The Impact of Economic Crisis on Health Inequalities in the E.U. Countries.

Athens Acropolis 20th June 2014

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STRUCTURE

- MACRO ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE CRISIS
- EFFECTS OF CRISIS
- IMPACT ON HEALTH INEQUALITIES
- TIME TRENDS IN HEALTH INEQUALITIES ACTISES
- GREATER RESILIENCE & GOVERNANCE
MACRO ASPECTS OF THE CRISIS
SELECTED MEMORANDUM COUNTRIES
25% REDUCTION IN GDP IN GREECE
Significant Reduction in Health Expenditure in Greece due to Economic Crisis

Average annual growth in health spending across OECD countries in real terms, 2000-2011

Note:
- Growth rates for Australia, Denmark, Japan, Mexico and Slovak Republic refer to 2009-10 instead of 2009-11.
- Growth rates for 2009-11 are not available for Luxembourg and Turkey.
- Growth rates for Chile calculated using the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

Source: OECD Health Data 2013.
Social spending increased least in countries most affected by the crisis.
Public Debt in The Memorandum EU Countries

Greece

Ireland

Italy

Portugal
Unemployment Rate In the Memorandum European Countries
EFFECTS OF CRISIS ON HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND UNMET MEDICAL NEEDS
Poorer households tended to lose more or gain less between 2007 and 2010.
Unmet care needs for medical examination by income level, European countries, 2011
Perceived health status by income level, 2012 (or nearest year)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Have you felt happy</th>
<th>Have you felt calm and peaceful</th>
<th>Did you have lots of energy</th>
<th>Have you felt full of life</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>LV</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>EL 46%</td>
<td>DE 41%</td>
<td>HU 24%</td>
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EFFECTS OF CRISIS

UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS SURVEY
5200 RESPONDENTS
Distribution of Health Before and During the Crisis

Before The Crisis

During the Crisis

**A.1. ΦΥΛΟ**

**ΘΗΛΥΚ**

**APPEN**
Greater impact of the crisis among the poor
Impact of the crisis by educational status
The Commission on Social Determinants of Health (CSDH) – Closing the gap in a generation


Review of Social Determinants of Health and the Health Divide in the WHO European Region
International initiatives For Health Inequalities

- **Closing the Gap (2004-2007):** developing a European knowledge base and in order to implement and strengthen strategies and actions to reduce health inequalities

- **Determine (2007-2010):** stimulating action on the social determinants of health and on health inequalities

- **EU Joint Action on Health Inequalities (2011-2013):** developing knowledge, supporting the engagement of Member States, sharing learning, supporting the development of effective action

- **Crossing Bridges project (2011-2012):** advancing the implementation of HiAP approaches in EU Member States

- **Annual conferences** with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation about tackling health inequalities
Major Health Inequalities between and within Member States

EU Communication
October 2009
« Solidarity in health: reducing health inequalities in the EU”

14-year difference in life expectancy for men and 8 year gap for women between EU Member States
GDP Per Capita

GDP per inhabitant, in PPS, by NUTS 2 regions, 2006

In percentage of EU-27 = 100

- <= 50
- 50 – <= 75
- 75 – <= 100
- 100 – <= 125
- > 125
- Data not available

Data source: Eurostat
© EuroGeographics Association, for the administrative boundaries
Cartography: Eurostat — GISCA 082002
Cardiovascular Disease Mortality – Men

Müller-Nordhorn et al., Eur Heart J (2008)
Cardiovascular Disease Mortality – Women

Müller-Nordhorn et al., Eur Heart J (2008)
RESEARCH FINDINGS FOR HEALTH INEQUALITIES
Health Inequality

Cumulative percentage of households

Cumulative percentage of health

Gini Index

Concentration index (CI) = 2 x B
Range of CI: -1 & +1
- When above the diagonal line,
0 when on the diagonal line, +
when below the diagonal line

25% of the poorest
bear 50% of the
disease burden

Cumulative proportion of population ranked by income

Cumulative proportion of ill health

Fig. 1. Mortality concentration curve

Cumulative live births (%) ranked by economic status
The Meaning of Equity in Health WHO HFA

• The term “equity” has a moral and ethical dimension. It refers to differences which are unnecessary and avoidable, but in addition, are also considered unfair and unjust.

• Equity in health is defined as:
  – Equal access to available care for equal need
  – Equal utilization for equal need
  – Equal quality of care for all
Inequality of What?

• Health measures
  – Mortality
  – Morbidity
  – Life expectancy
  – Self-reported health
  – Disability
  – Health risks

• Health care
  – Access to care
  – Responsiveness
  – Coverage
  – Quality

• Health financing
  – Health expenditures
  – Risk of catastrophic payments

• Health system inputs
  – Human resources
  – Physical resources

Social Determinants of Health
TRENDS IN INCOME AND HEALTH INEQUALITIES
Rising Income Inequalities in Europe. Gini Coefficient 1984-2009
According to OECD Data Greece appears to be the only Country with declining Income Inequalities
Recent data reveal that Greece is the Country with the Highest Income Inequality.
The graph shows the relationship between life expectancy at birth and deprivation decile. The x-axis represents deprivation decile, ranging from 1 to 10, while the y-axis represents life expectancy at birth, ranging from 70 to 82 years. The red line indicates the inequality slope, and the blue dots represent life expectancy. There is a positive correlation between deprivation decile and life expectancy at birth, suggesting that higher deprivation deciles are associated with lower life expectancy.
Differences in Life expectancy at birth in the EU, by gender
POLICY ISSUES IN TACKLING HEALTH INEQUALITIES
Policy Strategies to confront Health Inequalities

• European Policies to tackle Health Inequalities at a National and regional level
• Health strategies should include policies to fight health inequalities
• A Multisectoral approach to health inequalities
• Start at an early stage of life
• Societal and Governmental policies
Way Forward
Health 2020: health systems in perspective

peoples enabled and supported in achieving their full health potential and well-being

Better governance for

Reducing inequalities

Investing in Health through life course

Tackling Health Challenges

Strengthening health systems

Creating supportive environment

Adding value through partnership

Source: WHO Unit of Public Health
THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Health is a Human Right
Health is a Value in itself
Health is an Investment
Health is vital for Europe 2020

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Thank you for your attention

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