

Clarity and Quality: Bringing Cross-Border Healthcare in Europe Closer to Reality



Thursday 20th October 2011
The Crowne Plaza Europa Hotel
Brussels

"An annual International Symposium for gathering knowledge, discussing the latest challenges and sharing best practices in cross-border healthcare policies in Europe"

In partnership with



Centre for
Parliamentary
Studies

GOVERNMENT GAZETTE



Clarity and Quality: Bringing Cross-Border Healthcare in Europe Closer to Reality

Overview

A new EU Directive clarifying the right of patients to receive healthcare in other EU member states was adopted in March 2011. Central to the European Commission's objective was the need to secure greater clarity regarding patients' rights when travelling to or residing temporarily in another member state and thus, this Directive will have the effect of extending patient choice beyond national borders. As such, patients have the right to seek in another European country any healthcare that they would have received under their own healthcare system. The Directive will reduce the uncertainty commissioners currently have on what rights patients have to receive treatment abroad and how to handle requests from patients for cross-border healthcare.

A key issue with the implementation of the EU rules will be to ensure that health commissioners have clear guidelines over which types of healthcare they allow (or do not allow) their patients to receive. This will be crucial to avoid uncertainty for both commissioners and patients, and to reduce the risk of legal challenges from patients trying to access treatments in another member state which are not routinely available under their own healthcare system. Patients have the right to be reimbursed by their commissioner up to the amount that their treatment would have cost their healthcare system to provide. However, the Directive does not give patients the rights to reimbursement towards the cost of treatment that they would not have received in their own state.

This special International Symposium provides a timely opportunity for healthcare practitioners and stakeholders across Europe to:

- Analyse existing challenges to reimbursement methods and prior authorisation across EU Member States
- Define necessary conditions for improved patient mobility
- Improve information for patients related to cross border healthcare on request and ensure follow-up care across Member States
- Equalise quality and safety standards and allow these to be regulated
- Provide recommendations for cross-border collaboration and cooperation

Public Policy Exchange welcomes the participation of all key partners, responsible authorities and stakeholders. The Symposium will support the exchange of ideas and encourage delegates to engage in thought-provoking topical debate.

“ The Directive will benefit patients across Europe by clarifying their rights to access safe and good quality treatment across EU borders, and be reimbursed for it. The Directive will benefit patients in several other ways. It will help patients who need specialised treatment, for example those who are seeking a diagnosis or treatment for a rare disease. It will bring about closer and improved health cooperation, including the recognition of prescriptions, between Member States.”

**- John Dalli, European Commissioner Responsible for Health and Consumer Policy,
January 2011**

Venue and Accommodation

**The Crowne Plaza Europa Hotel,
Rue De La Loi 107
1040 Brussels - Belgium**

Through our partnership with the Crowne Plaza Brussels Europa we are pleased to be able to offer our delegates specially negotiated accommodation rates. These discounted room rates are subject to availability and are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.



Why Attend?

- ✓ **Discuss mechanisms for improving the quality and safety of cross-border healthcare**
- ✓ **Consider solutions for existing reimbursement challenges in cross-border healthcare**
- ✓ **Ensure continuity of care, informed choices and patient's trust in cross-border healthcare mechanisms**
- ✓ **Utilise the existing cross-border healthcare benefits and share some best practices**

Who Should Attend?

- Public Health Professionals
- Healthcare Providers
- Public Health Authorities
- National Governmental Organisations
- Local Governmental Organisations
- Health Insurers
- Pharmaceutical Industries
- Hospitals
- Social Services
- Health Promotion Advisers
- Medical Associations
- Trade Unions
- Employers Organisations
- Public Health Unions
- Health Research Institutes
- International Centres for Health Protection
- Health Networks
- Patient Associations
- Charitable Foundations
- Associations of Schools of Public Health
- Health Forums
- Natural Medicine Associations
- Associations of Hospital Managers
- Hospital Pharmacists Associations
- Legal Health Professionals
- Academics and Researchers
- Local Authority Officers and Councillors

Clarity and Quality: Bringing Cross-Border Healthcare in Europe Closer to Reality

Programme

- 09:15** Registration and Morning Refreshments
- 10:00** Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks
Dr. Raymond Lies, General Director, Kirchberg Hospital, Luxembourg; President of the Board of the INCCI; Vice-President de l'Entente des Hôpitaux Luxembourgeois (confirmed)
- 10:10** **Bringing Cross-Border Healthcare Closer to Its Citizens**
- The Role of Commissioning in Cross-Border Healthcare In Europe
 - Existing Challenges and Possible Solutions
 - Fostering Collaboration in Cross-Border Healthcare
 - Latest Practices Stemming from the Adopted Directive on Cross-Border Health
- 10:35** **First Round of Discussions**
- 11:05** Morning Coffee Break
- 11:25** **Quality Standards in Cross-Border Healthcare in Europe**
- Maintaining Trust between Patients and Healthcare Providers
 - Improving Confidence in Cross-Border Healthcare Mechanisms
 - Protection of Personal Data
 - Recommendations
- 11:50** **Second Round of Discussions**
- 12:20** Networking Lunch
- 13.20** **Reimbursement Mechanisms in Cross-Border Healthcare: From 'May' to 'Will' be Reimbursed**
- Reimbursement and Authorisation Challenges in Cross-Border Healthcare – What Can We Improve?
 - Existing Conditions for Reimbursements
 - (E)-Prescription Challenges and Implications
 - Definition Challenges
 - Recommendations
- 13.40** **Third Round of Discussions**
- 14.10** Afternoon Coffee Break
- 14:25** **Ensuring Patient Safety and Continuity of Cross-Border Healthcare**
- Improving Clarity and Quality of Cross-Border Healthcare towards Patients
 - Centres of Excellences – Importance and Implications for the Future
 - Implementation Challenges and Possible Solutions
 - Recommendations
- 15:05** **Fourth Round of Discussions**
- 15:35** Chairman's Summary and Closing Comments
- 15:40** Networking Reception
- 16:10** Close

Please note that the programme is subject to change without notice

Event Details

- Date:** Thursday 20th October 2011
Time: 10:00am – 4:10pm
Venue: The Crowne Plaza Europa Hotel, Brussels



Speakers include

- ✓ **Mrs. Annika Nowak**, European Commission, DG Health and Consumers, European Commission (tbc)
- ✓ **Dr. Vincenzo Costigliola**, President, European Medical Association (confirmed)
- ✓ **Mr. Michael Wilks**, Vice President, British Medical Association (confirmed)
- ✓ **Mr. Paul de Raeve**, Secretary General, European Federation of Nurses Associations (confirmed)
- ✓ **Dr. Fausto Felli**, President, Equity in Health Institute, Italy (confirmed)

“ **Access to safe and good quality healthcare is enshrined in the European Charter for Fundamental Rights. Each and every citizen should have easy access to high quality healthcare regardless of income, social status and country of residence**”

- John Dalli, EU Commissioner responsible for Health and Consumer Policy, April 2011

“ **What is very important is that this cross-border healthcare directive will reinforce the freedom of choice in addition to the principles of equal opportunities, the right to good quality care, equity and solidarity.**”

- Enikő Győri, President in-house of the Council (Hungarian presidency), January 2011

Sponsorship and Exhibition Opportunities

We offer a range of opportunities to enable your organisation to raise its profile and communicate with key decision makers in the public sector.

For further information please contact:

Parvin Madahar on +44 (0) 20 3137 8630

or email parvin.madahar@publicpolicyexchange.co.uk