

Abstract Jeroen N. Struijs:

Developments in the Netherlands - the example of “Primary Care Plus”

As part of a national policy to build a more sustainable healthcare system, the Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport appointed nine regions across the Netherlands as pioneer sites population health management, in April 2013. These pioneer sites are able to experiment with (new) interventions to accomplish the Triple Aim principle: reduced care costs per capita, along with improved population health and patient perceived quality of care. An incentive for the pioneer sites to accomplish substitution was that all relevant stakeholders (i.e. Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport, healthcare organisations, health insurance companies and patient organisations) have agreed that the volume growth for hospital care should be limited to 1.5 % in 2014 and only 1 % per year from 2015 to 2017. Moreover, primary care is allowed to grow by 1 % in 2014 and 1.5 % per year from 2015 to 2017 if they are able to establish that they contribute to substitution. Consequently, various approaches have been introduced among which Primary Care Plus (redesign) and bundled payment for birth care (payment reform). This lecture will discuss the Dutch efforts regarding 1) the pioneer sites population health management, 2) primary care plus initiatives which aim to substitute hospital care toward primary care, and 3) the introduction of bundled payment for birth care. This lecture will end with a discussion regarding the Dutch recent efforts, with an eye toward helping policymakers and researchers in Austria to gain insights from the Dutch experiences.