

From: Secretariat
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SANTE.STATEOFHEALTH; [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Oral health/dental care in State of Health in the EU - FOLLOW-UP
Date: vendredi 10 juillet 2020 09:05:57
Attachments: Outlook-old_image0.png
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Dear [REDACTED],

Many thanks for your response, clarifications and follow-up questions.

We will get back to you with our responses to your questions about the proposed additional indicators as soon as possible.

Regarding the 2021 edition, would you be able to refer us to a OECD contact that we could reach out to?

Thanks in advance and have a great weekend when you get there!

From: f.[REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu [REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu>
Sent: Friday, July 3, 2020 11:21
To: Secretariat <xxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
Cc: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xx.xxxxxx.xx <xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xx.xxxxxx.xx>; Of xxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx <xxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> m>
Subject: Re: Oral health/dental care in State of Health in the EU - FOLLOW-UP

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your message, and I sincerely apologize again for my delayed response.

I have reported your partners' feedback and suggestions for improvement to the authors of the relevant chapters, but so far I have not managed to discuss directly with them the extent to which they are going to implement your additional suggestions on board. The project pipeline for the report is already pretty stretched, and foresees the production of a first complete draft by the beginning of August. At that stage, I will have a chance to carry out a detailed review of the data used in the publication, and present additional suggestions to the authors if needed.

Based on this timeline, I will be able to get back to you with a more detailed response only after the review. As per the possibility of having an add-on specific to oral health in the 2021 edition of Health at a Glance, I wouldn't be able to tell you much about it mostly because *Health at a Glance* is focused on Europe only every even year: the 2021 edition will look at all OECD countries, and (differently from the 2020 and 2022 editions) it will not see DG SANTE's involvement in the discussion of its composition.

As per its potential inclusion in what we call the "Country Health Profiles" ([link](#)) for 2020, I must say we haven't had a detailed discussion yet on their content, because the COVID-19 crisis and the subsequent proposal of a "EU4Health" fund (i.e. the new health programme for 2021-2027, which initially was going to be merged with ESF+ and now should become a standalone, significantly larger fund) may lead us to quite radically rethink the structure and content of the deliverables from the *State of Health in the EU* project, so we are still trying to figure out how to adapt the project to the new circumstances.

Lastly, you may already be aware of the fact that the management of the health part of DG SANTE is undergoing some changes, so there is an overall low appetite from our current managers to commit to delivering something which they won't be able to see through.

Concerning your suggested data sources that could be considered for inclusion (Chapters 3 and 4) from the table below:

- 1) A metric of (direct/indirect?) sugar consumption would be very interesting to consider - do you happen to have a dataset for this already?
- 2) Wouldn't information from the suggested *self-reported oral health status* indicator already be included in the *self-reported unmet needs for oral health* indicator we accepted for inclusion? In practice, the question of unmet needs for care can be read as a proxy for the level of satisfaction with one's health status, so we would risk being a bit redundant there. N.B. This is just my view, not the OECD's.

Many thanks for your help and patience,

All the best,

[REDACTED]

From: Secretariat <xxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
Sent: 01 July 2020 14:51
To: [REDACTED] (SANTE)
Cc: SANTE.STATEOFHEALTH; xxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx
Subject: Re: Oral health/dental care in State of Health in the EU - FOLLOW-UP

Dear [REDACTED]

I was wondering if you have had any (initial) response to the feedback we provided a few weeks ago (see below). In particular it would be good to understand if there is still an opportunity to propose a 'oral health add-on section' for the 2021 H@G edition.

No doubt these are busy times and please know it is not my intention to put any pressure on you. The reason I am sending this reminder is that we will have our next quarterly board meeting this Monday and this would be a great opportunity to share and discuss your feedback.

Thanks in advance and have a great rest of the week!

On behalf of the OHP Secretariat,

[REDACTED]

From: Secretariat <xxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Subject: Re: Oral health/dental care in State of Health in the EU - FOLLOW-UP

Many thanks for the update and draft table of content.

