“Reforming Greek healthcare; what guidance from international comparisons?”

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Johan Hjertqvist, Founder & President,
Health Consumer Powerhouse Ltd.
EHCI 2013 total scores

Serbia: 451
Romania: 478
Latvia: 516
Poland: 521
Bulgaria: 528
Albania: 542
Hungary: 546
Macedonia: 546
Malta: 559
Cyprus: 568
Lithuania: 582
Estonia: 615
Italy: 624
Croatia: 649
Spain: 651
Slovenia: 656
Portugal: 663
Czech Republic: 666
Ireland: 671
UK England: 683
Austria: 690
Sweden: 718
UK Scotland: 719
Finland: 750
France: 756
Luxembourg: 773
Germany: 777
Belgium: 794
Norway: 796
Iceland: 797
Netherlands: 813
Switzerland: 815

The functionality of the system

- Overall ranking of national healthcare
- Outcomes delivery, not policies
- Value for money performance
- The balance between the components of the system often an important signal
- Patient views, satisfaction.
Total health expenditure, PPP$ per capita (2011)

Source: WHO HfA, July 2013
Bang-for-the-Buck adjusted scores in EHCI 2013
Strategies tried by successful healthcare systems

Closing the gap between doctors and patients (a.a information, decision-making, corruption).
Three countries where patient organisation opinions are deviating negatively from official statistics are Greece, Ireland and Spain.
Survey responses to question about "under-the-table payments" to doctors.
(1.0 = all "Yes, frequently", 3.0 = all "No!")
Strategies tried by successful healthcare systems

- Closing the gap between doctors and patients
- Balance the use of resources to keep costs in control and improve system outcomes.
Greece leads Europe by a wide margin in the number of doctors per capita; the same goes for the number of pharmacists per capita.
Strategies tried by successful healthcare systems

- Closing the gap between doctors and patients
- Balance the use of resources to keep costs in control and improve system outcomes
- Reduce risks for drug over-consumption.
Antibiotics use, SU/capita 12 months ending June 2013
IMS MIDAS database
The Greek per capita spend on drugs (public, private) was the third highest in Europe as late as 2012.
Still, Greek healthcare has continued to improve!
Infant deaths per 1000 live births

(WHO HfA July 2013)
Cancer survival rates 2012 (1 minus mortality/incidence)

Traditional Greek early adoption of new drugs has been replaced by restrictiveness
For a new start – good examples

- FYR Macedonia e-Health revolution
- Dutch patient rights
- Danish transparency on options and outcomes
- Belgian GP access and productivity
- Safeguarding essential public care, like the Czech Republic

Nothing of this is really costly in money, but requires a radical shift of attitudes!
Thank you!

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