

Expected Outcomes

1. An extensive literature review on the effect of financing schemes on the quality, efficiency and availability of healthcare services
2. Guidelines, a set of adopted tools and outcome measures for further projects on healthcare quality evaluation
3. Results of effects of patients' education programmes on efficiency, quality and equity of healthcare
4. Proposed model of more effective healthcare financing
5. Policy recommendations and guidelines on the best models of healthcare financing



• MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW (MUW)



Tomasz Hermanowski, Project Coordinator, has graduated in economics from Main School of Commerce (SGH), Warsaw, obtained PhD in 1974 and Habilitation in Economics in 1988. Health Economist, Professor of the Medical University of Warsaw, Head of Pharmacoeconomics Department, Faculty of Pharmacy, Professor of Warsaw University of Technology Business School, supervising post-graduate Advanced Management Training Program in Pharmacoeconomics, Pharmaceutical Law and Marketing. Past President of the Polish Society For Pharmacoeconomics (Polish Branch of the International Society For Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research - ISPOR), EU DG Research expert evaluating 7FP proposals, regarding Public Health in 2009.



Joanna Lis, PhD, MBA, Graduate of Faculty of Mathematics and Physics on the Jagiellonian University of Cracow. The subject of her doctoral thesis is application of statistics, computing model-building, methods of artificial intelligence (neurons networks, genetic algorithms, fuzzy sets) and decision analysis in medicine. She graduated also from the MBA at Kozminski Business School in Warsaw. The combination of this experience with pharmacoeconomics resulted in the position of Health Economics Manager in Eli Lilly Poland and Sanofi-Aventis Sp. z o.o. Adjunct professor at the Medical University of Warsaw.

• HANNOVER MEDICAL SCHOOL (MHH)



Professor Dr. Volker E. Amelung (lic. oec., Dr. oec. University of St. Gallen, Switzerland) is Professor for international healthcare system research at the Medical University of Hannover and guest lecturer at the Medical University of Vienna, TiasNimbas Business School in the Netherlands and the Technical University Braunschweig. He has been senior lecturer at the University for Economics and Politics in Hamburg (HWP), and is co-founder of the high-tech start-up company Wavecall SA, Lausanne/Amsterdam; he co-founded and headed Hannover School of Health Management (HSHM). He is the president of the German Managed Care Association (BMC), Berlin.

• UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN DENMARK (SDU)



Christian Kronborg holds an MSc in economics and a PhD in health economics from the University of Southern Denmark. His current research focuses on the performance of pharmaceutical markets. He also has research interests in developing and applying health economic evaluation to trials. He is the representative of The Research Unit for Health Economics at the University of Southern Denmark for InterQuality Programme. The unit is the leading health economics department in Denmark and one of the leading centres for health economics in the Nordic countries.

• UNIVERSITY OF CATANIA (UNICT)



Giacomo Pignataro (B.A., Economics, Univ. of Catania; M.Sc., Economics, Univ. of York; Ph.D., Economics, Univ. of York) is full professor of Public Finance, President of the Scuola Superiore di Catania and Vice-President of the Italian Association of Health Economics (Associazione Italiana di Economia Sanitaria, AIES). He is member of the Scientific Board of the Italian Journal "Politiche Sanitarie".

• URBAN INSTITUTE WASHINGTON (UI)



Robert Berenson, M.D., is an Institute Fellow at the Urban Institute. He is an expert in health care policy, particularly Medicare, with experience practicing medicine, serving in senior positions in two Administrations. From 1998-2000, he was in charge of Medicare payment policy and private health plan contracting in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Previously, he served as an Assistant Director of the Carter White House Domestic Policy Staff and recently was a member of the Obama transition team. Effective July 2009, Dr. Berenson became a Commissioner of the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC). He has published over 50 research and policy articles in peer-reviewed journals, including Health Affairs, New England Journal of Medicine, Annals of Internal Medicine, Journal of the American Medical Association.

• UNIVERSITY OF YORK (UY)



John Hutton is Professor of Health Economics in the Department of Health Sciences at the University of York and a Project Director for the YHEC. He directs a programme of applied research, training and consultancy on health technology assessment (HTA) and the economics of innovation in health care. For 12 years he was Vice-President for European Operations at MEDTAP International Inc. directing HTA studies across Europe. Since 2004 he has been Vice-Chairman of York Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. He is also a Non-Executive Director of MEDIPEX, the Yorkshire NHS Innovation Hub, and has recently been appointed to the NICE Technology Appraisal Committee.

