BAHCI

Bringing a Health Claim to Information: Measuring the impact of health data on the health outcomes of European citizens

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MSCA2017 Standard IF – Life Sciences

AREAS:

Public health and epidemiology

Health services, health care research

Bioinformatics, e-Health, medical informatics

Keywords: *health information systems, health system performance, surveillance and monitoring, health indicators, european public health, eHealth, evidence-based health interventions*

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Project coordination

Beneficiary: Sciensano: Belgian interfederate Research Public Health Institute

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Herman Van Oyen, Director Dept Epidemiology and public health (Sciensano). Professor Epidemiology at Ghent University, Editor-in-Chief of Archives of Public Health and Editor of the International Journal of Public Health.

Research focus: epidemiological methods, survey research, ageing and disabling process, and monitoring of health inequality. He has led 8 European research projects, on HIS, Life and Health Expectancy, and on Health Inequality including the current Joint Action on Health Information.

Project coordination

Researcher:

Marie Delnord is French, 31 y/o. She recently obtained her PhD in Epidemiology. She has over 7 years of research experience in the field of epidemiology and public health, with a specialization in the areas of maternal and child health and comparative international analyses.

"*This MSCA project is a unique opportunity for me to consolidate my credentials as a European public health researcher and expand my career possibilities beyond the perinatal health field.*" – Marie Delnord

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Background

EU Member States share similar levels of development and access to care. Yet, key population health indicators vary widely across countries.

The societal burden of health inequalities is high
-> *leveraging evidence to achieve better health outcomes is a priority.*

Health Information Systems are the cornerstone of public health interventions. In Europe however there is heterogeneity in the level and nature of evidence that are available to decision-makers and key stakeholders

What is the impact of differences in health information (HI) capacity on the population burden of disease?

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Aim

Provide a "HI Impact Index" that could be used by EU public health decision makers to:

1. Measure the uptake of evidence into policies and care

2. Assess the impact of HI on population health overall and in priority areas for Europe:
   - maternal and child health,
   - chronic diseases,
   - antimicrobial resistance,
   - Injury prevention, and
   - patient reported outcomes and experiences.

Originality

- Addresses an important knowledge gap in EU-HIS evaluation

- Examines the potential of new sources and types of data for routine European public health monitoring (ie. big data, social media, health apps)

- Inclusive multi-stakeholder approach

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Methods

1. **Provide a conceptual framework** for assessing the impact of health data on health outcomes:

Months M1-M12; Deliverables: D1. Systematic review, D2. Policy brief

2. **Develop the "HI Impact Index"** by conducting a web-based DELPHI consensus process with at least 20 European experts from the public, private sector and civil society

Months M6-M9; D3. Data management plan D4. Scientific publications

3. **Pilot the "HI Impact Index"** and measure associations with publicly available European health status indicators in priority health areas

Months M9-M20; D5. HI Impact Index available on the www.sciensano.be

"The core of this work is cross-sectoral"

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Scoring

7,154 proposals submitted to the Standard EF panel. **1701 proposals in Life Sciences.**

BAHCI Total score: 94.60% , in top 10%

Each section (Excellence, Impact and Implementation) rated from 0-5 :
*4– **Very good.** The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present. **5– Excellent.** The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion.Any shortcomings are minor.*

Excellence (4.7/5)

*"The candidate has identified an **important research field and provides very good background** (…)"*

- *"Gender aspects are very convincingly integrated and well thought through in terms of health differences"*
- *"The state-of-the-art, objectives and overview of the action are precisely specified and very well presented."*
- *"The transfer of knowledge from the researcher to the host institution is clearly articulated"*

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Scoring

Impact (4.8/5)

*"The expected impact of the planned research and training on the experienced researcher's career prospects after the fellowship is **ambitious and very plausible**."*

*"**The new knowledge generated** by the action will be disseminated and **exploited in multiple credible strategies**. The project benefits from multiple approaches that include a **range of stakeholder groups"***

*The frequency and nature of **communication activities are well described and have highly nuanced approaches** to audiences, such as multifaceted communication media, including European Commission events, a news article, press release and a short quiz for the public.*

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Scoring

Implementation (4.7/5)

*"The **beneficiary's active contribution to the research and training activities** is coherent. The available infrastructure, facilities and logistics are very well suited for the success of this project.*

*"The organisation and management structure, as well as the **progress-monitoring mechanisms** in place are very good and monthly formal meetings with the supervisor have been adequately foreseen."*

*"**The Gantt chart is very well presented and is complete**. The work plan and the resources mobilized are very well identified to ensure that the research and training objectives will be achieved."*

*"The lists of major deliverables and major milestones are carefully prepared, taking into account the **training activities of the researcher and a range of dissemination and communication actions**."*

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Tips

- Choose a well known laboratory, with a good reputation.

- Underline the main achievements of your host laboratory: patents, publications, number of PhD, contracts, international projects…

- Show that you have made an effort to get to know your future colleagues/work environment.

- Find synergies between your project and on-going activities in your laboratory

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Tips

- Be concrete when describing the two-way transfer of knowledge between the researcher and the host organization

- Think through each of the evaluation criteria – don't glance over.

- Be specific about "why" (you are the right candidate), and "how" (you will manage your project).

- Don't be shy about your contingency plan and risk management.