

Evaluating care across borders



European Union Cross Border Care Collaboration

The aim of ECAB (EUCBCC) is to facilitate a process whereby Europe's citizens can make informed choices about whether to seek health care in another Member State, and if they so choose, to ensure that the administrative and clinical processes are straightforward and ensure continuity of care.

The project takes as its starting point the draft Directive on Patients' Rights, augmented by the existing body of research on cross-border care. It then focuses on those areas where the necessary information is incomplete and seeks to fill the gaps. It does not seek to quantify the scale of movement, as this is a dynamic area where data are often unavailable and rapidly become out of date.

Acronym

Full title

Project management

Scientific coordination

Consortium

Project web site

EUCBCC

European Union Cross Border Care Collaboration

LSE Health

LSE Health

13 partners

www.ecabeurope.eu

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Methodology

ECAB firstly examines aspects of health care delivery where it will be necessary for procedures to be compatible if patients are to be assured that the care they receive is safe, of adequate quality, and capable of providing continuity where some parts of the overall care process are provided in different Member States. These are:

- provisions with regard to the continuing quality of health professionals
- treatment pathways
- content and scope of medical records
- medical prescribing
- public reporting of quality
- long-term care

Secondly, it looks at three areas where there is already cross-border collaboration to identify practical issues that have arisen and how they have or have not been addressed. These areas of practice are collaborations between hospitals in border areas, telemedicine, and dentistry.

The research on the first set of topics generally takes place on two levels. The first involves a series of pan-European surveys to identify the nature and scale of the phenomenon in, as far as possible, all Member States. The second involves focused studies in key geographical and subject areas that capture important issues. The methods used are both quantitative and qualitative and involve contributions from a broad range of disciplines.

Work Packages

The work of ECAB is organised in 14 distinct work packages:

1. Health care professionals
2. Treatment pathways in different countries
3. Medical records and systems of data collection
4. Prescriptions and medicines
5. Patient choice and public reporting on quality of care
6. Measuring and reporting quality of long-term care
7. Hospital collaborations in border regions
8. Telemedicine/eHealth
9. Cross-border care in dentistry
10. Media reporting of quality of care
11. Assessment of the scale of cross border care
12. Potential implications: lessons learnt, policy recommendations
13. Dissemination
14. Project management

Timeframe

The ECAB project runs from 1 May 2010 – 30 April 2013.



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FOR SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY AND RESEARCH



UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA



NATIONAL INSTITUTE
OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Partners

The ECAB project brings together a team of high level experts with extensive experience in the area of European health policy, combining geographical and disciplinary diversity with academic rigour and policy relevance.

LSE Health

European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

Observatoire Social Européen

Universiteit Maastricht

Technische Universität Berlin

European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research

University of Barcelona (Universitat de Barcelona)

Institute of Public Health of The Republic of Slovenia

PRAXIS Center for Policy Studies

National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health

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