• SOPHARM SP.Z O.O. (SPH)



Malgorzata Chmielewska, Sopharm General Manager, is a graduate of Human Nutrition Faculty at the Warsaw University of Life Sciences, specializing in Human Physiology, lecturer of Warsaw University of Technology Business School, Advanced Training Program in Pharmacoeconomics, Pharmaceutical Marketing & Law. She has profound knowledge regarding the Polish medical and pharmaceutical sector, as well as expertise in all aspects of both, Public Relations and Customer Relations, as well as Human Resources Management issues.

• STANDING COMMITTEE OF EUROPEAN DOCTORS (CPME)



Constanty Radziwiłł graduated from the Medical University in Warsaw in 1983. Since 1984 he has worked as a primary care physician in Warsaw and since 2005 he has been a lecturer in the Family Medicine Department of the Medical University of Warsaw. He also graduated from the Postgraduate Faculty of Bioethics in the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University of Warsaw and the Postgraduate Faculty of Health Care Economics in Warsaw University. Since 1993 he has been active in the Polish Chamber of Physicians and Dentists, of which he was President from 2001 to 2010 and is currently Vice-President. He was a chairman of the CPME Ethics and Professional Codes subcommittee from 2004 to 2005, CPME Vice-President from 2008 to 2009 and has been CPME President since 2010.

• EUROPEAN PATIENTS' FORUM (EPF)



Liiska Sanna, Programme Manager, has sound expertise in project and programme coordination in the health sector - in particular in managing multi-partner regional projects, project development, monitoring and evaluation, training and capacity building, gender mainstreaming, eHealth, patients' involvement. She has worked for 10 years in this capacity in various European NGOs.

Project objectives:

1. To investigate the effect of different financing methods and incentives on the quality, effectiveness and equity of access to health care in four patient groups affected by:
 - pharmaceutical care
 - hospital care
 - outpatient care
 - integrated care
2. To develop collaborative practice models of healthcare, in the context of financing treatment of chronic diseases
3. To establish the feasibility and effectiveness of developed models in the settings of each partner healthcare system

Research areas:

- Incentives
- Clinical issues: quality outcomes, clinical efficacy and safety
- Economic issues: cost control, cost-effectiveness, utilization of resources
- Equity



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Spending more on healthcare often doesn't result in improving quality, effectiveness and access to service. In several countries higher rates of physician consultations, hospital beds, or medical prescriptions per citizen result in wasting resources as compared to other countries, which have introduced modern co-payment systems, provided with safeguards, like "annual caps" or "doughnut holes". In the latter case the overuse of resources caused by moral hazard is reduced by empowering patients. Resources that are wasted because of poor management are no longer available to reimburse innovative pharmaceuticals, buy new equipment, shorten waiting lists and improve other essential quality indicators.

To improve and modernize health care financing systems different reforms are being implemented in United States and in Europe. But even experienced executives of US health insurance companies admit that: "Our current payment system is making cost, quality, and coverage problems worse by rewarding volume regardless of quality or outcomes and paying for procedures and services regardless of whether they are appropriate or needed. These systems value expensive technology over patient-centered care and pays richly for acute care but not for the primary and preventive care that keeps people healthier. The good news is that we can realign payment incentives to drive quality improvement and foster better use of our health care resources. To get better quality, we don't need to pay more: we need to pay smarter."

Health care financing reforms implemented in Central and Eastern Europe have proven various technical and political difficulties. Scientifically validated tools to help decision-makers choosing the right financing mechanisms in the different areas of healthcare systems are vastly needed.

A key marker of the successful healthcare system is the extent to which it facilitates the delivery of efficient, effective and equitable care. While healthcare systems differ in such core elements as the characteristics of the population base or funding, reimbursement and pricing systems, the design and implementation of reform measures is mainly geared towards optimizing the relationship between input and output (quality, outcome) factors.



INTERQUALITY Spend not more but smarter

International Research Project
on Financing Quality
in Healthcare

Consortium Partners:

- Medical University of Warsaw, Poland - Coordinator
- Hannover Medical School, Germany
- University of Southern Denmark, Denmark
- University of Catania, Italy
- Urban Institute, Washington, USA
- University of York, UK
- Sopharm, Poland
- Standing Committee of European Doctors, Belgium
- European Patients' Forum, Luxembourg

Project timing:

December 2010 - November 2013

