



Summary Session 1 – European Policies in the healthcare area and the European Commission Initiative on Breast Cancer

**Conference "Putting Science into Standards"
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Context

- *Set the policy scene for healthcare policies and accreditation with perspectives of different stakeholders*
- *Limited competence at EU level in the field of health and services - support to Member States and exchange of best practice*
- *Overview on European policies in the healthcare area which also form the basis for the European Commission Initiative on Breast Cancer.*

Presentations and Discussion

- *Overview on European policies: EU policy on cancer as part of a wider framework of policy on health, single market perspective, eHealth and cross-border healthcare*
- *Overview on the existing schemes as well as presentation of terminology of accreditation and standardisation*
- *Overview on different generations of standards and problems of measuring outcomes (including from patient point of view)*

Results of the session

- *Participants agreed that there is a potential to improve quality assurance and tackle inequalities through action at EU level*
- *Details and modalities of such an approach still remain to be defined*
- *There was a general move towards increased cooperation to address horizontal aspects of future action on quality assurance at European level*
- *Experts to define the quality assurance system need to be transparently selected*
- *Adapting to change and based on evidence*

Thank you!

