



Patient Safety: Progress and Challenges at the EU Level

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Patient safety: the story so far.....

- 2005-to date - Productive WG meetings held.
- 2007 – SimPatIE findings published.
- 2007 – ‘Recommendation’ from WG to HLG.
- 2008 - Establishment of EU patient safety network.
- 2008 – Public consultation & impact assessment.
- 2008 – Commission’s Communication and proposal for a Council Recommendation.
- 2009 – MSs adopt Council Recommendation.



Council Recommendation: Action for Member States (and the EU)

- Support the development of national patient safety policies and programmes.
- Empower and inform citizens and patients.
- Establish or strengthen reporting and learning systems on adverse events.
- Include patient safety in the education and training of health professionals.
- Develop and promote research on patient safety.
- Classify, codify and measure patient safety.
- Share knowledge, experience and best practice at European level.



Challenges for you.....

■ How best to implement recommendations:

- Member State actions at national, regional & local levels;
- EU level actions.

■ How to monitor impact of implementation?

■ How to achieve sustainability of Member State and shared action on patient safety?

■ How to address wider healthcare quality issues at EU level?



EU tools to aid/test implementation

■ MS level:

- Use PSQCWG to share experiences and aid implementation
- EU Structural funds. E.g. EFN proposals
- Eurobarometer surveys

■ Community level:

- Taxonomy. E.g. WAPS
- Indicators. E.g. OECD, ECHI
- Long-term cooperation mechanism - Joint Action?

Conclusions

- The Commission and the working group recognised the importance of patient safety and benefits of EU attention.
- Identification of possible EU added value has led to concrete action
- A similar added value in context of wider healthcare quality is being explored.

≈ Key role of the PSQCWG to continue.



Thank you and
good luck!

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For more information
about patient-focussed
EU health initiatives:

<http://health.europa.eu/efp>

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