GLOBAL REACH Local Benefit

Cross-border Health for EU Patients

Kent Brussels Office, Rue du Commerce, 45 B-1000 Brussels

9 December 2008 - 12:30-18:15

The seminar aims at examining the proposed EU directive on cross-border healthcare. The directive is part of the endeavour to provide an EU-wide community framework incorporating common principles in all EU health systems, a specific framework for managing cross-border healthcare arrangements, wider promotion of European cooperation on healthcare delivery.

There is great interest amongst policy-makers in national and European institutions and clinicians and health service managers across Europe in how the proposed directive will work. The proposed directive is proving somewhat controversial with a wide range of views being promulgated. The event has the following objectives:

- to bring together national and sub-national policymakers and clinical leaders who will be tasked with delivery to understand the history and policy context;
- to identify key critical success factors from current national and local practice;
- to explore how the concept of "undue delay" can be operationalised;
- to explore issues of health inequalities and access associated with cross-border healthcare;
- to consider the financial, systems and information requirements to minimise administrative burdens and optimise service efficiency.

The seminar will look at some of the main implications of the Commission proposal such as the need for effective co-operation mechanisms between the member states, such as bilateral treaties; the mobility of health professionals, the legal certainty of the systems themselves, steering instruments to guarantee the sustainability of the systems. Kent experience will be brought forward and shared with other regional partners particularly by looking at what Community law means in practice for health services in the EU member states.

The event will start with a buffet lunch at 12:30 and end with a Christmas reception at 18:15.







Agenda

12:30	Buffet lunch
14:00	Opening by the Chairman Mr. David Gorria General Secretary of the European Region of the World Confederation for Physical Therapy (ER-WCPT)
14:10	From EC Regulation 1048/71 to a Cross border patient's rights Directive; Where Regions stand Mr. Francesco Ronfini Health Director - Regione Veneto / EUREGHA Chairman
	Questions: Chairman facilitation
14:40	Proposal for a Directive on the Application of Patients' Rights in Cross-Border Healthcare Mr. Martin Dorazil Health strategy and Health systems Unit DG Sanco European Commission
15:00	Patients' Rights in Cross Border Healthcare Mr. Othmar Karas MEP - European Parliament
15:30	Coffee break
15:45	An overview from the European Region Mr. David Gorria General Secretary of the European Region of the World Confederation for Physical Therapy (ER-WCPT)
16:00	A view from Kent Dr. Quentin Sandifer Deputy Director South East Coast NHS - UK Mrs. Anne Tidmarsh Head of Adult Services Kent County Council - UK
16:30	A view from Flanders Ms. Miek Peeters Flemish hospital umbrella organisation VVI - Belgium A view from Belgium, the Netherlands and Malta Mr. Roland Craps General Secretary of the Association des Kinésithérapeutes de Belgique / Algemene Kinesitherapeuten Vereniging van België (A.K.B.)
17:00	A view from Sachsen-Anhalt Dr. Gabriele Theren Ministry for Health and Social Affairs Sachsen-Anhalt - Germany
17:30	Open Session of Questions and Answers
18:00	Closing remarks Mr. Alan Marsh Cabinet Member for Public Health Kent County Council
18:15	Christmas reception