



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
HEALTH & FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Health systems, medical products and innovation  
**Cross border healthcare and Tobacco Control**

## **CROSS-BORDER HEALTHCARE EXPERT GROUP MEETING**

**15 NOVEMBER 2018, 10:00-17:00**

**Venue: Centre Conference Albert Borschette**

**Rue Froissart 36, 1049 Brussels**

**Room: 5B**

**CHAIR: MR ANDRZEJ RYS (EC DIRECTOR)**

**MS THEA EMMERLING (EC HEAD OF UNIT)**

### **AGENDA**

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

- Exchange views on the Commission's 2018 report on the operation of Directive 2011/24/EU on the application of patients' rights in cross-border healthcare and share experiences implementing the Directive 2011/24/EU;
- Inform on the initial reactions of the co-legislators and media attention;
- Discuss the preliminary results of the data collection exercise for 2017;
- Disseminate and discuss the outcomes of the study on cross-border cooperation and follow up on results;
- Disseminate and discuss the outcomes of the study on enhancing information provision to patients and follow up on results.

**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**

**2. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DIRECTIVE 2011/24/EU**

**2.1. Exchange of views on the 2018 Report on the operation of Directive 2011/24/EU on the application of patients' rights in cross-border healthcare<sup>1</sup>**

Introduction and presentation by the Commission and exchange of views on the implementation of the Directive (Tour de Table)

**2.2. Presentation of the 2017 data collection exercise**

Presentation by Health Connect Partners - Petra Wilson

<b>LUNCH BREAK (13:00-14:00)</b>
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**3. STUDY ON CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION: CAPITALISING ON EXISTING INITIATIVES FOR COOPERATION IN CROSS-BORDER REGIONS AND FOLLOW-UP**

Presentation by Gesundheit Oesterreich  
Exchange of views

**4. CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION: UPDATE ON THE COMMISSION COMMUNICATION ON BOOSTING GROWTH AND COHESION IN EU BORDER REGIONS<sup>2</sup> AND IN PARTICULAR ON THE ECBM PROPOSAL<sup>3</sup>**

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<sup>1</sup> Adopted on 21 September 2018, COM(2018) 651 final

[http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter\\_service\\_id=327&newsletter\\_issue\\_id=10813&page=1&fullDate=Fri%2021%20Sep%202018&lang=default](http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=10813&page=1&fullDate=Fri%2021%20Sep%202018&lang=default)

<sup>2</sup> Adopted on 20 September 2017 COM(2017) 534 final

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/sources/docoffic/2014/boosting\\_growth/com\\_boosting\\_borders.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docoffic/2014/boosting_growth/com_boosting_borders.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Proposal on a mechanism to resolve legal and administrative obstacles in a cross-border context (COM/2018/373 final - 2018/0198 (COD)) <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2018%3A373%3AFIN>

A new legal instrument to resolve border obstacles has been proposed by the Commission on 29 May 2018 and is currently being considered by Member States and the European Parliament. There is a specific need for growth in border areas, home to 30% of the European population. The socio-economic development of these regions is often hampered because of their peripheral location and differences in legislation compared to their neighbouring countries. Border regions experience hindrance of free movement of labour and services which leads to disadvantages in economic, social and cultural development. Also, the effects on healthcare systems in these regions are significant. The geographical working area for enterprises and their markets (especially SMEs), healthcare providers and institutions, knowledge workers, educational institutions and regional governments is often a lot smaller than in non-border regions and hence, use of healthcare provisions is less efficient. Furthermore, citizens are limited in their choice of and accessibility to healthcare and there is less opportunity for cooperation in the healthcare market.

Presentation by DG REGIO (TBC, European Commission)  
Exchange of views

**5. PROVIDING INFORMATION TO CITIZENS – STUDY ON CROSS-BORDER HEALTH SERVICES:  
ENHANCING INFORMATION PROVISION TO PATIENTS AND FOLLOW-UP**

Presentation by ECORYS and KU Leuven  
Exchange of views

**6. WORKING TOGETHER**

**6.1. Upcoming conferences of relevance in the field**

Information Point by DG SANTE (European Commission)  
Information Point by Delegates

**6.2. Exchange of views**

**7. AOB**