



DEVELOPING AND VALIDATING DISEASE MANAGEMENT EVALUATION METHODS FOR EUROPEAN HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS

Fact Sheet



THE DISMEVAL PROJECT

Chronic diseases place a substantial burden on individuals, their carers and society as a whole. They account for a large share of health care costs, while the care for people with such conditions remains suboptimal. Structured disease management has been proposed as a means to improve the quality and reduce the cost of care, and to improve health outcomes for the chronically ill.

Yet, while intuitively appealing, the evidence on the ability of such approaches to actually do so remains uncertain. What we know about the impact of disease management is mainly based on small studies on high-risk patients, often undertaken in academic settings. There is a need to learn more about the effects of large, population-based programmes using universally accepted evaluation methods that are scientifically sound and are also practicable in routine settings.

The DISMEVAL project aims to support this process through reviewing approaches to chronic care and disease management (DM) in Europe and through testing and validating possible evaluation methods and so provide evidence for best practices.

This project brings together a multi-disciplinary team of 10 partners in 7 EU countries. It is funded by the European Commission's 7th Framework Programme: Theme Health and runs for three years, from 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2011.

OBJECTIVES OF DISMEVAL

- To review current approaches to chronic care and explore the policy context for chronic disease management in Europe
- To assess options for approaches to disease management evaluation
- To test and validate methods and metrics for disease management evaluation in a range of European countries
- To identify best practices and develop recommendations for disease management evaluation for policymakers and researchers

CONTRIBUTION TO POLICY DEVELOPMENT

DISMEVAL incorporates a major element of policy engagement and active dissemination practices. It will contribute to policy development through documenting policy approaches to improve chronic care, producing targeted reviews of the literature and conducting policy analyses including identifying the opportunities and limitations of policy transfer to and among EU countries. Moreover the Consortium will work to establish expert networks as well as disseminate information and best practices through consultations, conferences and other forms of policy engagement.

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TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Project acronym: DISMEVAL
Full project name: Developing and validating disease management evaluation methods for European health care systems

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