In addition to the feedback on the draft table of content we also wanted to ask you about the possibilities for proposing a 'oral health add-on section' for the 2021 H@G edition, as discussed during our last meeting. We know COVID-19 has meddled somewhat with the planning, so we would love to know more about the expected timelines for this and hear from you about how best we could take this forward.

Perhaps we can discuss both the feedback and our inquiry about the 'add-on' during a zoom call at a time of your convenience?

We look forward to hearing from you and in the meantime wish you a great rest of the week!

Subject: Re: Oral health/dental care in State of Health in the EU - FOLLOW-UP

With reference to our chat this afternoon, please find below the indicators related to oral health that made it to the draft table of contents for *H@G Europe 2020*.

New elements vs. the 2018 version are in red. Happy to receive any comments and/or suggestions for possible modifications, additions and/or breakdowns.

Content/Indicator	Main data source	Comments
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5. Health expenditure and financing		
5.5 Expenditure on primary care (including dental care)	OECD Joint Health Accounts Questionnaire (JHAQ)	new indicator to provide more information on primary care and dental care Exact breakdown tbd
7. Accessibility: Affordability, availability and use of services		
7.1 Unmet health care needs (medical and dental)	EU-SILC 2018	Breakdown by income quintile
7.4 Extent of health care coverage (including dental)	JHAQ	
7.7 Availability of dentists and number of consultations with dentists	JQ on non-monetary stats	new indicator to provide more information on dental care

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] (SANTE)
Sent: 20 April 2020 21:56
To: 'xxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xx'
Cc: SANTE STATEOFHEALTH; xxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xx; [REDACTED] (SANTE)
Subject: RE: Oral health/dental care in State of Health in the EU - FOLLOW-UP

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email – I hope that you and your loved ones are also well and coping in this difficult time for us all.

Yes, I remember that, back when [REDACTED] was still working in DG SANTE, we had a meeting with you and your associates from the Oral Health Foundation to discuss possible ways to give more prominence to dental care in the analytical deliverables from the State of Health in the EU project.

As you have probably already figured out, we had to shake up our plans regarding the core themes for the next edition of H@G 2020 due to the onset of the COVID crisis. This inevitably has had an impact on our timetable for the file's prep work as well. This means that, while the final date of publication of the report is still scheduled for November, a complete discussion on the selection of metrics to be included in Part II of the publication for the "Access" sub-section has not yet taken place with our partners at the OECD.

Should you wish to have a quick chat this week to get an update on what our preferred approach (also informed by the materials you shared with us at our last meeting) will be, please let me know. Otherwise, I can notify you whenever a more advanced discussion on this specific part of the report has started and we can have a conversation then. At that point, I would be more able to let you know whether any additional input on your side may be helpful to make a case to the OECD for the inclusion of any of the indicators related to dental health listed below. I expect this to happen within the next 2-3 weeks.

Should you already have an updated note vs. the ones you shared with [REDACTED] and I at our last meeting – especially regarding the indicator on affordability of dental care – it would be great if you could share it with me.

Best wishes to you and your colleagues,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



European Commission
 DG Health and Food Safety
 SANTE B1: Performance of national health systems
 Brussels/Belgium
 Tel: +32 [REDACTED]
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xxxxxx@ec.europa.eu

From: xxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xx <xxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xx>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 3:10 PM
To: [REDACTED] (SANTE) [REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu
Cc: RYAN John (SANTE) <xxxx.xxxx@xx.xxxxxx.xx>; SANTE STATEOFHEALTH <SANTxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xx.xxxxxx.xx>; oralhealth@apcoworldwide.com
Subject: Oral health/dental care in State of Health in the EU - FOLLOW-UP

Dear [REDACTED],

I hope all is well on your end, despite the challenging Corona-times we live in that, no doubt, will have had an impact on your personal and work life.

