



GOVERNO DE
PORTUGAL

MINISTÉRIO DA SAÚDE

The Portuguese Model of Reference Centres

1st Conference on European Reference Network

Brussels, June 23th, 2014



1. FRAMEWORK

FINAL REPORT

TECHNICAL GROUP FOR HOSPITAL REFORM

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

A MORE COHERENT HOSPITAL NETWORK

WORKING GROUP - CONSTITUTION

Dispatch No. 4319/2013, of March 15

“To proceed with the development of a network of Centres of Reference /Expertise, namely, as regards the definition of the concept of Reference/Expertise Centre, the identification and recognition criteria of those Centres by the Ministry of Health, as well as their implementation , models of financing, integration in the hospital network and reference networks”

2. AIMS

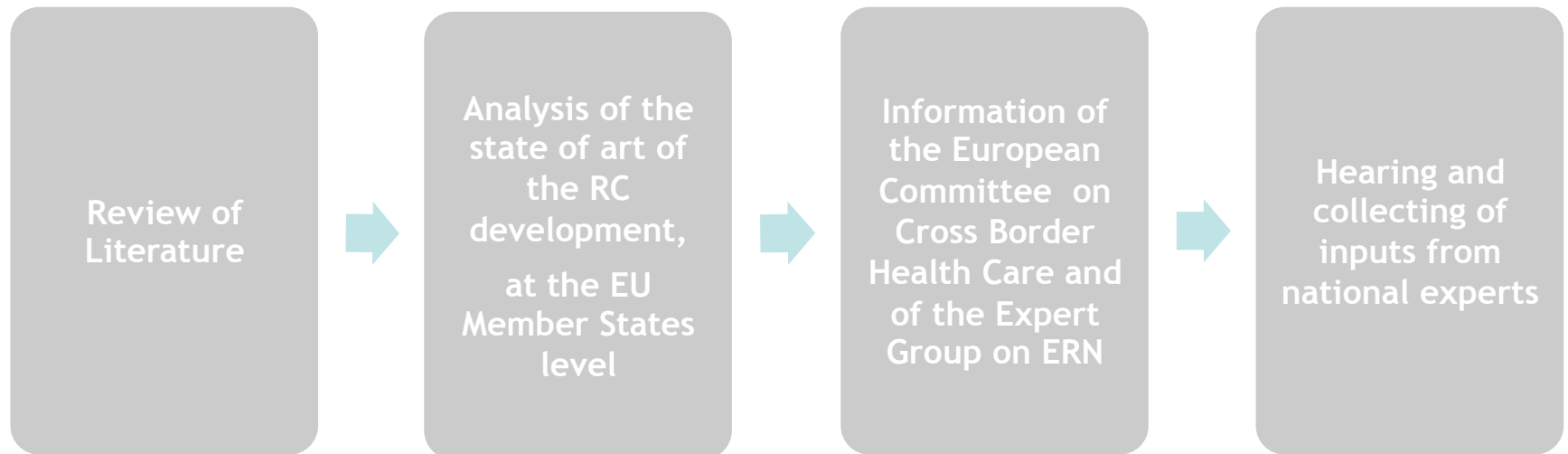
- Define the concept of Reference Centre (RC)
- Establish criteria for identification and recognition
- Propose the implementation model
- Propose general criteria for financing
- Define the integration model of RC in the national hospital network and European Reference Network (ERN)
- Frame and adequate national policy in terms of rare diseases and propose the review of an already existing legislation package, regarding organizational models comparable to RC, further adequating them to the working group proposals, as to the creation of RC
- Present priority areas, pathologies and procedures, that will constitute the first phase of RC in Portugal

3. METHODOLOGY

METHODOLOGY IS BASED ON FOLLOWING MAIN PILLARS



3. METHODOLOGY



4. PRIORITIES AND ACCOMPLISHED ACTIVITIES

Priorities

Introduction, Aims and Methodology

Historical framework

Reference Centres in Portugal

Historical, normative and legal framework

Identification, Recognition Process and General Rules for the financing of RC

Integration of RC in the National Hospital Network and European Reference Network (ERN)

Priority areas for intervention

Accomplished Activities

Framework of working methods in presence of the Work Group aims

National and European state of art on RC

Contextualization of the national and European framework, and transposition into national context of basic definitions

Contextualization of the national and European framework, analysis of the Directive and other legal instruments, having an impact on the design of the RC Network in Portugal

Criteria definition tending to the constitution, functioning and underlying principles to the financing of RC

Definition of RC integration model in the Portuguese Hospital Network and ERN, as well as governance and coordination elements of ERN.

