### Document Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document</th>
<th>AEMH 12-068</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title:</strong></td>
<td>Presentation at the “First Conference on Health Inequalities in the New EU Member States” in Sofia 20-21 Sept. 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Author:</strong></td>
<td>AEMH President Dr João de Deus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Purpose:</strong></td>
<td>Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Distribution:</strong></td>
<td>AEMH Member Delegations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong></td>
<td>8 October 2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
AEMH view on Health inequalities in European Countries

João de Deus, 20/9/2012
Traditionally health inequalities are seen as mainly caused by a higher exposure of lower socio-economic groups to a wide range of unfavourable material, psychosocial and behavioural risk factors.
In some European countries we can see a combination of (interlinked) factors: a rise in economic insecurity; a breakdown of protective social, public health and health care institutions; and a rise in risk factors for premature mortality.
Is there a relationship between GDP and health indicators?
GDP per capita
Life expectancy

France
Switzerland
Spain
Italy
Iceland
Sweden
Finland
Norway
Austria
Germany
Belgium
Luxembourg
Netherlands
Ireland
Portugal
Cyprus
Greece
Slovenia
UK
Denmark
Czech Rep.
Poland
Estonia
Slovak Rep.
Hungary
Lithuania
Latvia
Bulgaria
Romania
Turkey
Infant mortality

Luxembourg

Slovenia

Iceland

Sweden

Finland

Norway

Greece

Czech Rep

Portugal

Ireland

Belgium

Spain

Germany

Italy

Austria

France

Netherlands

Switzerland

Denmark

UK

Lithuania

Estonia

Cyprus

Poland

Hungary

Slovak Rep

Latvia

Bulgaria

Romania

Turkey
Mortality rates from ischemic heart disease
Mortality rates from all causes

Switzerland
Italy
Iceland
Spain
France
Sweden
Norway
Cyprus
Austria
Netherlands
Ireland
Germany
Finland
Greece
UK
Luxembourg
Portugal
Slovenia
Denmark
Czech Rep
Poland
Slovak Rep
Estonia
Hungary
Romania
Bulgaria
Latvia
Lithuania
Does economic situation (GDP) justify everything?
Mortality rates from cancer

Cyprus, Finland, Switzerland, Sweden, Iceland, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Estonia, Slovenia, Italy, Austria, France, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Ireland, UK, Romania, Netherlands, Denmark, Czech Rep, Slovenia, Latvia, Slovakia, Lithuania, Poland, Hungary
GDP by itself does not justify European health inequalities

Number of physicians?
Physicians per 1000 population

Greece
Austria
Italy
Norway
Switzerland
Iceland
Netherlands
Portugal
Lithuania
Spain
Sweden
Germany
Czech Rep.
Bulgaria
Denmark
Estonia
France
Ireland
Hungary
Latvia
Belgium
Slovak Rep.
Cyprus
Luxembourg
Finland
UK
Slovenia
Poland
Romania
Turkey
Total health expenditure as a share of GDP
Health expenditure per capita
Relation between health expenditure per capita and GDP per capita
Consequences

- Patients safety
- Quality of care
- Emigration
Doctors Salaries

Axis Title

Minimum
Maximum
Average

Belgium Denmark Italy UK Netherlands Finland France Sweden Germany Austria Ireland Spain Slovenia Portugal Greece Czech Rep Poland Bulgaria Slovak Rep Hungary Romania Lithuania Estonia
socio-economic inequalities in health are unacceptable, and represent one of Europe’s greatest challenges for public health.

The main challenge is to develop new and effective policies to address the determinants involved in these inequalities.
How to achieve this?
Different countries
Different health systems
Different GDP
Different funding

Patients safety and quality of care

Privatization of hospitals
High technology
Expensive treatments
Health always good target for cost saving measures
1- RISK MANAGEMENT

- “naming and blaming” culture
- Health accidents

Involvement of managers, physicians, nurses and other stakeholders is essential to guarantee quality and patients safety
1- RISK MANAGEMENT

- Changes in multiple organizational components
  - Use of information technology to reduce errors.
  - Use of a check control system
  - Create a reporting culture
1- RISK MANAGEMENT

Developing quality measures

- Promote quality control evaluation
- Involve local groups
1- RISK MANAGEMENT

- Reducing high-hazard risks
  - Create a reporting system
  - Identify changes
2- POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL TRAINING

- Programs
- Training periods
3- CPD (Continuous Professional Development)

- CPD can be defined as the educational means by which doctors ensure that they maintain and improve their medical competence and clinical performance.

