

Community Care: Understanding the system in France

This country profile assesses community care in France including key initiatives, best practices and challenges. This profile understands community care as all care outside of hospitals, including in-centres, primary and residential care.

MedTech Europe's Community Care group calls for better patient outcomes and more attention to the community setting. For more information visit www.medtecheurope.org

Health spending

11%
Of country's
GDP



2nd
Highest in
the EU



Health system

79%
Government-financed
healthcare



14%
Complementary
insurance



Long-term care

1.3%
Of GDP spent on
long-term care



My Health 2022

Driven by the rise of an ageing population and an increase of chronic conditions, France's long-term reform is ambitious. Set for 2022, it aims to modernise hospital and primary care.

600 "hospitals near me" will be created to reinforce the link between cities and hospitals by dividing care into different grades. To reduce emergency admissions, these "hospitals near me" will carry out primary care, chronic conditions management and telemedicine services.



Digital policy

E-health and telehealth development is on the rise in France, with the 2022 roadmap launched to support healthcare digitalisation through urbanisation and interoperability.

For example, digital solutions such as telemonitoring already exist for cardio-vascular diseases and wounds. Costs are high for patients, healthcare professionals and hospitals.

Lack of reimbursement guidelines and rigid conditions are key barriers for full deployment of digital health.



200 Territorial Health Professional Communities will be deployed by 2022. In line with France's coordinated patients care pathways, these aim to create collaborative multidisciplinary teams of healthcare professionals and social care professionals to ensure patients receive integrated care.



The recent 2022 roadmap seeks to address these challenges and pave the way for digital health. Digital paths ("E-routes") were launched for professionals working in health and social care for digital communications and coordination of "care pathways" between cities and hospitals.

REFERENCES

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2. Ministère de Solidarités et de la Santé (2017), <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/systeme-de-sante-et-medico-social/strategie-nationale-de-sante/article/la-strategie-nationale-de-sante-2018-2022>
3. OECD (2017), <http://www.oecd.org/health/country-health-profiles-eu.htm>



Community Care: Understanding the system in France

Regional and country-wide initiative

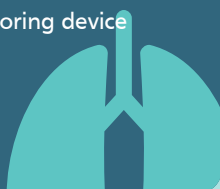
Lung cancer medical software device reimbursement in France

Following a positive evaluation from the High Health Authority (HAS) in April 2019, a telemonitoring device is reimbursed under France's public health insurance. The device tracks how lung diseases progress and detects cancer relapse or complications during the follow-up of lung cancer patients at high risk of relapse.

Using this self-reporting tool, the patient or caregiver provides a 12-symptom weekly report during routine treatment on his or her weight, depression, pain, body temperature, skin condition, dyspnea, voice, sputum production, cough and fatigue. A patient satisfaction survey is currently being evaluated by the Institute Marie Curie in Paris.

35,000

Eligible lung cancer patients who can access the telemonitoring device



8

Out of 10 patients have accepted and responded to the questionnaire for the weekly report



86%-100%

Success in detecting cancer relapse



Remaining gaps

Key challenges in improving healthcare systems and community care services

In France, disparities in the distribution of healthcare providers (HCPs) across regions has created over time the lack of proper access to healthcare in certain rural areas ("medical deserts").

To address this issue, 1,000 multidisciplinary "health homes" will be created by 2022 as part of the Territorial Health Professional Communities.

These "health homes" combine teams of healthcare professionals working on primary local care, including treatment of complex conditions such as chronic kidney disease.

France's healthcare system is historically fragmented, with separation between prevention and care, cities and hospitals, healthcare and social care.

To improve this system, care pathways have been introduced for patients with chronic diseases, including for dialysis and wound care. These care pathways help healthcare professionals, hospitals and private providers ensure patients receive integrated care throughout their journey.

The existing payment system to doctors for chronic disease management only remunerates acute-care focused treatment and no sufficient preventive care.

To counter this challenge, disease management programmes with a fee-for-service system have been introduced to incentivise healthcare professionals to develop preventive actions and better care for chronic patients.

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