Organs transplantation, oncology, (paediatric cancers and others), metabolism hereditary diseases, hemophilia, hemodynamics and intervention cardiology and refractory epilepsy

Recommendations

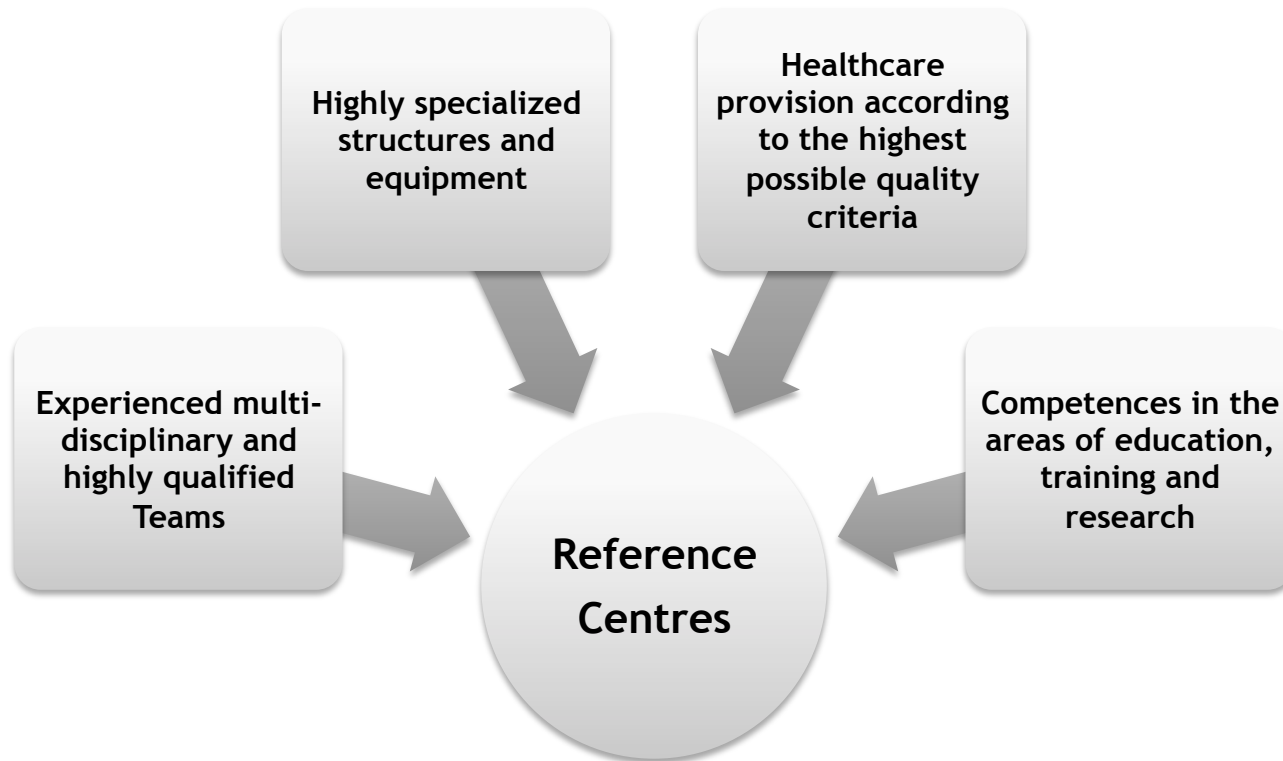


5. DEFINITION OF REFERENCE CENTRE IN PORTUGAL

REFERENCE CENTRE

Healthcare providing Unit, with recognized knowledge and expertise to provide high-quality healthcare to patients, who have conditions requiring a particular concentration of resources or expertise, due to the low prevalence of the disease, to the complexity in the diagnosis or treatment, and to the high costs of those same conditions.

