

DISSEMINATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMUNITY HEALTH INDICATORS

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How we define an indicator?

Indicators are at the crossroads of policy questions and data sets. Indicators reflect a policy interest as well as a selected set of possibilities in terms of what can be calculated.

Therefore they will on one hand be justified from the policy side and on the other hand a short characterisation of the data source will be added.

In general, the following criteria were applied in the selection of the indicators (derived from the goals of the HMP and the PHP itself):

Comprehensiveness: all aspects of the public health field should be covered. Meeting user needs: the set should cover the main priorities in public health policies of the Commission and the Member States.

Being innovative: the set should not just be data-driven, but also indicate development needs.

Using earlier work: the efforts of international institutions like Eurostat and other Commission Services, OECD and the WHO-Europe, in defining indicators and standard variables have been taken on board as much as possible.

Using HMP and PHP results: the results of projects should be included in the list.



How we define an indicator?

The ECHI (European Community Health Indicators) project was carried out in the framework of the Health Monitoring Programme and the Community Public Health Programme 2003-2008.

Objectives of ECHI:

1. Measure health status, its determinants and the trends therein throughout the Community;

2. Facilitate the planning, monitoring and evaluation of Community Programmes and actions;

3. Provide Member States with appropriate health information to make comparisons and support their national health policies.

The result is a list of `indicators' for the public health field arranged according

to a conceptual view on health and health determinants.



Current legal basis for the developments of Health indicators in the EU Public Health Policy

The Work Plan for 2005 contains explicit mention to ECHI in his item 2.1.1:

Putting into operation by means of a presentation tool of the European Community Health Indicators (the "ECHI short list")' with collection of related data; Implementing the ECHI system at national level as a public database using a public web application.

Improving operational definitions of existing indicators in the "ECHI short list", when necessary.

Developing the technical scientific work on EU health indicators in the areas not yet covered.

Projects focused on specific data sources aimed at improving the methodological and technical bases for moving to routine data collection.



Future legal basis for the developments of Health indicators in the EU Public Health Policy

Draft Regulation from the Council and the Parliament (developed by Eurostat) creating a statistical framework for data collection on health and safety at work in some areas (health status, causes of death, health care). It should be a 'umbrella regulation' to be developed via Commission Regulations.

DG SANCO will elaborate during 2006/2007 proposals for Communication / Working Papers about the improvement of mechanisms to report health as e.g. The European Health Survey System (EHSS), The Hospital Activity Information System, The System of Health Accounts, etc.

Direct contract agreement with OECD for developments in several areas e.g. Indicators on Health Quality, Data collection on Primary Care, etc.

For the period 2007/2013 a new Health and Consumer Protection Programme should replace the existing Public Health Programme (if approved by the Council and the Parliament). Additional budgetary resources (?).

In absence of Public Health legal basis in the Treaties (and in the Constitution draft) to use the consumers protection legal basis plus the statistical basis could be a solution.



Sets of indicators in the EU Public Health Policy

National indicators:

ECHI (European Community Health Indicators)

Sub-national indicators:

ISARE (Indicateurs de Santé dans les Régions de l'Europe)

Urban and rural indicators:

Projects submitted for the first time on Work Plan 2005

Structural indicators:

Healthy Life Years and others (?)

Others:

Indicators on Social Protection Sustainable Development Indicators



To disseminate the 'European Community Health Indicators' it's the public development of the ECHI project.

It will be done using three different tools with common presentation:

- I. A part of the DG SANCO Web Site 'Dissemination of Information and data' (available in different phases since June 2005)
- II. A user friendly download application implemented in the DG SANCO web site (available since July 2005)

III. A fonctionality in the EU Health Portal (available in 2006)



The 'European Community Health Indicators Database' (ECHI-DB) will be a public development of the ECHI project. It will be a user friendly application implemented in the DG SANCO web site and permitting the following:

An easy online or a download database access to the general public and experts

An easy access to all the definition of the indicators in his technical/statistical aspects

An easy access to all the related DG SANCO documentation projects as well as political justification for the inclusion of the indicator on the list

An easy access to all other external sources related to the indicator estimated as useful by the Health Information Unit.



A part of the DG SANCO Web Site 'Dissemination of Information and data' (available in different phases since June 2005)

The content is an integral approach based on:

-The EU action for the the improvement of methods for collecting information: DG SANCO Projects, Eurostat Projects, RTD Projects, others ...

- The answers to the need and definition of indicators qs defined or developed by ECHI and the DG SANCO Projects or others
 - The existing statistical data for ECHI with Eurostat as the main source
- A continuous improving and consensual discussion on the Working Party Health Indicators



A part of the DG SANCO Web Site 'Dissemination of Information and data' (available in different phases since June 2005)

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Life expectancy at birth

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(years)

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The mean number of years that a newborn child can expect to live if subjected throughout his life to the current mortality conditions (age specific probabilities of dying).

For more information...

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data' (available in different phases since June 2005)

First Phase (June 2005)

Browse the themes

- 1. Data collection of the European Community Health indicators (ECHI)
 - 1. See the data from the first set of ECHI indicators
 - 1. Demographic and socio-economic factors
 - 2. Health status
 - 3. Determinants of health
 - 4. Health interventions: health services
 - 2. Future developments of data in the ECHI list
 - 1. The new Working Party on Health Indicators
 - 2. The ECHI second set of indicators
 - 3. The ECHI long list
 - 3. Downloading or consulting on-line the ECHI database
- 2. Data collection on health indicators at sub-national level
 - 1. The ISARE (Indicateurs de Santé dans les Régions de l'Europe) Project
 - 2. Health regional data in Eurostat
 - 3. The WHO Regions for Health Network
- 3. Data collection on Sustainable Development Indicators



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 - 2. Health regional data in Eurostat
 - 3. The WHO Regions for Health Network
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How we will present the data on ECHI-DB?

It will be the combination of three technologies:

1. The DPS (Data Presentation System) software developed for WHO-Europe for his database 'Health for All'. This **data** software, which we will use with the WHO Permission. The interface permits to select the parameters according to three dimensions:

Indicators: for which is the ECHI list used and expanded permitting to break the indicator by sex or/and age when necessary as well as in absolute figures or ratios (by population, currencies, etc.) Countries: Including the 25 Member Sates plus the EEA and the Candidate Countries

Years: Variable according to indicator.



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2. The second element of ECHI-DB is the definition of indicators. For this purpose the facility 'Definitions' in the same DPS software will be used. Definitions to be used will be those currently stored in the application ICHI (International Compendium of Health Indicators).





3. The third element of the ECHI-DB is the description and justification of the indicator from a scientific, a statistical and a methodological point of view as well as the political justification of the indicator when it's supported by EC texts.

All this information will be presented in an 'Indicator sheet' which will present all the indicators related information. As example we can take some morbidity indicators:



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