It seems like a lifetime ago, but we met in October last year to discuss concrete possibilities to contribute to the State of Health in the EU cycle with oral health/dental care data. At that time we agreed to re-connect in the spring (now). I therefore wanted to ask if you would have time this week to quickly connect over zoom/phone to discuss the 'state of health in the EU' timelines. It would be good to understand how things stand, so I can remind our members about what it is we can and should do to follow-up accordingly.

Thanks for letting me know when this would work for you and hope to speak to you soon.

On behalf of the Secretariat,

[REDACTED]

From: Secretariat <xxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xx>
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2019 21:01
To: [REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu [REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu; xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xx.xxxxxx.xx <SANTE-STATEOFHEALTH@ec.europa.eu>; [REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu <[REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu>
Cc: xxx.xxxx@xx.xxxxxx.xx <xxxx.xxxx@xx.xxxxxx.xx>

Subject: Re: Oral health/dental care in State of Health in the EU - THANK YOU

Dear [redacted] and [redacted],

I trust all is well on your end and hope all goes well with the final preparations ahead of the submission of the final *2020 Health at a Glance: Europe* report.

On behalf of the Platform, thanks again for the good meeting we had in October discussing oral health/dental care and how this can be covered in the upcoming State of Health in the EU cycles. A few days after our meeting I ran into John Ryan at the EU Health Policy Platform Annual Meeting. As per his request we have cc'd him in this email, so he is aware of the exchanges we had with you to date.

Please find attached the documents we shared with you previously, with concrete suggested oral health indicators. Thanks in advance for taking forward the discussed suggestions for the **2020 Health at a Glance: Europe** report:

Unmet need for dental care – should remain in the report
Expenditures (burden & inequalities) of dental care – to be explored/considered
For reference please see graph 3 of the pre-read we shared with you in advance of the meeting
Dentists per population country comparison - to be explored/considered
As mentioned during the meeting this data is not necessarily sufficient in itself, but certainly helpful to have included

We look forward to continuing our collaboration in the next year, specifically on the 2021 Companion Report and 2022 edition. We will reach out to you in due time with concrete suggestions and contributions.

On behalf of the Platform,

[redacted]
[redacted]
Oral Health Foundation Platform for Better Oral Health in Europe

Telephone: 0175 [redacted]
Fax: 017 [redacted]
Email: [redacted]@dentalhealth.org
Website: www.dentalhealth.org
Twitter: @dentalhealthorg

From: Secretariat <xxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2019 11:22

To: [redacted]@ec.europa.eu [redacted]@ec.europa.eu; xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xx.xxxxxx.xx <SANTE-STATEOFHEALTH@ec.europa.eu>; [redacted]@ec.europa.eu [redacted]@ec.europa.eu

Subject: Oral health/dental care in State of Health in the EU - THANK YOU

Dear [redacted] and [redacted]

Thanks again for having taken the time on Monday to discuss with us the available and suggested data and narrative on oral health for consideration in the future editions of the *State of Health in the EU cycle*.

As stressed during the meeting it is very important for the Platform to get clarity on the concrete and realistic opportunities to contribute to your work and our discussion was extremely helpful in this regard. In short we've identified the following next steps we will take forward:

2020 Health at a Glance: Europe

Unmet need for dental care – should remain in the report
Expenditures (burden & inequalities) of dental care – to be explored/considered
For reference please see graph 3 of the pre-read we shared with you in advance of the meeting
Dentists per population country comparison - to be explored/considered
As mentioned during the meeting this data is not necessarily sufficient in itself, but certainly helpful to have included

2021 Companion Report

Platform to develop proposed contribution in advance of November 2020 for consideration

2022 Health at a Glance: Europe

Self-perceived oral health status – to be explored

As mentioned during the meeting we are currently finalizing the 'research report' that we showed in paper version. We aim to share this with you before the end of the month.

Thanks again for your time and for taking our suggestions in consideration.

On behalf of the Platform

[redacted] & [redacted]

Secretariat of the Platform for Better Oral Health in Europe

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For more information on the Platform, check our website: <http://www.oralhealthplatform.eu/>

