



Annual report EUPHA section Health Services Research 2019

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 2019 we sent out several newsletters to inform the members of the section about activities.

Preconference Marseille

The Section HSR co-organized the preconference:

- How to build bridges between public health and primary care? A skills co-building pre-conference.

A short report:

The French mission RESPIRE [Recherche et Etudes Soins Primaires Innovants et Renouvelés], represented by Yann Bourgueil and Candan Kendir, organised a one-day pre-conference event on the relationships between primary care and public health. Several section of EUPHA were involved as well (EUPHA CAPH and EUPHA HSR). The scene was set by Yann Bourgueil. He placed primary care and public health at the cross-roads of health and disease, community and individual, home and care institutions. Emmanuel Allory, a young general practitioner from Rennes shared his experiences with a multi-specialty practice serving 20.000 people in a deprived neighbourhood. This practice aims at integrating primary care, public health and social care. Citizen and patient involvement in the

organisation of the practice and in the care processes are core business. They represent a vanguard, providing an example for France, but perhaps also for other European countries. The role of patients was also central in a presentation on the role of 'expert patients' in the training of new GPs. The expert patients are recruited from members of patient organisations. They bring their own experience with health care, are able to use the experiences of other patients and so to say generalise their experiences, and they are able to bring in advocacy for patient involvement. The meeting included group discussions on the education and training of GPs and public health professionals, and on the role that different stakeholders have in supporting integration of primary care and public health. The discussion on education and training emphasised the importance of interprofessional education. It is in this discussion that the metaphor of the different tribes came up: public health and primary care look upon each other as strangers, with their own habits, culture and language. Learning about each other's approach and day to day activities is important to overcome differences between the tribes. For GPs an important issue is that they have so many patient-related tasks and a high workload, that they feel they cannot also accept tasks in the area of public health. However, here organisation and the role of other stakeholders come in. It is important to organise primary care in multidisciplinary teams with experts from different primary care and public health fields that collaborate for the same population. Stakeholders, such as funders of primary care, educational organisations, and public health authorities, have to develop a shared vision for people-centred care and provide the resources to support integration. They have to recognise each other's role and importance in realising the common vision.

Workshops Marseille

The Section HSR (co-)organized the workshops:

- It's time for timeliness in Health Technology Assessment (EUPHA (HTA) (HSR))
- Health workforce meets HSR: Tackling regional inequalities in health services provision (EUPHA (HWR) (HSR))
- Care4Care: the migrant care workforce in Europe (EUPHA (HWR) (HSR) (PHPP))
- Health workforce coordination and agency across sectors, organisations and professions (EUPHA (HWR) (HSR))

These workshops were all very well attended and included lively discussions.

Join the network! Meeting

This meeting was held in Marseille, during the EPH conference. All activities performed in 2019 were presented. The meeting was attended by more than 25 people from different countries. The terms of the current president and vice president ended in 2019. A new president (Johan Hansen) and a new vice president (Lorena Dini) were elected.