5. DEFINITION OF REFERENCE CENTRE IN PORTUGAL



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ESTABLISHING OF SYNERGIES IN THE SCOPE OF HEALTH



Scale Economies

*Efficiency
maximization*

*Cost-effective
guarantee*

*Best Practices
dissemination*

*Innovating potential of
medical science
maximization*

5. DEFINITION OF REFERENCE CENTRE IN PORTUGAL

Structural features

Differentiation

Attractivity

Consulting

Innovation

Education and Training

Research

Acting principles

Quality improvement

Access improvement

Effectiveness improvement

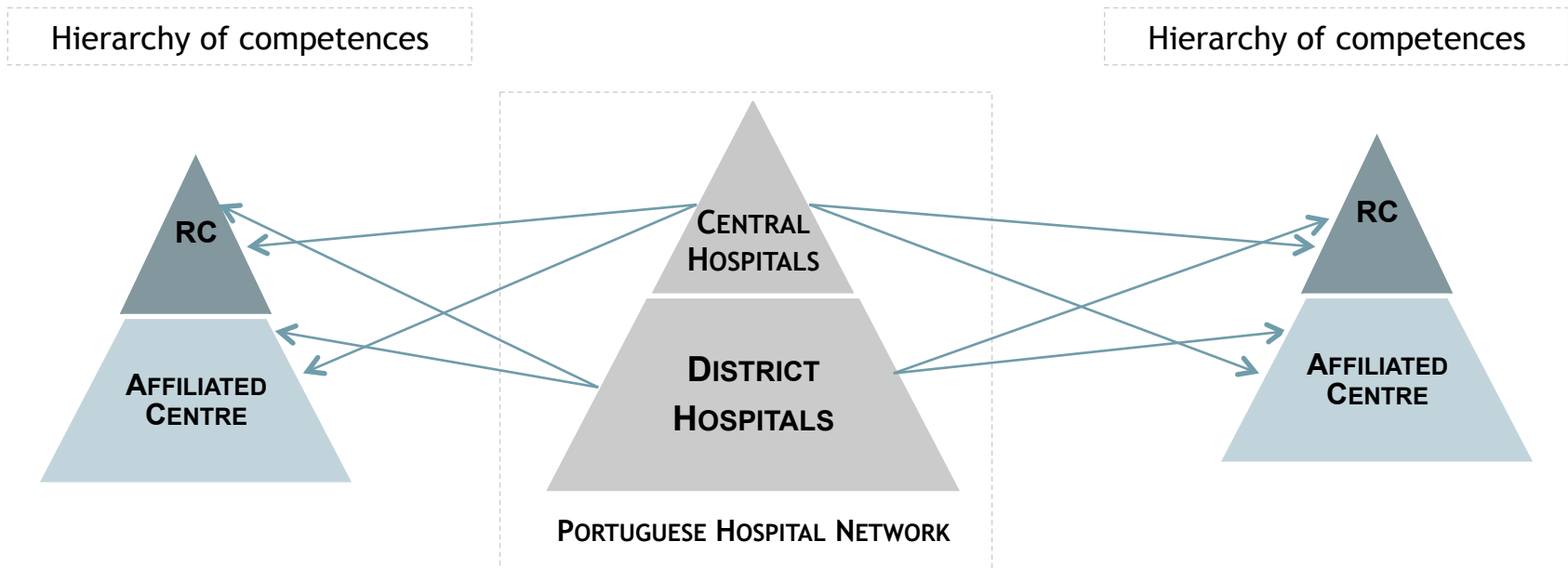
Outcomes centred

Transparency

Safety improvement and decrease of
clinical risk

6. INTEGRATION IN THE PORTUGUESE HOSPITAL NETWORK

INTEGRATION MODEL OF CENTRES OF REFERENCE IN THE PORTUGUESE HOSPITAL NETWORK



Hospital Organization and Hierarchy of Competences

7. INTEGRATION IN THE EUROPEAN REFERENCE NETWORK - ERN

NATIONAL CONTEXT

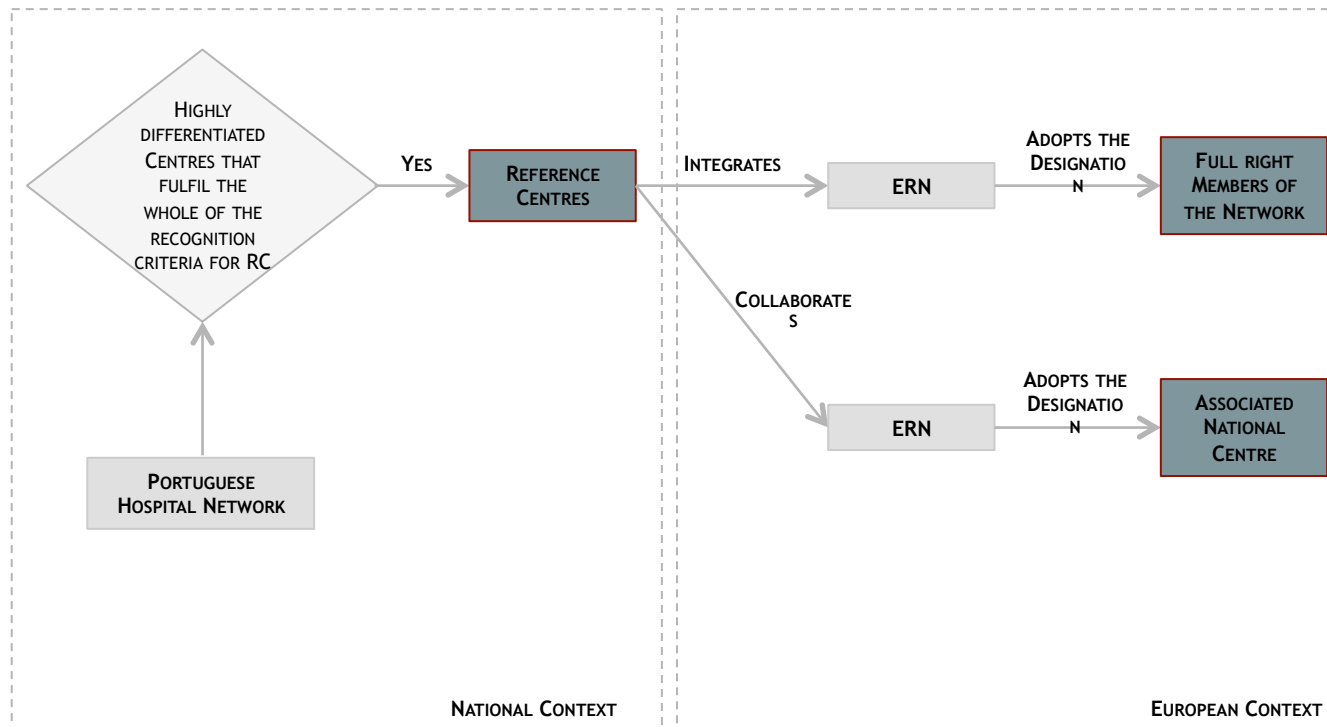
REFERENCE CENTRE

AFFILIATED CENTRE

Portuguese Centre that does not fulfill the conditions and criteria to be officially recognized as a National RC, but possesses the knowledge and expertise in a certain specific area of competences recognized by the Ministry of Health. This Centre, based on its range of services, should be connected to a RC of the same area of expertise.

7. INTEGRATION IN THE EUROPEAN REFERENCE NETWORK - ERN

INTEGRATION MODEL OF RC IN THE ERN



8. FINANCING MODEL

INTRINSIC PRINCIPLES TO THE FINANCING MODEL AND CONTRACTUALIZATION OF CARE

Assure the covering capacity, at national level, for the treatment of the pathologies and procedures considered at the selected reference areas.

Define the range of healthcare service to be provided by RC and Affiliated Centres in the scope of patients follow-up.

