Environmental and Economic Sustainability: the Role of National Health System

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Workshop

Sostenibilità in Sanità: Acquisti pubblici, Energia e Mobilità nel Sistema Sanitario Italiano e in Europa
Sustainability in healthcare sector:

Public Procurement, Energy and Mobility in the Italian health system and beyond

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Environmental Sustainability And Health Care Systems

- Necessity to combine economic, production and social development with environmental and health protection
- Importance of prevention activities
11 items of global concern:

- Chemical substances environmental exposition;
- Outdoor and indoor pollution;
- Water resources;
- Waste cycle;
- Acoustic pollution;
- Radon;
- UV radiations;
- Electromagnetic fields;
- Nanotechnology;
- Climate changes;
- Green economy.
Great concerning about:
- natural resources depletion (ex. fossil fuel)
- greenhouse gas emission increase with effects on climate changes

Environmental impact of unlimited growth monitored by:
- national institutions
- international institutions
- NGOs

AIM: to support a sustainable development of economic activities in order to allow future generations to live in wealth and health
NINE PRIORITY GOALS

1. to protect, preserve and improve natural resources of the Union;
2. to transform Union economy (low carbon emissions, efficient and “green” use of resources);
3. to protect citizens against environmental risks to preserve health and wealth;
4. to implement the application of union environmental laws;
5. to improve scientific basis of union environmental politics;
NINE PRIORITY GOALS (2)

6. to guarantee investments on environmental and climate policies;
7. to improve politics integration and cohesion;
8. to improve “smart cities” across the Union;
9. to implement UE actions to cope with environmental and climate change challenges at international level.
HIA HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- Ottawa Charter
- Kiev Protocol
- Goteborg Consensus Conference
- European directives on EIA

EC strategy of “health in all politics” included attention to human health in several directives and raccomandations; since 2003 EC raccomomended HIA as a tool to improve integration between environmental and health politics.
WHO European Environment And Health Process (EEHP)

Vth interministerial conference held in Parma in March 2010

Parma declaration with four priority goals

Next meeting in March 2015 Italy proposed the item of contaminated sites
Health 2020: A European Policy Framework supporting action across government and society for health and well-being

Collaboration between environmental and health sectors is critical.

Health and well being depend strictly on:

- how one is born,
- grows up,
- works
- grow old.
Health 2020: A European Policy Framework supporting action across government and society for health and well-being

Impacts on health of:
- environmental changes,
- new technologies,
- work, energy production
- urbanization

are fundamental and must be evaluated in order to protect human health
10 goals one contains commitments to regions to act in order to reduce environmental expositions to pollutants and to promote actions of primary prevention

Particular attention is paid to children and fragile people, through the implementation of epidemiologic surveillance
a central role for Prevention Departments of Local Health Agency (ASL) to integrate actions between health and environmental sectors (ISPRA- Arpa)

Necessity of training of health operators in environmental items
Citizens and stakeholders participation:
- data collection for epidemiology surveillance
- promotion of healthy lifestyle

Risks communication
Prevention of Chronic Diseases

Most is spent for care services, with great budgets for diagnosis and therapy of chronic diseases.

Cost benefit

Evaluation of impacts

very limited budget by health systems.

OCSE: only 3% Health budget is dedicated to prevention and public health programmes

in Italy only 1%
In Italy recent examples of public health intervention in this field have regarded “contaminated sites” as a "map" of health impact of contaminated sites across Italian territory, allowing to:

- Set priorities for land draining prevention actions directed to populations living near contaminated sites.

"SENTIERI".

Wide national epidemiologic programme on contaminated sites, conducted by National Institute of Health on behalf of Ministry of Health.
Paradigmatic have become Taranto ILVA Campania “Terra dei fuochi”

Land mapping in Campania for land draining

25 M euro 2014-2015 for Puglia and Campania to offer exams to populations living near contaminated sites
Risk reduction is first duty of Public health. However Public health can give an important contribution to focus attention on the risks for individual health of hazardous behaviour.

If we want to guarantee a sustainable medicine, we must match public health intervention and promotion of individual healthy life styles.