

EUREGIO II

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HTAs in border settings

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CROSS-BORDER COLLABORATION

An area of collaboration supported by the European Union programmes since the early '90s

- Ê The Interreg Community initiative was introduced in 1990 to promote cross-border cooperation.
- Ê Between 2000 and 2006 more than two thirds of the Interreg budget (5.8 billion Euros) were address to promote cooperation between border regions

- Û Border regions allow to improve the conditions under which non central governments co-operate across borders, increasing the overall benefit for population
- Û Border regions are also “practical laboratories” where solutions for cooperation in healthcare between regions and Member States are tested for the benefit of the health of the whole population.

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HEALTH-RELATED CROSS BORDER COLLABORATION

- ü Sustain patient mobility
- ü Provide healthcare as close as possible to the patient's place of residence
- ü Ensure quality of care
 - Ø reduction of waiting times
 - Ø improvement of patient safety and quality of care
 - Ø provision of immediate care in emergencies
 - Ø reduction of health risks
 - Ø joint use of existing resources
 - Ø optimised use of existing capacities

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EUREGIO I - “EVALUATION OF CROSS-BORDER REGIONS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION”

HINDERING FACTORS

- Poor projects evaluations
- Lack of adequate, validated information for patients, providers and policy makers
- Legal uncertainty
- Differences in clinical standards, medical protocols and guidelines
- Continuity of care and quality of after care
- Differences in professional training, competences, standards
- Language problems
- Financial problems

PROMOTING FACTORS

- Commitment and will of the actors from the very beginning
- Existing contacts or networks
- Experience gained by the partners/knowledge exchange
- Evaluation activities
- Exchange of information and experiences with other projects
- Political support at the national, regional and local levels

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROJECT ACTORS

Determine the need for and effectiveness of the project

Ensure the availability of sufficient staff and financial resources

Ensure the cross-border added value for the region

Evaluate projects adequately

Initiate steps to ensure sustainability of the activities at an early stage

EUREGIO II "SOLUTIONS FOR IMPROVING HEALTHCARE COOPERATION IN BORDER REGIONS"

The project's aim is to support health and health services related to cross-border activities in border regions.

The project wants to stimulate and promote cross-border cooperation in health care in border regions by fostering the usability of various existing instruments and methods:

- Ê EU Structural Funds
- Ê Health Technology Assessment

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HEALTH TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT IN CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION

Health Technology Assessment (HTA) could help decision makers in local cross border settings to obtain the maximum benefit from limited resources, make an efficient use of health technologies and improve the certainty and sustainability of decisions.



GUIDELINE FOR THE USE OF HTA APPLICATIONS WITHIN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS IN BORDER REGIONS

A useful, easy tool to support all local decision-makers to appropriately uptake, interpret and implement the results of HTA

- Ä Provide decision makers with instruments and indication to get the information they need for an effective and timely application of HTA results in border regions
- Ä Help them to work together whenever the opportunity to perform their own HTA is recognised

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HEALTH TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT IN CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION

Literature analysis:

Ê Health technology assessment in local settings

Ê Cross border activity and cross border issues

No experiences of projects concerning Health Technology Assessment in border regions

Survey-interviews with local decision makers involved in cross border cooperation

Ê Need of timing and focused instruments for decision making

Ê Not formalised analysis of cost-effectiveness, organizational and legal aspects

Ê Need to look to each other experiences and learn from each other

Experts feedback

ë Contents/Requirements

ë Transferability

ë Translation

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Thank you for your attention