section on HSR in collaboration with HSR Europe (Wednesday 7 November 2012). The conference was titled '**Strengthening the European Dimension in Health Services Research**'. Johan Hansen gave a short presentation on this day. The goals were to discuss internationally comparative research in the area of HSR and its use at different levels, to discuss inputs for Horizon 2020 and to discuss capacity building.

Health 2020 and the linkage to European research agendas was extensively discussed. The main area in Horizon 2020 for the HSR community is "Healthy ageing", which also provides strong links with the biomedical research area.

After the prior HSR working conference priority areas of research were summarized in a policy brief, which was then partially used in the 2012 call of FP-7. This year's working conference leads to another policy brief again with the purpose to deliver input for Horizon 2020. In addition, the topic valorisation is of growing importance, which is often considered as spin off from research in the form of patents or products. As this applies less to the area of HSR, it is decided to install a workgroup that will try to come to a better measurement of valorisation and impact measurement of HSR. This will be done in close collaboration with the EUPHA Section on HSR and will be circulated among its members in 2013.

#### **5 Continuation of pre-conferences of HSR**

It is discussed how often we should repeat the HSR pre-conferences. This should also depend on the cycles of Horizon 2020 but the plan is mainly to have one pre-conference related to strategy every two years and one capacity building every other year, e.g. providing masterclasses for young PhD students. Young Gastein can be seen as a good example for capacity building, but we strongly depend on funding for such a model this.

It is also discussed whether the HSR conference should be connected to an existing conference, other than the EUPHA annual conference. Currently, extra linkage also exists with the EHMA annual conference at which the Section HSR regularly organises a workshop. It might also be a good idea to organise stand-

alone events on very specific topics, but the practical realisation of this will strongly depend on extra funding. As one of the examples, the Health Services Research Network in the UK is mentioned, which organises an annual Symposium that attracts more and more researchers from abroad.

## **6 Working groups/ workshops on specific topics**

The participants of the meeting are asked for their input on interesting topics related to HSR for the next EUPHA conference. Topics that are mentioned:

- Why do we need effective health systems? Why do we need HSR? It would also be important to have separate (invitational) meetings about this with e.g. the OECD and Ministries of Health;
- The Patients' Rights Directive and the effects of this (a critical analysis);
- Simple metrics for measuring health care outcomes/ easy ways of outcome reporting;
- Using routine data for research;
- New innovations in funding health care systems.
- Multi-morbidity

These working groups should be self-organising.

*\* HSR Europe is a network that started as FP-7 funded Support Action (until March 2011) and since then continues to organise activities and provides a platform for anyone involved in HSR in Europe.*