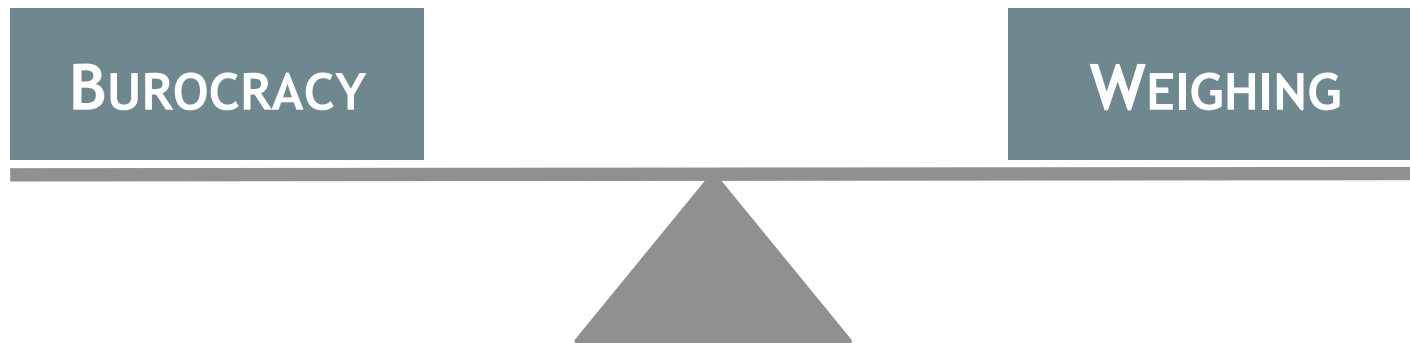
Contract and finance defined procedures and pathologies exclusively with the entities to be constituted as RC.

Contract with the entities to be constituted as Affiliated Centres, the procedures and pathologies that integrate the range of healthcare services in the reference area.

Allocate the financing to the RC and Affiliated Centres, in conformity with their respective range of healthcare services, applying the most **suitable payment modalities** in presence of the defined aims for the areas involved.

