

FEATURED ARTICLE

World No Tobacco Day – Tackling the Underlying Risk Factors of Chronic Disease



May 31 was World No Tobacco Day. Tobacco remains one of the main risk factors for chronic disease. Ensuring that people stop smoking is key to reducing the burden of chronic diseases in the EU. While the percentage of smokers across the EU has declined from 28% in 2012 to 26% in 2014, a lot can still be done to improve the situation.

One of the work strands in the EU Joint Action on Chronic Diseases focuses on improving collaboration between EU Member States to strengthen approaches that prevent people from developing chronic diseases in the first place. As part of this work, EU experts from across Europe, nominated by JA-CHRODIS partners, agreed on a set of criteria for good practice in the area of [health promotion and primary prevention](#) (work package 5). JA-CHRODIS partners involved in the work on health promotion are currently in the process of identifying good practice examples from their countries that best meet these criteria, to share with European colleagues. Amongst the potential good practices proposed by [Ireland](#), for example, is a comprehensive set of tobacco control measures that are being implemented to achieve a target smoking prevalence rate of less than 5% of the Irish population by 2025.

Experts meet to agree on first set of criteria for good practices in health promotion

Last April, 14 experts on health promotion and primary prevention met in Brussels and agreed on a list of criteria and specific weights to be used for the evaluation of practices in their field of expertise, accomplishing JA-CHRODIS Delphi 1 (on health promotion and prevention). In parallel, work packages leaders launched the first round questionnaire for the second Delphi to identify organisational

interventions for integrated care in chronic conditions and management of multimorbidity. The selection of criteria is the basis for the practice / intervention assessment tool, an integral part of the [Platform for Knowledge Exchange](#) (work package 4), which is progressing well. JA-CHRODIS partners will start the pilot testing phase for accessibility and usability in September 2015.

Data collection on quality of diabetes care has been finalised

The JA-CHRODIS work strand on [Type 2 Diabetes](#) (work package 7) finished collecting data from 19 countries to provide an overview of quality of care in the area of diabetes. Work package partners are now finalising a summary report that will be available after the summer and will provide relevant and useful information on the status of diabetes across the EU. A second round of data collection has already started on good practices on diabetes. WP7 leader Marina Maggini states: “We have a very important partners meeting coming up in the beginning of July. We hope to reach consensus regarding the quality indicators for good practices in the area of diabetes and to finalise our first report on quality of care.”

Save the date



Joining Forces to Prevent Chronic Diseases in Europe

We are in the midst of organising a conference that will take place in Lithuania on 24 and 25 November, 2015 on “Joining Forces to Prevent Chronic Diseases in Europe”. This will bring together policy makers to exchange and discuss the good practices identified for health promotion and primary prevention in the JA-CHRODIS, discuss what and how we can learn from one another and how we can collectively strengthen health promotion to reduce the burden of chronic diseases. More

information on the conference and how to register will be available shortly on the JA-CHRODIS website www.chrodis.eu.

Upcoming Events

- 11th-12th June: JA-CHRODIS Executive Board Meeting, Treviso, Italy
- 23rd June 2015: [PALANTE Final Conference: Empowering Patients through eHealth - the European Evidence](#) (Brussels, Belgium)
- 2nd-3rd July: JA-CHRODIS Meeting on Type 2 Diabetes (WP7) Rome, Italy
- 26th July – 1st August: [European Observatory Summer School on Integrated Care](#) (Venice,

Publications

- **Final Report of the European Summit on Innovation for Active and Healthy Ageing** (European Commission)
> [Download PDF](#)
- **Infograph of attitudes of Europeans towards tobacco 2015** (European Commission)
> [Download PDF](#)
- **Building primary care in a changing Europe: case studies (2015)** (European

Italy)

- 2nd-3rd September 2015: [EPHA 6th Annual Conference](#) (Brussels, Belgium)
 - 30th September – 2nd October 2015: [European Health Gastein Forum](#) (Gastein, Austria)
 - 14th-17th October 2015: [8th EPH Conference](#) (Milano, Italy)
 - 27th October 2015: Multimorbidity Conference by the European Commission (Brussels, Belgium)
 - 24th-25th November 2015: Joining Forces to Prevent Chronic Diseases in Europe – JA-CHRODIS organised (Vilnius, Lithuania)
- **Observatory on Health Systems and Policies**
[> Read more](#)
 - **Strengthening health system accountability: a WHO European Region multi-country study** (WHO Europe)
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 - **Assessing chronic disease management in European health systems: country reports** (European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies)
[> Read more](#)
 - **Tackling Harmful Alcohol Use** (OECD)
[> Read more](#)
 - **Patients' rights in cross-border healthcare in the European Union** (Special Eurobarometer, DG SANCO)
[> Download PDF](#)

In Other News...



Have you ever wondered what alcohol does to your body and how much alcohol is too much? Across Europe, information on alcohol is disseminated through various means: producers, public health agencies, health professionals, mass media, and others. As a result, we are faced with mixed messages regarding how much to drink, and when we should not drink at all. The Joint Action on Reducing Alcohol Related Harm (RARHA) is carrying out a survey to map consumers' opinions on the topic.

[> Click here to participate!](#)

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