



Health Workforce Research section Newsletter, June 2018

News

Research agenda ‘health workforce’ published! Following from the EUPHA Preconference and workshops this comprehensive agenda is a milestone in the collaborative work with colleagues and partner organisations to strengthen health workforce issues. Please circulate and use the article in your networks; open access <https://rdcu.be/1hZv>.

Kuhlmann E, Batenburg R, Wismar M, Dussault G, Maier CB, Glinos, IA, Azzopardi-Muscat N, Bond C, Burau V, Correia T, Groenewegen PP, Hansen J, Hunter D, Khan U, Kluge H, Kroezen M, Leone C, Santic-Milicevic M, Sermeus W, Ungureanu M, for the EUPHA section Health Workforce Research. A call for action to establish a research agenda for building a future health workforce in Europe, *Health Research Policy and Systems*, 2018, 16:52

Please support EUPHA Health Workforce Research (HWR) and encourage your colleagues to sign up; <https://eupha.org/health-workforce-research>. Becoming a EUPHA HWR section member is free of charge; EUPHA membership is encouraged but not a condition.

Register for the EUPHA Conference 2018 and the Health Workforce Preconference – presenters must register until 20 July 2018; <https://ephconference.eu/register-107>.

Support needed for the survey of EU TO-REACH project. Only few days left: **15 July 2018**. To-Reach has launched a stakeholder survey on priorities in health services and policy research and innovation. This is a unique opportunity to bring health workforce issues on the policy agenda. Please go to – <https://to-reach.eu/> – where you find more information on the project, and click on the ‘[Shape the European research programme on health systems with the To-Reach online consultation](#)’ to access the survey. First results will be presented at the joint HWR and To-Reach EUPHA Preconference in November in Ljubljana.

‘**Online first**’ articles of our **Health Policy, Special Issue ‘A people-centred health workforce in Europe: how to make it happen?’** (eds. E Kuhlmann, R Batenburg and G Dussault) will be available soon; visit <http://www.healthpolicyjrn.com> or check the ‘News’ section at the HWR website, <https://eupha.org/health-workforce-research>. Final publication is scheduled for December 2018 and will be launched at the EUPHA Conference.

European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies 20th Anniversary. Congratulations to all colleagues! Many thanks for all the great support over recent years and the continuing collaboration with the HWR section; <http://www.euro.who.int/en/about-us/partners/observatory/about-us/celebrating-the-observatorys-20th-anniversary>.

Congratulations to the new EHMA (European Health Management Association, <http://ehma.org>) **President, Federico Lega**, who is since long collaborating with EUPHA HWR section members.

EUPHA Conference 2018 – health workforce events



**‘Winds of Change: towards new ways of improving public health in Europe’,
Ljubljana, Slovenia, 28 Nov – 1 Dec 2018; <https://ephconference.eu/>**

Join us in Ljubljana!

Health workforce themes will be among the key topics of the 2018 EUPHA conference, including a Preconference, workshops organised by HWR section and by the Observatory, and regular sessions, poster walks and e-posters.

Registration is open!

3rd Preconference ‘Working together for a people-centred health workforce’ in collaboration with partner organisations, 28 November 2018. One major aim is to align stakeholders and strengthen dialogue and networking across the major NGOs and EU projects in order to make a people-centred health workforce happen; registration is open, full day preconference 140€; <https://ephconference.eu/2018-pre-conference-programme-114>.

Workshops organised by the HWR section (selected, further workshops will address health workforce issues, please check out in the programme)

- Health workforce meets health services research, jointly organised by EUPHA Health Workforce Research (HWR) and Health Services Research (HSR) sections
- How health workforce innovation in Europe can support interprofessional coordination across healthcare sectors
- Developing a competent and sustainable public health workforce: how to make it happen?, jointly organised by ASPHER and EUPHA HWR

Meet the Network, lunchtime session (to be announced), everybody welcome!

Please visit the dynamic **conference programme** – <https://ephconference.eu/dynamic-programme-127> – for more information. There are many opportunities to discuss health workforce issues. Next to the workshops, an impressive number of abstracts have been submitted for oral presentations and posters – many thanks! – which address a wide range of health work topics. This year, several of the health workforce themes have been mixed with ‘occupational health’ themes by the conference organisers, yet there will certainly be space for interesting discussions to strengthen health workforce research.

Announcements



What do you consider the most important priorities in your health system?

Please provide your opinion. What are the main problems within your health care system? Which challenges need to be resolved, both at national and European or global level? And which topics should be addressed in international comparative research, funded by the European Commission or others? If you have any thoughts on this, then please share them using this short consultation form before 15 July 2018: <https://to-reach.eu/survey/>

The consultation is available to anyone who wants to share their opinion, whether you are a researcher, policymaker, health care professional or citizen. As the consultation is in all EU Member States, the survey is in English. If this is a complication, then the research group will do its best to also incorporate answers in other languages. All responses remain anonymous and will be used by the European Commission funded project TO-REACH. It consists of national funding bodies across Europe and aims to identify potential topics for joint calls of research in a future joint research programme. Results will also be shared with officers of the European Commission to support their preparations for their new research programme, titled Horizon Europe, to run from 2021-2027 as follow-up of Horizon 2020. A high response from experts and stakeholders per country can help make a strong voice on the contents of such a programme, that is aimed to help solve major health system and policy challenges. If you have questions about the **TO-REACH project**, then it is possible to contact the coordinator, National Institute of Health in Italy at to.reach@iss.it. It is also possible to register for a newsletter about TO-REACH at <https://to-reach.eu/contact/>.