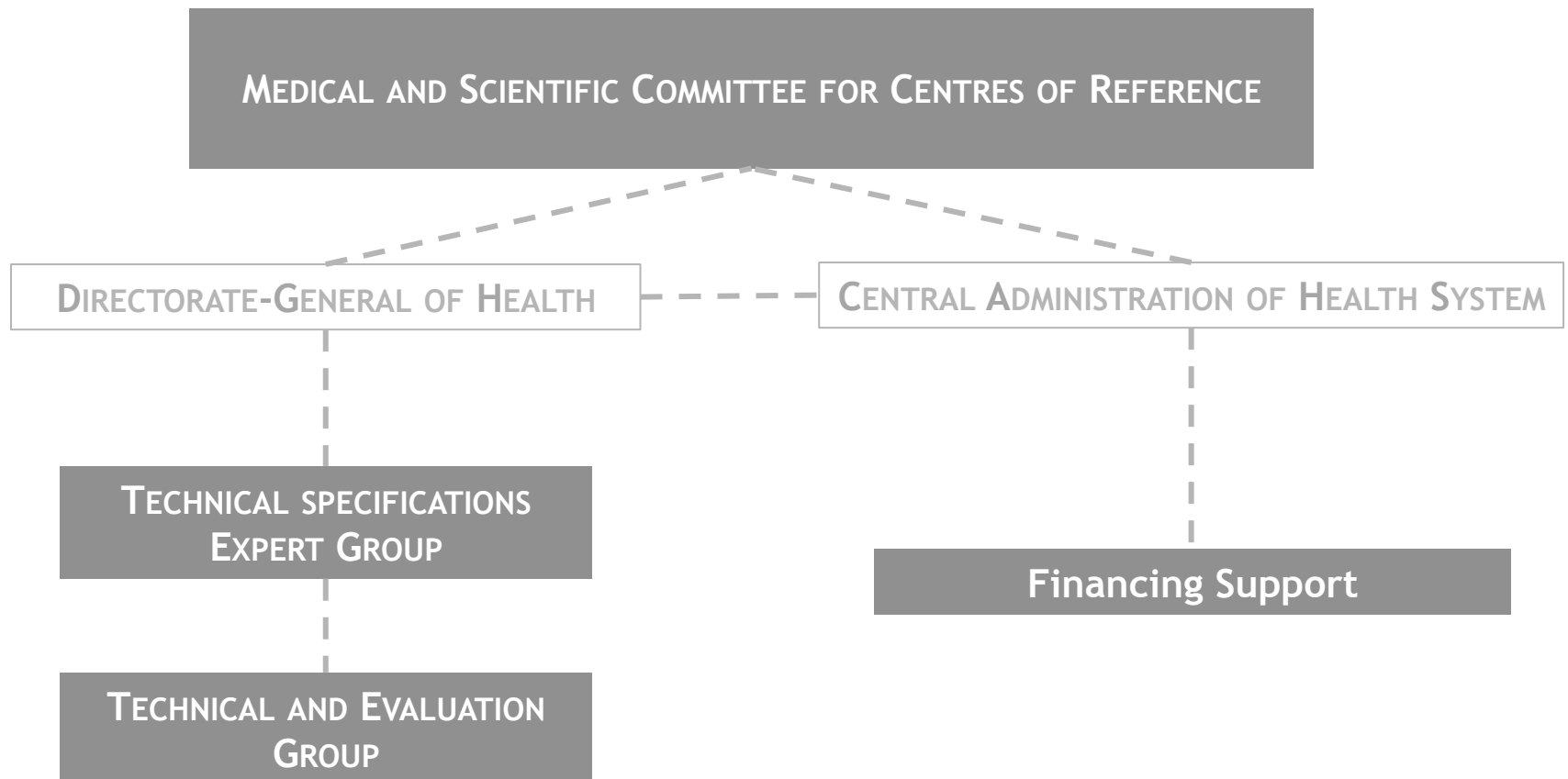


9. RECOGNITION PROCESS



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PROPOSAL OF ENTITIES TO BE CONSTITUTED FOR THE RECOGNITION PROCESS OF CENTRES OF REFERENCE





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PROPOSAL OF ENTITIES TO BE CONSTITUTED FOR THE RECOGNITION PROCESS OF CENTRES OF REFERENCE

MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE FOR
CENTRES OF REFERENCE

Competences

Identify major areas of intervention

Elaborate a proposal of pathologies and procedures

Define ratios of national implementation

Elaborate a final proposal of specific criteria and indicators for the pathologies and procedures

Propose to the Minister of Health the eventual decision of official recognition of centres, candidate to RC

