

(Pharmaco)economic evaluations for mental health related services: the PECUNIA project

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Key Messages

- The PECUNIA project developed compatible European multi-sectoral, multi-national and multi-person costing and outcome assessment tools.
- Methods & tools allow the harmonised measurement of broader economic & societal impacts of mental health related services, and improve the transferability & comparability of economic evaluations/HTAs.

Background

- Mental health disorders affect large proportions of the general public resulting in major cost consequences within the health care sector (14% of health expenditure) and beyond.
- Currently health economic evaluations lack harmonized costing and outcome tools across economic sectors and countries (Fig. 1).
- The PECUNIA project aims to establish standardised costing and outcome assessment measures for optimised healthcare provision in the EU for multi-sectoral, multi-national and multi-person (pharmaco)economic evaluations using selected mental health disorders as illustrative examples. (Fig. 2)

Figure 1. National unit cost valuation programmes and outcome evaluation methods (EQ-5D) in Europe (2017)

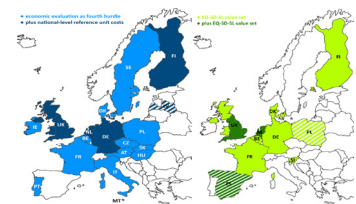
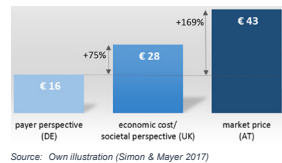


Figure 2. Variation in the unit cost of GP consultation in Austria by different valuation approaches (2015)

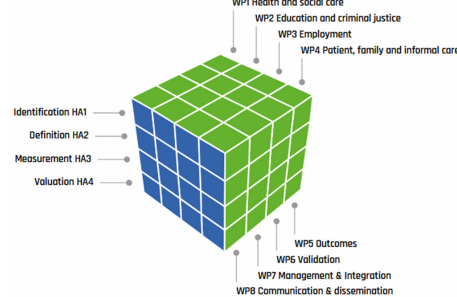


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Methods

Figure 3. The PECUNIA cube



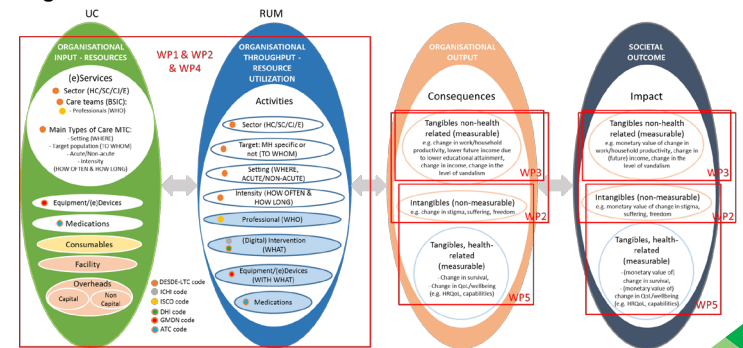
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- Harmonised Identification (HA1), Definition (HA2), Measurement (HA3) and Valuation (HA4) of service and other resource costs in multiple sectors (WP1, 2, 3, 4) (Fig. 3).
- Initial survey of all mental health related services in 6 European countries (AT, DE, ES, HU, NL, UK).
- Followed by harmonised definition and cost valuation of identified service and other resource items.
- Development of matching self-reported resource use measurement (RUM) questionnaire.

Results

- Many taxonomical and conceptual discrepancies hinder comparability in (pharmaco)economic evaluations across countries and sectors.
- Development of a new harmonized multi-sectoral costing concept which forms the basis of further international coding, resource use measurement and reference unit cost methods and tools (PECUNIA care atom, Fig. 4)
- Multiple standardized and harmonized tools such as DESDE PECUNIA coding system, PECUNIA RUM, PECUNIA Unit Costing Templates, European PECUNIA Unit Cost Compendium, PECUNIA PROM Compendium.

Figure 4. The PECUNIA care atom



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