



Regional –based quality management of health services: the Italian approach

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The Italian healthcare system

It 's a *Beveridge-like model*: **Universal, Comprehensive** (almost), **Free**, Financed by **general taxation**.

It is organized in three levels :

- The **national** level is responsible for national health planning, including general aims and annual financial resources and for ensuring a uniform level of services, care and assistance (LEA).
- The **regional** level has the responsibility for planning, organizing and managing its health care system through LHA's activities in order to meet the needs of their population.
- The **local** level (Local Health Authorities): provides care through public and/or private hospitals, primary care and prevention services.

Since 2008 Regions involved in the Sant'Anna network sharing the performance evaluation system:

- Veneto
- Toscana
- Liguria
- Umbria
- PA Trento
- PA Bolzano
- Marche
- Basilicata
- Emilia Romagna
- Friuli Venezia Giulia
- Lombardia
- Puglia
- Calabria



<http://performance.sssup.it/network>

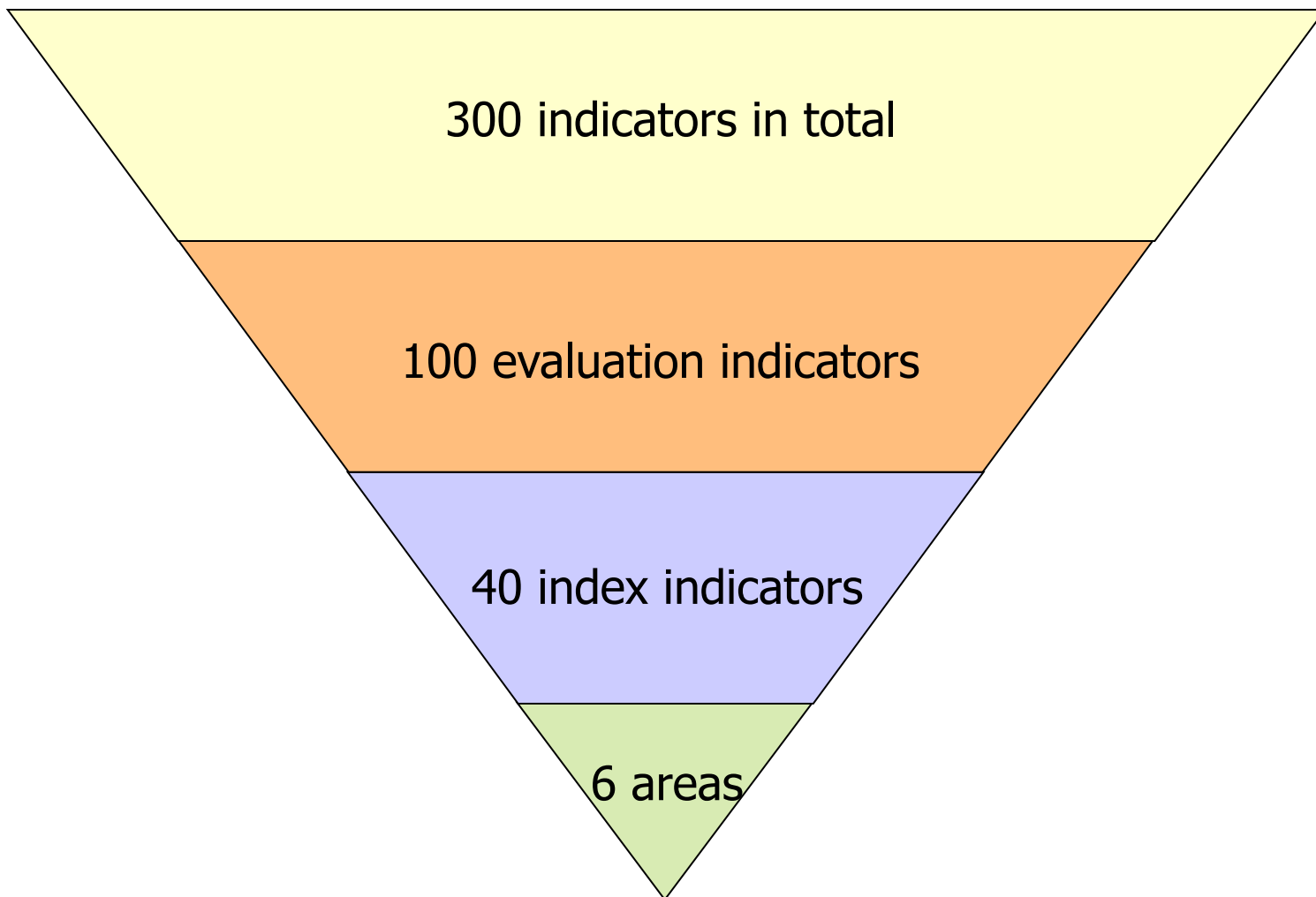


The PES system adopted by the network of the Italian regions...

- ***multidimensional***
- ***evidence-based data***
- ***systematic benchmarking***
- ***transparent disclosure***
- ***timely based***



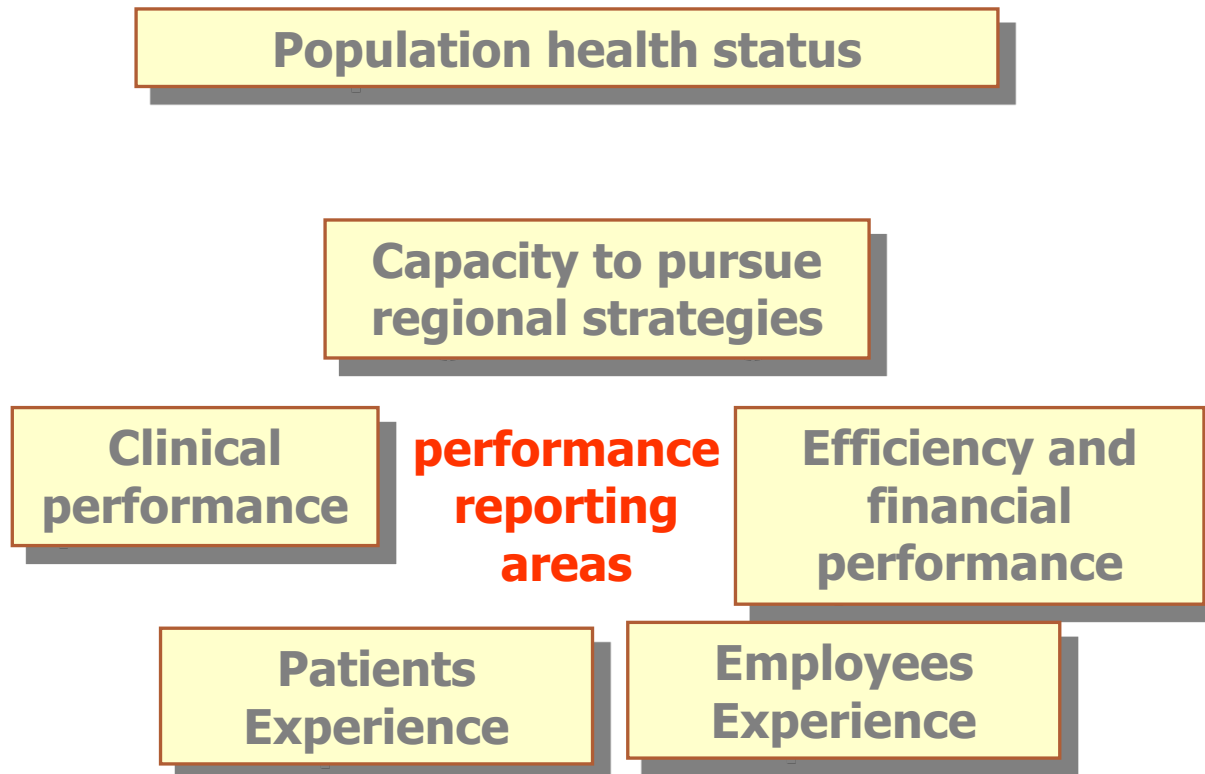
Structure of the evaluation system





The multidimensional reporting system shared by the network of the Italian regions

In order to describe the performance evaluation system, six areas have been identified to highlight the core results of the regional healthcare system.





The Five Assessment Bands

| SCORE | BAND COLOUR | PERFORMANCE |
|-------|-------------|-------------|
| 4 - 5 | DARK GREEN | EXCELLENT |
| 3 - 4 | GREEN | GOOD |
| 2 - 3 | YELLOW | AVERAGE |
| 1 - 2 | ORANGE | POOR |
| 0 - 1 | RED | VERY POOR |



The Reference Criteria for the Assessment Bands

- 1. International standards**, if existing based on EBM
- 2. Regional standards** set out by the Regional Governments
- 3. The inter-regional mean**, standardized by several factors to allow comparisons across Health Authorities and Regions



| code | indicator | performance score bands | | | | | | | | |
|------------|---|-------------------------|-----|---|------|---|------|---|-----|---|
| A1 | Infant mortality | ● | | ● | ● | ● | ● | | | |
| A1.1 | Infant mortality in the first year of life | ● | 1,8 | ● | 2,4 | ● | 3 | ● | 3,6 | ● |
| A1.2 | Early neonatal mortality (in the first 6 days of life) | | | | ● | | | | | |
| A1.3 | Neonatal mortality (in the first 28 days of life) | | | | ● | | | | | |
| A2 | Cancer mortality | ● | 150 | ● | 160 | ● | 170 | ● | 180 | ● |
| A3 | Circulatory disease mortality | ● | 138 | ● | 147 | ● | 156 | ● | 165 | ● |
| A4 | Suicide mortality | ● | 4,3 | ● | 5,4 | ● | 6,5 | ● | 7,6 | ● |
| A10 | Lifestyles | ● | | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| A6.1.1 | Percentage of sedentary people | ● | 15 | ● | 21 | ● | 27 | ● | 33 | ● |
| A6.2.1 | Percentage of overweight or obese people | ● | 34 | ● | 38 | ● | 42 | ● | 46 | ● |
| A6.3.1 | Percentage of high-risk alcohol consumers | ● | 10 | ● | 16 | ● | 22 | ● | 28 | ● |
| A6.4.1 | Percentage of smokers | ● | 24 | ● | 27 | ● | 30 | ● | 33 | ● |
| B2 | Promotion of healthy lifestyles | ● | | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| A6.1.2 | Percentage of sedentary people advised by their doctor or by other healthcare professionals to exercise | ● | 26 | ● | 31 | ● | 36 | ● | 41 | ● |
| A6.2.2 | Percentage of overweight or obese people advised by their doctor or by other healthcare professionals to lose or maintain weight | ● | 20 | ● | 40 | ● | 60 | ● | 80 | ● |
| A6.2.3 | Percentage of overweight or obese people advised by their doctor or by other healthcare professionals to exercise | ● | 20 | ● | 40 | ● | 60 | ● | 80 | ● |
| A6.3.2 | Percentage of alcohol consumers at higher risk advised by their doctor or by other healthcare professionals to reduce alcohol consumption | ● | 3 | ● | 5 | ● | 7 | ● | 9 | ● |
| A6.4.2 | Percentage of smokers advised by their doctor or by other healthcare professionals to quit smoking | ● | 20 | ● | 40 | ● | 60 | ● | 80 | ● |
| B4 | Opioid consumption | ● | | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| B4.1.1 | Opioid consumption | ● | 1,6 | ● | 2,1 | ● | 2,5 | ● | 2,9 | ● |
| B5 | Invitation and uptake rates of cancer screening programmes | ● | | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| B5.1 | Mammography screening | ● | | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| B5.1.1 | Adjusted invitation rate for mammographic screening | ● | 80 | ● | 85 | ● | 90 | ● | 95 | ● |
| B5.1.2 | Adjusted uptake of mammographic screening | ● | 40 | ● | 50 | ● | 60 | ● | 70 | ● |
| B5.2 | Cervical screening | ● | | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| B5.2.1 | Adjusted invitation rate to cervical screening | ● | 80 | ● | 85 | ● | 90 | ● | 95 | ● |
| B5.2.2 | Adjusted uptake of cervical screening | ● | 30 | ● | 40 | ● | 50 | ● | 60 | ● |
| B5.3 | Colorectal screening | ● | | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| B5.3.1 | Adjusted invitation rate for colorectal screening | ● | 80 | ● | 85 | ● | 90 | ● | 95 | ● |
| B5.3.2 | Adjusted uptake of colorectal screening | ● | 35 | ● | 45 | ● | 55 | ● | 65 | ● |
| B7 | Vaccine coverage | ● | | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| B7.1 | MMR vaccine coverage | ● | 80 | ● | 85 | ● | 90 | ● | 95 | ● |
| B7.2 | Flu vaccine coverage for the elderly | ● | 50 | ● | 58,3 | ● | 66,7 | ● | 75 | ● |
| B7.3 | Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine coverage | ● | 62 | ● | 68 | ● | 74 | ● | 80 | ● |
| B7.4 | Flu vaccine coverage for workers in the healthcare sector | ● | 7 | ● | 16 | ● | 25 | ● | 34 | ● |
| B7.5 | Meningococcal vaccine coverage | ● | 80 | ● | 85 | ● | 90 | ● | 95 | ● |
| B7.6 | Pneumococcal vaccine coverage | ● | 80 | ● | 85 | ● | 90 | ● | 95 | ● |
| B7.7 | Hexavalent vaccine coverage | ● | 80 | ● | 85 | ● | 90 | ● | 95 | ● |
| B28 | Homecare | ● | | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| B28.1.1 | Percentage of elderly provided with homecare | | | | ● | | | | | |
| B28.1.2 | Percentage of elderly provided with homecare, with assessment | ● | 4 | ● | 6 | ● | 8 | ● | 10 | ● |
| B28.2.5 | Percentage of residents over-75 discharged from hospital, receiving at least one home visit within 2 days | | | | ● | | | | | |
| B28.2.9 | Percentage of home care service plans for the elderly with a care intensity coefficient of > 0.13 | | | | ● | | | | | |



