



WORKSHOP OUTCOMES: SUMMARY DOCUMENT

The proximity of regions to their population places them in an ideal position to accelerate the uptake and implementation of personalised medicine innovations. There are a number of barriers to a fully personalised healthcare system for every EU citizen. The first step in overcoming these barriers is identifying them. SAPHIRe consulted with European regions to understand the most relevant barriers they currently face.

INNOVATION

Translation from basic research to market uptake

Increased funding and co-creation projects could increase innovation. The reimbursement of novel treatments/diagnostics are a determining factor when bringing innovations to the market. Productive dialogue between regions and countries, to negotiate as a collective in order to get the best deal from pharmaceutical companies, and to reimburse therapies in a similar fashion, should pave the way forward in this area.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Access to high quality infrastructure

The exponential growth of data creates infrastructure challenges. Current systems are not prepared for this and additional funding and investments are needed. Standardisation of data is required, this may be at regional, national and/or European level.

ENGAGING THE POPULATION

Awareness and empowerment of the population

For the population to be willing to contribute to research they need to be informed. Creating a societal based learning environment will require active involvement and empowerment of citizens, and the inclusion of patient (organisations) in policy making.



DATA

The need for accessible, high quality, and interoperable datasets

Fragmentation of data, low quality datasets, and interoperability issues were viewed as major barriers for almost every region that was consulted.

POLICY

A strong policy framework based on a solid evidence base

A strong regulatory framework is required as we move from symptomatic treatment to a preventive and personalised healthcare approach. This framework must include a pathway for innovations in personalised medicine to be implemented into standard care.

PROFESSIONALS

Professionals with the necessary skills for a personalised approach to healthcare

The hard borders between a scientific career and a career in healthcare need to be broken down. Healthcare professionals will need to be closely involved and up to date with current research.

REMOTE AND SPARSELY POPULATED REGIONS

Personalised approaches need to reach even the most remote and sparsely populated EU regions

Barriers include longer distances before reaching the closest medical doctor or hospital, and the lack of specialised healthcare professionals in remote regions. Isolated populations can have a higher incidence of specific diseases, due to the unique genetic background and the occurrence of particular founder mutations within that population.