Elaborate a model that materializes the establishing and functioning of Affiliated Centres

9. RECOGNITION PROCESS

PROPOSAL OF ENTITIES TO BE CONSTITUTED FOR THE RECOGNITION PROCESS OF CENTRES OF REFERENCE

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS EXPERT GROUP

Competences

Propose specific criteria and indicators for pathologies and procedures

Identify the requirements to be considered, when evaluating the candidate centres

Clear up doubts and validate RC evaluation aspects, whenever requested by the Technical and Evaluation Group

9. RECOGNITION PROCESS

PROPOSAL OF ENTITIES TO BE CONSTITUTED FOR THE RECOGNITION PROCESS OF CENTRES OF REFERENCE

TECHNICAL AND EVALUATION GROUP

Competences

Evaluate, documentally, the self-assessment process

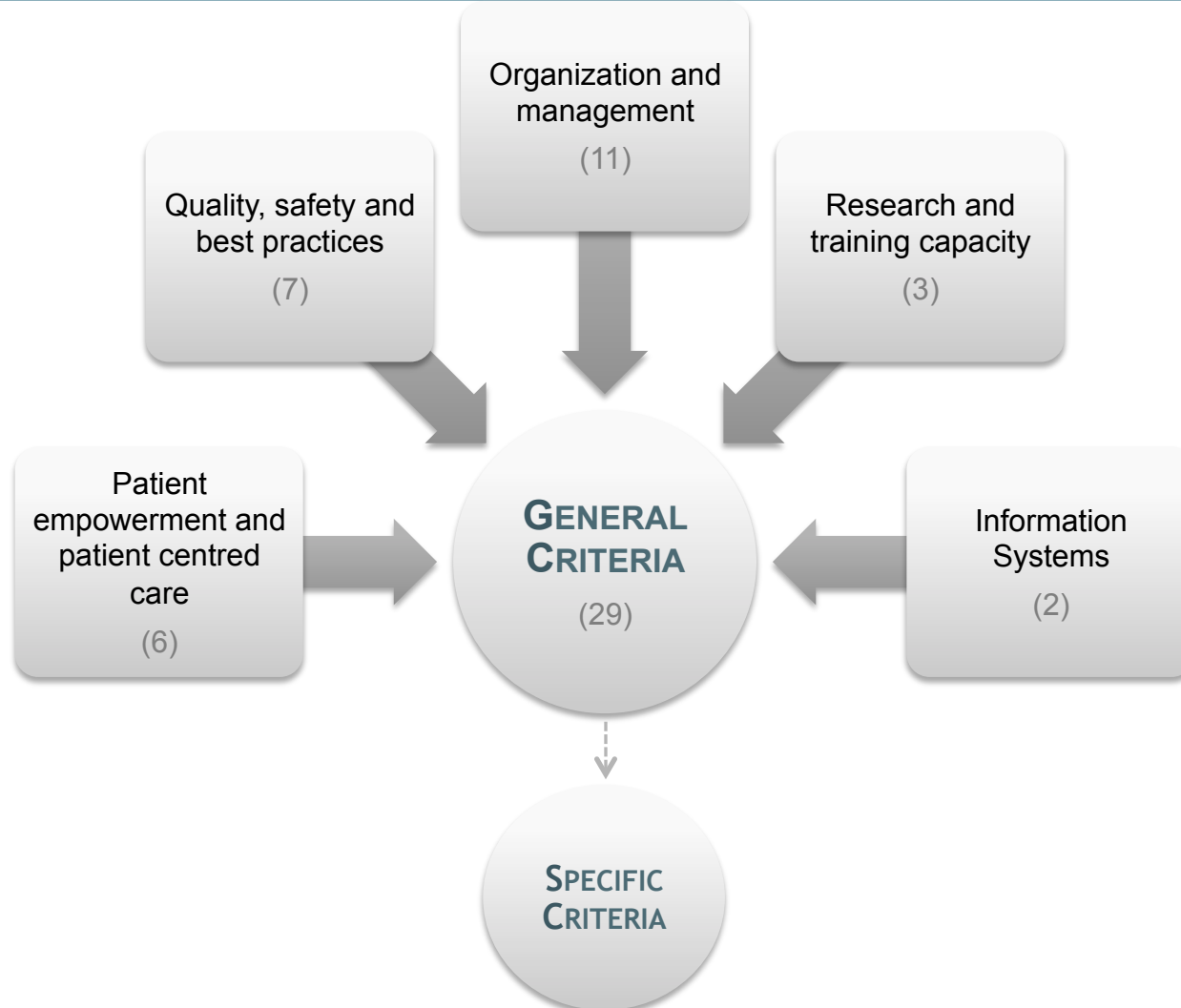
Check the quality of the submitted proposals.