The SEPEN Health Workforce Planning and Forecasting Expert Network (EU-funded project, led by Semmelweis University, Hungary)

The Joint Tender 'Support for the health workforce planning and forecasting expert network' aims to implement and activate a health workforce planning and forecasting expert network. Joining the network will give you access to a hub for the exchange of expertise, good practices and knowledge sharing, which every expert can both contribute to and benefit from. The expert network will actively disseminate knowledge and good practices. As expert in the network you will be invited to participate in the joint tender's activities. If you are interested, please register: healthworkforce.eu/join-our-network/. Eszter Kovacs (kovacs.eszter@emk.sote.hu)

European Health Parliament - Make Health Great Again, the European Health Parliament, Health Workforce Planning Committee

The EHP is a platform of young European citizens with diverse backgrounds. With the aim of shaping the future of healthcare in Europe, participants are working together to develop policy solutions around specific topics like Health Workforce Planning. The objective is to deliver policy-oriented recommendations to be implemented by the European Commission as a possible legislative proposal to #MakeHealthGreatAgain; www.healthparliament.eu.

Conferences, reports



EHMA – European Health Management Association – Health Workforce activities

The EHMA Conference has been a great success, including a number of important presentations related to health workforce issues and sessions organised by the Special Interest Group (SIG) on Health Workforce (Chair, Ronald Batenburg, r.batenburg@nivel.nl). EHMA and the EUPHA HWR section will continue the close collaboration and strengthen knowledge exchange; please visit www.ehma.org for further information.



Expert Meeting on Professionalization of the Public Health Workforce

WHO Europe, ASPHER and Imperial College London organised an ‘Expert Meeting on Professionalization of the Public Health Workforce’, London, UK, 19 June 2018; for details see: <http://www.euro.who.int/en/media-centre/events/events/2018/06/expert-meeting-on-professionalization-of-the-public-health-workforce>. Three major actions were discussed in London: (1) Core Competencies Framework for Public Health Workforce in the European Region, (2) Handbook for Managing Public Health Professional Credentialing and Accreditation Systems in the European Region, and (3) Roadmap towards Professionalization of the Public Health Workforce in the European Region. The discussion is connected to the Coalition of Partners (CoP) project, led by WHO Europe; <http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/Health-systems/public-health-services/coalition-of-partners>. It will be continued during the 3rd CoP meeting, held in Ljubljana prior to the EUPHA Conference. EUPHA HWR section participated in the London meeting and is closely collaborating with ASPHER to improve knowledge and research related to the public health workforce; see the joint ASPHER/ HWR section Workshop in Ljubljana.

Workforce innovations for better performing health systems in Europe

The Institute of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine Lisbon, Portugal, hosted a conference on Workforce innovations for better performing health systems in Europe on 3-4 May 2018. More than 300 participants attended either in person or at a distance through streaming. The program and presentations are available at the following address: <http://www.ihmt.unl.pt/en/conference-workforce-innovations/>. (contact: Gilles Dussault)

European Society for Health and Medical Sociology 17th biennial conference

The conference, hosted by Tiago Correia (HWR section member), 6-8 June 2018, convened a session on the health workforce, notably the role of physicians in health systems reforms from an international perspective ([click here for more information](#)). Full information on the conference is available on twitter [@ESHMS2018Lisbon](#).

Publications

Bjegovic-Mikanovic V, Santric-Milicevic M, Cichowska A, von Krauss MK, Perfilieva G, Rebac B, Zuleta-Marin I, Dieleman M, Zwanikken P. Sustaining success: aligning the public health workforce in South-Eastern Europe with strategic public health priorities. *International Journal of Public Health*, 2018, 63(5): 651–62.

Domagała A, Klich J. Planning of Polish physician workforce – Systemic inconsistencies, challenges and possible ways forward. *Health Policy*, 2018, 122: 102–8.

Kuhlmann E, Batenburg R, Wismar M, Dussault G, Maier CB, Glinos, IA, Azzopardi-Muscat N, Bond C, Bureau V, Correia T, Groenewegen PP, Hansen J, Hunter D, Khan U, Kluge H, Kroezen M, Leone C, Santic-Milicevic M, Sermeus W, Ungureanu M, for the EUPHA section Health Workforce Research. A call for action to establish a research agenda for building a future health workforce in Europe, *Health Research Policy and Systems*, 2018, 16:52.

Rees GH, Crampton P, Gauld R, MacDonell S. The promise of complementarity: Using the methods of foresight for health workforce planning. *Health Services Management Research*, 2018, 31(2): 97–105.

Rees GH, Crampton P, Gauld R, MacDonell S. Rethinking health workforce planning: Capturing health system social and power interactions through actor analysis. *Futures*, 2018, 99: 16–27.

Santric Milicevic M, Vasic M, Edwards M, Sanchez C, Fellows J. Strengthening the public health workforce: An estimation of the long-term requirements for public health specialists in Serbia. *Health Policy*, 2018, 122(6): 674–80.

Please **forward this Newsletter to your colleagues and friends**, who might be interested in health workforce research and in joining the EUPHA Health Workforce Research section. New members are warmly welcome – please sign up; <https://eupha.org/health-workforce-research>. The next Newsletter is scheduled for end of September 2018. Please send your notices, conferences, new publications etc. until 25 September (Kuhlmann.ellen@mh-hannover.de).

Ellen Kuhlmann
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