



Newsletter - Issue 1, Summer 2013

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Welcome

What is the HoNCAB project?

The project “Support creation of a pilot network of hospitals related to payment of care for cross border patients” (HoNCAB) started in September 2012 and will run for 36 months. It is co-financed by the European Commission (Executive Agency for Health and Consumers) under the Second Programme of Community Action in the Field of Health 2008-2013. Coordinated by Azienda Ospedaliera Universitaria Integrata of Verona, it brings together [19 partners](#) from nine EU countries and [16 collaborating partners](#).

HoNCAB’s main objective is to obtain for patients a better understanding of the financial and organisational requirements that may arise as a result of receiving healthcare outside their Member State of affiliation, thus preparing hospitals for the new conditions that will apply when EU’s rules on patients’ rights in cross-border healthcare ([Directive 2011/24/EU](#)) will come into force.

What are the expected outcomes?

The expected outcomes of the project are the following:

- Establishment of a knowledge management system consisting of: a **system to receive feedback from cross-border patients**, in order to obtain their perspective and investigate their satisfaction with the reimbursement process and the quality of care received and a **web-based application** to be used by hospitals to collect and exchange relevant information, on the basis of a pre-defined set of variables.
- Obtain information on the main problems faced by hospitals when it comes to payment of care for cross-border patients, the impact of cross-border care in financial terms and compare differences between Diagnoses Related Groups (DRGs) categories and tariffs.
- Set up a pilot **Network of Hospitals**, designed to grow over time, with the aim to share between Member States practical experiences, problems and solutions related to cross-border care.
- Based on the findings of the project, publish a **Compendium of results for policy makers** and a **Handbook for Hospitals**.

HoNCAB website is now online

HoNCAB has recently launched its website: www.honcab.eu

The website contains information on the project and will provide updates on future developments, with a special section dedicated to the Network of Hospitals. Through the website it will be possible to access relevant materials and results of the project.

The English version of the project leaflet is already available for download at the following link: <http://honcab.eu/leaflet/>



First interim meeting, 3-5 July, Brussels

The first interim meeting took place from 3 to 5 July 2013 in Brussels.

The meeting was an opportunity for partners to update each other on the latest progress as well as next steps.

In particular, during the meeting the discussions focused on:

- next steps for the setting up of a web-based application which will be used by hospitals to **collect cross-border patients' information** according to pre-defined variables such as socio-demographic, health-related and administration variables. After the piloting of the web-based application (July-August 2013), selected hospitals will participate in a specific training programme in autumn 2013, in order to standardise procedures among the participating countries.
- content and modalities for the administration of a questionnaire, which will **gather the feedback from patients** on their satisfaction with the quality of care received and reimbursement. The data collection process will officially start in November 2013;
- a protocol outlining **the organisational structure of the Network of Hospitals**, roles and responsibilities as well as procedures for its expansion, including requirements for participation.



First interim meeting, 3 July 2013, Brussels

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