

# HoNCAB FINAL CONFERENCE

*Brussels, Belgium - 18 February 2016*



*Support creation of pilot **network of hospitals**  
related to **payment of care**  
for **cross border patients***

Work Package n.3 - Valutazione del progetto

University of Udine, in collaboration with the  
Italian Ministry of Health (WP 3 leader)

## **Final conference**

18 February 2016, Brussels

Hosted by:

EUROPEAN UNION



**Committee of the Regions**

## **Project's strengths and limits**



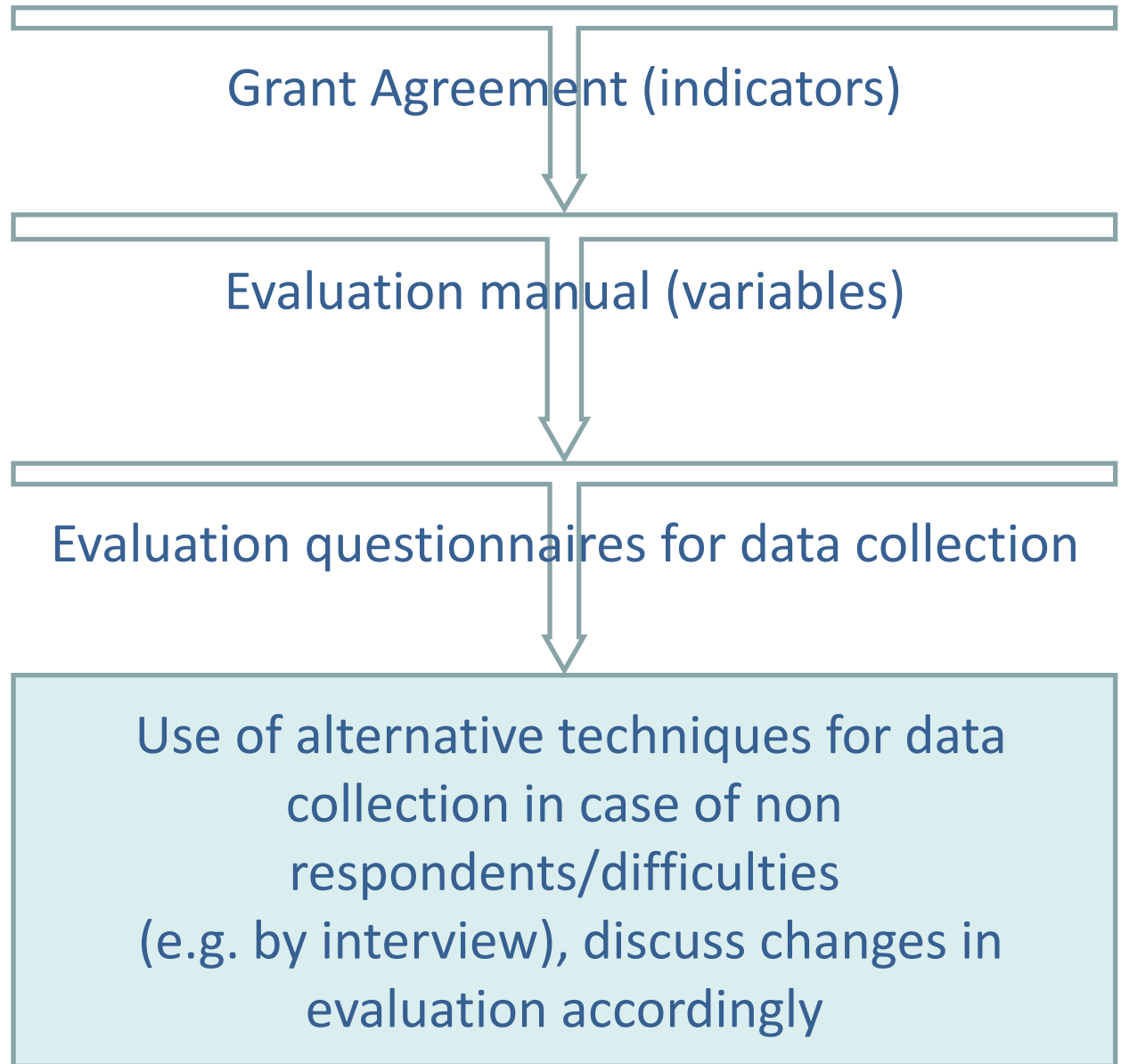
Co-funded by  
the Health Programme  
of the European Union

