

SESSION GUIDE

SESSION: “Concept for a nationwide outpatient pediatric research network”, 20.06.2023, between 2 - 3 pm

Format: Workshop with breakout groups

Number of participants: at least 5 per workshop

Moderator(s): Michael von Rhein, Emiliano Soldini, Chantal Lüdi

Context: Despite the majority of pediatricians in Switzerland (61%)¹ working in private practices, limited data on pediatric outpatient care is available for research. Since the Federal Office of Public Health has emphasized the need to strengthen health services research in Switzerland², the development of appropriate structures for systematically collect and share outpatient primary care data for research purposes is a current and relevant topic. In the pediatric field, the establishment of a collaborative nationwide network of private practices participating in outpatient data sharing and research activities would be highly beneficial to address research questions related to outpatient primary care and, together with hospital data, provide a more comprehensive picture of the landscape at the national level. Our main goal is to develop a concept for the settlement of a nationwide research network for outpatient pediatric care. This session aims at collecting input from interested stakeholders and inviting them for further collaboration.

References:

¹ www.aerztestatistik.myfmh2.fmh.ch

² <https://www.news.admin.ch/newsd/message/attachments/48163.pdf>

Objective: Many different aspects concerning the settlement of a nationwide data sharing and research community have to be carefully evaluated, as for example the strategies to motivate private practices to participate in the network, the governance or the long-term financial sustainability. The aim of the workshop is to address 5 relevant aspects in this context and collect new opinions and ideas useful for implementing an efficient overall strategy for the development of the network.

Participants: Interested stakeholders

Structure: Introduction – Brainstorming sessions in breakout groups – Final summary and key takeaways

GROUP WORK GUIDE

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Rapporteur: (1 per group)

Reporting to (xxx) (using this document)

WE RECOMMEND FOCUSING THE DISCUSSION ON THE RESPECTIVE QUESTION

How to work: Please reflect on the session and discuss the question(s) assigned to your group –once you have finished it, feel free to move to the next one it is not expected that each group will discuss all questions. The rapporteur is asked to summarize the response/suggestions or agreements/disagreements directly in this file.

Please fill in the names of the participants of this group:

BREAKOUT GROUP 1 to start with question 1:

BACKGROUND: Scientific guidance is extremely important within the context of the outpatient pediatric care network. Together with the directive board, it's essential to also have a panel of experts informing on trend topics and research gaps, in order to guide the research questions' setting/updates and the data collection process. However, there are no standard rules/procedures to compose such panel, especially regarding the professional profiles to be included. The choice of the professional profiles is fundamental to provide a complete overview and consideration of all relevant aspects.

QUESTION 1: ***Which research fields and professional profiles should be included in the experts panel (and why)?***

ANSWER /DISCUSSION 1:

BREAKOUT GROUP 2 to start with question 2

BACKGROUND: The efficient functioning of the outpatient pediatric care network strongly relies on private practices' engagement, both in a short- and long-term perspective. It's therefore fundamental to recruit as many private practices as possible and motivate them to remain in the network. In this sense, several recruitment and engagement strategies (based on different incentives, as for example financial rewards or scientific publications) could be implemented.

QUESTION 2: ***Which strategies could best allow private practices recruitment and permanence in the network?***

ANSWER /DISCUSSION 2:

BREAKOUT GROUP 3 to start with question 3:

BACKGROUND: The main aim of the outpatient pediatric care network is the production of sound research evidence useful to ameliorate the daily practice and inform the scientific community and the society. In this sense, the communication strategy is crucial for an efficient dissemination of the results. Such strategy can be based on various outputs/channels, as for example scientific publications or a dedicated website.

QUESTION 3: ***Which communication strategies/channels could best allow the dissemination of the research results to the relevant stakeholders?***

ANSWER /DISCUSSION 3:

BREAKOUT GROUP 4 to start with question 4:

BACKGROUND: Financial sustainability is a fundamental aspect for the network maintenance in the long term. Beyond possible voluntary participation, with all probability at least some of the working positions in the network (e.g., the positions in the IT crew) will necessitate a budget. Therefore, it's essential to implement an efficient financing strategy to sustain the network in a long-term perspective.

QUESTION 4: ***Which financing strategies could best sustain this kind of network functioning over the long period?***

ANSWER/ DISCUSSION 4:

BREAKOUT GROUP 5 to start with question 5:

BACKGROUND: The outpatient pediatric care network represents one part of the entire pediatric care environment at the Swiss level. The integration/harmonization of the data collection and management with other existing pediatric data networks (for example at the hospital level) is fundamental for providing a complete overview of the Swiss situation. Moreover, the integration/harmonization with other foreign pediatric data network could allow useful cross-country comparisons.

QUESTION 5: ***Which other existing data networks do you consider relevant, and how could integration/harmonization be organized?***

ANSWER /DISCUSSION 5:

Thank you for your contributions!