Make visits to the candidate units for validation of all received information.

Prepare the final report to assess the submitted applications.

Promote an audit model.

9. RECOGNITION PROCESS





10. THREATS TO RECOGNITION PROCESS



MISUSE OF RC CONCEPT

LOCAL/REGIONAL PRESSURES

SOCIAL PRESSURES

INADEQUATE FINANCING

**LOOSE THE OPPORTUNITY OF CONCENTRATION OF HOSPITAL
SERVICES**

**LOOSE THE OPPORTUNITY TO INTEGRATE THE PORTUGUESE RC IN
ERN**



11. PRIORITY AREAS, PATHOLOGIES AND PROCEDURES - 2014

Priority areas of intervention

Organ Transplantation

Oncology

Rare Diseases

Cardiology

Pathologies and procedures

Renal, hepatic, pancreatic, cardiac and pulmonary

Paediatric cancers

Testicle, hepatobiliary, pancreas, rectum, esophagus,
stomach, breast and skin cancers

Metabolism hereditary diseases, hemophilia and
refractory epilepsy

Hemodynamics and intervention cardiology.



12. IMMEDIATE ACTIONS

1. Publish the legal framework of Centres of Reference (final inter-ministerial audition).
 2. Approve priority areas for the constitution of Centres of Reference in Portugal for 2014.
 3. Assume a specific financing model for Centres of Reference and Affiliated Centres.
 4. Define the integration model of Centres of Reference in the Portuguese Hospital Network.
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12. IMMEDIATE ACTIONS

5. Ensure a transitional period for adequacy of already existing centres in the first phase, into the new legal framework of Centres of Reference and Affiliated Centres.

 6. Consider the public, private and social sectors, as potential candidates to the statute of Centres of Reference and Affiliated Centres.

 7. Start, at once, the recognition process of national Centres of Reference and respective Affiliated Centres.
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12. IMMEDIATE ACTIONS

8. Develop the internal competences, as well as the organizational model at the central administration of the Ministry of Health, in order to give an effective, complete response to the creation and development process of Centres of Reference in Portugal.
9. Establish evaluation processes and periodic auditing of Centres of Reference and Affiliated Centres.
10. Clarify and integrate in the concept of RC and Affiliated Centres, the Highly Differentiated Centres and Treatment Centres already existing in Portugal, as well as the National Programme for Rare Diseases.



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