| code | indicator | performance score bands | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|---|-------------------------|------|---|-------|---|------|---|------|---|
| B8 | Infectious diseases | | | | | | | | | |
| B8.1 | Invasive bacterial diseases with microbial type strain | | | | | | | | | |
| B8.2 | Tuberculosis prevalence rate | | | | | | | | | |
| B8.3 | Percentage of culture tests for pulmonary tuberculosis diagnosis | | | | | | | | | |
| B8.4 | Confirmation of pulmonary tuberculosis diagnosis by culture | | | | | | | | | |
| C1 | Healthcare demand management capability | | | | | | | | | |
| C1.1 | Standardized hospitalization rate | ● | 139 | ● | 146 | ● | 153 | ● | 160 | ● |
| C1.1.1 | Standardized hospitalization rate of acute inpatients | ● | 96 | ● | 103 | ● | 110 | ● | 117 | ● |
| C1.1.1.1 | Standardized hospitalization rate of acute medical DRGs (0-64 years) | | | | | | | | | |
| C1.1.2 | Standardized hospitalization rate of acute outpatients | | | | | | | | | |
| C1.1.2.1 | Standardized hospitalization rate of acute medical outpatients | ● | 7 | ● | 10 | ● | 13 | ● | 16 | ● |
| C1.1.2.2 | Standardized hospitalization rate of acute surgical outpatients | | | | | | | | | |
| C1.1.2.2.1 | Standardized hospitalization rate of surgical outpatients | | | | | | | | | |
| C1.1.3 | Standardized hospitalization rate for post-acute care | | | | | | | | | |
| C1.3 | Per capita hospital beds | | | | | | | | | |
| C1.5 | Case-mix index (teaching hospitals) | | | | | | | | | |
| C1.6 | Percentage of surgical inpatient admissions | | | | | | | | | |
| C2a.M | Performance index for average hospital length of stay of acute medical DRGs | ● | -1,2 | ● | -0,55 | ● | 0,1 | ● | 0,75 | ● |
| C2a.C | Performance index for average hospital length of stay of acute surgical DRGs | ● | -1,2 | ● | -0,55 | ● | 0,1 | ● | 0,75 | ● |
| C3b | Preoperative average length of stay for elective surgery | ● | | ● | | ● | | ● | | ● |
| C3.4 | Preoperative average hospital length of stay for elective surgery of more than 1 day (teaching/research/autonomous general hospitals) | ● | 0,85 | ● | 1 | ● | 1,15 | ● | 1,3 | ● |
| C3.5 | Preoperative average length of hospital stay for elective surgery of more than 1 day (Local Health Authorities) | | | | | | | | | |
| C14 | Appropriateness of care | | | | | | | | | |
| C4.8 | Medical ELC DRGs: standardized hospitalization rate | ● | 135 | ● | 179 | ● | 223 | ● | 267 | ● |
| C14.2 | Percentage of medical outpatient hospital admissions for diagnostic purposes | | | | | | | | | |
| C14.2a | DH admissions for diagnostic purposes | ● | 1,7 | ● | 3,1 | ● | 4,5 | ● | 5,8 | ● |
| C14.2.2 | Percentage of medical outpatient admissions for diagnostic purposes - paediatric | | | | | | | | | |
| C14.3 | Percentage of short medical hospital stays | | | | | | | | | |
| C14.3a | Admission rate for short medical hospital stays | ● | 5,2 | ● | 8,3 | ● | 11,4 | ● | 14,5 | ● |
| C14.3.2 | Percentage of short medical hospital stays - paediatrics | | | | | | | | | |
| C14.4 | Percentage of over-threshold medical admissions of patients > 65 years | ● | 2 | ● | 3 | ● | 4 | ● | 5 | ● |
| C14.5 | Standardized medical outpatient admission rate | | | | | | | | | |
| C4 | Surgical appropriateness | | | | | | | | | |
| C4.1 | Percentage of medical DRGs discharged from surgical wards | ● | 15 | ● | 19 | ● | 23 | ● | 27 | ● |
| C4.1.1 | Percentage of medical DRGs discharged from surgical wards: inpatient admissions | ● | 15 | ● | 19 | ● | 23 | ● | 27 | ● |
| C4.1.2 | Percentage of medical DRGs discharged from surgical wards: outpatient admissions | ● | 10 | ● | 15 | ● | 20 | ● | 25 | ● |
| C4.4 | Percentage of laparoscopic cholecystectomies performed in one day | ● | 10 | ● | 30 | ● | 50 | ● | 70 | ● |
| C4.7 | Percentage of Day Surgery admissions for "ELC surgical DRGs" | ● | 45 | ● | 55 | ● | 65 | ● | 75 | ● |
| C4.13 | DRGs at high-risk of inappropriateness | | | | | | | | | |
| C5 | Quality of the care process | | | | | | | | | |
| C5.1 | Percentage of readmissions within 30 days | ● | 4,3 | ● | 4,8 | ● | 5,3 | ● | 5,8 | ● |
| C5.2 | Percentage of femoral neck fractures operated within 2 days of admission | ● | 41 | ● | 54 | ● | 67 | ● | 80 | ● |



| code | indicator | performance score bands | | | | | | | | |
|------------|---|-------------------------|------|---|------|---|------|---|------|---|
| C5.3 | Percentage of transurethral prostatectomies | ● | 65 | ● | 75 | ● | 85 | ● | 95 | ● |
| C5.10 | Percentage of laparoscopic colon resections | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C5.11 | Percentage of laparoscopic appendectomies in women aged 15-49 | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C5.12 | Percentage of operated femur fractures of all diagnosed femur fractures | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C16.7 | Percentage of surgical admissions from Emergency Department (ED) with surgical DRG on discharge | ● | 45 | ● | 55 | ● | 65 | ● | 75 | ● |
| C6 | Clinical risk | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C6.4.1 | Postoperative sepsis in elective surgery | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C6.4.2 | Intra-hospital mortality of low-mortality DRG patients | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C6.4.3 | Vein thrombosis or pulmonary embolism following surgery | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C7 | Maternal and child care | ● | | ● | | ● | | ● | | ● |
| C7.1 | Percentage of C-section deliveries (NTSV) | ● | 15 | ● | 20 | ● | 25 | ● | 30 | ● |
| C7.1.2 | Percentage of C-section deliveries in the 1st group of Robson's classification | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C7.1.3 | Percentage of C-section deliveries in the 2nd group of Robson's classification | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C7.1.4 | Percentage of elective C-section deliveries over NTSV deliveries | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C7.2 | Percentage of induced labours | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C7.3 | Percentage of episiotomies (NTSV) | ● | 15 | ● | 25 | ● | 35 | ● | 45 | ● |
| C7.6 | Percentage of assisted deliveries (forceps or ventouse) | ● | 2,5 | ● | 5 | ● | 7,5 | ● | 10 | ● |
| C7.20 | Percentage of severe peri-/intra-partum asphyxia | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C7.13 | Percentage of foreign women attending the first visit late (>12th week of gestation) | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C7.13.1 | Percentage of women with low education level attending the first visit late (>12th week of gestation) | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C7.14 | Percentage of foreign women attending fewer than 4 visits during pregnancy | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C7.14.1 | Percentage of women with low level of education attending fewer than 4 visits during pregnancy | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C7.7 | Paediatric hospitalization rate (0-14 years) | ● | 6,4 | ● | 8 | ● | 9,6 | ● | 11,2 | ● |
| C7.7.1 | Admission rate during the first year of life | ● | 32 | ● | 39 | ● | 46 | ● | 53 | ● |
| C7.7.2 | Paediatric admission rate (1-5 years) | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C7.7.3 | Paediatric admission rate (6-13 years) | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C17.4 | Delivery volumes | ● | 0 | ● | 0 | ● | 0 | ● | 0 | ● |
| C17.4.1 | Percentage of admissions over the childbirth threshold | ● | 80 | ● | 85 | ● | 90 | ● | 95 | ● |
| C17.4.2 | Dispersion index of deliveries in facilities under the childbirth threshold | ● | 15 | ● | 30 | ● | 45 | ● | 60 | ● |
| C8a | Hospital-primary care integration | ● | | ● | | ● | | ● | | ● |
| C8b.2 | Hospital admission rate with length of stay of over 30 days | ● | 0,9 | ● | 1,2 | ● | 1,5 | ● | 1,8 | ● |
| C8a.2 | Percentage of readmissions 31 -180 days following discharge | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C8a.3 | Underage conception rate (12-17 years) | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C11a.4.1 | Pneumonia hospitalization rate (20-74 years) | | | | ● | | | | | |
| C8a.19.1 | Paediatric hospitalization rate for asthma (2-17 years) | ● | 30 | ● | 50 | ● | 70 | ● | 90 | ● |
| C8a.19.2 | Paediatric hospitalization rate for gastroenteritis (0-17 years) | ● | 60 | ● | 120 | ● | 180 | ● | 240 | ● |
| C9 | Appropriate prescribing of medication | ● | | ● | | ● | | ● | | ● |
| C9.1 | Proton pump inhibitor consumption (antacids)-br> | ● | 21 | ● | 25 | ● | 29 | ● | 33 | ● |
| C9.3 | Incidence of sartans (antihypertensives) on substances acting on the renin-angiotensin system | ● | 26 | ● | 30 | ● | 34 | ● | 38 | ● |
| C9.4 | Consumption of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (antidepressants) | ● | 22 | ● | 26 | ● | 30 | ● | 34 | ● |
| C9.8.1.1 | Consumption of antibiotics | ● | 13,5 | ● | 16,5 | ● | 19,5 | ● | 22,5 | ● |



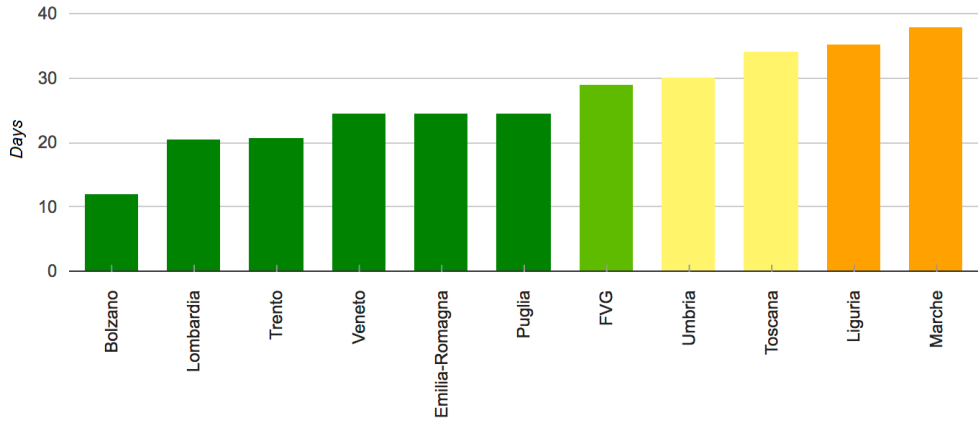
| code | indicator | performance score bands | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|--|-------------------------|-------|---|-------|---|-------|---|-------|---|
| C15.9.1 | Output of the therapy process: percentage of patients dropping out of the project (mental health) | | | | | | | | | |
| C15.9.2 | Output of the therapy process: percentage of patients dropping out of the project (addictions) | | | | | | | | | |
| C8a.7 | Hospitalization rate for psychiatric disorders (0-17 years) | | | | | | | | | |
| C15.11 | Dropout from primary care services for severe neuropsychiatric disorders | | | | | | | | | |
| C16 | Emergency Department | | | | | | | | | |
| C16.1 | Percentage of yellow code patients visited within 30 minutes | ● | 60 | ● | 70 | ● | 80 | ● | 90 | ● |
| C16.2 | Percentage of green code patients visited within 1 hour | ● | 60 | ● | 70 | ● | 80 | ● | 90 | ● |
| C16.3 | Percentage of green code patients not referred to hospital and with a length of stay <=4h | ● | 75 | ● | 80 | ● | 85 | ● | 90 | ● |
| C16.4 | Percentage of patients referred to hospital with a length of stay <=8h | ● | 80 | ● | 85 | ● | 90 | ● | 95 | ● |
| C16.11 | Emergency vehicle response time | ● | 14 | ● | 18 | ● | 22 | ● | 26 | ● |
| C18 | Appropriateness of elective surgery | | | | | | | | | |
| C18.1 | Standardized hospitalization rate for tonsillectomy | ● | 114,1 | ● | 199,7 | ● | 285,3 | ● | 370,9 | ● |
| C18.2 | Standardized hospitalization rate for cholecystectomy | | | | | | | | | |
| C18.3 | Standardized hospitalization rate for laparoscopic cholecystectomy | | | | | | | | | |
| C18.4 | Standardized hospitalization rate for knee replacement surgery | | | | | | | | | |
| C18.5 | Standardized hospitalization rate for hip replacement surgery | | | | | | | | | |
| C18.6 | Standardized hospitalization rate for vein stripping | ● | 55 | ● | 90 | ● | 125 | ● | 160 | ● |
| C18.7 | Standardized hospitalization rate for percutaneous coronary interventions (PCI) | | | | | | | | | |
| C18.8 | Standardized hospitalization rate for transurethral prostatectomy for benign prostatic hyperplasia | | | | | | | | | |
| C18.9 | Standardized hospitalization rate for hysterectomy | | | | | | | | | |
| C18.10 | Standardized hospitalization rate for knee arthroscopy | | | | | | | | | |
| C21 | Pharmaceutical compliance | | | | | | | | | |
| C21.1.1 | Percentage of AMI patients prescribed beta blockers following discharge | | | | | | | | | |
| C21.1.2 | Percentage of AMI patients prescribed statins following discharge | | | | | | | | | |
| C21.1.3 | Percentage of AMI patients prescribed ACE inhibitors or sartans following discharge | | | | | | | | | |
| C21.1.4 | Percentage of AMI patients prescribed antiplatelet therapy following discharge | | | | | | | | | |
| C9.2 | Percentage of statin-treated patients abandoning drug therapy | ● | 8,3 | ● | 9,8 | ● | 11,4 | ● | 12,9 | ● |
| C9.9.1.1 | Percentage of antidepressant-treated patients abandoning drug therapy | ● | 18,5 | ● | 21,5 | ● | 24,5 | ● | 27,5 | ● |
| D9 | Patients leaving the Emergency Department without being seen (LWBS) | ● | 1,25 | ● | 2,5 | ● | 3,75 | ● | 5 | ● |
| D18 | Percentage of hospitalized patients leaving against medical advice | ● | 0,35 | ● | 0,7 | ● | 1,05 | ● | 1,4 | ● |
| F10b | Governance of pharmaceutical and medical device expenditure | | | | | | | | | |
| F10.1 | Local per capita pharmaceutical expenditure | ● | 155,1 | ● | 165,3 | ● | 175,5 | ● | 185,8 | ● |
| F10.2 | Public pharmaceutical expenditure (hospitals) | | | | | | | | | |
| F10.2.2 | Average expenditure for TNF-alpha inhibitors | | | | | | | | | |
| F10.3 | Public expenditure on medical devices (hospitals) | | | | | | | | | |
| F10.3.1 | Public expenditure on extensively used medical devices | | | | | | | | | |
| F12a | Drug prescription efficiency | | | | | | | | | |
| F12a.2 | Prescription of off-patent statins | ● | 78,3 | ● | 81,7 | ● | 85,1 | ● | 88,4 | ● |
| F12a.6 | Prescription of off-patent dihydropyridine derivatives (antihypertensives) | ● | 86,6 | ● | 89,1 | ● | 91,7 | ● | 94,3 | ● |
| F12a.7 | Prescription of off-patent ACE inhibitors (antihypertensives), in combination with other drugs | ● | 76 | ● | 80 | ● | 84 | ● | 88 | ● |



