



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY  
Directorate C – Public Health

## Flash report

# Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases

25 November 2020

On 25 November 2020, the Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases held a virtual meeting, chaired by DG SANTE. The representatives of 23 Member States and Norway attended the meeting together with a number of Commission services, and agencies<sup>1</sup>.

### SGPP priorities and next cycles of implementation of best practices and research results

SGPP members were reminded of the priorities identified during the SGPP survey, being anti-microbial resistance; cancer; access and availability of medical products and prevention of non-communicable diseases. EU actions focus on the areas with the highest added value for Member States as stated in the AMR Action Plan<sup>2</sup>, following a One Health Approach. Participants were next informed of the new Pharmaceutical strategy for Europe<sup>3</sup> and its connection to the work of the SGPP.

The Joint Research Centre then outlined the next call for best practice on non-communicable diseases – risk factors, foreseen for January/February 2021, which will be launched through the EU best practice portal. The Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Knowledge Gateway<sup>4</sup> was cited as a reference point for public health policy makers. DG SANTE spoke of the intention to promote the transfer and implementation of best practice in primary care<sup>5</sup> in 2021, related to the needs identified in the European Semester. The Member States agreed to submit proposals for best practices on primary care by 15 January 2021.

### Future sub-group on cancer

The Commission informed participants of the progress of the Europe's Beating Cancer Action Plan and the Mission on Cancer and the next steps scheduled for 2021 in order to maximise coordination and collaboration with Member States. Following the adoption of the Europe's Beating Cancer Action Plan, expected for early 2021, a joint meeting is foreseen for health and research ministries to discuss the mandate of the joint subgroup

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<sup>1</sup> Directorates-General represented included Health and Food Safety, Research and Innovation, Environment, Energy, Economic and Financial Affairs, European statistics, Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, as well as the Joint Research Centre, European Investment Bank and representatives from a number of EU decentralised and executive agencies such as European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, and Health and Food Executive Agency.

<sup>2</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/antimicrobial\\_resistance/docs/amr\\_2017\\_action-plan.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/antimicrobial_resistance/docs/amr_2017_action-plan.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/health/human-use/strategy\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/health/human-use/strategy_en)

<sup>4</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/health-knowledge-gateway>

<sup>5</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/expert\\_panel/docs/026\\_health\\_socialcare\\_covid19\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/expert_panel/docs/026_health_socialcare_covid19_en.pdf)

to ensure the synergetic implementation of the Europe's Beating Cancer Action Plan and the Mission on Cancer. The mandate of the subgroup will then put for SGPP's agreement.

#### Reports on specific policy work

DG SANTE and the European Investment Bank then presented the main findings and conclusions of the report on the scientific evidence update from the subgroup on proton therapy, which had the objective of examining the state of play of the evidence on clinical applications and availability of proton therapy in the EU. The SGPP was invited to indicate their interest in addressing the issue of lack of evidence by increasing or redirecting efforts in research, collaboration between centres or conditionality in financing. In parallel they were invited to consider actions at national level to complement EU action.

The conclusions from the SGPP Focus Group on Orphanet Sustainability<sup>6</sup> were presented. The SGPP was invited to take note of the Focus Group report and its proposed stepwise approach, especially as regards the relevance of such an approach for rare diseases efforts at national level.

#### Conclusions and Next Steps

The meeting was concluded by encouraging participants to subscribe to Health Policy Platform<sup>7</sup> and thanking them for their valuable and enriching input.

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.orpha.net/consor/cgi-bin/Education.php?lng=EN>

<sup>7</sup> <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/hpf/>