CREATING THE ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR HEALTHCARE TRANSFORMATION

From the current challenge to a sustainable future - EIT Health will deliver an organisational evolution in healthcare management, with value-based benefits for citizens and consequent financial benefits to society, by designing and demonstrating innovation in management models and aligned training

Rationale

Healthcare providers throughout Europe strive to improve delivery and management. Innovation is a catalyst for this change and improvement. Yet the successful adoption of innovation requires a receptive environment and a willingness rooted deeply in the organisation to invest in change. Today, the healthcare environment is experiencing change in structure and process, as well as changes in the expectations that individuals and society have for the healthcare environment.

From a structure and processes perspective, there is a shift towards focusing on patient empowerment and improved outcome and experience[1]. From a healthcare professional's point of view, the specialization and sub-specialization results in a structural focus on anatomic systems and organs that lacks a holistic vision of the system[2]. Rather than embracing innovation, the ever rising cost pressures provoke skepticism in the sector[3-5].

Individuals have a proactive attitude in the health decision-making process[9], they have more access to knowledge, and are more willing to use technology for managing their health[8]. Individuals are often highly connected by social media and technology, consequently "patients" behave more like "customers"[7]. Rapidly advancing technology and digital solutions have proven impact on reducing costs and improving patient experience[11].

EIT Health Focus Area

Activities executed within EIT Health in the Focus Area

This Focus Area recognizes the demonstrable strength of the EIT Health network in catalysing system change and is highly connected to our ability to address the educational and digital needs driven by structural change in healthcare delivery. EIT Health will narrow its investment on the primary enabler in the healthcare system - the individuals in the Healthcare Workforce. Projects will focus on re-thinking roles and consequent training needs, and the role of technology as an aligned enabling resource for each role. Every activity will draw upon the patient and citizen perspective. Activities can:

- Design and demonstrate with proof of concept projects, the introduction of new professions, jobs and roles, including detailed new job descriptions and organigrams (illustrating integration of roles in the existing staffing framework)
- Design prototype education programmes to address the training needs for competence with new technology and to address the professional skills of the new roles that emerge from partner activities

Outcomes

Activities in this focus area need to demonstrate they achieve majority of the outcomes listed below. Any activity will establish the new standard in a specific disease area. Only those solutions that are scalable and sustainable will be considered. Activities must use validated patient reported outcomes instruments.

1. Dynamic professional, lifelong training and educational system that:

a. Generates required changes into existing/create new professions
b. Integrates technology and innovation as a core competence for the health workforce and supports the adaption of cost-effective innovations
c. Adapts to patient needs while delivering value-based outcomes
d. Uses validated patient reported outcomes instruments
e. Keeps innovation smoothly integrated while positively impacting into the regular practice

2. New management models that:

a. Incentivise the professional workforce towards patient-centred care and a value-based system
b. Are promoted and supported by health and social care institutions
c. Adapts to the changing environment
d. Facilitate and promote clinicians training on a regular basis using the latest technologies available

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