



Needs Examination, Evaluation and Dissemination

Identifying disease-specific health-related unmet needs of patients and society

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Background



2024/S1: Presidency of the Council of the EU

Towards a needs-driven approach for innovation and health care policy to better address unmet needs

High-level conference:

Health-related needs as drivers for healthcare policy & innovation

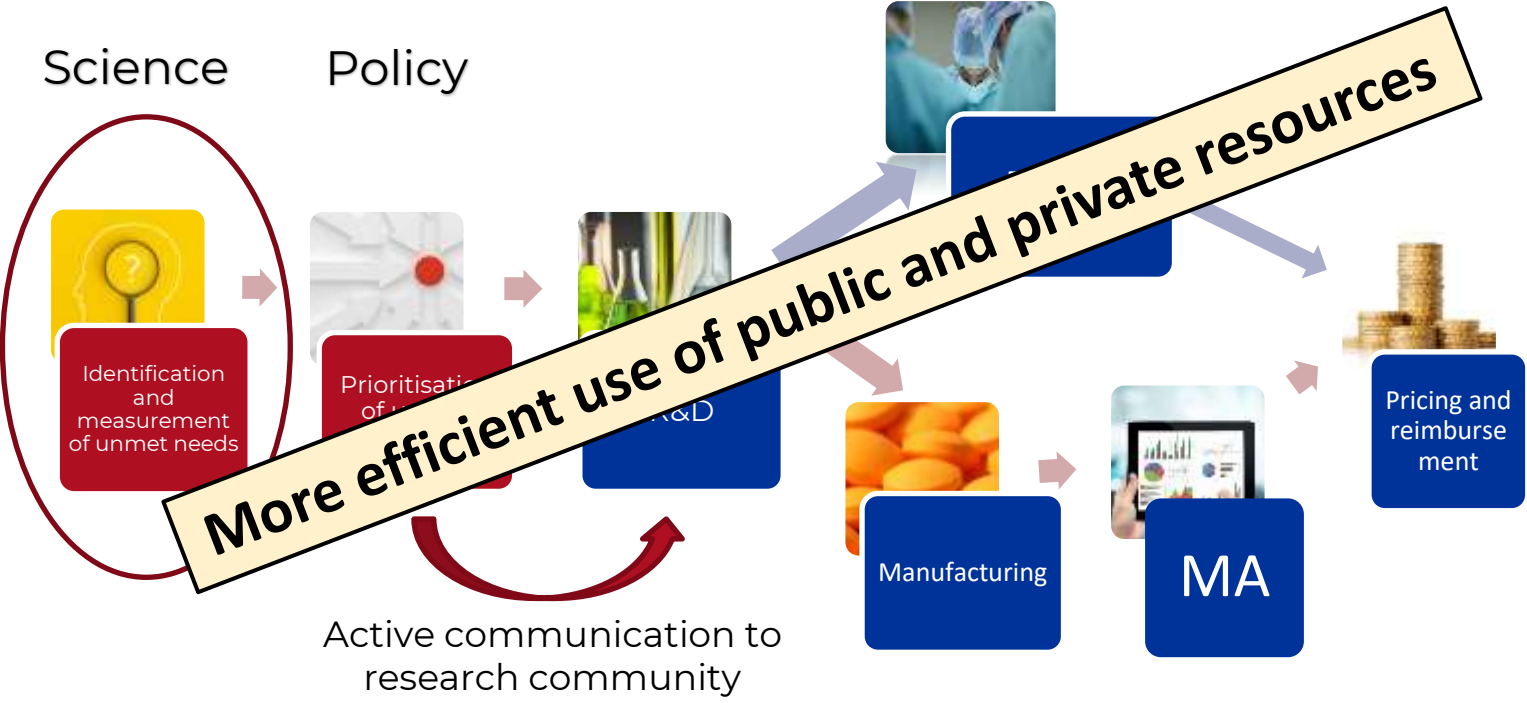


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Needs-driven healthcare innovation and policy

A matter of science, policy and collaboration



Objective of NEED

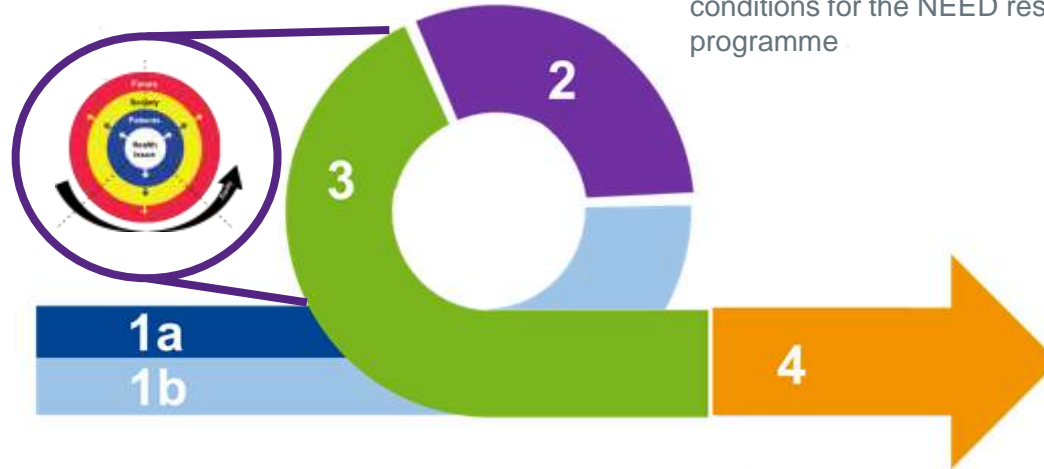
- Create an **evidence database** on patient and societal unmet needs in different health conditions, based on a **framework** with **explicit criteria** and **indicators** for identifying patient and societal unmet needs
 - Inform & support needs-driven healthcare policy and innovation

