



Best practices in Primary Care

SGPP meeting, 25th November 2020

Unit "Performance of national health systems"

Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety

European Commission

Identification of primary care challenges: Analysis of the European Semester

- Primary care has been part of Country Specific Recommendations (CSRs). COVID-19 pointed out its importance.
 - Primary care mentioned in **CSRs/recitals 2019** of **11 Member States**
 - Primary care mentioned in **CSRs/recitals 2020** of **18 Member States** (2/3 of all countries!)
 - **Primary care recommendation** received by **7 Member States in 2020**, see the table:

Country	CSRs 2020
AT	Improve the resilience of the health system by strengthening public health and <i>primary care</i> .
CZ	Ensure the resilience of the health system, strengthen the availability of health workers, <i>primary care</i> and the integration of care, and deployment of e-health services.
EE	Improve the accessibility and resilience of the health system, including by addressing the shortages of health workers, strengthening <i>primary care</i> and ensuring the supply of critical medical products.
HU	Improve access to quality preventive and <i>primary care services</i> .
IE	Improve accessibility of the health system and strengthen its resilience, including by responding to health workforce's needs and ensuring universal coverage to <i>primary care</i> .
MT	Strengthen the resilience of the health system with regard to the health workforce, critical medical products and <i>primary care</i> .
SK	Improve <i>primary care provision</i> and coordination between types of care.

Post-COVID-19 challenges for health systems

BUDGET

Insufficient financing for health investments;

Additional strain on health system's revenues.

WORKFORCE

Shortages of health workers;

Skills mismatch.

CARE ORGANISATION

Limited coordination and integration of care;

Potential for more e-health and telemedicine;

Weak primary and ambulatory care.

CRISIS RESPONSE

Supply chains for critical equipment and medicine;

Lack of infrastructure.

ACCESS

Obstacles in access to healthcare due to emergency;

Obstacles for vulnerable groups.

Expert Panel on Effective Ways of Investing in Health:

Draft Opinion on the organisation of resilient health and social care following the COVID-19 pandemic

- Strong **primary care** systems form the foundation of any emergency response
- Strong **primary care** is central in addressing a population crisis
- Recommends investments in **primary care** and mental health and strengthen the integration of these systems

EU programmes for support to primary care

- EU4Health
- Horizon Europe
- Digital Europe
- Recovery and Resilience Facility (Finance + Technical Support)
- Cohesion Policy: ERDF, ESF+
- InvestEU (Finance + Advisory Services)

Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF)

- The Commission proposed the RRF in May as the centrepiece of the Next Generation EU recovery instrument.
- To be operational as of 1 Jan 2021 until 2026 (starting date depends on conclusion of current negotiations)
- Effective implementation of Next Generation EU can deliver 2% of additional GDP by 2024 and create 2 million jobs.

Total Budget €672.5 billion



National Recovery and Resilience Plans (RRPs)

- The Proposal on [Recovery and Resilience Facility](#) outlines the information MSs need to provide in their **Recovery and Resilience Plans**
- RRP provide an overview of reforms and investments in line with the objectives of the RRF and Country Specific Recommendations (esp. 2019 and 2020) and EU flagships
- Focus on
 - Promoting economic, social and territorial cohesion
 - Strengthening economic & social resilience
 - Mitigating the socio-economic impact of the crisis
 - Supporting the green & digital transitions

Each RRP to include

- min 37% of climate related expenditure
- min 20% of expenditure related to digital (including e-health)

Transferring best practices in primary care

What's next?

1. DG SANTE will provide a **template** to describe best practices in primary care
2. SGPP members are invited to **identify best practices in primary care from their countries and submit them to SANTE-HEALTH-BEST-PRACTICES@ec.europa.eu** according to the template by **15th January 2021**
3. **Marketplace** to share the best practices in the first half of 2021
4. Opportunity to transfer the best practices with **EU4Health** support
5. Subsequently: **better placed** to reform Primary Care systems with larger **funding from other programmes**

Thank you

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Directorate C - Public health

Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases

SGPP priorities and next cycles of implementation on best practices and research results:

- The SGPP members are invited to comment on the proposed approach and to identify best practices in primary care, if any, from their own Member State and submit them to DG SANTE by 15th January 2021.
A template to describe the best practices in primary care will be provided to the SGPP (together with the flash report and presentations after this meeting).

25 November 2020, 14:00 – 16:30 CET