

Health Reforms: Principal Categories and Criteria for the Change

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REASONS FOR the CHANGE OF EUROPEAN HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS

1. Insisting on old values:

1. Equity in access to health services
2. General accessibility of health services

2. New challenges:

- Population ageing
- Consumerism
- Dynamics of technology development

3. Inadequate performance:

1. Inability to purchase health services
2. Lack of responsibility of consumers

CATEGORY:

AIM OF CHANGE:

Funding

- Equity and general accessibility
- Meeting increasing demand

Risk pooling and adjustment

- Fairness
- Stability
- Cream skimming minimisation

Financing

- Efficiency improvement

Purchasing

- Efficiency improvement

Providing

- Efficiency improvement



CATEGORY:

CHANGE

STATE ROLE

Funding

- Shift in purpose of public sources: public subsidy of jeopardized population groups
- Increase of private sources

- Collection and redistribution

Risk pooling and adjustment

- Risk adjustment (cross redistribution between third parties)
- Mandatory high risk pooling

- Legal framework

Financing

- Multiple payers system (Health insurance market)
(with options for safe, but significant co-pays: Health savings accounts)

- Legal framework

- Market regulation

Purchasing

- Contract based purchasing
- Managed care systems
- Consumer driven purchasing

- Legal framework

- Market regulation

Providing

- Market of health services

REFORMS:

**System
sustaining**

- In fact no reform
- Postponing solution

**System
improving**

- Short-term solution
- Stabilization
- First step towards transformation

**System
transforming**

- Long-term systematic solution