Research and dissemination model **NEED**

Evidence collection on the criteria of the NEED assessment framework

Prioritisation and selection of health conditions for the NEED research programme

- Existing databases
- **Call for topics** from patients/healthcare providers/public



Dissemination of NEED results

Scope of NEED framework



Patient level

Health Condition



Societal level



Unmet health-related needs

Unmet health-related needs

Health needs

Healthcare needs

Social needs

Health needs

Healthcare needs

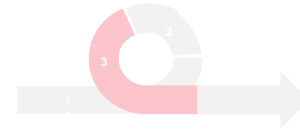
Social needs

> "Medical needs"

Future



The NEED Framework: criteria

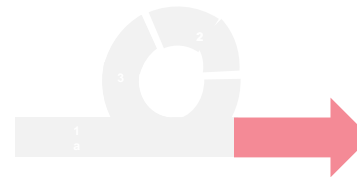


Dimensions

		Patients	Society	Future
<i>Domains</i>	Health needs	Impact on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life expectancy • General HRQoL • Physical health • Psychological health • Autonomy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequency • Transmissibility • Burden on informal caregivers 	Future burden of disease
	Healthcare needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effectiveness of Tx • Quality of care • Burden of Tx • Accessibility • Availability of clinical evidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preventability • Value for money of standard of care 	Future economic burden
	Social needs	Impact on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social life • Education • Work • Financial consequences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Productivity losses • Environmental impact of standard of care 	

Equity





NEED database

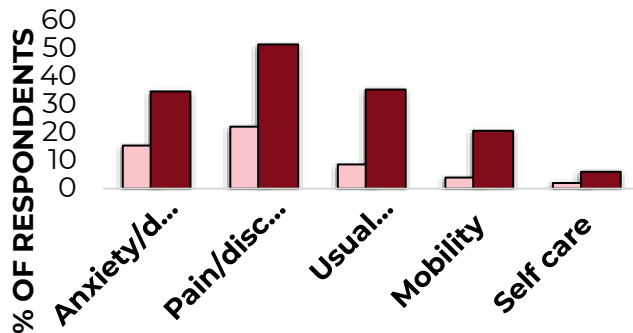
Health needs

Healthcare needs

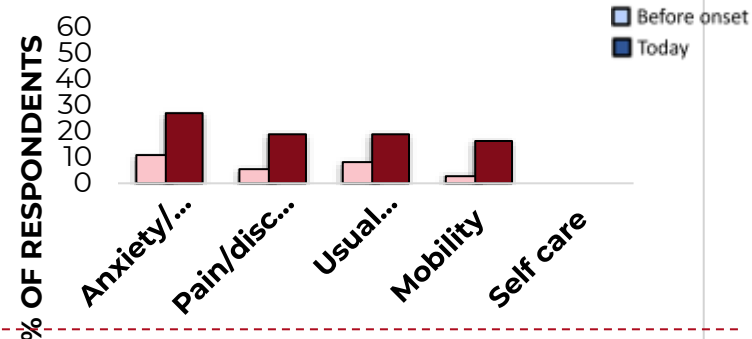
Social needs

Impact on general HRQoL

Crohn's disease



Melanoma



Accessibility of care

- **Crohn's:** 13% of those surveyed did not always receive care when they needed it
- **Melanoma:** 50% waited >3 months before consulting

Impact on work

- **Crohn's:** 45% reduced work or stopped working
- **Melanoma:** 20% reduced work or stopped working



Future of NEED

- **Health objectives (Belgium)** – *governmental coalition agreement 31/01/25*
 - Cancer plan
 - Plan for cardiovascular diseases
 - Plan for Neurodegenerative diseases
 - Rare diseases plan
 - Mental health plan
- **Public funding required to sustain the initiative**

Conclusion

Requirements for needs-driven innovation and policy

Lifecycle approach

1. **Identification** of the highest unmet needs on individual & societal level
2. **Smart and predictable** incentives towards health technology developers to steer R&D towards the highest needs
3. Approval and reimbursement processes should take **performance** of new products on these needs into account

EU collaboration

Co-creation with patients

- For more information, please visit:
<https://www.health-needs.eu>
- Irina.Cleemput@kce.fgov.be



Thank you for your attention!



On behalf of the NEED team & its partners