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Models of Child Health Appraised

(A Study of Primary Healthcare in 30 European countries)

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MOCHA celebrates one year

Welcome to the latest MOCHA newsletter. We have had an extremely productive, and busy, few months. And on the 1st June we celebrated the MOCHA project's first birthday. Even though the scientific work only began in September, we have achieved a huge amount so far. Now we look forward to the next phase of the project, where we begin the exciting process of analysing the data that has been collected; and delve deeper into the issues and gaps that we've identified in our knowledge of primary care services for children in the European Union, Norway and Iceland.

A welcome and a farewell

In April we bid a farewell to Professor Graham Cookson, who led Work Package 6, investigating the economic and skill set evaluation and analysis of models. We extend a warm welcome to Professor Heather Gage, the new Work Package leader, who is now lending her considerable expertise to this research area.

External Advisory Board meeting

The External Advisory Board held its six-monthly meeting in April, which was also attended by work package leaders and members of the MOCHA management team. We were kindly invited to St Elizabeth University in Bratislava, by our Slovakian country agent, Jozef Suvada. It was a beautiful location for a very rewarding meeting.



The meeting took place over two days. On the first day, the Work Package leaders met to discuss their progress so far; and the aims for the next six months of work. This was an excellent opportunity for the work packages to work together and identify areas of synergy between each individual focus area. Many decisions were made, and forthcoming workshops and meetings were planned for the rest of 2016.

On the second day of the meeting, the External Advisory Board held its meeting, chaired by Professor Richard Parish. Attended also by the work package leaders, this allowed the work package leaders to seek external input into their work and their plans. The External Advisory board also gave their valuable input into the overall direction of the project. Contributions by Aneela Ahmed, our

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Universiteit Twente, Netherlands

Syddansk Universitet, Denmark

University of Keele, UK

Boston Children's Hospital, United
States

Hospices Cantonaux, Switzerland

Murdoch Children's Research
Institute, Australia

representative from the Youth Subgroup of the European Patients' Forum; Ragneidur Erlendsdottir, a senior nurse from Iceland, and Dr Stefano del Torso Vice President of the European Academy of Paediatrics were welcomed by the work package leaders. Unfortunately, due to meeting clashes and a strike by air traffic controllers over Belgium, it wasn't possible for the full External Advisory Board to meet in person.

Nevertheless, the discussion was extremely valuable, and those who could not attend were able to contribute electronically once the meeting had concluded.



At the close of the meeting, Prof Jozef Suvada gave us an introduction to the important and often harrowing work carried out by St Elizabeth University in Lebanon, South Sudan, Kenya and Kazakhstan among other countries, in improving public health and providing basic health care to local populations; often in environments that experience conflict and extreme poverty. You can read more about some of his work at www.hiainternationals.com/about-us/.



Assembly of European Regions meeting

Also in April, our Greek country agent, Dr Pania Karnaki represented MOCHA in Timisoara, western Romania at the meeting of the Assembly of European Regions (AER).

Dr Karnaki presented the specifics and details of the MOCHA project to the participants, which resulted in a fruitful discussion. There was a great deal of appreciation for the importance of MOCHA's subject matter; and a high level of interest in the project results. Certain issues were highlighted:

- Issues of **preventive health and health promotion**, and what services are available for children across the European regions. This resulted in a discussion about how MOCHA will study school health services, and the importance of mapping services related to **preventive medicine** and **health promotion**.
- **Childhood obesity** was highlighted as a particular issue of concern to the European regions. Information about best practices in prevention and treatment of childhood obesity were identified as a valued focus of MOCHA's attention.
- There were questions about **services for refugees and migrant children**. There was discussion about how MOCHA has covered this field and participants emphasised the importance of knowing what is available what is available for migrants or refugees in each Member State.
- A need to know what exists generally for children from vulnerable groups, such as the **Roma community**, and children living in **poverty** from low socioeconomic backgrounds.

The participants in the meeting were keen that the final MOCHA recommendations on the most effective health policies in primary health care should be presented to the AER. Even though most health

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 Heather Gage

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

policy is decided at a national level, rather than a regional or local level, it was felt that the AER can greatly assist MOCHA in presenting findings in a locally applicable way, and thus improve the dissemination of MOCHA results.

As a result of this collaboration, the AER has set up a focus group led by Dr Marta Tatar, County Councillor of Covasna (Romania), which will follow the progress of the MOCHA project.

Project deliverables achieved



May was not only the end of the first year of the MOCHA project, but the deadline for a number of internal deliverables, and milestones to the European Commission for the project. These were all successfully met and are already informing other aspects of our work.

- There was an update to the **Commission Deliverable** of the **Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of the literature into models**; the original paper focused on what is known on mental health – in this case tracer conditions of Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Asperger's syndrome, Autistic disorder and Pervasive developmental disorder were used; and immunisation using the tracer of Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccinations and separate immunisations against these diseases. The updated paper added information about Attention deficit / hyperactivity disorder, including its diagnosis and epidemiology; and also information about asthma in children, detailing its symptoms and causes and also incidence of unplanned hospitalisations and unscheduled primary care visits for asthma in children.
- The project's fourth **Milestone** was met on the 31st May in the form of an internal literature review about what is known about **Models of Primary Care in Europe** was conducted. This will be shared with the project members and also with some of the leading experts in health service models for input. This paper will inform much of the future work of the MOCHA project.
- A first draft of the **UML Modelling of health system processes** was completed. This was an **internal deliverable** to inform the work of work packages 1, 2, 4 and 5.
- A report on **Existing child health indicators** was conducted as an **internal deliverable**. It identified the indicators that already exist into child health and primary care; and where there are gaps in our knowledge. This issue will be discussed further within the project in a workshop to be held in Italy in the Autumn.
- Work package 5 produced a **Technical requirements analysis, including initial use cases, of using large data sets and systems to measure quality in primary health care for children**. This **internal deliverable** has been shared within the project to inform many strands of future work.

The next set of deliverables, due in September 2016 is now our next focus.

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Other news

Dr Kinga Zdunek, the MOCHA country agent for Poland and member of the MOCHA WP1 research team gave a presentation about the MOCHA project to the University of Lublin, in Poland. There was also a feature on MOCHA in the University of Lublin newsletter. Details are available on the MOCHA website.

The MOCHA project was featured in the European Academy of Paediatrics newsletter in April 2016. A copy of the newsletter can be found on our website.