

Hocare- National Policy Learning Event (PLE)

National Healthcare Service Centre (NHSC) has been participating in the **Hocare INTERREG EUROPE Programme*** as a consortium partner since April 2016. The project aims to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of regional, national and EU development policies, instruments and funding schemes that support the innovative development of home care products and services by actors (end users, businesses, research actors and public authorities) who base their cooperation on the „QUADRUPLE HELIX” model. The main objective of the project is to formulate policy recommendations to modify national public funding schemes and financial instruments (call for proposals or/and priority projects) or to open new financial engineering instruments which will result, enable and foster the improved access to and uptake of innovative homecare products and services.

So far three international thematic workshops has been organized in the framework of the project (out of which the 2nd took place in Budapest in March, 2017.) These workshops provided the opportunity for the multi-stakeholder groups of the project partner countries to exchange experiences and share **Good Practices** as well as to examine the way and extent to which the QUADRUPLE HELIX model, based on cooperation of its stakeholders, effectively contributes to the success of innovation in home care, if it is based on: (1) end-users' unmet needs; and/or is related to (2) public driven initiatives or public procurements; and/or (3) cooperation is focusing on needs bringing innovative home care solutions quicker to the market.

5th December, 2017, National Policy Learning Event was organized by NHSC in Budapest, with the participation of national patient organisations, health care experts of primary care institutions, representatives of the business sector (industry & distributors) universities & researchers, various ministries and authorities responsible for the relevant development policy fields. The event aimed to provide an overview of project results having achieved so far, as well as to share and discuss potential and already identified policy recommendations and challenges, based on the collected transferrable international GP-s.

Audience of the PLE Forum was greeted by **Dr. Márta Ladányi** Deputy State Secretary for Health Care Coordination, Ministry of Human Capacities, who underlined the exceptional importance of home care and residential nursing in Hungary, where every fifth citizen is over the age of sixty, and emphasized that improving the quality of and access to primary care, and within that to increase the role of residential & home care services are crucial. Dr. Ladányi stated that Home care had already become an independent service area where technical innovations highly assist patient care and contribute to the dissemination and take up of standardised tele- and e healthcare services. Dr- Ladányi also welcomed the European GP-s collected within the Hocare project, which are related to concerted development of systemic, technological innovation, as well as generating innovative services & care.

* “Innovative solutions for Home Care by strengthening quadruple-helix cooperation in regional innovation chains.”

Mr. Ferenc Tipold, Head of Department for Planning and Territorial Development, from the Ministry of National Economy, highlighted how the current operational programmes and financial schemes contribute to the development of networking and cooperation among sectors of the quadruple helix model, and can boost competitiveness. He said there would be a possibility to move forward in this field, following a due assessment of the policy recommendations prepared by transnational programmes like INTERREG EUROPE projects, and mentioned the HoCare project as a good example for fostering successful implementation of regional & national strategies, and support schemes by way of its international cooperation.

On behalf of the organiser, **Dr. Miklós Gondos**, Regional Director of Central Hungary Region of NHSC, welcomed participants of the event. As a representative of a maintainer institution he underlined importance of improvement access to quality care, and mitigating the shortage of specialist staff. He urged providers' (institutions and expert staffs') more active participation in the innovation processes in order to improve efficiency and enable sustainability of the care system. For this reason he stressed significance of the HoCare project, which is in identifying and collecting such European GP-s, both related to healthcare and health industry that contain a great number of already tried & tested innovative solutions, products, procedures or services, providing transferable and adaptable solution models, which following some necessary modifications can be adopted by the local systems of the respective partner countries.

Greetings were followed by a review of selected GP-s and an interactive debate, during which we received useful comments and inputs. The opinions/recommendations coming from various organizations/bodies concerned in health innovations, development policy, and patients' advocacy will be built into the national Action Plan, the completion of which will be the next milestone of the project.

List of partners in HoCare project:

- **Nicosia Development Agency – ANEL (Cyprus)**
- **Development Centre of the Heart of Slovenia (Slovenia)**
- **Business Agency Association (Bulgaria)**
- **National Institute for Research and Development in Informatics (Romania)**
- **Lithuanian Innovation Centre (Lithuania)**
- **National Healthcare Service Centre (Hungary)**
- **Business Development Institute of the Autonomous Region of Madeira (Portugal)**
- **DEX Innovation Centre (Czech Republic)**

More information about the project: <http://www.interregeurope.eu/hocare/>

Twitter account of the project: https://twitter.com/HoCare_project

Hocare project is carried out under the Interreg Europe programme, financed by the European Regional Development Fund, co-funded by the EU and the Hungarian State.