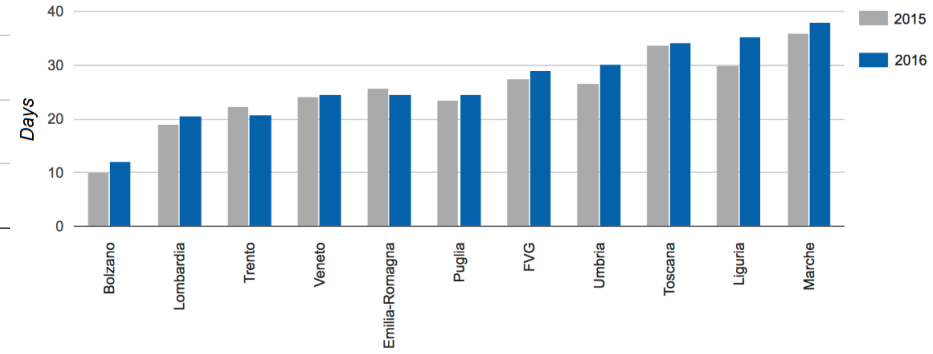
| code | indicator | performance score bands | | | | |
|------------|--|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| F12a.9 | Prescription of off-patent fluoroquinolones (antibiotics) | ● 84,1 | ● 87,2 | ● 90,4 | ● 93,6 | ● |
| F12.11a | Prescription of off-patent sartans (alone or in combination with other drugs) | ● 64,1 | ● 74,4 | ● 84,7 | ● 95 | ● |
| F12a.14 | Prescription of off-patent drugs | ● 74,4 | ● 75,6 | ● 76,7 | ● 77,9 | ● |
| F15 | Health and Safety at the workplace | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| F15.1.1 | Number of accident investigations with findings of infringements/ number of accident investigations | | | ● | | |
| F15.1.2 | Number of occupational disease investigations with findings of infringements /number of occupational disease investigations | | | ● | | |
| F15.2 | Inspection coverage | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| F15.2.1 | Number of companies inspected /number of companies with employees | ● 2,25 | ● 5 | ● 7,75 | ● 10,5 | ● |
| F15.2.2 | Number of construction companies inspected /number of registered construction companies | ● 13 | ● 27 | ● 41 | ● 55 | ● |
| F15.2.3 | Number of construction sites inspected /number of registered construction sites | ● 5 | ● 14 | ● 23 | ● 32 | ● |
| F15.3 | Productivity | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| F15.3.1 | Number of companies inspected /number of Health and Safety at the workplace and Judicial Police operators | ● 16 | ● 37 | ● 58 | ● 79 | ● |
| F15.3.2 | Number of inspections/ number of Health and Safety at the workplace and Judicial Police operators | ● 18 | ● 67 | ● 116 | ● 165 | ● |
| F17 | Per capita health expenditure (Regions) | ● 1740 | ● 1889 | ● 2039 | ● 2189 | ● |
| F17 | Per capita health expenditure (Local Health Authorities) | ● 1476 | ● 1641 | ● 1806 | ● 1971 | ● |
| F17.1 | Per capita expenditure for hospital care | | | ● | | |
| F17.1.1 | Per capita expenditure for acute inpatient hospital admissions/day hospital/day surgery | | | ● | | |
| F17.2 | Per capita expenditure for public health in living and working environments | | | ● | | |
| F17.3 | Per capita expenditure for primary and specialist care | | | ● | | |
| F17.3.1 | Per capita expenditure for specialist healthcare | | | ● | | |
| F17.3.1.1 | Per capita expenditure for diagnostic medical imaging | | | ● | | |
| F17.3.2 | Per capita expenditure for general practice | | | ● | | |
| F18 | Average cost for hospital care | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| F18.1 | Average hospital cost per weighted case | ● 3202,43 | ● 4050,86 | ● 4899,29 | ● 5747,72 | ● |
| F19 | Cost for diagnostic tests | ● 0,69 | ● 0,97 | ● 1,25 | ● 1,53 | ● |

The PES system

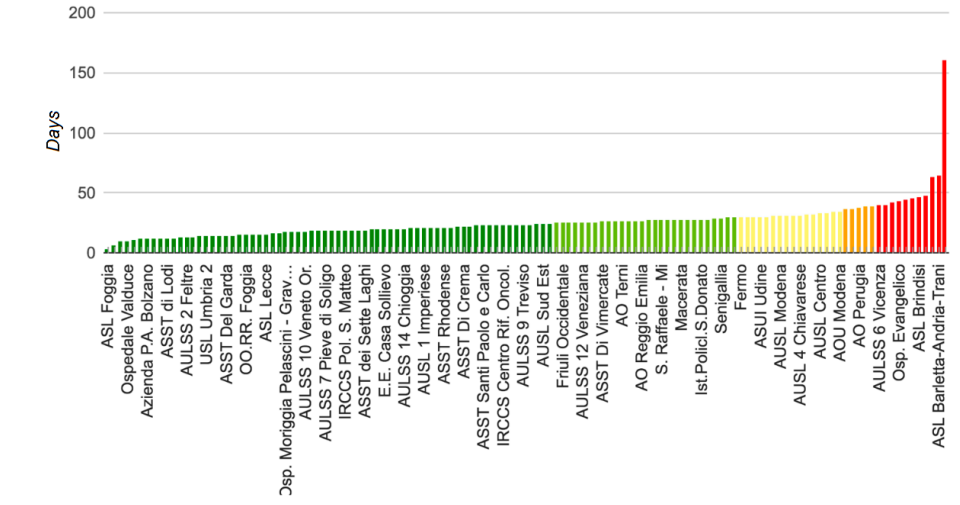
C10.4.1 Average waiting before surgery for breast cancer - 2016



C10.4.1 Average waiting before surgery for breast cancer - 2016



C10.4.1 Average waiting before surgery for breast cancer - 2016



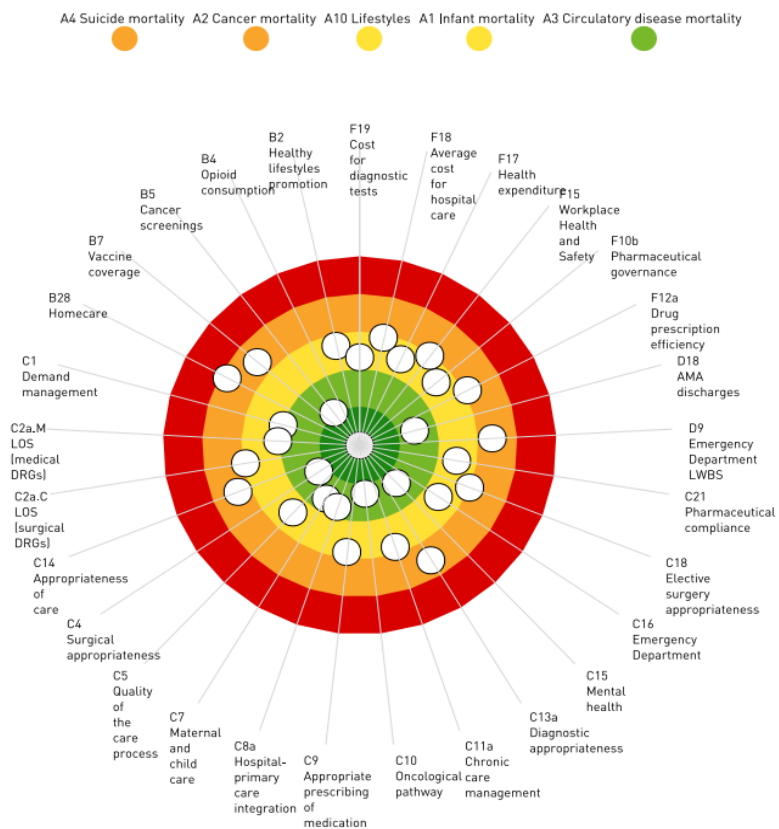


The PES system

Region level

Friuli Venezia Giulia

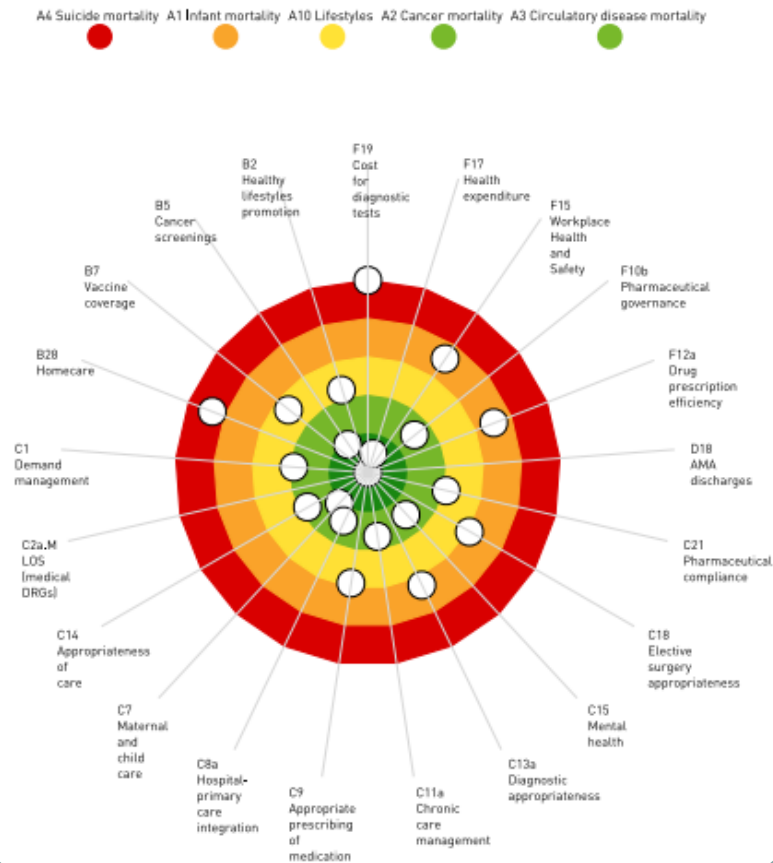
Population's health - 2010-2012



Local authority level

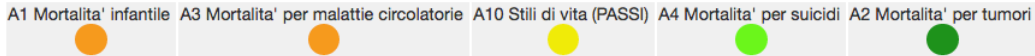
ASS6 Friuli Occidentale

Population's health - 2010-2012

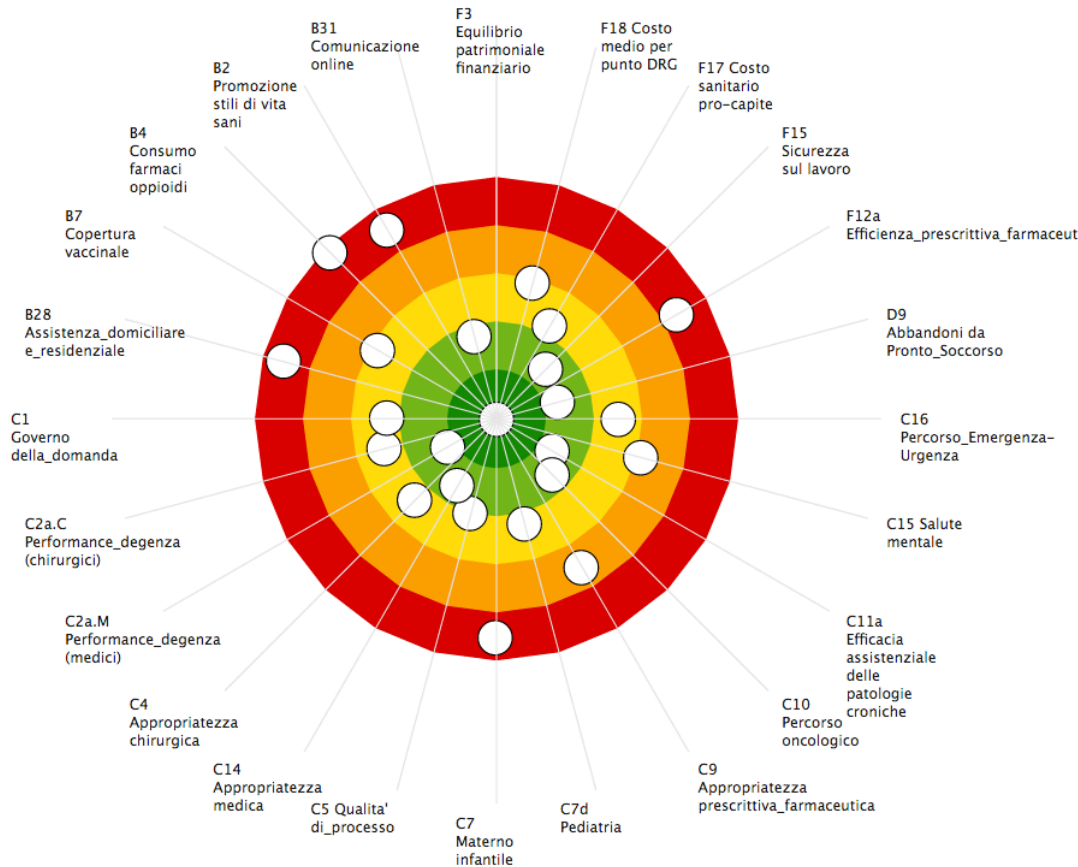


Basilicata

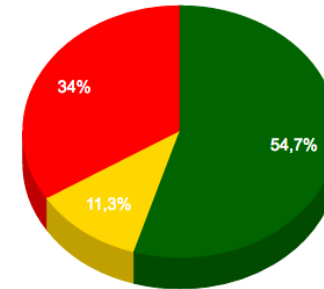
Valutazione dello stato di salute della popolazione. Anni 2012-2014



Bersaglio 2016



Analisi trend 2016

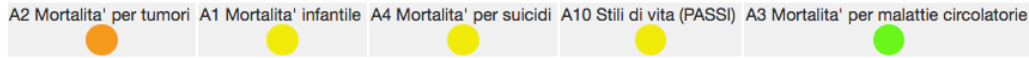


- Migliorati (A): trend positivo
- Stazionari (B)
- Peggiorati (C): trend negativo

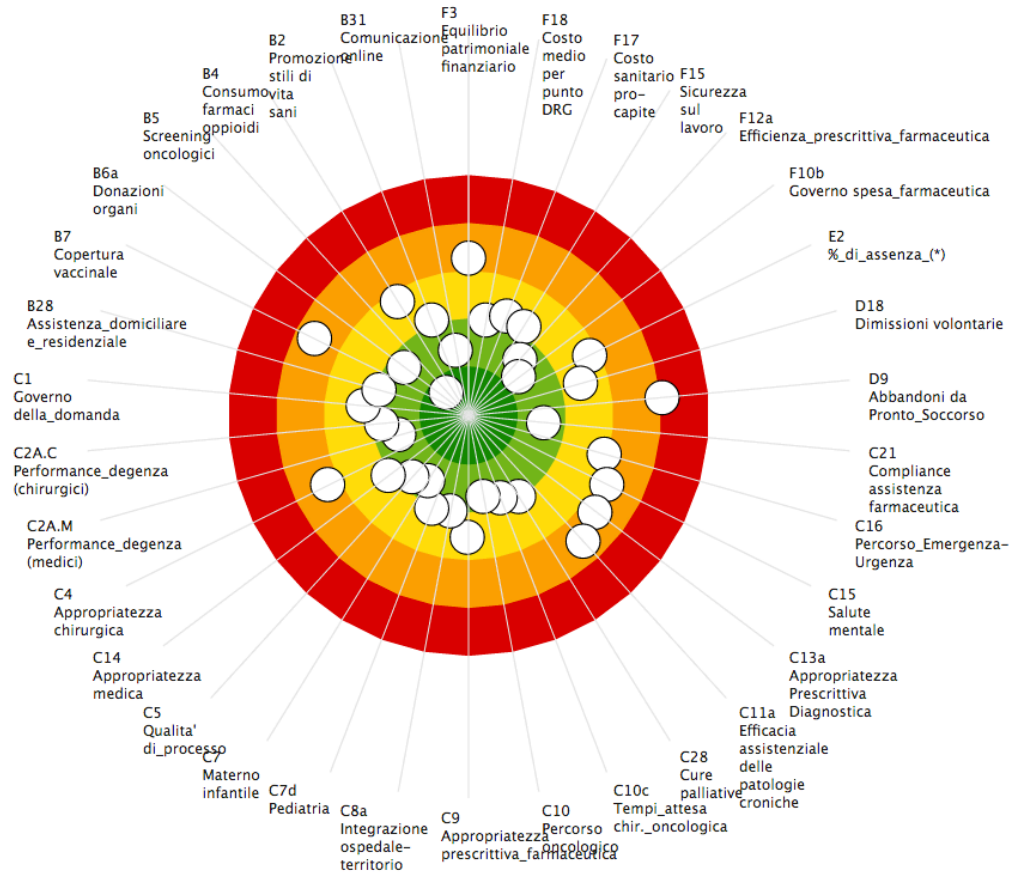
Totale indicatori: 53

Emilia-Romagna

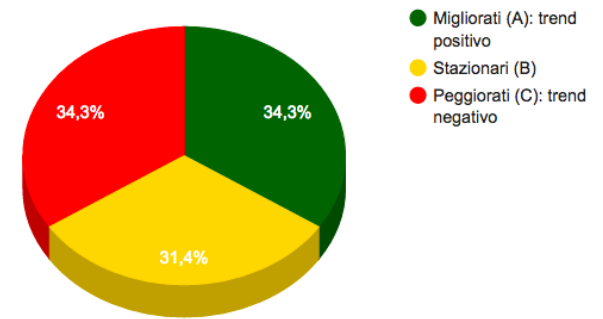
Valutazione dello stato di salute della popolazione. Anni 2012-2014