The content of this document reflects only the author's views and the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained herein. Grant Agreement 2011 13 01 HoNCAB Project




## Objectives work package 3

- **Activities**
  - Provide ongoing evaluation of project activities by collecting data from partners
  - Communicate critical issues to the project coordinator and WP 3 leader
  - Provide technical support for issues resolution, also in collaboration with specific WP leaders and partners
- **Deliverables**
  - Interim and final evaluation reports










## Evaluation methods



# Specific Objective 1

-  = achieved
-  = partially achieved
-  = not evaluated yet

## Results

<b>Establish a pilot network of hospitals that receive a significant amount of patients from other EU Member States</b>		
1.1.1	Number of hospitals contacted to participate in the network	
1.1.2	Number of hospitals that are fully members of the network	
1.1.3	Possibility for the network to expand	
1.2.1	Number of tools / mechanisms (web sites, protocols...) for communication within the network	
1.2.2	Number of contacts between hospitals	
1.2.3	Improved communication between hospitals	
1.3.1	Number of staff who participates in training on data/information collection activities	
1.3.2	Increased capacity of staff to collect data / information	
1.3.3	Improved quality of data /information collection	

# Specific Objective 1

## Strengths:

- a network protocol, comprising a quality assurance system, a learning package and a sustainability strategy are in place for new hospitals to join
- tested communication systems for exchange of information among partners
- a good practice guide

## Limits:

- the real possibility of the network to expand could not be assessed during project lifetime
- project partners encountered some difficulties in the sub-contracting of hospital partners for data collection purposes
- necessity of training (possibly also re-training) for specific formation for data collection

**Final conference**

18 February 2016, Brussels





Co-funded by  
the Health Programme  
of the European Union







## Results



# Specific Objective 2

 = achieved  
 = not evaluated yet

## Results

Exchange of information about reimbursement and payment of cross-border healthcare at the service provider level		
2.1.1	Quantity of data/ information collection	
2.1.2	Quality of data /information collection	
2.1.3	Decreased number of supplementary procedures for payment of cross-border care	
2.2.1	Cross-border hospitalization rate	
2.2.2	Number of cases included for analysis	
2.2.3	Improved understanding of payment of cross-border healthcare	

# Specific Objective 2

## Strengths:




- set up of a registry of cross-border patients for data collection of comparable data among all partners
- collection of a first set of comparable data on the cross-border phenomenon at a pilot level

## Results






## Limits:

- a central data manager has proved necessary to ensure a good data quality
- up to this moment, collected data have only been used for description of the cross-border phenomenon
- informed consent requisite not consistently applied for data collection. Re-assessment required

# Specific Objective 3

-  = achieved
-  = partially achieved
-  = not evaluated yet

## Results

Obtain patient feedbacks in relation of cross-border healthcare and costs reimbursements		
3.1.1 a	Number of information leaflets asking patients to participate in interview distributed	
3.1.1 b	Number of questionnaires received	
3.1.2 a	Increased quantity of information on patients' opinion about cross-border care	
3.1.2 b	Quality of information collected	
3.1.3	Increased quality of information on patients' opinions about cross-border care	

Final conference

18 February 2016, Brussels



Co-funded by  
the Health Programme  
of the European Union



# Specific Objective 3


## Strengths:

a survey composed of two different questionnaires have been tested for comparable data collection on cross-border patients motivation, satisfaction with treatments, quality of received care and reimbursement procedures

## Limits:







- only the first of the two questionnaires (collected at patient discharge) was successfully implemented
- heavy burden for direct data collection of every single patient at discharge may limit sustainability

