



Annual report EUPHA section Health Services Research 2016

Introduction

The EUPHA section on Health Services Research (HSR) was established in 1992, and is one of the largest section networks in EUPHA.

The aim of the Section is to serve as a network of researchers that are involved in the various aspects of this discipline. The Section aims at advancing the current practices in health services research by promoting research, networking and exchange of expertise by means of international co-operation in the field. The quick and profound changes in the majority of health systems and in the delivery of health services around Europe provide inspiration to further develop the tools and methodologies in this young scientific discipline in public health.

Who is who?

Judith de Jong, PhD, President of the Section
Tit Albreht, PhD, Vice-president of the Section

Collaboration

The EUPHA section HSR has strong links to the Netherlands Institute of Health Services Research ([NIVEL](#)) and has been actively involved in their project '[HSR Europe](#)' which aims to identify, evaluate and improve the contribution of Health Services Research.

Activities

Newsletters

In 2016 we sent out several newsletters to inform the members of the section about activities.

Pre-conferences Vienna

The Section HSR (co-)organized three preconferences:

- 1) "Enhancing evidence-informed decision-making to support resilient and sustainable health systems in Europe" (organized by CHAFAEA, WHO EURO, HSR Europe, EUPHA HSR, EUPHA PHPP, Observatory)
- 2) "Patient participation in health care research and innovation" (organized by NIVEL, National Health Care Institute)
- 3) "Health workforce governance in Europe, towards a future research agenda" (organized by EUPHA HSR, Working group health workforce research, Observatory, OECD, WHO RHN)

These were all very well attended and included lively discussions. The second and third attracted also a new audience to the conference.

Workshops Vienna

The Section HSR (co-)organized five workshops.

- 1) Round table: "Setting the research agenda on health systems and policy for small states in the European region." (organized by EUPHA HSR, University of Malta, Maastricht University)

- 2) Workshop: “E-health and m-health: current trends, uses, expectations and methodological challenges” (organized by EUPHA HSR, EUPHA HTA, EUPHA ETH, EUPHA PMH).
- 3) Workshop: “Health assessments in support of decision-making” (organized by EUPHA HSR, EUPHA HIA, EUPHA ECO, EUPHA PHPP, WHO).
- 4) Workshop: How professional groups can contribute to health services innovation in European health systems (organized by EUPHA HSR working group Health Workforce Research, DEFACTUM -Public Health& HSR, Central Denmark Region)
- 5) Workshop: Governing skill mix changes in the health workforce: European comparative research (organized by EUPHA HSR working group Health Workforce Research, Karolinska Institute)

All were very well attended and included lively discussions with the audience.

Start of an ERA-NET

The Section HSR has been involved in efforts to establish support for a European research programme on HSR, a so-called ERA-NET, as collaboration between national funding bodies (see a [summary](#) of our 2014 preconference for more details). At the end of 2016, the TO-REACH project has started, in order to prepare such a research programme. Focus of attention will be on enhancing the transferability of good models of care. It is led by ISS, the Italian National Institute of Health and EUPHA is one of the partner organisations, among others with national level ministerial and funding bodies from 18 countries, both inside and outside of Europe.

Working Group ‘Health Workforce Research’

Within the section there is a working group on Health Workforce Research. This working group organized a preconference as well as a workshop. Furthermore, a newsletter was sent out.

Join the network! Meeting

This meeting was held in Vienna, during the EPH conference. All activities performed in 2016 were presented. Furthermore, we discussed future activities.