



**Expert Panel on Effective Ways of Investing in Health**

**1<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on  
Tools and methodologies for assessing the performance of primary care**

**F101 01/89**

**Friday 10 March 2017, 10:00 – 16:00 h CET**

**MINUTES**

**1. Participants**

**1.1. Members**

Jan De Maeseneer – Chair (JDM)  
Dionne Kringos – Rapporteur (DK)  
Christian Anastasy (CA)  
Liubove Murauskiene (LM)  
Margaret Barry (MB) via videolink  
Sabina Nuti (SN) via videolink  
Luigi Siciliani (LS) via phonelink (partly)

**1.2. Secretariat**

Jorge Pinto Antunes (JPA) (partly)  
Federico Paoli (FP)  
Päivi Kontinen (PK)

**2. Welcome and apologies**

The Commission gave the first introduction and passed the floor to the Chair who opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.

**3. Adoption of the draft agenda**

The agenda was adopted without modifications.

**4. Declarations of interest**

No new declarations were made.

JDM and DK nominated as an expert, as a member of the Primary Health Care Advisory Group to the Regional Director for the WHO Office for Europe.

**5. On-going work on the opinion**

## 5.1. Mandate

This was the first meeting so the discussion was focused on the mandate and planning the next steps forward. The Chair welcomed participants and thanked the Rapporteur for the groundwork she had done.

### Summary of work to date

The Chair outlined the terms of reference for the Panel. The work plan and steps to be taken are as follows:

1. Agreement on the concept of "primary care".
2. Defining the "domains" that are relevant for assessing the performance of primary care originating from the field of primary care and health systems performance assessment.
3. Exploring the actual indicators, looking for gaps and eventually defining new indicators. Assessing the availability of the indicators and the actual use of criteria in relation to the indicators.
4. Defining a "core set of indicators" focusing on "relevance" and opportunities for "continuing monitoring".
5. Implementation in a policy framework: advice for an EU agenda on performance assessment of primary care.

There were no specific questions or comments.

### Round of Reflections

The discussion started with the definition of the primary care. It was agreed to use the established definition from a previous Expert Panel Opinion on "Definition of a frame of reference in relation to primary care with a special emphasis on financing systems and referral systems" (section 3.2. Primary care: definition) and to revisit it in the coming months.

It was suggested to make a clear proposal to define domains, include new ones, give a hierarchy of problems entering the health system, and look at how the domains can be spread between providers, politicians and other stakeholders. It was also suggested to consider the resilience dimension, which could bring an innovative aspect to the picture.

It was considered to be useful to have a set of international comparable indicators.

It was decided to use: 1. Existing indicators, 2. Indicators countries are already using, 3. scientific indicators and 4. New indicators. Any further thoughts on other indicators from the group are welcome.

It was also agreed that each member of the Expert Panel should prepare 3-4 mins contribution to a question: "Is it feasible to have a core set of indicators usable for monitoring?". This will be discussed at the next plenary.

Timing of the Opinion: pre-final version to be ready by June and final version ready by September. To be decided at a later stage if public consultation is needed.

**Action points**

1. The Rapporteur to work on a draft text.
2. LS to take the draft forward before a teleconference on 20 April.

**5.2. Practical arrangements**

The next meeting, a short teleconference, is scheduled for 20 April at 2pm.

Next WG meeting is scheduled for 3 May at 10am.