



Work Package 1 -- Synthesis Report

Training packages for health professionals to improve access and quality of health services for migrants and ethnic minorities, including the Roma

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Migrants & Ethnic Minorities
Training Packages



Escuela Andaluza de Salud Pública
CONSEJERÍA DE IGUALDAD, SALUD Y POLÍTICAS SOCIALES



SERVIZIO SANITARIO REGIONALE
EMILIA-ROMAGNA
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Work Package 1

Work package 1 aims:

- *Review of migrant and ethnic minorities' situation in the EU*
- *Overview of the issues of relevance to the development of training for health professionals.*
 - *Identify common challenges and best practices*



WP1 collaborators

- **University of Copenhagen's** Research Centre for Migration, Ethnicity and Health (MESU), work package leader
- **The University of Amsterdam** based at the **Academic Medical Centre (AMC)**, Jeanine Suurmond
- **Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research (AISSR)**, Prof. David Ingleby



Methodology

- Desk research
 - PubMed, Science Direct, Elsevier
 - Grey literature
 - Body of knowledge built up by EU funded projects carried out in the last decade.
 - Material developed in the course of the COST Actions IS0603 (*Health and Social Care for Migrants and Ethnic Minorities in Europe - HOME*) and IS1103 (*Adapting European health systems to diversity - ADAPT*).



Introduction

- Challenge presented to health systems
 - Increasing migration to the European Union
 - substantial ethnic minorities in many Member States
 - Inequalities in health and health care affecting these groups
 - financial and economic crisis.
 - These challenges call for European and national level actions, e.g. development of training programmes to further capacity-building.



Chapter 1 – Demographic data on migrants and ethnic minorities in Europe

- Definitions of terms used
- Migration developments in Europe from World War II to the present,
- basic demographic characteristics
- concept of 'ethnic groups', e.g. the Roma,

Statistics and information about ethnic minorities in Europe, such as the Roma, was included in training **Module 2**.



Chapter 2 – State of health and health determinants


- State of health of migrants in Europe
- Determinants of health
- Shortcomings of the present knowledge base
- Overview of most important research findings
- Theoretical frameworks to analyse the determinants of health problems.

An extensive explanation of the relevance of 'up-stream' determinants of health is included in training **Module 2**

Adapted, country-specific data on health and health determinants formed the core content of training **Module 2**



Chapter 3 – Legal and policy frameworks relating to migrant and ethnic minority health

- Migrant status: entitlements and access
- Legal and policy framework @ international, European and national levels
- Gradual shift  - Intersectional
- Intersectoral

Content of this chapter informed much of the training material in **Module 1** that covered concepts such as diversity, intersectionality, discrimination and equality.




Chapter 4 – Barriers to accessing health services and good practices addressing them

- Demand vs. Supply side barriers (individual vs. Organisational/systemic)
- Examples of common barrier to health services:
 - Poor health literacy
 - Practical barriers: e.g. geographical location of services, opening hours, registration, detention centres
 - Language
 - Discrimination and distrust
- **Descendants** of migrants still face barriers, research show.

