



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Public Health, country knowledge, crisis management  
**Health programme and chronic diseases**

## **First formal meeting of the Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases**

**6 November 2018**

### **Flash report**

Following the formalisation as a formal Commission expert group in July 2018, the Steering Group held today its first formal meeting in Luxemburg. Member State representatives, several Commission services and the European Investment Bank discussed a wide range of policies and initiatives in the area of public health. Firstly, the Steering Group discussed future cooperation with the Expert Group on Health Information in the context of providing of relevant health data and intelligence to support decision making of the Steering Group. Secondly, the Steering Group was informed on the outcome of the first meeting of the new subgroup on proton therapy centres, which had been held on 22 October 2018. Thirdly, the Steering Group had a reflection on rare diseases as regards the sustainability of Orphanet and the development of the rare disease registry platform by the Joint Research Centre. Finally, the Steering Group decided that mental health would be the priority area for best practices and screening of implementable research results in 2019.

In addition to the business part of the meeting, the Steering Group was provided with an overview on the future planning for investing in health and people at the European level with an objective to seek synergies between different funding programmes. Deputy Director-Generals from DG EMPL and DG Connect informed on the relevant funding programmes and the Deputy Director-General from the European Investment Bank provided an overview on health investments.

The next meeting of the Steering Group is scheduled for February 2019 and it is planned to be a joint meeting with the Research Programme Committee.