Bersaglio 2016



Analisi trend 2016



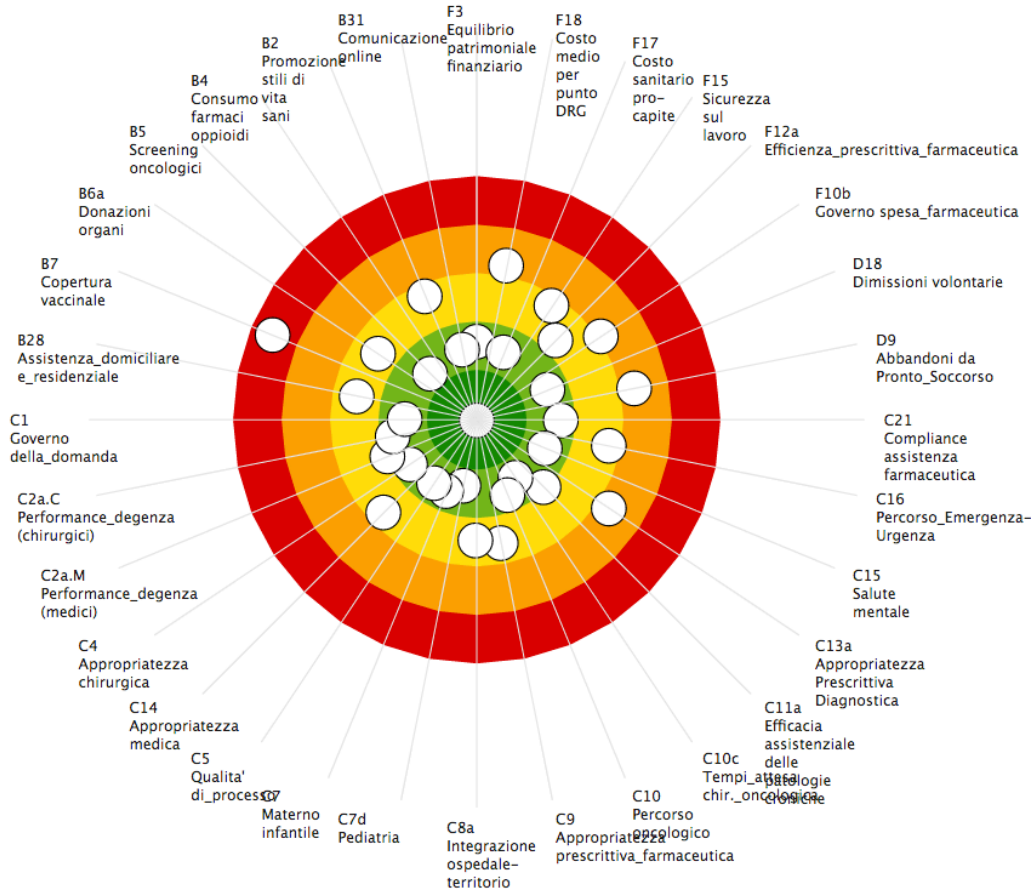
Totale indicatori: 105

FVG

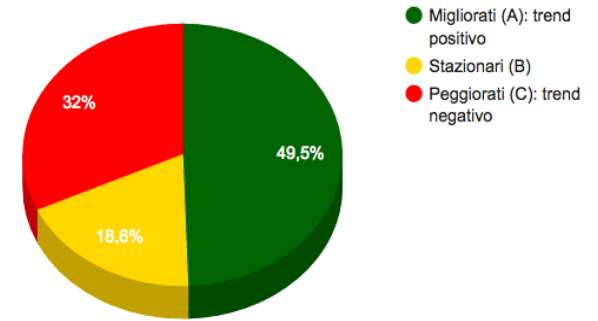
Valutazione dello stato di salute della popolazione. Anni 2012-2014



Bersaglio 2016



Analisi trend 2016



Totale indicatori: 97

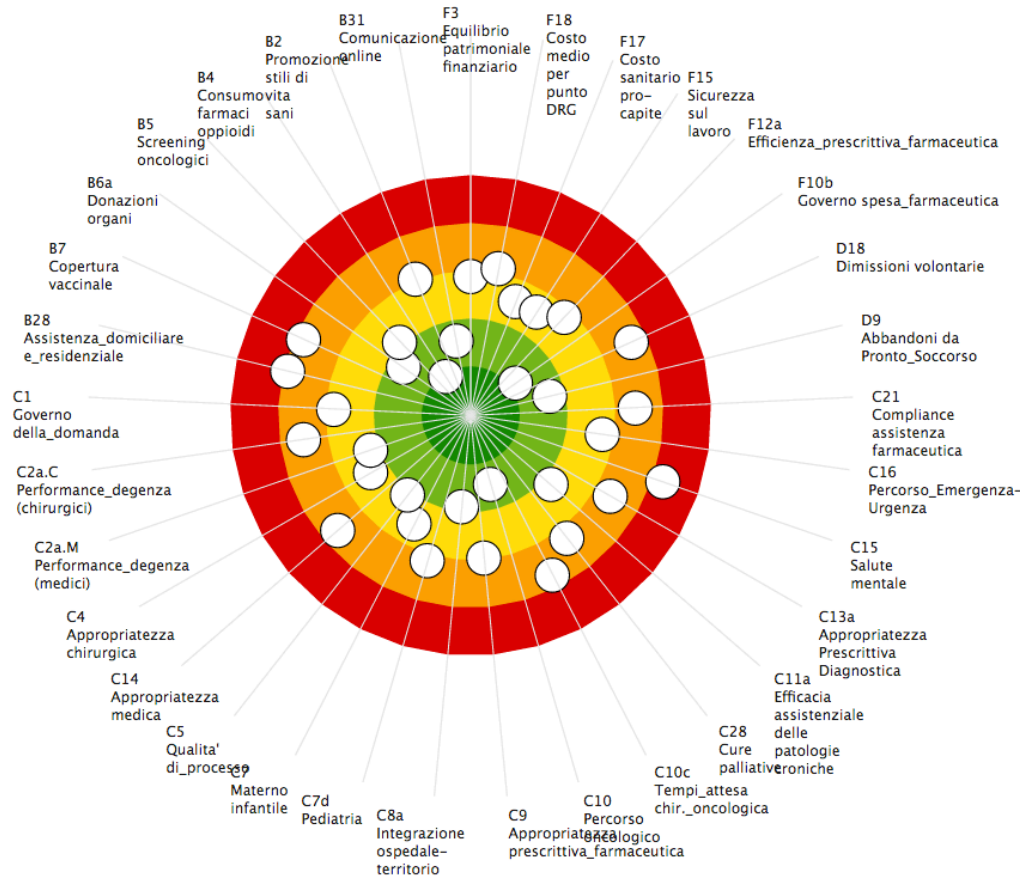
Liguria

Valutazione dello stato di salute della popolazione. Anni 2012-2014

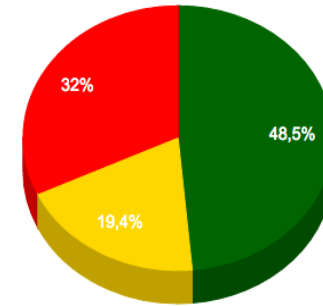
A10 Stili di vita (PASSI)



Bersaglio 2016



Analisi trend 2016



- Migliorati (A): trend positivo
- Stazionari (B)
- Peggiorati (C): trend negativo

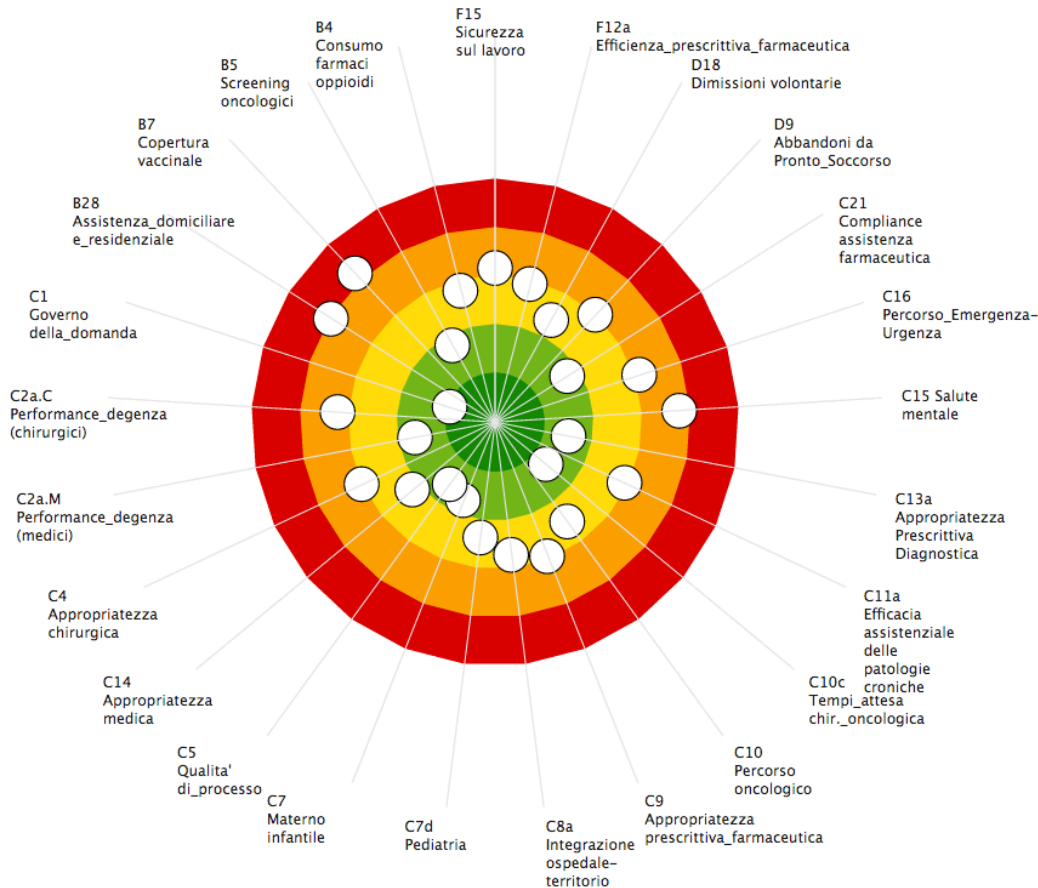
Totale indicatori: 103

Lombardia

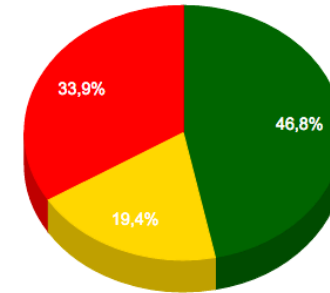
Valutazione dello stato di salute della popolazione. Anni 2012-2014

A1 Mortalita' infantile

Bersaglio 2016



Analisi trend 2016



- Migliorati (A): trend positivo
- Stazionari (B)
- Peggiorati (C): trend negativo

Totale indicatori: 62

Marche

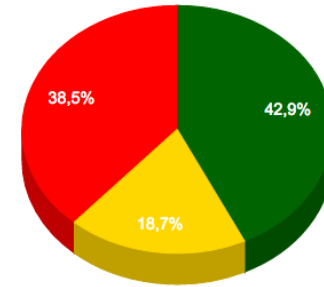
Valutazione dello stato di salute della popolazione.

A10 Stili di vita (PASSI)



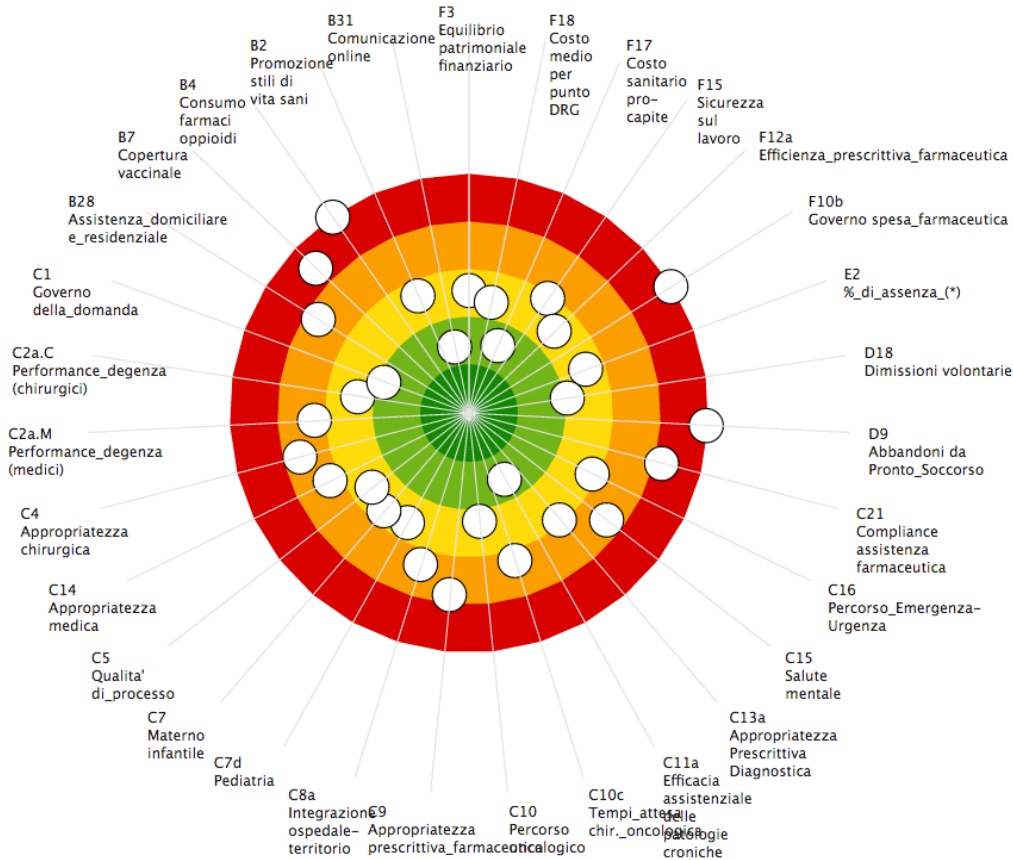
Bersaglio 2016

Analisi trend 2016



- Migliorati (A): trend positivo
- Stazionari (B)
- Peggiorati (C): trend negativo