- It is an ethical and professional responsibility of every practicing doctor to ensure that the medical care they provide for patients is safe and based on valid scientific evidence.
3- CPD

Doctors should be supported on assessment of their learning needs

– CPD is a huge concern for medical profession

– CPD is an ethical obligation
You don't trust me, do you?
3- CPD

Health professionals education and training

– Improve quality of training and working conditions of junior doctors

– Encourage European doctors to plan for CPD actions implemented in the framework of the organization.
Health professionals education and training

– National Medical Associations should claim for medical careers

– Training of hospital staff should be a priority in quality management.
4- WORKING CONDITIONS OF HOSPITAL DOCTORS AND OTHER HOSPITAL STAFF

- Labour conditions of doctors play a crucial role in patients’ safety.

- Poorly paid work, non-specialized doctors doing specialized tasks, cheap manpower in health services, quantity instead of quality indicators only leads to an increasing risk for patients’ safety.
Improvement of working conditions of hospital doctors

– Provide health care workers with optimized working conditions.
– Limited working hours with obligatory rest time period.
– Stimulate teamwork training throughout each health care provider’s career.
5- TASK SHIFTING / SHORTAGE OF DOCTORS

Describes a situation where a task normally performed by a certain type of health professional is transferred to a health professional with a different or lower level of education and training, or to a person specifically trained to perform a limited task only, without having a formal health education. Task shifting occurs both in countries facing shortages of physicians and those not facing shortages. It carries with it significant risks.
5- TASK SHIFTING / SHORTAGE OF DOCTORS

- It should never be a cost saving strategy.

- Task shifting in poor countries may be used to justify a policy shift in rich countries.

- Shortage of doctors and more expensive manpower should never justify task shifting.

- It should not and must not be associated with second-rate services.
6- HOSPITALS EVOLVING INTO CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

- The citizen on the center of health system
  - Satisfaction, participation and rights
  - Accessibility and continuity of care
  - Improvement of doctor-patient relationships on a trusty basis
6- HOSPITALS EVOLVING INTO CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

Organization of the activity

- Promote
- Plan
- Co-operate

Other centers
Other institutions
7- PATIENTS’ RIGHTS IN CROSS-BORDER HEALTH CARE

PAYMENT

SPECIAL CARE

WAITING LISTS
Patients safety
Quality of care

Risk management
CPD
Task shifting
Cross border

Pre and post graduate training
Working conditions
Centers of excellence

Hospital management based on quality and safety
Doctor’s involvement in Hospital Management
Decisions involving individual clinical judgment
Decisions involving larger organization-wide resource allocation
Decisions involving patients’ safety

are highly interrelated
The nature of physicians’ involvement in management must be understood within this context.
LARGER INVOLVEMENT OF DOCTORS IN HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT

– Support doctor’s involvement in hospital management and strategic decisions.

– Implement doctors’ post-graduate education in management of health care units.
The Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) in Bonn

Amanda H. Goodall

July 2011
- top-100 U.S. hospitals in 2009
- widely-used media-generated ranking of quality
- The personal histories of the 300 chief executive officers of these hospitals are then traced
- The CEOs are classified into physicians and non-physician managers
It finds -- in each of three disciplinary fields -- that hospitals positioned higher in the US News and World Report’s — Best Hospitals ranking are led disproportionately by physicians.

The study shows that hospital quality scores are approximately 25% higher in physician-run hospitals than in the average hospital.
Health expenditure per capita

Norway
Luxembourg
Denmark
Netherlands
Ireland
France
Austria
Germany
Sweden
Iceland
Switzerland
Belgium
UK
Italy
Finland
Spain
EU
Greece
Slovenia
Portugal
Czech Rep
Slovak Rep
Hungary
Poland
Lithuania
Estonia
Latvia
Cyprus
Romania
Bulgaria
Turkey

Private
Public
Underfunding
In order to reduce health inequalities in Europe:

– Raise health expenditure as share of GDP
Patients safety
Quality of care

Risk management
CPD
Task shifting
Cross border
Pre and post graduate training
Working conditions
Centers of excellence

Hospital management based on quality and safety
- Improve technology
- Improve salaries
- Improve working conditions
- Improve training and professional development
- Improve patients' safety and quality of care
- Improve outcomes
THANK YOU

European Association of Senior Hospital Physicians
Association Européenne des Médecins des Hôpitaux

AEMH

Dr João de Deus, AEMH-President

THANK YOU