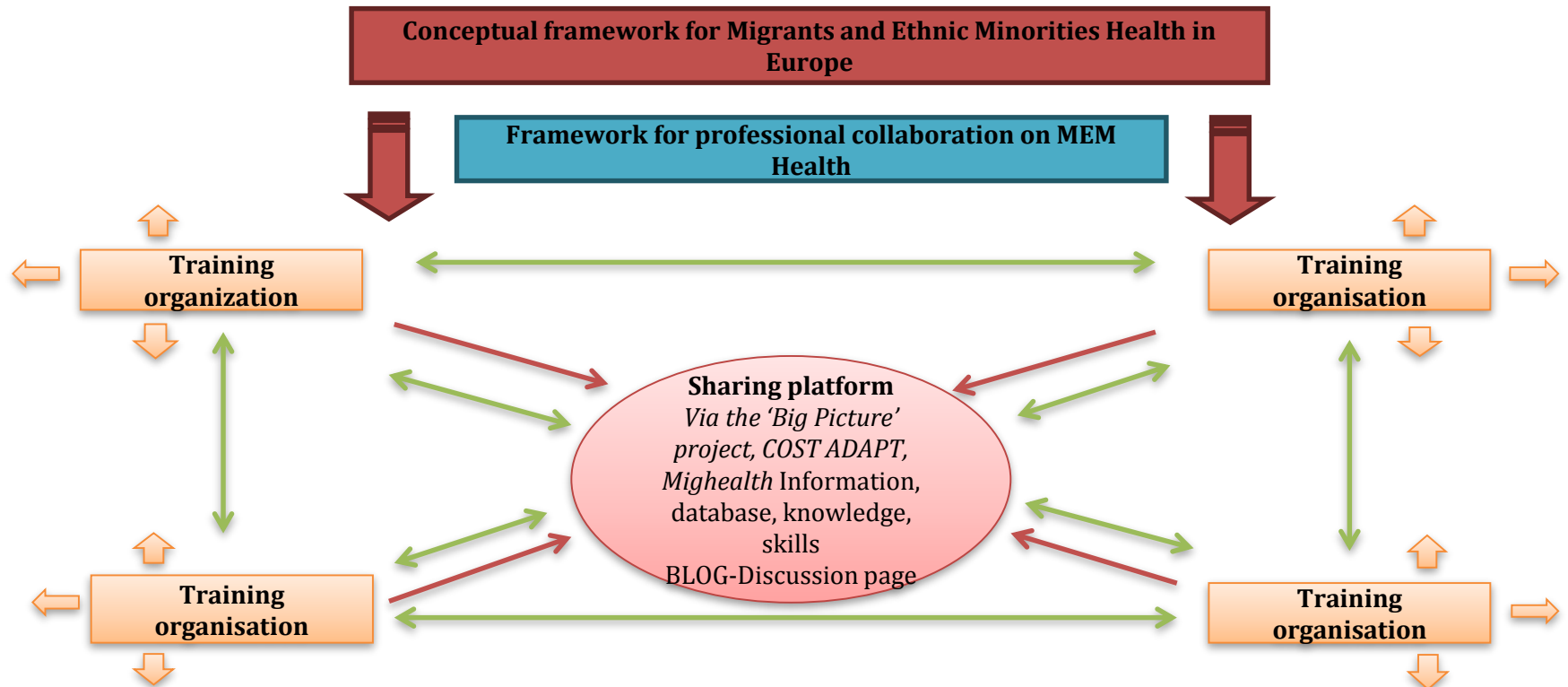


Chapter 5 - Factors undermining the quality of health service delivery and good practices addressing them

- Culture  Diversity sensitivity
- Culture-related barriers: e.g. professional's own prejudice, organisational culture, conceptualisations of illness/health, expectations
- Language – interpretation, working w/ interpreter
- Stakeholder participation in planning and delivery



Chapter 6 - Developing a European framework for collaboration on migrant and ethnic minority health





The Appendices

- **Appendix I.** Detailed statistics on the distribution of the migrant and Roma population in Europe and their demographic characteristics (Chapter 1)
- **Appendix II.** Epidemiological findings on the main diseases and health problems affecting migrants and ethnic minorities in Europe (Chapter 2).
- **Appendix III.** Legal and policy frameworks relating to migrant and ethnic minority health in the EU at international, European and national levels (Chapter 3).
- **Appendix IV.** Information about the utilization of health services by migrants and ethnic minorities; barriers to accessing health services and good practices developed to address them (Chapter 4).
- **Appendix V.** Improving the matching of health service delivery to the needs of migrants and ethnic minorities (Chapter 5).
- **Appendix VI** provides a list of EU funded projects and initiatives and analyses their content.



Take-home message 1

‘Health in all policies’, diversity & intersectionality

- Recognition of the multiple layers of diversity (e.g. migrant status, gender, SES) & 'upstream' determinants of health.
- To tackle health inequalities, socio-economic factors need to be addressed, i.e. education, labour market participation, and housing, legal situation, migrant status, ethnicity, gender, religion and sexual orientation.



Take-home message 2

Country-adapted training packages

- Numbers and types of migrants vary per country → different needs and health service priorities
 - Training programmes in the European area should adapt at the national level
 - Health system features
 - Migrant population
 - Local context
- ...while covering common core contents.



Take-home message 3

Entitlement vs. Access

- Legislation/policy may guarantee **entitlement** to health services for migrants and ethnic minorities, but not necessarily **access**
- Targeted services and interventions essential to ensure
 - Access, appropriateness and quality of services
 - Access to preventive and health promotion interventions



Take-home message 4

Barriers – access & quality

- To ensure **equitable access** to and **quality** of health **care**, **health organisations** need **awareness** of the **barriers** that migrants and ethnic minorities face.
 - Organisational structure: professional training, support and flexibility to tackle barriers.
 - Primary responsibility with organisations and health system
 - » **Improvements in the quality of care cannot be made by individual health workers without the support of the whole organisation.**



Take-home message 5

Intersectional approach in training

Training materials for health professionals should reflect and describe the **shift** towards '**diversity sensitivity**' (an *intersectional* approach) rather than continuing to teach a curriculum exclusively focused on 'cultural' differences.

- Avoiding stereotyping or 'ethnicisation'



Take-home message 6

Intersectoral approach

- Health care systems are just one of a number of health determinants impacting the health outcomes of migrants and ethnic minorities.
- **Health inequalities** asks for intersectoral approach promoting ‘joined-up’ way of working
 - close collaboration with social services, schools, families, and community organisations.



Thank you for your attention.



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