Totale indicatori: 91

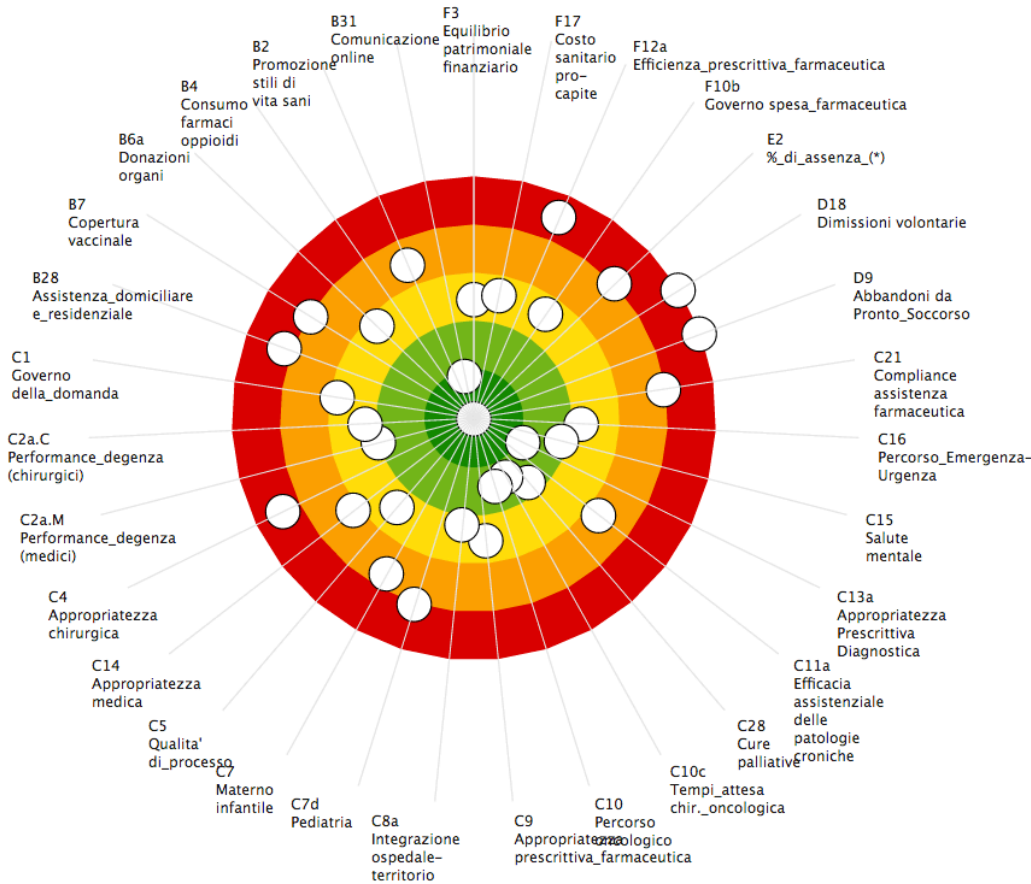


Puglia

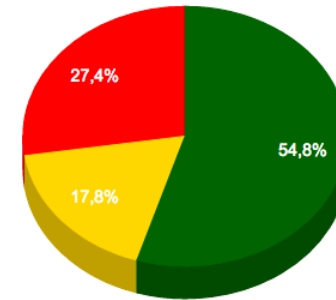
Valutazione dello stato di salute della popolazione. Anni 2012-2014



Bersaglio 2016



Analisi trend 2016

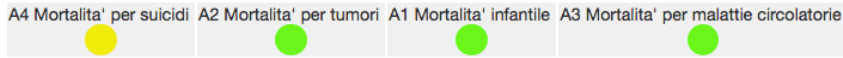


- Migliorati (A): trend positivo
- Stazionari (B)
- Peggiorati (C): trend negativo

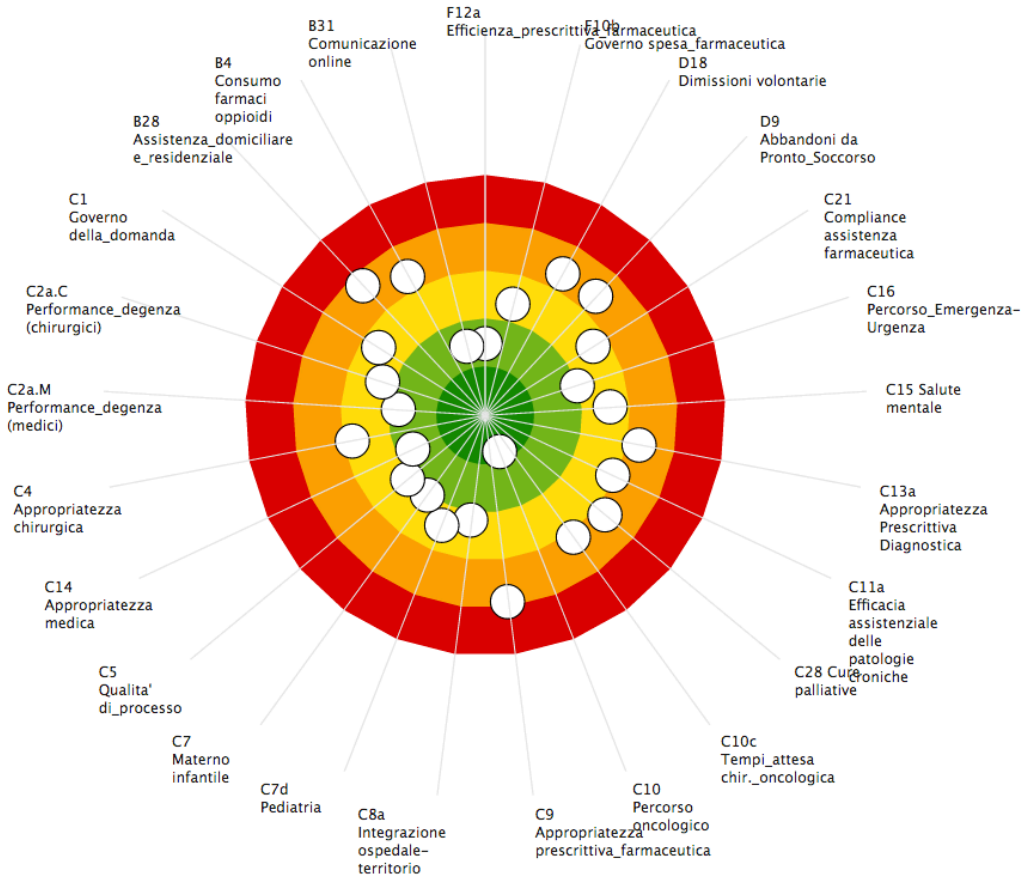
Totale indicatori: 73

Umbria

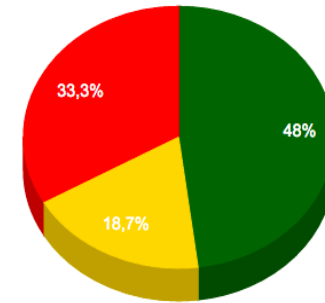
Valutazione dello stato di salute della popolazione. Anni 2012-2014



Bersaglio 2016



Analisi trend 2016



- Migliorati (A): trend positivo
- Stazionari (B)
- Peggiorati (C): trend negativo

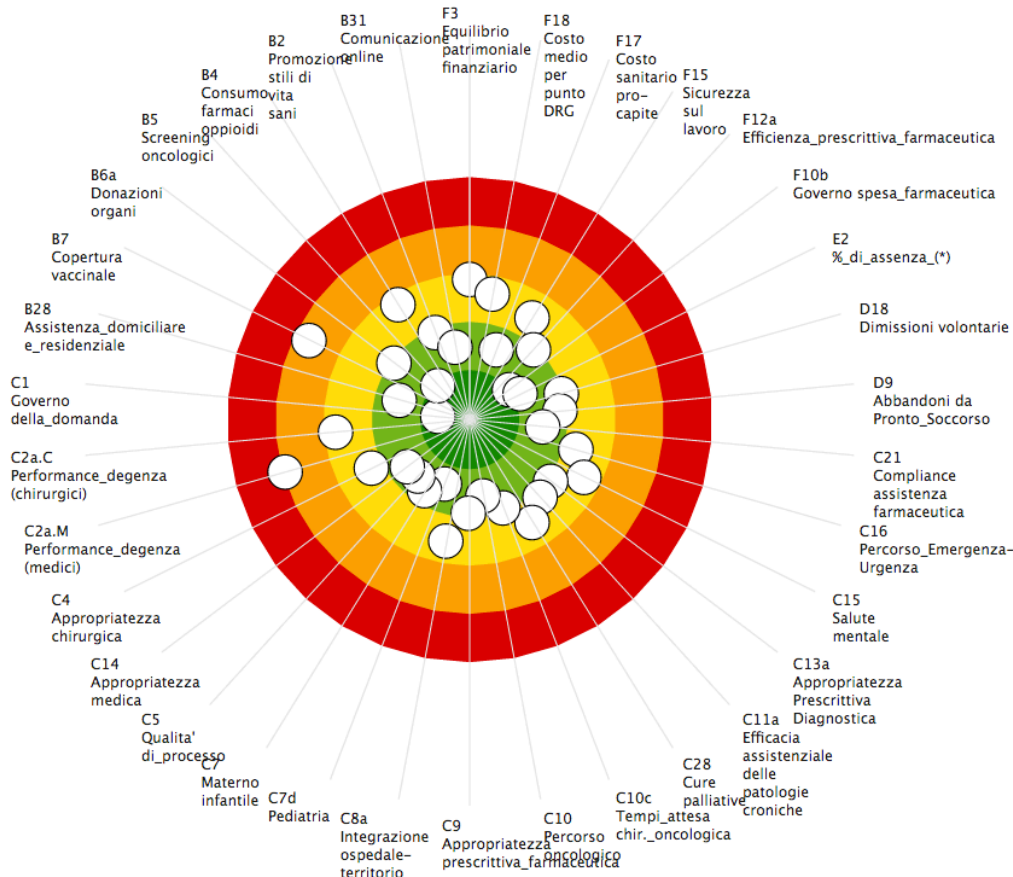
Totale indicatori: 75

Veneto

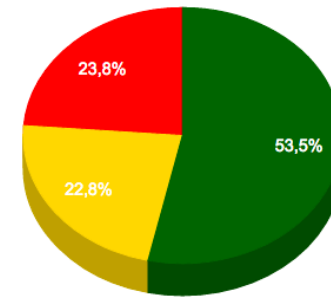
Valutazione dello stato di salute della popolazione. Anni 2012-2014



Bersaglio 2016



Analisi trend 2016



- Migliorati (A): trend positivo
- Stazionari (B)
- Peggiorati (C): trend negativo

Totale indicatori: 101



Lessons learned...

To include variation management in the regional governance systems...

Health Policy 114 (2014) 71–78

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Is variation management included in regional healthcare governance systems? Some proposals from Italy

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performance evaluation system
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ABSTRACT

The Italian National Health System, which follows a Beveridge model, provides universal healthcare coverage through general taxation. Universal coverage provides uniform healthcare access to citizens and is the characteristic usually considered the added value of a welfare system financed by tax revenues.

Nonetheless, wide differences in practice patterns, health outcomes and regional usages of resources that cannot be justified by differences in patient needs have been demonstrated to exist. Beginning with the experience of the health care system of the Tuscany region (Italy), this study describes the first steps of a long-term approach to proactively address the issue of geographic variation in healthcare. In particular, the study highlights how the unwarranted variation management has been addressed in a region with a high degree of managerial control over the delivery of health care and a consolidated performance evaluation system, by first, considering it a high priority objective and then by actively integrating it into the regional planning and control mechanisms. The implications of this study can be useful to policy makers, professionals and managers, and will contribute to the understanding of how the management of variation can be implemented with performance measurements and financial incentives.

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1. Introduction

Geographic variation in health care among both large (countries and regions) and small areas (hospital service areas) has been extensively confirmed and found to occur across all dimensions of performance, including quality, access, utilization and health behavior. Moreover, it has been found to be common across different healthcare systems and, in general, to have a relevant impact on the wealth of nations and the health of their populations [1–3].

The Italian National Health Care System (NHS), which follows the Beveridge model [4,5], is a public health system and provides universal coverage for comprehensive and essential health services through general taxation. Universal cover should be the premise for a uniform capacity of response for citizens. This characteristic is usually considered the added value of a welfare system financed by tax revenues, with centralized structures in charge of the healthcare system's governance. A true Beveridge-model public system should ensure the achievement of equitable access to health care regardless of individual ability to pay or other characteristics such as income and region of residence. To achieve equity, similar cases must be dealt with in similar ways and different cases must be dealt with in different ways. When describing an equitable situation, distinctions must be made between horizontal and vertical equity, in order to understand which one may constitute "even-handed treatment" depending on the situation [6]. Horizontal equity is the allocation of equal or equivalent

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Medical Practice Variations
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Strategies and Tools to Manage Variation in Regional Governance Systems

Sabina Nuti* and Milena Vanieri
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Abstract

The recent economic crisis has led to concerns about healthcare on two fronts: financial austerity may lead to increasing health disparities related to socioeconomic status, and the economic crisis has obliged decision-makers to contain costs. For both reasons, the issue of practice variation deserves attention.

In most countries, the global financial crisis has contributed to reduced resources and cost containment for healthcare. This situation has forced policy-makers and managers to implement various efficiency controls, in the hopes of providing the same level of quality of health service at lower cost. At the same time, decision-makers are faced with the risk that financial austerity may lead to decreased health and increased health disparities among residents based on their socioeconomic status or place of residence. For both these reasons, central and local governments have needed to adopt managerial tools capable of supporting decision-making processes, including the management of medical practice variations. Different management tools have been developed to respond to the four categories of variations, that is, variations in evidence-based care, setting-sensitive care, preference-sensitive care, and supply-sensitive care.

Evidence-based medicine (EBM) standards, such as those adopted by the Tuscany performance evaluation system, may be appropriate tools for managing performance and reducing unwarranted variation in both evidence-based and setting-sensitive care. In these cases, financial incentives may help to reinforce the performance evaluation system. However, other kinds of mechanisms are required to manage variation in preference-sensitive and supply-sensitive care. In these situations, intrinsic incentives such as reports or direct feedback as opposed to financial incentives may serve to align the goals of providers with those of health authorities.

Introduction

Unwarranted variation is defined as medical practice variations across regions, hospitals, or physicians that are not explained by illness, patient risk factors, or patient preferences. Reduction in unwarranted variation in health services can be achieved both through strategies to reduce overuse, underuse, and misuse and occasionally through cost containment measures. Reducing variation holds the promise not only of reducing costs, an issue that has become increasingly important due to the financial crisis, but also of leading to better quality care.

This chapter aims to identify and provide insights into the tools that may best support the management of medical practice variations, with the goal of decreasing unwarranted variation. It is informed by research conducted by the Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice, which identified three categories of services that exhibit unwarranted variation (Wennberg et al. 2002): effective care (variation in adherence to evidence-based medicine); preference-sensitive care (variation associated with patients' own preferences); and supply-sensitive care (variations where the regional supply of a resource has a major influence on regional utilization rates in the absence of evidence for additional services).

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To set priorities in the planning phase...

Priorities and targets: supporting target-setting in healthcare

Sabina Nuti, Milena Vainieri and Federico Vola

Management by objectives requires selecting the appropriate number of indicators to measure objectives and then defining high-priority indicators. Failing to address these two issues often results in the so-called 'performance paradox'. This paper describes an algorithm applied in the healthcare sector in the Italian regions. The resulting performance evaluation system is able to detect priority indicators in the target-setting phase, improving management and saving costs.

Keywords: Healthcare; management by objective; performance evaluation; performance paradox; priority-setting.

Governance based on planning and control systems with performance indicators (PIs) and targets is a form of indirect control that is widely deemed necessary to administer any complex system (Beer, 1966; Pollitt, 1986; Carter *et al.*, 1992; Bird *et al.*, 2005). However, managing by objectives requires tackling at least two issues:

- Defining the appropriate number of indicators.
- Choosing a rigorous principle to define which indicators should be considered as high priorities.

Regarding the first point, the process of governance by PIs and targets relies on a set of measures representing social complex phenomena. This translation process—from social phenomena to quantitative measures—requires careful design. Only a part of the phenomena can be represented by quantitative figures, because indicators portray the 'measurable' part of the observed object. In addition, the measurement process has different degrees of accuracy. Inaccuracies in the measurement process may bring about false positives and false negatives.

The process of governance by PIs and targets relies on the assumption that available indicators are both representative and accurate. The so-called 'synecdoche' principle assumes that the measurable part will satisfy both these conditions, by accurately representing the whole object (Carter *et al.*, 1992). However, measurement systems almost never comply with the 'synecdoche' principle, because the set of selected indicators is rarely able to portray the complexity of the evaluated processes (Bevan and Hood, 2006) and may cause

distortions and stimulate undesired behaviours on the part of the agents who are controlled by the system.

