



“Getting the patients’ message across”

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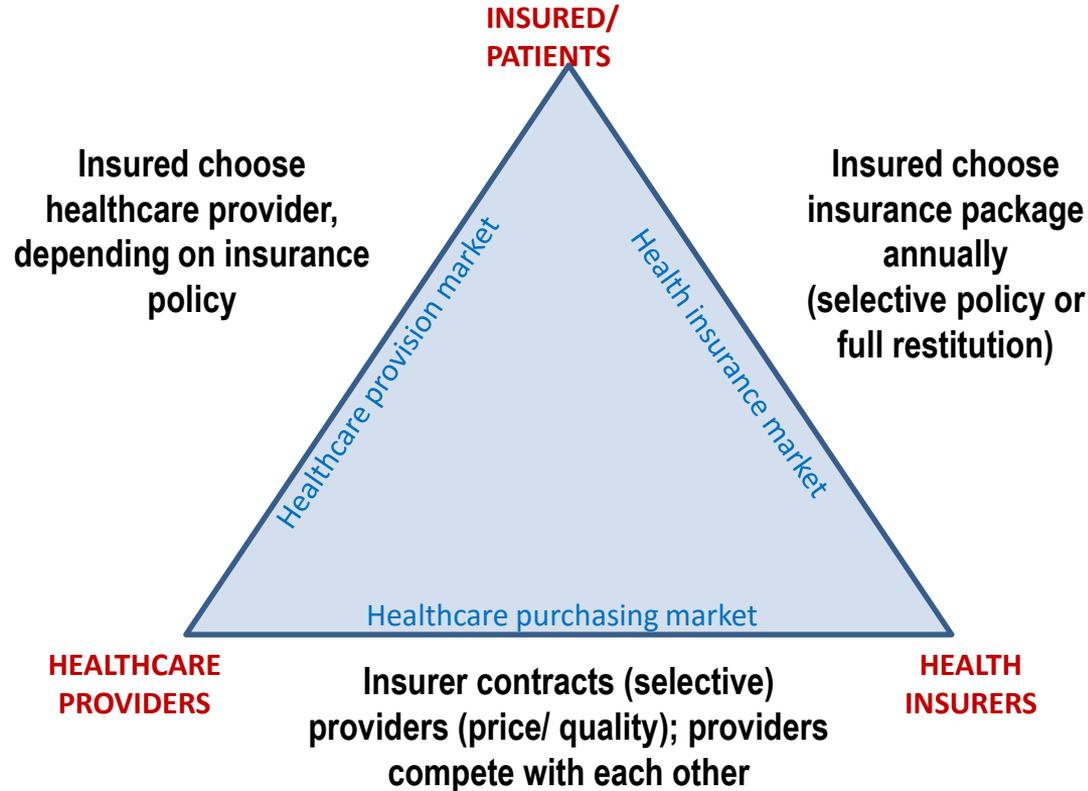
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Political context

- **European solidarity and cooperation no longer undisputed!**
- **EU in political turmoil (migration, Brexit, Grexit).**
- **New approach to European cooperation: “big on big things and smaller on small things”.**
- **Where does this leave us when it comes to health policy?**
- **Not central in new Commission Working Program, nor in Dutch presidency program.**
- **However: many health issues require European cooperation.**
- **Therefore: an ambitious, but realistic health agenda, aimed at the legislative agenda in Brussels, but also at setting the European agenda for cross border issues.**

Dutch healthcare system: some institutional basics





Important obligations are for example:

Patient

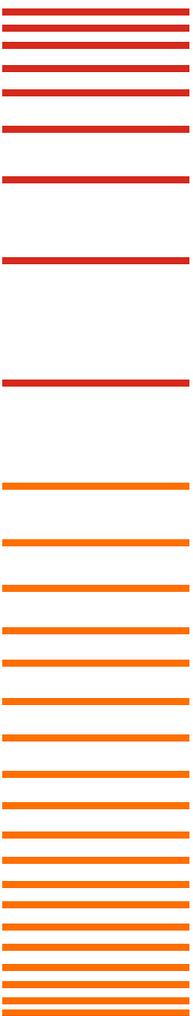
- Obligation to insure
- Compulsory & voluntary risk

Healthcare provider

- Quality & safety of care
- Professional & scientific standards

Health insurer

- Full acceptance
- Obligation to provide care



How to get the patient message across?

Goal

Patient comes first, care is tailored and suited to the needs of the patients

Tool

Patient can make optimal and responsible choices

Well-equipped patient

Transparency and
freedom of choice

Trust



Healthcare is about patients

Why?

Better healthcare

Affordability

Patients can provide important feedback on quality and service delivery

Patients organisations have an important role



Patient organisations are involved in:

Development of quality guidelines in healthcare

- Patient organisations now involved in development of professional standards by Institute for Health Care Quality

Expertise in healthcare

- Patient organisations (disease related) give information and advises to people (medicines, therapy, options)

Programs measuring quality from patients perspective, e.g.:

- PROM– measuring patient-reported outcomes of healthcare
- Clients Experience in Care Foundation



Examples of Patient organisations

Strong tradition of patient involvement and participation

Three national umbrella organisations

- Netherlands Federation of Patients' and Consumers' Organisations - NPCF
- Dutch Council of the Chronically ill and the Disabled -Ieder(in)
- Federation of Organisations of People with Psychiatric Disorders - LPggz

App. 200 diseased specific (umbrella) organisations, e.g.:

- Federation of cancer patient organisations (LMK)
- Diabetes Association Netherlands (DVN)
- Rare and Genetic Diseases Association (VSOP)



Grant program patient organisations

Strand 1: Operation grants for disease specific organisations

- 200 disease specific organisations (€25.000 to €35.000);
Conditions: 100+ individual members/ supporters; Total available:
€ 8.5 mln. annually

Strand 2: Voucher system for disease specific organisations

- Aimed at supporting cooperation on sharing client-perspectives
- Voucher value: € 18.000; 1 voucher per organisation
- Project requires minimum 7 vouchers, € 126.000; max. 3 yrs
- Total available: € 4.5 mln. annually

Strand 3: Operation grants national umbrella organisations

- Total available: € 6 mln. annually

Strand 4: Patient organisation support desk (PGOsupport)

- Provides information, advice, training and assistance
- Total available: € 4 mln. annually



What does the Netherlands want to achieve during its EU Presidency?

- ❑ As EU Presidency holder, the Netherlands' guiding principles are a Union that focuses on the essentials, a Union that focuses on growth and jobs through innovation, and a Union that connects with civil society.
- ❑ The Netherlands wants the European Union to focus on what matters to Europe's citizens and businesses. The priorities are prosperity, freedom and security. Examples include **health care**, education, pensions and taxation.