
FROM SCIENTIFIC FACTS TO EVERYDAY USE

The status of Health Care Technology Assessment in Italy

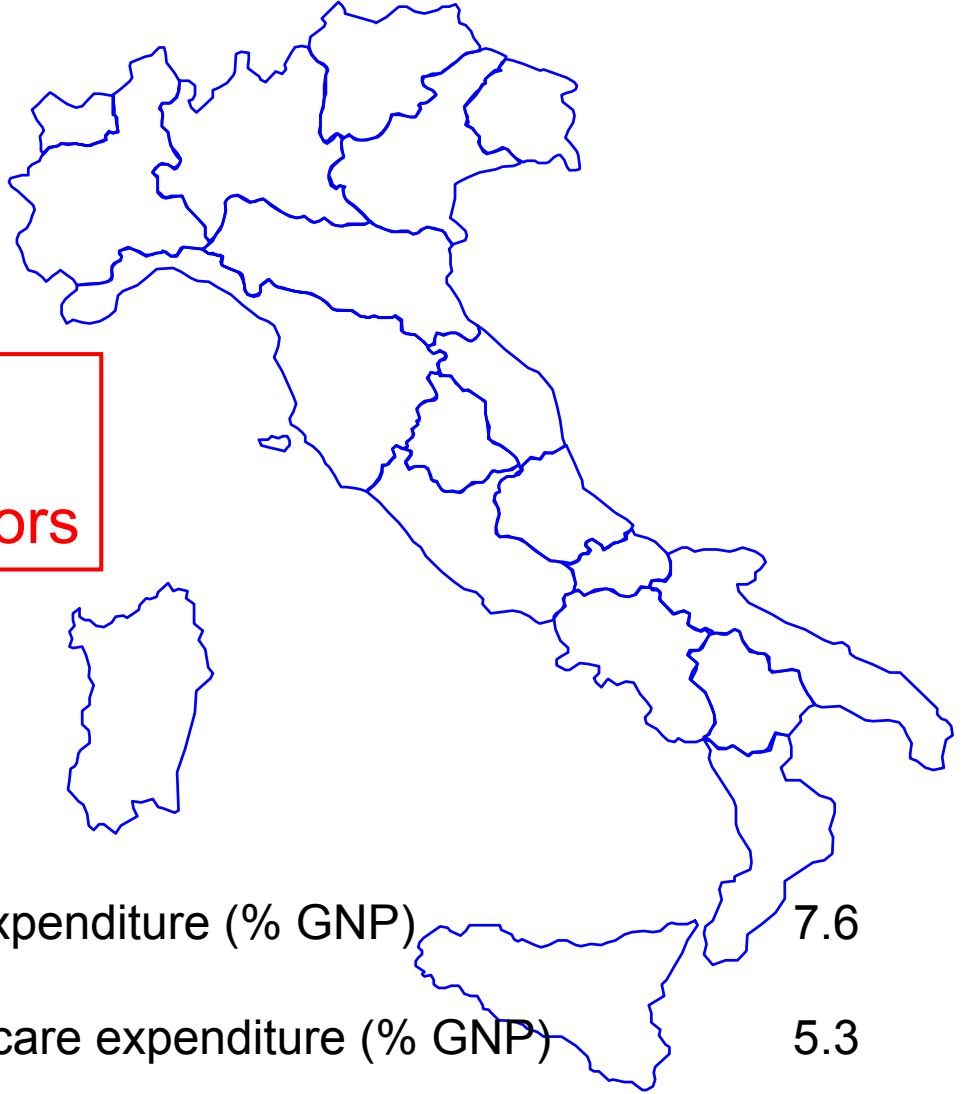
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ITALY: health indicators

- Health care expenditure (% GNP) 7.6
- Public health care expenditure (% GNP) 5.3
- Pro capite health care expenditure (USD) 1,613
- Hospital beds (‰ inhabitants) 6.5
- Hospital expenditure (% of total expend.) 49.4
- Life expectancy (years) *males* 74.9
females 81.3

(OECD, Health Data, 1999)

1999 Pro capite public health care funding (USD) 1,100

ITALY



Veneto Region

Health Technology Assessment

The drugs, devices, and medical and surgical procedures used in health care, and the organizational and supportive systems within which such care is provided.

Health Technology Assessment

- increases the role of scientific evidence in decision making;
 - integrates different disciplines (i.e.: medicine, epidemiology, economics, engineering, sociology, ethics, etc.);
 - emphasizes the role of systematic reviews;
 - requires effective communication strategies for getting research into practice.
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Act No. 229/1999: NHS Reform

article 1 “ Defence of health as a right, health planning and definition of essential and uniform levels of health care”:

- The defence of health as a right ... is guaranteed by the NHS ...
- The definition of essential and uniform levels of care is based on dignity of human being, health needs, equity of access to health care, quality of care, appropriateness and economic evaluation.
- The NHS will pay health care packages based on scientific evidence, with high probability to produce health gain both for individuals and community, and cost-effective
- The NHS will not pay health care services and procedures which are not effective and appropriate

Getting Research into Practice (TRiPSS)

Partners:

- Centre for Health Services Research, Istituto Mario Negri
 - 20 Local Health Units and Hospital Trusts, belonging to Regions in northern and central Italy
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Getting Research into Practice (TRiPSS)

Activities:

- Data base
 - Continuing education
 - Projects
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Getting Research into Practice (TRiPSS)

Tools:

- continuing education
 - appropriate use of financial incentives
 - coherent investments policy
 - budgeting system
 - audit and monitoring of clinical practice
 - patients education
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Getting Research into Practice (TRiPSS)

Projects:

- preoperative examinations
 - heart failure
 - pregnancy
 - breast cancer
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Getting Research into Practice (TRiPSS)

Hospital of Adria :

- preoperative examinations
 - minor head trauma in children
 - adenoidectomy and tonsillectomy
 - depression therapy
 - anti-ulcer therapy
 - antibiotic prophylaxis
 - hypertension
 - diabetic retinopathy
 - hip replacement
 - prostatic adenoma
 - stroke rehabilitation
 - pregnancy
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TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT TOPICS (1990-1999)

- Time trends in distribution and utilization of cardiac catheterization facilities in Italy, 1983-1993.
- Appropriateness of use of coronary angiography
- Appropriateness of use of hospital
- Appropriateness of use of blood
- Appropriateness of use of echocardiography
- Utilization of hospital-based services by the elderly
- Utilization of coronary angioplasty (PTCA)
- Use of contrast media in Radiology
- Assessment of Hospital Preventive Medicine activities
- Waiting lists
- Hospital indicators
- Guidelines
- Hospitalized patients' falls
- Urinary catheterization management

**TIME TRENDS
IN UTILIZATION OF CARDIAC
CATHETERIZATION
PROCEDURES IN ITALY,
1983-1993**
