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Integrating Health and Social Care Services for Older Persons

Evidence from Nine European Countries

European Centre Vienna

Ashgate
“Providing Integrated Health and Social Care for Older Persons (PROCARE)” is a project in the EU Fifth Framework Programme (Quality of Life and Management of Living Resources, Area “The Ageing Population and Disabilities”) which aims to help in defining the new concept of an integrated health and social care for older persons in need of care by comparing and evaluating different modes of care delivery.

Following the publication of a first book published in March 2004, the current volume on “Integrating Health and Social Care Services for Older Persons. Evidence from Nine European Countries” will draw on the achievements of the second project phase (2003-2004) that consisted in empirical fieldwork and a cross-national analysis of model ways of working in the nine participating EU Member States (Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, the UK).

The book underpins the more general national and European considerations gathered in the project with empirical findings analysed in a trans-national perspective. Its chapters have been written by “internationally mixed” teams and will thus contribute to the development of a truly European perspective, providing:

- a unique general overview on European approaches towards integrated social and health care services and policies that are to be developed to face the growing need of care in ageing societies;
- indicators for successful approaches and models of good practice to overcome the “social-health-divide”;
- better understanding of the meaning of integrated services and the coordination of social and health systems in the different countries;
- facts and figures about coordination at the interface between health and social care for older persons;
- as well as problems and solutions (“lessons to learn”) concerning regulation and coordination.

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