Studies on the distorting effects of control systems are extensive (Birnberg *et al.*, 1983; Briers and Hirst, 1990; Le Grand and Bartlett, 1993). The basic point is that, in order to make the planning and control scheme meaningful, the measures used should be consistent with the performance targets (which should, in turn, be representations of organizational objectives) so that the behavioural responses of the agents are matched to the requirements of the principal (Smith, 1995). The selection of the indicators and the consequent target-setting phase are therefore crucial, since they can potentially generate incoherent behaviours in the system and lead the organizations towards undesired goals (Bubbio, 1988; Ferreira and Otley, 2009; Locke and Latham, 2013).

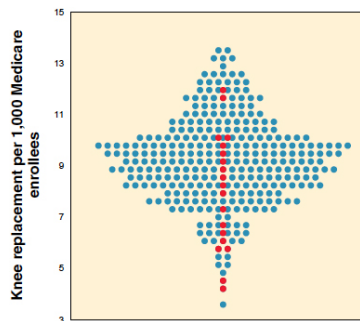
Since the 1950s, scholars have been studying the dysfunctional consequences of measurement; many of them have looked at 'output distortions', i.e. the attempts to achieve single targets at the cost of significant but unmeasured aspects of performance (Nove, 1958; Radgway, 1956; Miller, 1993; Kornai, 1994; Smith, 1995; Heinrich, 2002; Hood, 2002; Propper and Wilson, 2003; Bird *et al.*, 2005; Bevan and Hood, 2006).

In 1991, Bouckaert and Balk described '13 diseases' of public productivity measurement, which resulted from wrong assumptions and problems concerning the content, position and amount of measures (Bouckaert and Balk, 1991). Similarly, Smith wrote about eight potential and unintended behavioural consequences of performance data use (Smith, 1995). These problems are all the result of ignoring the 'synecdoche' principle, which causes an

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Federico Vola is XX Laboratorio Management e Sanità, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna of Pisa, Italy.





4) Setting challenging targets and conducting fair evaluation

G Model
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journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/healthpol

How to set challenging goals and conduct fair evaluation in regional public health systems. Insights from Valencia and Tuscany Regions

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ABSTRACT

The definition of “the right targets” and the way the evaluation of results is performed affect the willingness to commit to new challenges, which is a factor that influences the relationship between goal setting and performance results. Indeed, some authors claim that the choice of an inappropriate goal-setting procedure is a major cause of failure of management control systems. Goal setting theorists found that assigning a specific and challenging goal leads to higher performance than (a) an easy goal, (b) a general goal or (c) no goal setting. Despite this evidence, yet, few proposals concern the definition of what is “challenging”. This paper focuses on two issues: (a) what is to be considered a challenging goal and (b) what is a “fair evaluation” in the health care sector. This work suggests that benchmarking is a valid support to solve the previous dilemma. Relying on two regional European advanced experiences – Valencia in Spain and Tuscany in Italy –, this paper aims to provide conceptual methods that can help managers define challenging goals and conduct fair evaluation about their achievement. Although these Regions adopted different governance models, both of them applied very similar techniques, which seem to be associated to an improvement of their performance and a reduction of unwarranted variation.

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1. Introduction

Goals have pervasive influence on employees' behavior and in turn on organizational performance. This basic assumption of goal setting theory – developed by Locke and Latham at the end of the 80s for the individual level –, has been analyzed for the organization and system levels by control management scholars. Literature and experience

on goal setting showed that assigning targets is not sufficient. For instance, the experience of Health for all program, launched by the WHO in mid-80s [1], that set targets to member states and renewed them in the mid-1990s with the Health21 policy framework [2], flawed in some countries and in some areas [3]. Scholars that analyzed this case [4] stated that some strategies were not met because of: the lack of involvement of key actors at the grass-roots levels; the shift of power and responsibilities from the central to the regional level [5]; the lack of the “right targets” in terms of prioritization, reflecting the specificity of countries and in terms of identification of the correct effort to be required. All these elements are also found in general literature on performance management [6]. Indeed, the adoption

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Which results have been achieved?...



QUALITY OF CARE

SUSTAINABILITY

EQUITY



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doi:10.1017/S1744133115000067

Making governance work in the health care sector: evidence from a 'natural experiment' in Italy

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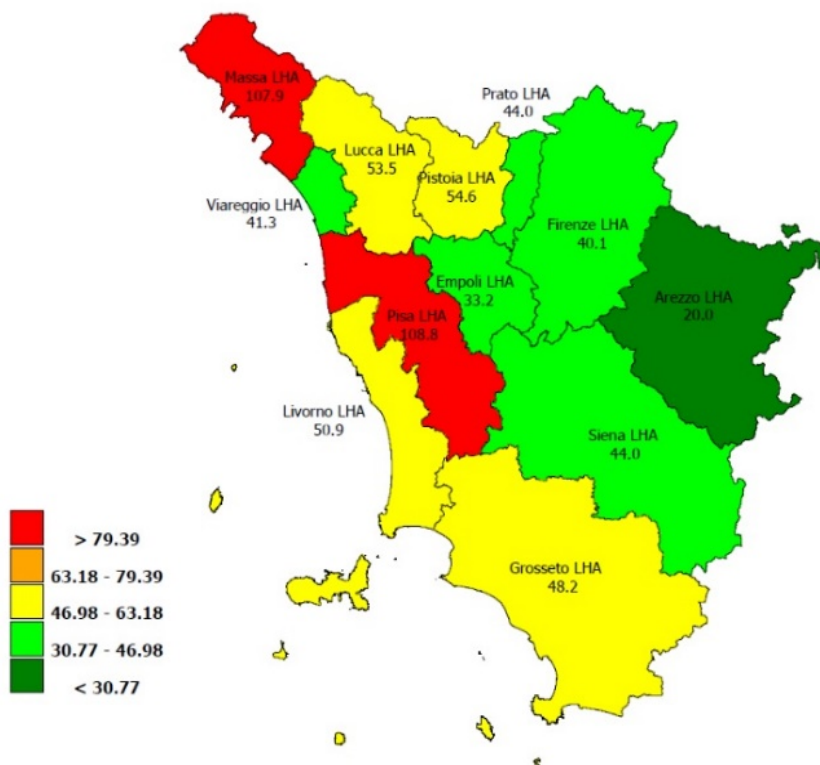
MILENA VAINIERI

Laboratorio Management e Sanità, Institute of Management, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa, Italy

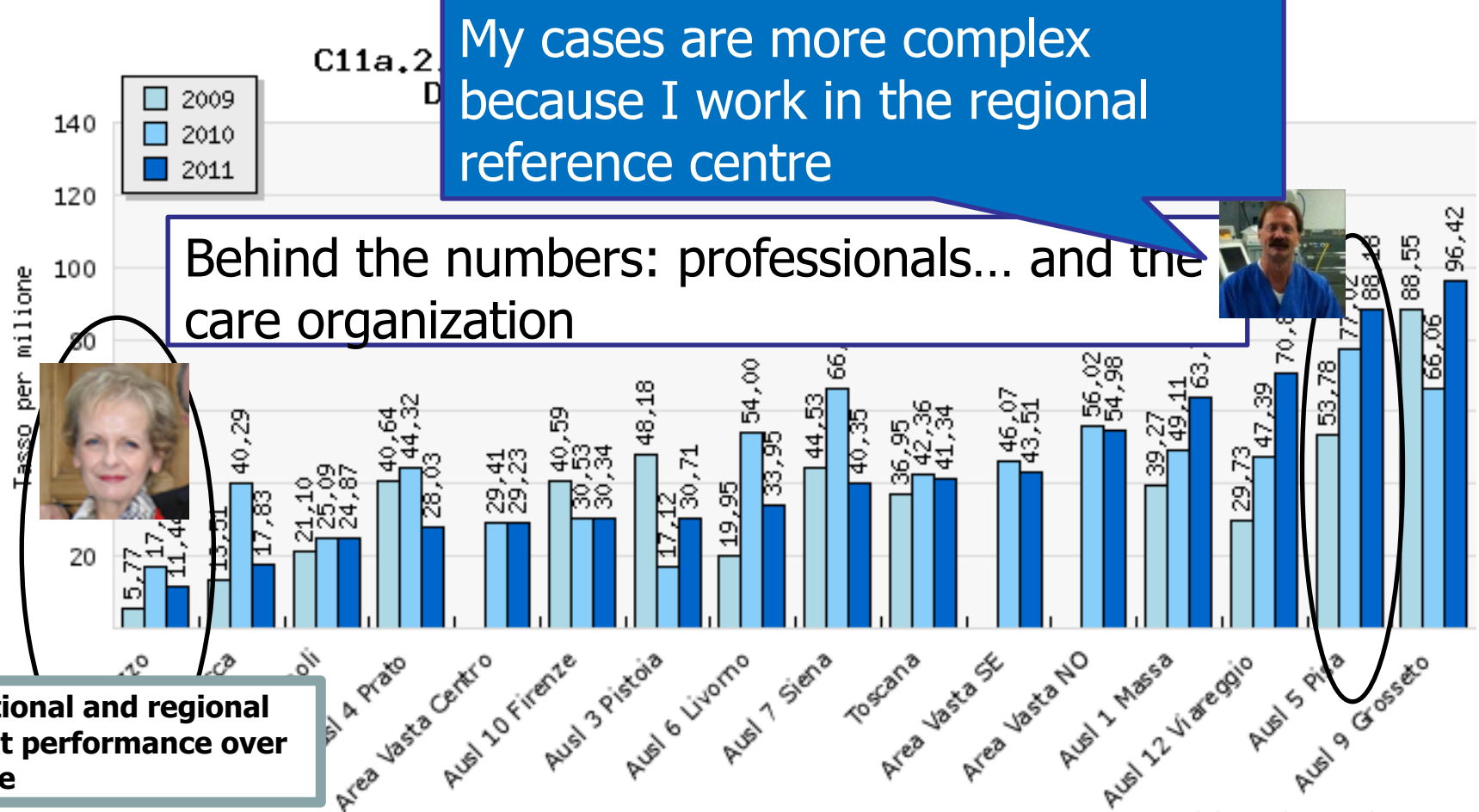
But to improve quality of care and create value for patients we need to work on the determinants...

Diabetes-Related Major Amputation at lower limbs Rate per million residents – MeS-Lab Tuscany PES
results, 2012. Source: MeS-Lab

Diabetes-Related Major Amputation at lower limbs rate per milion residents - Tuscany LHAs
PES results 2012



Major diabetes-related major amputation rate per million residents in Tuscan Local Health Authorities (LHAs), 2009-2011



Differences could not be fully explained by the diabetes prevalence across LHAs



But sometimes outcome unwarranted variation is determined by the absence of integrated care...

International Journal
of Integrated Care

Nuti, S et al 2016 Bridging the Gap between Theory and Practice in Integrated Care: The Case of the Diabetic Foot Pathway in Tuscany. *International Journal of Integrated Care*, X(X): X, pp.1-14, DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5334/ijic.1991>

RESEARCH AND THEORY

Bridging the Gap between Theory and Practice in Integrated Care: The Case of the Diabetic Foot Pathway in Tuscany

Sabina Nuti[†], Barbara Bini[†], Tommaso Grillo Ruggieri[†], Alberto Piaggese[†] and Lucia Ricci[†]

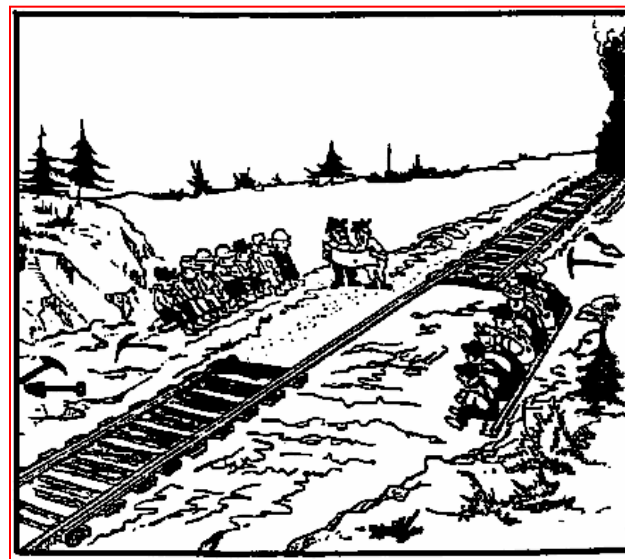
Introduction and Background: As diabetic foot (DF) care benefits from integration, monitoring geographic variations in lower limb Major Amputation rate enables to highlight potential lack of Integrated Care. In Tuscany (Italy), these DF outcomes were good on average but they varied within the region. In order to stimulate an improvement process towards integration, the project aimed to shift health professionals' focus on the geographic variation issue, promote the Population Medicine approach, and engage professionals in a community of practice.

Method: Three strategies were thus carried out: the use of a transparent performance evaluation system based on benchmarking; the use of patient stories and benchmarking analyses on outcomes, service utilization and costs that cross-checked delivery- and population-based perspectives; the establishment of a stable community of professionals to discuss data and practices.

Results: The project enabled professionals to shift their focus on geographic variation and to a joint accountability on outcomes and costs for the entire patient pathways. Organizational best practices and gaps in integration were identified and improvement actions towards Integrated Care were implemented.

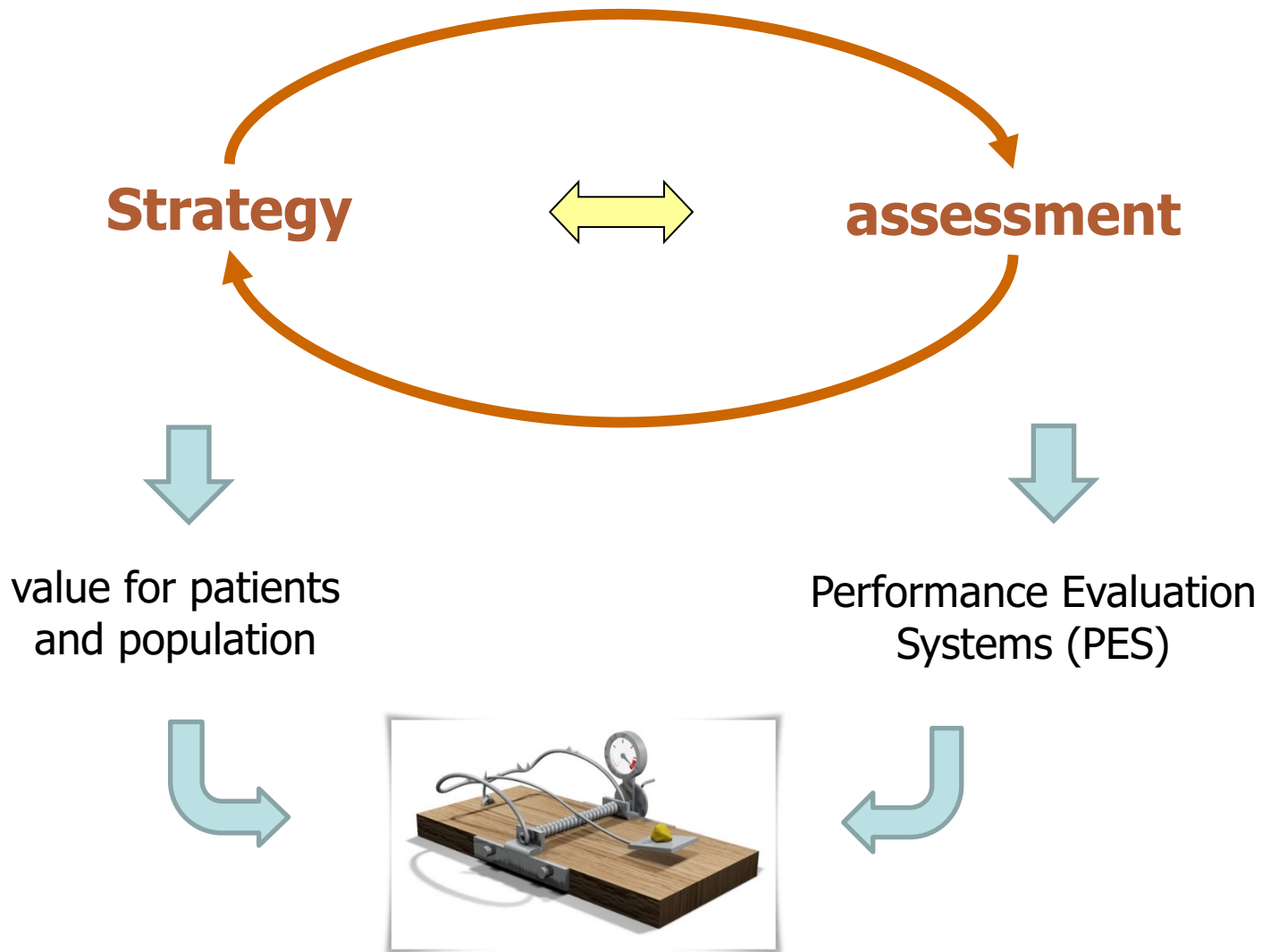
Conclusion and Discussion: For the specific category of care pathways whose geographic variation is related to a lack of Integrated Care, a comprehensive strategy to improve outcomes and reduce equity gaps by diffusing integration should be carried out.

