

Value based healthcare and “the Netherlands case”: one Billion saved in 2019

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How do you save resources in healthcare without compromising the level of performance and care? In recent years, the recipes discussed to achieve this objective were numerous and the real challenge is to understand which ones are really effective. In this light, one of the most brilliant results is that obtained by the Dutch healthcare: according to data from the Value Based Healthcare - Europe Center, in 2019 one Billion euros was saved, around 1.2% of total healthcare spending, through the application of Value Based Healthcare. This is a strategy that aims to define new value-based healthcare models to improve patient health outcomes while containing resources for the sustainable growth of the NHS.

To understand the magnitude of this achievement, it is important to present a snapshot of the situation of the Dutch healthcare: in 2018, the country's healthcare spending was 90 Billion euros. And it is expected that in the coming years, due to the increase in lifespan, this spending will grow faster than the increase in age, so much that in 2040 it will reach 175 billion euros. The two areas where spending will grow the fastest are elder care and mental health. It is estimated that thanks to the application of this method, just in 2040, healthcare spending could be reduced by 25 billion euros.

But how is this method applied? And how do the more than 170 Value-Based Healthcare reform projects currently active in the country stand out? A case in point is the "Diabeter" project, which provides a comprehensive care of children with diabetes in collaboration with their families, by a multidisciplinary team capable of dealing with the disease and its comorbidities; measurement, tracking, and analysis of clinical outcomes; payment for services based on clinical outcomes; and personalization of the cycle of care. This project has led to improved patient health status and to a reduction in the average annual cost per patient from €7,350 to €3,270.

The value-based healthcare has today its evolution in the Human Value-Based Healthcare approach, which puts at the center the person - not only the patient - within the healthcare ecosystem so that all stakeholders bring a mutual benefit: patients, GPs, specialists, centers, but also territory, insurances, technological platforms, volunteers, investors, start-ups, etc...

Last March 18, a workshop entitled “Human Value-Based Healthcare - The Person and the Network“ was dedicated to this new method and was sponsored by Your Business Partner. It saw the participation as speakers of managers of major companies such as **Isabella Fumagalli, CEO of BNP Paribas Cardif, Tiziana Mele CEO of Lundbeck Italia, Andrea Bizzi Communication Director of Chiesi Group, David Ravech, founder of Doctor Care Anywhere and Rapid Health, Giuseppe Fraizzoli, CEO of 5 Humanitas hospitals, Marina Veldanova of Skolkovo Management School in Moscow**. In this event, we wanted to emphasize the importance of the "network": the person must be placed at the center of the health system while the network must be the tool to make a continuous and constant relationship between all the "actors" to create mutual value: clinical, knowledge, information sharing, economic, time. This model is particularly evident during this pandemic, such a dramatic and challenging moment that has placed the clinical community at a crossroads of no return: either the system of relationships between clinicians works - the specialist with the GP, with the nurse, between centers, etc. - or healthcare itself does not work.