



GOVERNO DE
PORTUGAL

MINISTÉRIO DA SAÚDE

Strategic value of ERN for Portugal

Alexandre Diniz
Ministry of Health
PORTUGAL



**The process of transposition
into Portuguese law
of the European Directive 24/2011/EU
(cross-border healthcare)
ends with the approval
by the Portuguese Parliament
of Law 52/2014, of 25 August**



**The EU Cross-Border Healthcare Directive
fosters the development of quality policies
in the Portuguese Health System**

**Portugal
followed the model
set by the European Commission to the
European Reference Networks
for the recognition of the
national reference centers**



The Ministry of Health
through the Directorate-General of Health
is namely the

- **National Authority for Public Health**
 - **National Authority for Health Care Quality**
-



The Directorate General of Health coordinates at national level

- **National Strategy for Quality in Health**
 - **National Plan of Patient Safety**
 - **National Clinical Guidelines**
 - **National Clinical Audits**
 - **National Plan of Units Accreditation**
 - **National Strategy for Rare Diseases
(inter-ministerial)**
-



The Ministry of Health governs all the Health System

⇒ National Health Service

- Public Sector
- Private Sector contracted by the State

⇒ Private Sector

The Portuguese Ministry of Health

- Integrated the concept of “Reference Centres” in the Hospital Network Reform
 - Started the process of identification, approval and recognition of “Reference Centres” by the Minister of Health
 - Adopted the EU Commission Delegated Decision considering the general criteria and conditions for Portuguese “Reference Centres”
-



**The Portuguese Minister of Health
designated**

**the National Commission for Reference Centres
constituted by medical experts**

This Commission is responsible

- **for the identification of needs of highly specialized care delivery**
 - **for the identification of major intervention areas**
 - **for the recognition proposal of those national “Reference Centres” (public and private)**
-



The National Commission for Reference Centres

- defined the priority areas of intervention for 2015
- established the specific criteria for each area

The Directorate-General of Health

- launched a national contest for the recognition of 2015 Reference Centres by the Minister of Health
-

2015 Priority areas for the recognition of Reference Centres

- **Rare cancers**
(pediatric and adults)
 - **Rare diseases**
(hereditary metabolic diseases)
 - **Transplantation of solid organs**
 - **Congenital cardiopathies**
 - **Structural intervention Cardiology**
 - **Refractory epilepsy**
-



**All the general and specific criteria
for recognition as a Reference Centre
were evaluated by the
Commission for the Reference Centres
through an objective and transparent process**



The recognition process is still ongoing

Until today

13 Reference Centres

have been recognized

by the Minister of Health



Strategic value for Portugal of European Reference Networks

- to promote the quality of care by improving the efficiency, effectiveness and outcomes
 - to share research with the best European centres
 - to strength epidemiological surveillance
-



Strategic value for Portugal of European Reference Networks

- to improve mobility of expertise and knowledge
 - to develop quality and safety benchmarks
 - to concentrate resources by scale economy
-



Strategic value for Portugal of European Reference Networks

- to officially recognize the excellence
 - to help the reorganization of the Portuguese hospital referral networks
 - to strengthen confidence of the Portuguese and European citizens in the Portuguese Medicine
-



**One of the strongest strategic values
of the European Reference Networks
for Portugal is**

- **to line up the Portuguese Health System results with the best ones of European countries**
 - **the European and international recognition of the Portuguese Health System**
-



GOVERNO DE
PORTUGAL

MINISTÉRIO DA SAÚDE

**Thank you for your attention
and a pleasant stay in Portugal**

www.dgs.pt

adiniz@dgs.pt