

Poster abstract

Integrated homecare to bridge transition from health care to social services in EU

T. Larsen, MSc, Interdisciplinary Centre for Applied Healthcare Research CAST/University of Southern Denmark (SDU), Denmark

A. Alonso, MD, University Hospital, Fundació Privada Clínic per a la Recerca Biomèdica (FCRB), Barcelona, Spain

T. Jaarsma, Associate Professor, University Medical Center Groningen (UMCG), The Netherlands

L. Piron, MD, Prof., University of Padua, San Camillo Hospital—Scientific Institute for Research, Hospitalization and Health Care (IRRC), Italy

S. Santana, PhD, Universidade de Aveiro (UAVR), Portugal

A. Strömberg, RN, PhD, Associate Professor, Linköping University (LiU), Sweden

Correspondence to: T. Larsen, E-mail: tl@cast.sdu.dk

Abstract

Purpose: The fragmented delivery of health and social services for large groups of patients with chronic conditions was put on the research agenda in 2002 by WHO. The FP7-IHC-project (www.integratedhomecare.eu) aims to develop a turn-key-solution for better clinical continuity to European health regions.

Method: The general framework of the project is the international concept of health technology assessment (HTA) as implemented in the EUnetHTA Core Model focusing nine analytical domains.

Based on a systematic literature review of trials on integrated care integrated homecare (IHC) is defined and selected as prototype for continued rehabilitation of disabled chronic patients.

Preliminary results: 1) The efficacy of IHC are hypothesized to have a common neuroeconomic explanation in the finding that the blood pressure declines 5–7 mm in your own home compared to a hospital environment which benefits limbic activity. 2) Stroke, COPD and congestive heart failure (HF) are selected as examples of IHC. Complementary trials and surveys are scheduled to consolidate a preliminary hypothesis of IHC as a health economic dominant intervention. 3) Based on a SWOT-analysis a meso-strategy implementing IHC at a regional level is planned to combine the advantages of a goal-directed centralized approach with the adaptation to local conditions in a decentralized approach.

Discussion: Clinical and social IHC-network-members are going to be represented as external reviewers at INIC11 in Odense before publication of the final guides and HTA-report.

Keywords

home care, health and social services, chronic care