Keywords: diabetes; diabetic foot; geographic variation; performance evaluation; benchmarking; sentinel events; engagement





The impact on the performance evaluation system...



PARADIGM SHIFTS

20th century

The effectiveness and evidence-based paradigm

Provide care that meets patients' needs and is based on the best scientific knowledge, that is evidence from the study of groups/samples of patients (randomized controlled trials) or from the systematic review of randomized controlled trials

The quality and safety paradigm

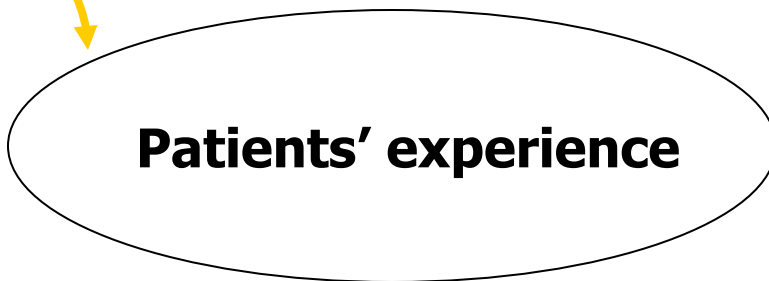
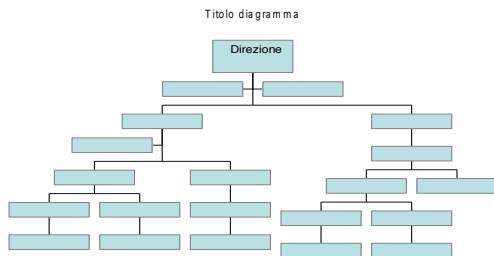
Clinicians can know if they were practicing well and safely, by **comparing their work with performance standards** derived from the analysis of services provided to a larger number of patients than any single clinician could see.

The value paradigm

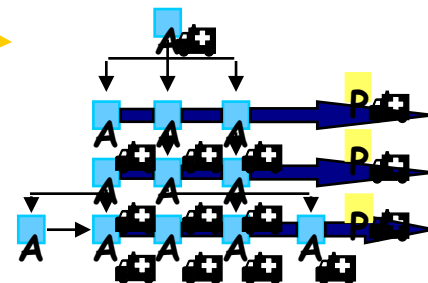
Value is defined around the **patient**, and the aim is **to increase value for individuals/population by allocating and using resources to maximize benefit and minimize harm and waste** (anything that does not add value to the outcome).



Workload specialization



Management per pathways





Patient experience should be the starting point to achieve a high quality care. Coherently, healthcare performance evaluation systems, driving the change in line with the main strategic goals, should be designed considering the patient perspective.

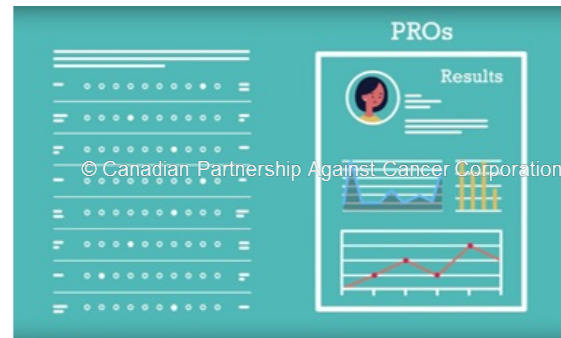
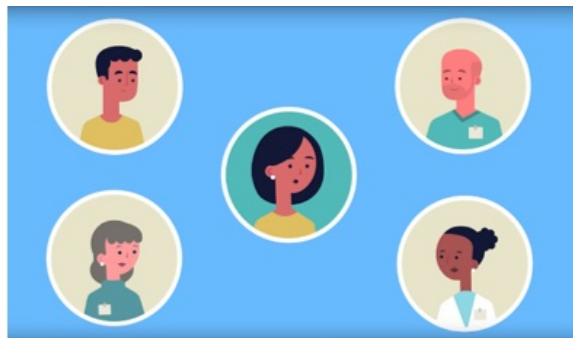
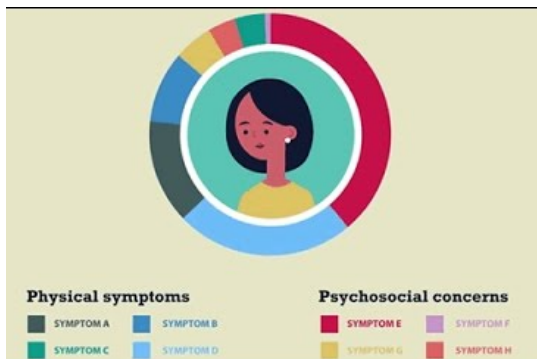
Instead, **they are traditionally defined according the healthcare services providers point of view.** Consequently, they reproduce a 'silo-vision' characterised by a clear responsibilities separation and limitation to the specific setting of care or to the single organization

PREMs

Patient are asked to report about their experiences on what actually occurred (not satisfaction)

PROMs

Standardized validated instruments to measure patients' perceptions of their health status (impairment), their functional status (disability), and their health-related quality of life (well-being).





the positive metaphor of the "stave"



Let's play the patient's music....

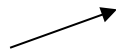
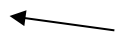
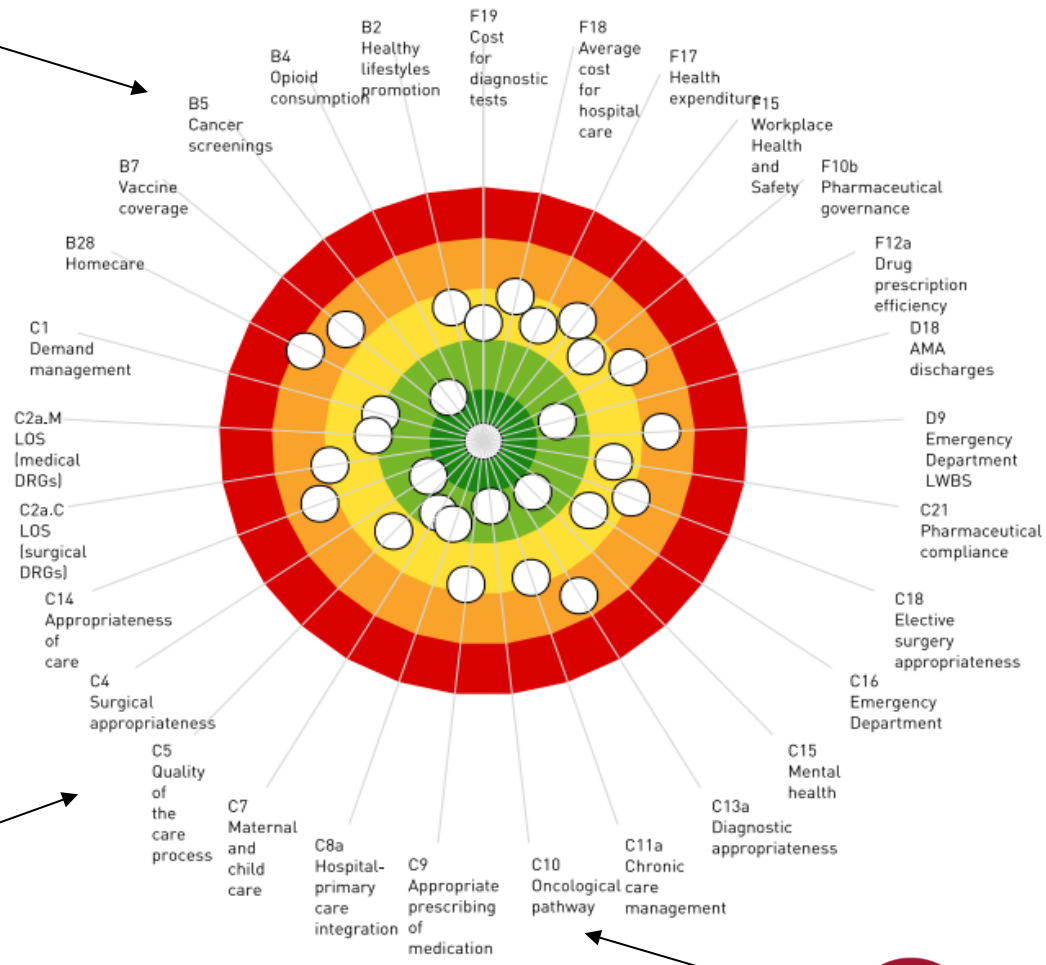
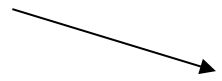
The stave, as well as the dartboard, relies on the five colour bands (from red to dark-green). These bands are now displayed horizontally and are framed to represent the different phases of care pathways. This view allows users to focus on strengths and weaknesses characterizing the healthcare service delivery in the different pathway phases.

Population's health - 2010-2012

A4 Suicide mortality A2 Cancer mortality A10 Lifestyles A1 Infant mortality A3 Circulatory disease mortality



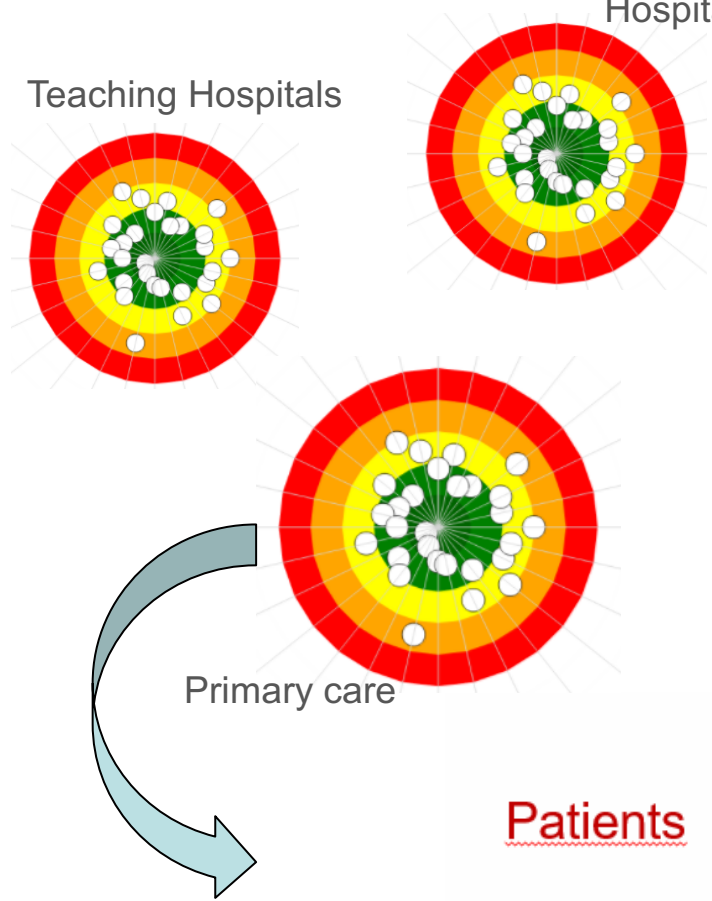
Screening



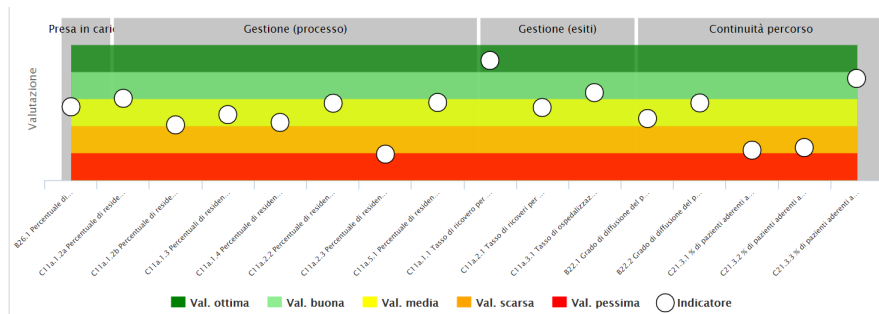
Teaching Hospitals

Hospitals

Primary care

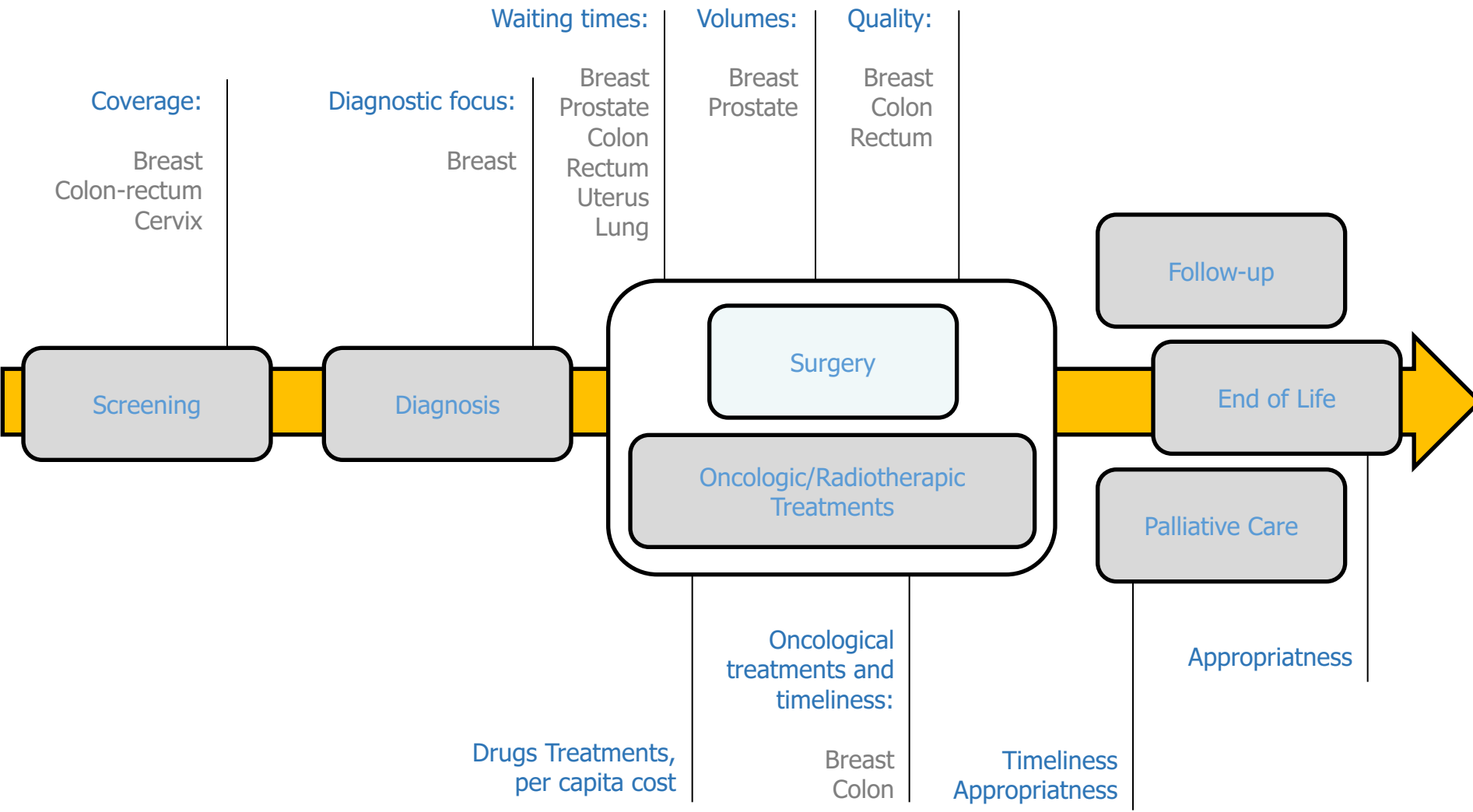


From Siloes to Pathway



| | Experience | Outcome | Adherence |
|----------------------|------------|---------|-----------|
| <u>Patients</u> | PREMs | PROMs | ... |
| <u>Caregivers</u> | ... | ... | ... |
| <u>Professionals</u> | ... | ... | ... |

