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Models of Child Health Appraised

(A Study of Primary Healthcare in 30 European countries)

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University of Keele, UK

Boston Children's Hospital, United States

Welcome to new MOCHA researchers

Since the beginning of our project we have welcomed several new members to the MOCHA team. A very warm welcome to: Christine Chow (Project Manager), Dr Ilaria Rocco (CNR Padova), Dr Oscar Tamburis (CNR Rome), Dr Grit Kühne (Imperial), Dr Sapfo Lignou (Kings College London), Dr Roberto Buzzetti (Country Agent - Italy), Dr Elena Montañana Olaso (UCD Dublin), Dr Ekelechi MacPepple (Surrey), Nynke van der Wal (Groningen), and Jorieke van der Willik (Groningen).

MOCHA Quality workshop

On 24th February 2016 MOCHA project members held a successful internal project workshop in Rome, where measures of quality in relation to health models for children were discussed, and participants agreed on some common values and shared measures of quality.

Quality is a key issue for MOCHA, ranging from dedicated WPs and deliverables to implicit measures such as the core task of appraisal of models of care. The MOCHA project aims for cohesion in our approach to different conceptual approaches and quality measures, so as to ensure efficiency and consistency (in terms of sharing materials, internal results, and so on) and also to avoid any conflicts or cross-tensions. This type of discussion and cross-working was recommended by our External Advisory Board, United States and Australian partners. While much of the quality literature is at service delivery level, the MOCHA interest is primarily at the system level; this meeting helped us to balance intrinsic quality measures with other measures which also have a quality determining effect, particularly cost (effectiveness) and personnel requirements.

The workshop was an opportunity for all members of the project to share conceptual approaches to quality, as well as detailed methods of measurement. This meeting was, in many ways, a follow-on discussion from the extremely rewarding December workshop on Models of Care, which was held in Amsterdam in 2015, where the MOCHA team discussed models with Dr Dionne Kringos, a world expert in the subject.

Subjects discussed at the workshop on Quality included:

- Quality perspectives
- Child centred view of quality of health care
- Measuring the other consequences of health care delivery

Hospices Cantonaux, Switzerland

Murdoch Children's Research
Institute, Australia

MOCHA Work Packages

1: Identification of Models of
Children's Primary Health Care.
Lead: Prof M Blair

2: Safe and efficient interfaces of
models of primary health care
with secondary, social and
complex care. Lead Dr Maria
Brenner

3: Effective models of school
health services and adolescent
health services. Lead Dr Danielle
Jansen

4: Identification and application of
innovative measures of quality
and outcome of models. Lead: Dr
Nadia Minicuci

5: Identification and use of
derivatives of large data sets and
systems to measure quality. Lead:
Prof Simon de Lusignan

6: Economic and skill set
evaluation and analysis of models.
Lead: Prof Graham Cookson

7: Ensuring equity for all children
in all models. Lead: Prof Anders
Hjern

8: Use of electronic records to
enable safe and efficient models.
Lead: Prof Michael Rigby

9: Validated optimal models of
children's prevention-orientated
primary health care. Lead Dr Paul
Kocken

10: Dissemination. Lead Prof
Michael Rigby

11: Project Management. Lead:
Prof Mitch Blair

- What makes a good quality measure
- Methodological issues were discussed, including process modelling and quality indicators, and the project systematic review, which will inform future work into models of care.
- Consideration of the respective needs of special groups (universal services – prevention, therapeutic, complex conditions) e.g. complex conditions, social / external agency integration, quality in terms of school health, adolescent health and minority populations.
- A brainstorming session was held to identify data sources.

The meeting enabled the different work packages in MOCHA to achieve an overview on their approaches to quality, and helps the project to work cohesively towards obtaining the greatest value from our data analyses.

Commission Deliverable achieved

On 1st March 2016, MOCHA submitted its first scientific deliverable to the European Commission. This is one of the first pieces of work that the project has undertaken, and it will inform much of the subsequent work of this first project year.

As part of Work Package 1: Identification of models of children's primary care, Dr Nadia Minicuci, Dr Barbara Corso, and Dr Ilaria Rocco - The CNR Institute of Neuroscience (CNR-IN), Padova, Italy conducted a Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of the Literature in order to collate the published scientific evidence of European models of primary care delivery to inform the development of a framework describing model type and key characteristics in EU Member States, Norway and Iceland.

The systematic review is quantitative in nature, and in order to describe the different models of care provided in Member States, Norway and Iceland the team selected two of three different aspects of children's primary care, each of which reflects a different perspective of the primary care health system:

1. making an early diagnosis
2. prevention
3. how to deal with a chronic condition

The first focuses on the age of first diagnosis of **Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD)** (in particular: Autism/autistic disorder; Asperger's syndrome; and Pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified)

The second perspective concentrates on the coverage of **immunisation** of children (in particular: measles, mumps and rubella).

The third perspective assesses the control of **asthma** in children aged over 5, with a particular focus on unscheduled emergency care and the availability of spirometry at a primary care level - a key quality indicator. This topic is of particular importance, and will be covered in a further edition of this deliverable.

The systematic review of Autism Spectrum Disorders and immunisation produced an unexpectedly high number of articles to be screened (more than 3000). The findings based on ASD and Immunisation thus

constitute a solid background for the validation of the subsequent analyses on ADHD and asthma that will be reported in a future report.

The Systematic review is an restricted project document at present, but once the final edition is completed, it will form part of a public report on WP1's activities

Meetings and events

Our dissemination programme for 2016 has now been organised, and MOCHA is looking forward to many events and opportunities to test our results and discuss our findings. We plan to attend a number of conferences and meetings including: The European Academy of Paediatrics (Spring meeting), the European Health Management Association, the 2016 International Health conference, Medical Informatics Europe conference, the European Federation for Primary Care conference, Law Enforcement and Public Health conference, and EUPHA.

We are also working in collaboration with the European Association of Children in Hospital (EACH) to contribute a major part of their upcoming annual conference in Utrecht, Netherlands in September 2016.

Dr Sapfo Lignou from Kings' College London has had a paper accepted for the International Health Conference to be held in London on 20-22nd June and will present her work for MOCHA at this important venue.

Dr Maria Brenner was invited to the European Patients' Forum (EPF) youth group roundtable on Transition to Adult Care on 21st March 2016. Transition to adult care is a particularly challenging time for many young people, and it is a delicate process within the health care system. Poor coordination of responsibilities during the transition from childhood to adult care can have negative psychological effects on young patients, which can lead to lack of trust in health professionals, and in the health system. The European Patients' forum aims to raise awareness of the challenges and high stakes of this important rite of passage for young people. Dr Maria Brenner is ideally placed, as she is the leader of work package 2, complex care and related issues, such as transition to adult services. MOCHA feels that the needs of young people with long term or complex conditions should not be forgotten in terms of engaging with, and using, primary care services.

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