Making the case for smarter investing in health: highlights of “Health at a Glance: Europe 2018”

- Health spending accounts for 9.6% of GDP
- Up to one-fifth of health spending is inefficient and could be used for other care needs
- 1 in 6 people has a mental health issue
- Low income households have 5 times higher unmet care needs than high income
- Unnecessary admissions consume over 37 million hospital bed days each year
- Direct and indirect costs adding up to more than 4% of the GDP (over EUR 600 billion)

PREVENTION REMAINS A PRIORITY
MORE THAN 790 000 DEATHS PER YEAR DUE TO BEHAVIOURAL RISK FACTORS

- 20% ADULT EU CITIZENS ARE SMOKERS
- 38% ADOLESCENTS REPORTED BINGE-DRINKING
- 1 IN 6 ADULT EU CITIZENS ARE OBESE

For the full report and more information, see ec.europa.eu/health/state
Source: Health at a Glance: Europe 2018 (OECD, European Commission)