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► Financing mental health care in Europe

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Original

Financing mental health care in Europe

Professor Martin Knapp ☐, David McDaid, Francesco Amaddeo, Athanassios Constantopoulos, Mónica D. Oliveira, Luis Salvador-Carulla, ... show all Pages 167-180 | Published online: 06 Jul 2009

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Abstract

Background: Some of the most heated discussions about health policy concern financing and the funding base for services. How have west European countries approached the financing of their mental health systems?

Aims: To describe the financing arrangements for mental health care in 17 European countries, and to identify the consequences for system efficiency, access and

development

Method:

Econom

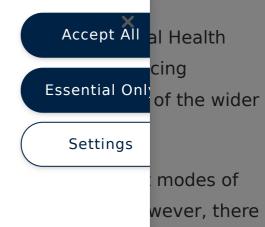
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at least, with

implications for targeting and equity. The movement of some support responsibilities into social care and housing sectors could further shift funding burdens onto individuals and families.

Conclusions: Europe's long-term commitment to social solidarity and mutuality must not be threatened by changes to funding arrangements that could undermine recent efficiency and equity achievements in mental health systems. Efforts to contain health care expenditure may have adverse consequences for mental health care access and utilization.

Declarations of interest: The Mental Health Economics European Network Phase I was supported by a grant (SPC.2002397) from the European Commission, Health and Consumer Protection Directorate. There are no conflicts of interest.





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