



NATIONAL INSTITUTE
FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE



European Health Surveys Information Database (EUHSID) Newsletter #3, March 2010

Please click a title or scroll down:

Work progress

Upgrade of the HIS/HES Database

Progress in the EU Health Survey System

Implementation of EU Health Indicators (ECHI): recent news

OECD: Health Care Quality Indicators project (HCQI)

EuroUrhis project

United Nations preparing a module on Health State

NHIS Survey in the USA

EUHSID at future conferences and meetings

Subscribe / unsubscribe

Work progress



The EUHSID (European Health Surveys Information Database) project gathers information on population Health Interview (HIS) and Health Examination (HES) surveys implemented at national level. Surveys meeting the inclusion criteria are included in the HIS/HES Database (<https://hishes.iph.fgov.be>).

Surveys recently entered in the database are:

- National Health Survey: Australia (2007)
- PSELL / EU-SILC: Luxembourg (2007)
- Health Care in Household: Poland (2007)
- Disabilities and health survey, household part: France (2008)
- European Health Interview Survey: Slovakia (2007), Bulgaria (2008), Cyprus (2008), Czech Republic (2008), Latvia (2008), Malta (2008)

National health surveys conducted since 2007 have been [listed](#) on the EUHSID website. This list shows which surveys have been conducted in different countries and whether or not they meet the criteria for inclusion in the HIS/HES Database.

Upgrade of the HIS/HES Database



An upgraded version of the HIS/HES Database will be released later this year. The development work has focused on different functions and layout of the database. There will be improvements e.g. in survey search functions and summary reports. Changes to the layout will be made by reorganising the contents and by adding explanations and instructions.

Definitions for the (topic) codes used for the classification of the instruments will also be included. Also a user name reminder and a possibility to send feedback to the project team will be added. Any additional comments regarding this upgrade and the usability of the database are welcome.

Progress in the European Health Survey System



European Health Interview Survey (EHIS)

The EHIS questionnaire has already been implemented in national surveys in [17 European Union Member States, and in Switzerland, Turkey and Norway](#). It is planned to evaluate the comparability of the EHIS source (in English) and the national questions. Therefore in the framework of the EUHSID project, questions from four national surveys were translated back to English and a pilot evaluation of comparability of selected questions was carried out. The aim of this exercise was to develop a standard procedure to be applied to all EHIS surveys.

Besides the preparation of the EHIS data analysis, this assessment procedure will also contribute to the review of the questionnaire in order to prepare the second wave of EHIS scheduled for the years 2013–2014.

The European Health Examination Survey (EHES)

The [first EHES training seminar](#) was held in Rome in February 2010. In the framework of the EHES pilot survey, 13 European Union Member States (Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain and UK/England) and one EFTA/EEA country (Norway) have started preparing for a standardised national health examination survey. During the next two years (2010–2011) these countries will conduct a pilot HES to test the standard methods. More information: www.ehes.info.

Implementation of EU Health Indicators (ECHI): recent news



Implementation of the 88 ECHI Indicators in European countries is progressing well. The ECHIM Extended Core Group had a meeting in Luxembourg in March 2010, in which representatives from almost all European countries as well as from DG SANCO, Eurostat and WHO were present. The implementation activities have already started in many countries, and pilot data collection is being planned. The importance of EHIS, EHES and EUHSID was strongly emphasised during the meeting. See more at www.echim.org.

OECD: Health Care Quality Indicators project (HCQI)



The HCQI project has identified measurement of patient experiences as a priority for indicator development. The work of the project is now focusing on the development of a population-based survey as well as learning and sharing of national systems for the measurement of patient experiences. A draft questionnaire on experiences with ambulatory care has been developed.

These questions will be included in the Commonwealth Fund survey 2010. Several OECD countries have expressed interest in participating in the activities around further testing of the questionnaire. [More information](#)

EuroUrhis project



The EuroUrhis-2 project is developing, testing and validating a set of comparable urban health indicators (building upon the work already completed by the ECHI project) based on a population survey, as well as mortality statistics and other routinely available data. The project aims to implement a (adult and youth) health survey in the 30 major cities in Europe.

Piloting for the surveys was undertaken in late 2009 by the University of Liverpool; the findings were disseminated to partners during a workshop in January 2010. The data collected through the surveys will be combined with already existing data. This combination of routinely available data and survey data will provide a sustainable methodology for data collection, analysis and implementation of urban health indicators across Europe. Prior to the initiation of the surveys in the participating cities a further workshop is planned on 5.–7.7.2010 in Bordeaux, France. More details at www.urhis.eu.

United Nations preparing a module on Health State



In 2007, the joint UNECE/WHO/Eurostat Task Force on the measurement of health states proposed a survey module named Budapest Initiative – Mark 1 (BI-M1) for being used by the Member States when implementing the European Health Interview Survey (EHIS). Eurostat, in its 2007 meetings (Technical Group HIS and Working Group on Public Health Statistics), presented the survey module to the Member States. Some Member States have tested or used the whole or part of this survey module. [More information](#).

In 2009 several new items have been added to the module. During the revision process of the EHIS questionnaire these new items may be considered, if they cover information needs for the EU Directorates. [Workshop organised in January 2010](#)

NHIS Survey in the USA



The Division of Health Interview Statistics has just released a draft of the 2010 NHIS Survey Questionnaire. In addition to the NHIS core, there is a large questionnaire on cancer, primarily for adults, with a few questions for children. There are also additional questions for adults on occupational health, epilepsy and quality of life.

The adult and child samples had questions on the H1N1 virus. The child sample also had supplementary questions on mental health (SDQ and use of health services). Complementary questions on family disability were asked on the family questionnaire. [Additional information](#)

EUHSID at future conferences and meetings



Two abstracts on the EUHSID project were submitted for the Next [European Public Health Association \(EUPHA\) conference](#) (Amsterdam, 10.–13.11.2010).

The HIS/HES Database will also be presented at the Health Surveys User Group Meeting of the [Economic and Social Data Service \(ESDS\)](#) in London, 14.7.2010.

Subscribe / unsubscribe



To subscribe to or unsubscribe from the Newsletter, please send email to Sanna Ahonen (sanna.ahonen@thl.fi) Website: www.euhsid.org

The EUHSID project is implemented by the Scientific Institute of Public Health (IPH) in Belgium and the National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) in Finland, with financial support by Eurostat and the Directorate General for Health and Consumers (DG SANCO). The views expressed here are those of the authors and they do not represent Commission's official position.