



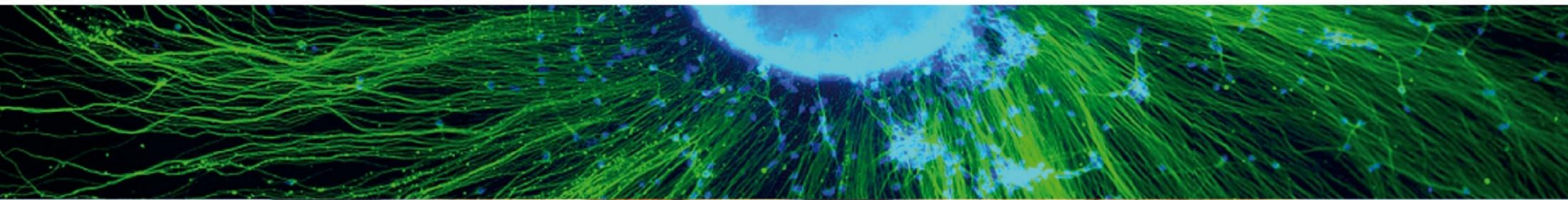
EMRC Science Policy Briefing

Health Research Classification Systems

Current Approaches and Future Recommendations



European Science Foundation



Implementation workshop
London (UK), 22 November 2011
Dr. Maria Manuela Nogueira, ESF, France

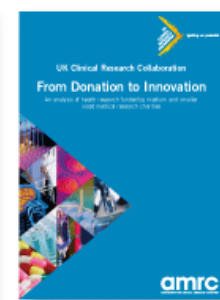


- The **Health Research Classification System (HRCS)** was developed by the UK Clinical Research Collaboration (UKCRC) to meaningfully compare various funders' research portfolios.
- HRCS was used to
 - fully describe the funding landscape
 - identify gaps and opportunities for health research in the UK
- HRCS is a 2-dimensional framework
 - 21 Health Categories (type of health or disease)
 - 48 Research Activity Codes (type of research from basic to applied), divided into 8 groups

UK Health Research Analysis report, 2006

From Donation to Innovation report, 2007

<http://www.hrcsonline.net>





Expert group



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* These experts also participated to the ESF MO Forum on Evaluation of Publicly Funded Research



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- Executive summary
- Introduction
- Classification systems used in health research
- Key limitations and challenges to introducing a portfolio classification approach
- Key characteristics of successful research classification systems
- **Recommendations**
- **Conclusion**



Recommendation 1

Use of the HRCS is encouraged as the leading approach for comparison and joint analysis of specifically *health* research portfolio information.



Recommendation 2

Methodological developments are needed to reduce the cost of classification and increase flexibility.



Recommendation 3

Coordination of a common approach is needed across organisations, at the national, European and international level.



Conclusion 1

EMRC recognises the strategic advantage that would be gained from being able to analyse medical research portfolios across Europe.



Conclusion 2

EMRC encourages the use of a standard international classification system for health research that may be implemented in parallel to individual classification systems.



Organisations' support



23 ESF-EMRC Member Organisations (MOs) + 2 non-MOs

- Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique (FNRS)
*Fund for Scientific Research, **Belgium***
 - Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (FWO)
*Research Foundation Flanders, **Belgium***
 - Hrvatska akademija znanosti i umjetnosti (HAZU)
*Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, **Croatia***
 - Hrvatska zaklada za znanost (HRZZ)
*Croatian Science Foundation, **Croatia***
 - Grantová agentura České republiky (GAČR)
*Czech Science Foundation, **Czech Republic***
 - Det Frie Forskningsråd - Sundhed og Sygdom (FSS)
*The Danish Council for Independent Research - Medical Sciences, **Denmark***
 - Suomen Akatemia/Finlands Akademi
*Academy of Finland, **Finland***
 - Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)
*German Research Foundation, **Germany***
 - ΕΘΝΙΚΟ ΙΔΡΥΜΑ ΕΡΕΥΝΩΝ
*National Hellenic Research Foundation (NHRF), **Greece***
 - Ίδρυμα Τεχνολογίας και Έρευνας (FORTH)
*Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH), **Greece***
 - Országos Tudományos Kutatási Alapprogramok (OTKA)
*Hungarian Scientific Research Fund, **Hungary***
 - Health Research Board (HRB), **Ireland**
 - Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR)
*National Research Council, **Italy***
 - Lietuvos Mokslo Taryba (LMT)
*Research Council of Lithuania, **Lithuania***
 - Norges Forskningsråd
*The Research Council of Norway (RCN), **Norway***
 - Polska Akademia Nauk (PAN)
*Polish Academy of Sciences, **Poland***
 - Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT)
*Foundation for Science and Technology, **Portugal***
 - Slovenská akadémia vied (SAV)
*Slovak Academy of Sciences, **Slovak Republic***
 - Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC)
*Council for Scientific Research, **Spain***
 - Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación (MICINN)
*Ministry of Science and Innovation, **Spain***
 - Vetenskapsrådet (VR)
*Swedish Research Council, **Sweden***
 - Türkiye Bilimsel ve Teknolojik Arastırma Kurumu (TÜBİTAK)
*The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey, **Turkey***
 - Medical Research Council (MRC), **United Kingdom**
- Additional supportive organisations:**
- Ministarstvo Znanosti, Obrazovanja I Športa Republike Hrvatske, *Ministry of Sciences, Education and Sports, **Croatia***
 - Zorg Onderzoek Nederland en Medische Wetenschappen (ZonMw), *The Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development, **The Netherlands***

<http://www.esf.org/hrcs>

Workshop goals



- **Implementation of the 3 recommendations**
 - ✓ **Find realistic and concrete implementation steps**
- **Key stakeholders**
 - ✓ **Ensure implementation engagement of EMRC MOs**
 - ✓ **Identify additional stakeholders for implementation**
- **Develop an action plan with milestones and timeline**
 - ✓ **Potentially publish a Position Paper**

Recommendation	Stakeholders responsible for implementing the recommendation	Action needed
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A time of change

At the moment ESF is in a period of transition and is currently developing a multiannual plan which will be presented in 2012.

It is continuing discussions with its Member Organisations and the recently launched **Science Europe** to define future roles and activities.

In the meantime, ESF's existing commitments will be unaffected by these developments.

Updated information regarding ESF activities is available on our website:

<http://www.esf.org/about-esf/latest-esf-developments.html>



Thank you for your attention!

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