



*Ministry of Health*

**State of Health in the EU  
Voluntary exchange with Italy  
Rome, 25 June 2018**

---

# **On the sustainability of health financing in Italy**

*Giovanni Nicoletti, Lorenzo Spizzichino*

*EGHI Meeting , Luxembourg, June 6, 2018*

# Background

- How much a Country spends on health care and how this changes over time is the result of a wide array of social, demographic and economic factors, as well as the financing and organisational structure of the Country's health system.
- Differences between Countries expenditure can depend on such variables as level of income, population structure, disease patterns, supply and use of technology and resources, price levels and priority that both governments and individuals place on health
- Health expenditure in Italy is below the EU average. However, although a core set of essential services are free, out-of-pocket expenditure is relatively high.

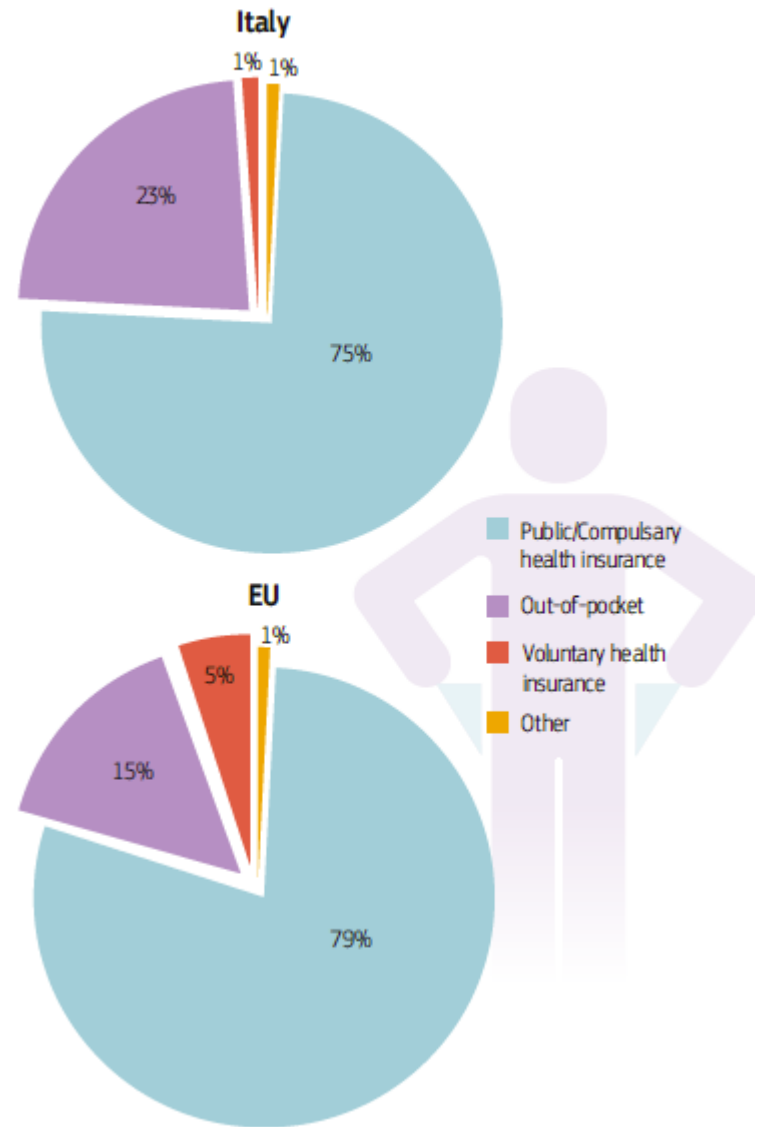
# Background



**Primary and hospital inpatient care are free at the point of service.**

**Copayments are levied on outpatient specialist visits, on diagnostic procedures and on medicines with full or partial reimbursement.**

Figure 12. More than one-fifth of health expenditure is paid directly by households



# Objectives

- In the context of the EU Commission's "State of Health in the EU", the voluntary exchange will draw on the Italian country health profile - prepared by the OECD and the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies in cooperation with the Commission - to compare internationally trends in financing sources (e.g. household out-of-pocket) and components of health care spending (e.g. prevention) in the context of fiscal sustainability and tight public budgets.
- It will also leverage on existing health accounts data, as well as additional data collected on expenditures, prices, activities and resources in the health sector to analyse health expenditure and financing in Italy, and explain some of the possible factors behind observed differences.

# Target audience

The voluntary exchange will bring together international health experts from the European Commission, the Observatory on Health Systems and Policies and OECD, and policy makers from the Italian Ministry of Health

Experts from the field of health expenditure and financing at the national and regional government level in Italy as well as academics will be invited to take part in the discussion.

### *Session 1: the State of Health in the EU*

Facilitator: OECD

- Presentation of State of Health in the EU  
**Giulio Gallo**, European Commission  
Presentation of the Italian country health profile  
**Ane Auraaen**, OECD

### *Session 2: trends in health expenditure and financing. How Italy compares*

Facilitator: Observatory

- International comparison of trends in financing sources and components of health care spending  
**Luca Lorenzoni**, OECD
- Making health systems more resilient and sustainable: a framework/criteria for sustainable health systems  
**Ewout van Ginneken**, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies
- A view from the inside  
**Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance**

### *Session 3: the fiscal sustainability challenge*

Facilitator: OECD

- The evolution of the Italian NHS: main achievements, key challenges and action planned to ensure sustainability  
**Andrea Urbani**, Director General for Health Planning, Italian Ministry of Health;  
**Federico Spandonaro**, University of Rome II
- *Panel discussion*: how to ensure the fiscal sustainability of the Italian health system also in light of the new benefit package approved in 2016: raise more money for health and/or improve efficiency of spending? (Invited speakers from **ISS, AGENAS, Italian regions Coordination Team**)

Closing remarks (EC/OECD/Observatory/Italian MoH)

# Draft Agenda

# **EU STATE OF HEALTH : Italian proposals for 2° round**

***Work closer with Commission, OECD and WHO with the aim to:***

- **fine tune methodology and topic priorities**
- **prepare a «shared view» of policy recommendations emerging from indicators and data analysis**

***Other MS interested to work together with this approach?***



**Thanks for your attention!**