## Results

 = achieved

## Specific Objective 4

### Results

Comparison of different tariffs adopted by Member States	
4.1.1	Number of common types of elective surgery identified 
4.1.2	Number of common types of elective surgery included for analysis 
4.1.3	Improved understanding of differences/similarities in diagnosis and coding system 
4.2.1	Number of tariffs collected 
4.2.2	Number of tariffs compared 
4.2.3	Improved understanding in difference/similarities in variable utilization for DRG classification 

**Final conference**

18 February 2016, Brussels



Co-funded by  
the Health Programme  
of the European Union

# Specific Objective 4


## Results

### Strengths:

- a comparative study of tariffs in use among partner have been carried out for a set of common “events of care”, relevant to the cross-border phenomenon
- Inclusion of Member States not previously included in the mapping and description of the EU DRG systems (EuroDRG project of WP7 leader, TUB)






### Limits:

- results of the study could are only useful to policy makers and financers of healthcare systems, not to the HoNCAB hospital network

 = achieved

## Specific Objective 5

### Results

Investigate existing cross-border healthcare experiences on relevant issues, also including medical tourism		
5.1.1	Number of potential case studies identified	
5.1.2a	Number of case studies carried out	
5.1.2b	Number of site-visit carried out	
5.1.2c	Number of people interview	
5.1.3	Relevance of findings for final recommendations	

**Final conference**  
18 February 2016, Brussels



Co-funded by  
the Health Programme  
of the European Union

# Specific Objective 5


## Strengths:

- one of the few studies on cross-border experiences in relation to the touristic phenomenon, providing a starting base for future comparative studies on cross-border organizational and administrative practices

## Limits:

- change in work package leadership, time constrains and resources didn't allow for complete consistency of data collection among all partners
- it was possible to evaluate the cross-border phenomenon at the service-provider level only

## Results

 = not evaluated yet

## Specific Objective 6

### Results

<b>Provide recommendations on organisational requirements for the management of payment issues related to cross-border healthcare in view of the Directive 2011/24/EU</b>	
6.1.1a	Number of reports with recommendations distributed 
6.1.1b	Number of reports with recommendations downloaded from websites 
6.1.2	Quality and utility of report (feedback forms) 
6.1.3	Number of references made to the reports in a policy context 

**Final conference**  
18 February 2016, Brussels



Co-funded by  
the Health Programme  
of the European Union

# Specific Objective 6

## Results

### Strengths:

- all work packages contributed to the definition of a common set of recommendations on cross-border healthcare both for hospitals and policymakers
- recommendation report will be easily accessible directly from the project web site for dissemination

### Limits:

- dissemination of project results to advocate for implementation of the recommendations in a policy context could not be assessed during the project lifetime

# Evaluation issues

- **Data collection**
  - Difficulties in the collection of evaluation questionnaires
- **Time management**
  - A number of issues and delays forced required an amendment to the project amendment and the re-structuring of activities

**Issues emerged during the project required adjustment to the evaluation processes**



# Conclusions

- **Strengths**

- Network ready for launch
- Communication systems in place
- Cross-border patients registry in place
- Tested survey methodology
- Proven efficacy of the network for the collection of otherwise difficult to collect data (e.g. tariffs, DRG)
- Good practices collected and reported
- Study on healthcare services related to tourism conducted
- Recommendations ready for dissemination

- **Limits**

- Further expansion and sustainability of the network will depend directly from members activity and project results capitalization in the near future
- Data collection methodology should be revised for future sustainability

**Final conference**

18 February 2016, Brussels



Co-funded by  
the Health Programme  
of the European Union



*Support creation of pilot **network of hospitals**  
related to **payment of care**  
for **cross border patients***

**Thank you for your  
attention!**

Pietro Del Giudice  
pietro.delgiudice@uniud.it

[www.honcab.eu](http://www.honcab.eu)



Co-funded by  
the Health Programme  
of the European Union

The content of this document reflects only the author's views and the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained herein. Grant Agreement 2011 13 01 HoNCAB Project