Reframing the PES system: The Oncologic Care Pathway

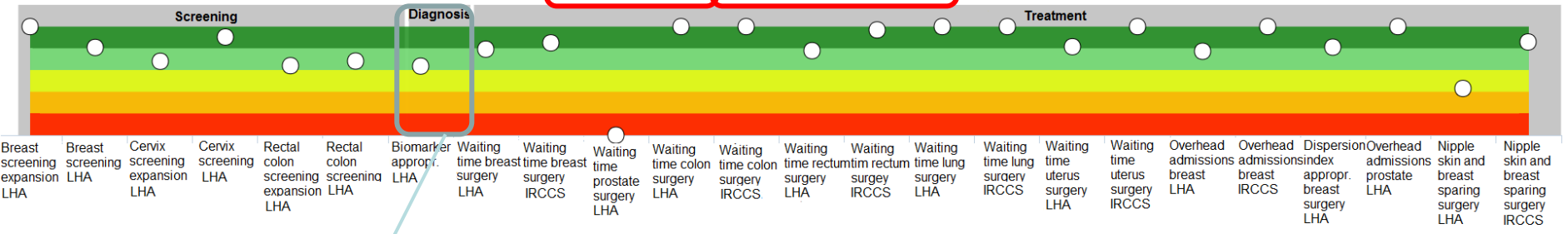


Reframing the PES system - The «Stave»

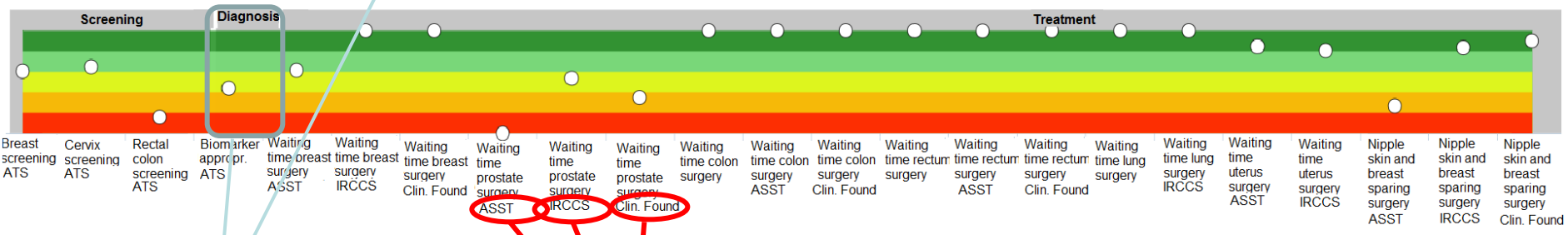
Unit of analysis: geographic area

Set of indicators selected based on a **patient perspective**

Western FVG **Oncological Pathway**



Pavia - Oncological Pathway

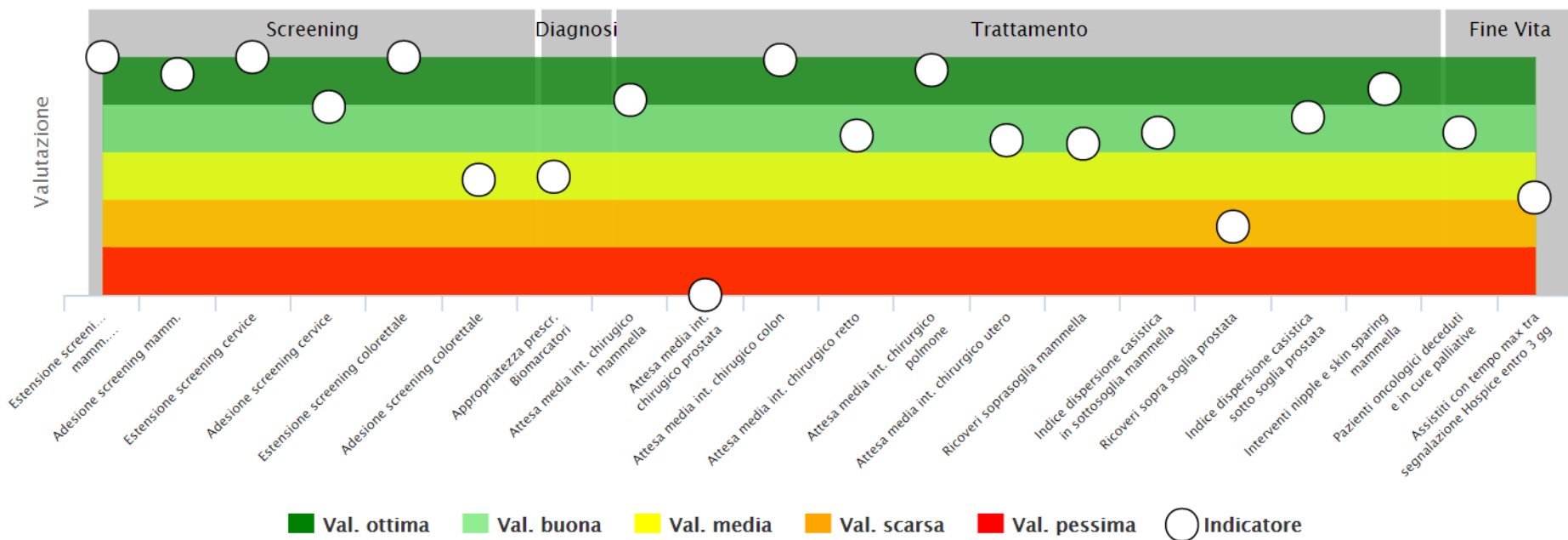


Possibility to focus on each **pathway phase**

- **Multiple providers involved** in the service delivery
- Multiple providers providing the **same services** in a specific geographic area

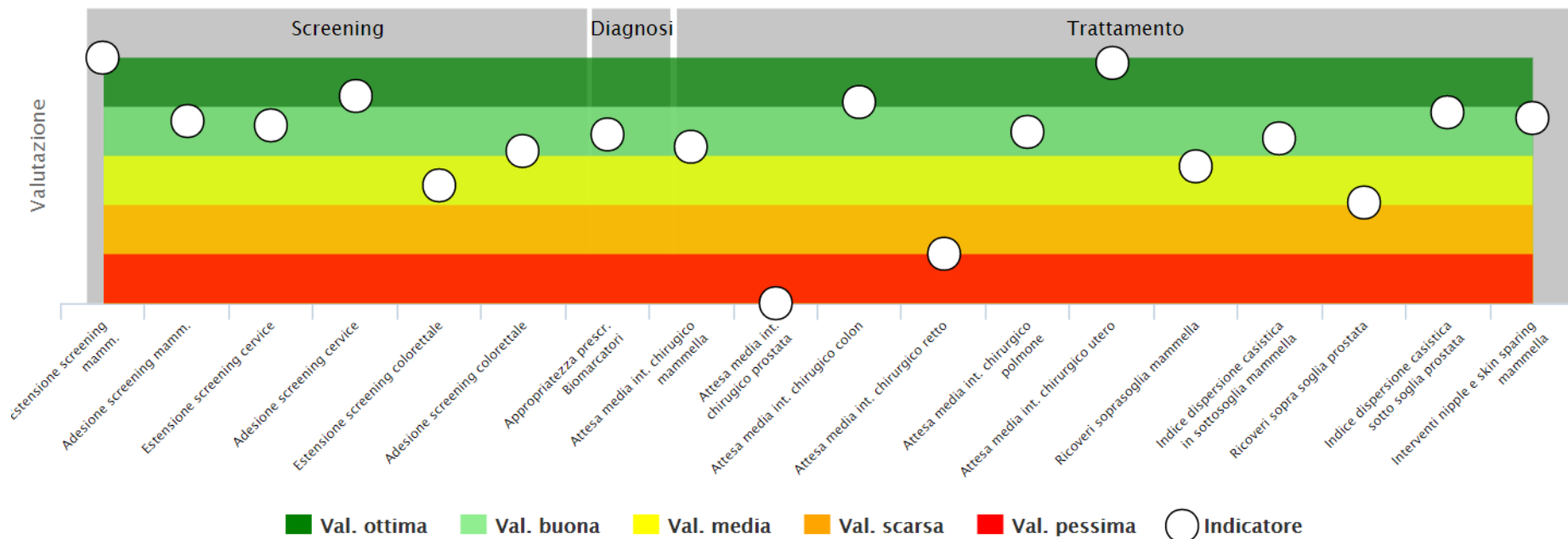


Emilia-Romagna - Il percorso Oncologico

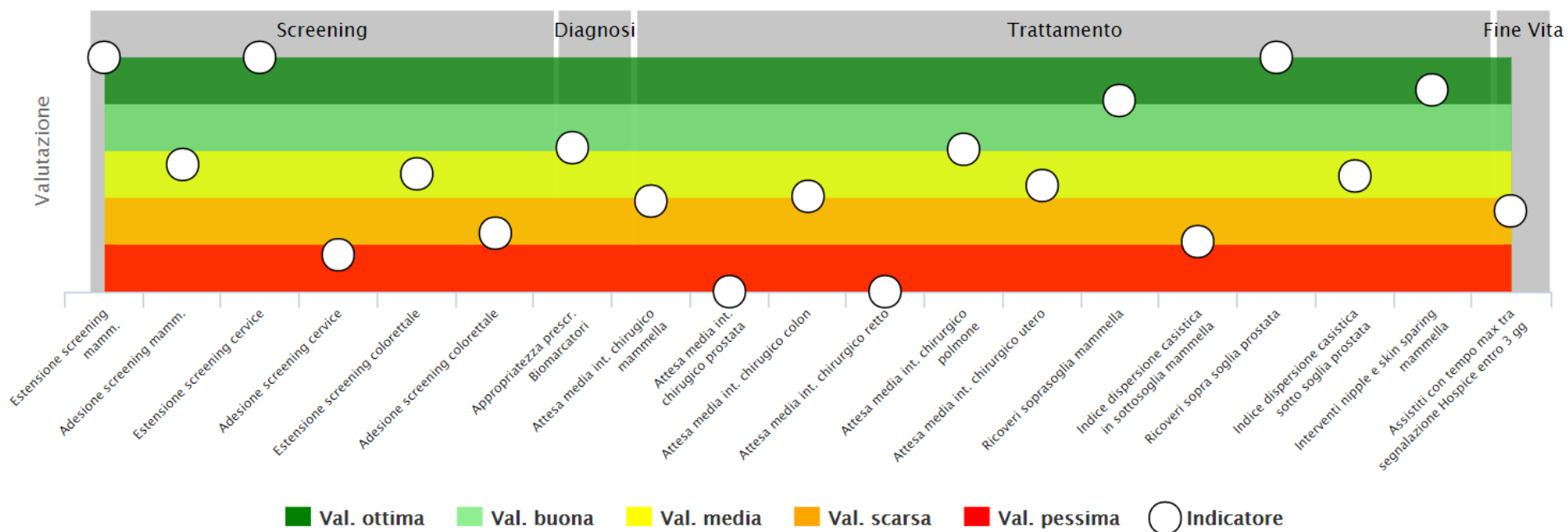




FVG - Il percorso Oncologico

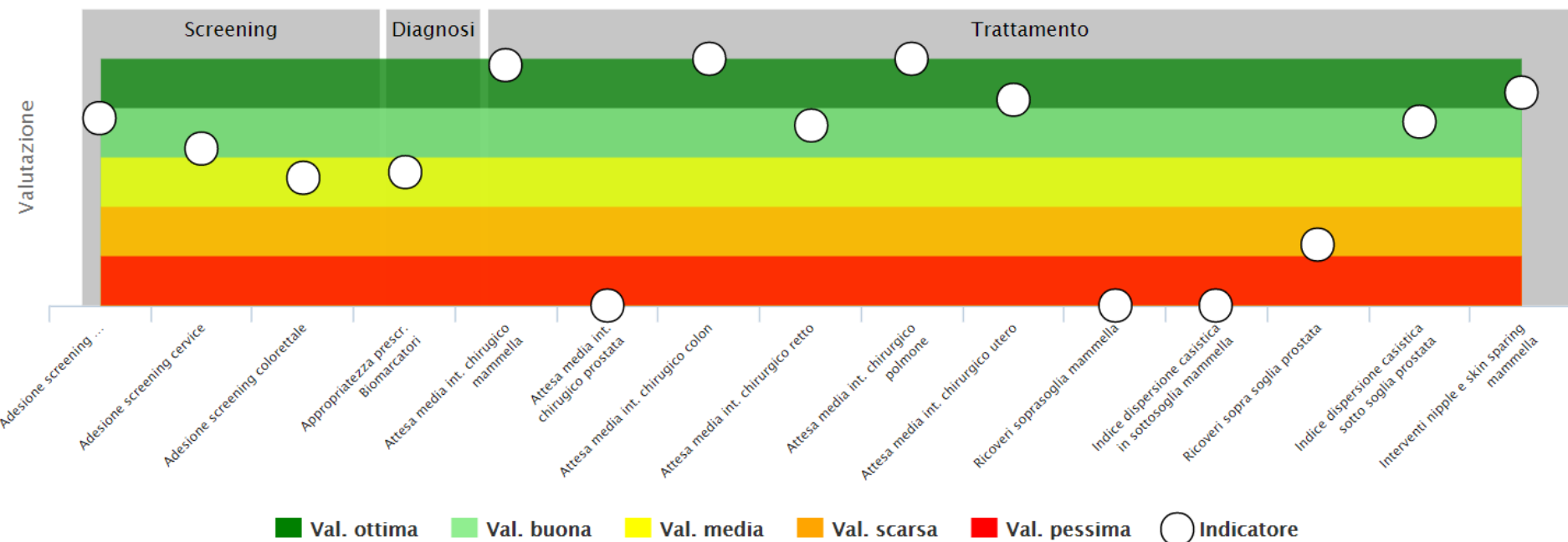


Liguria – Il percorso Oncologico



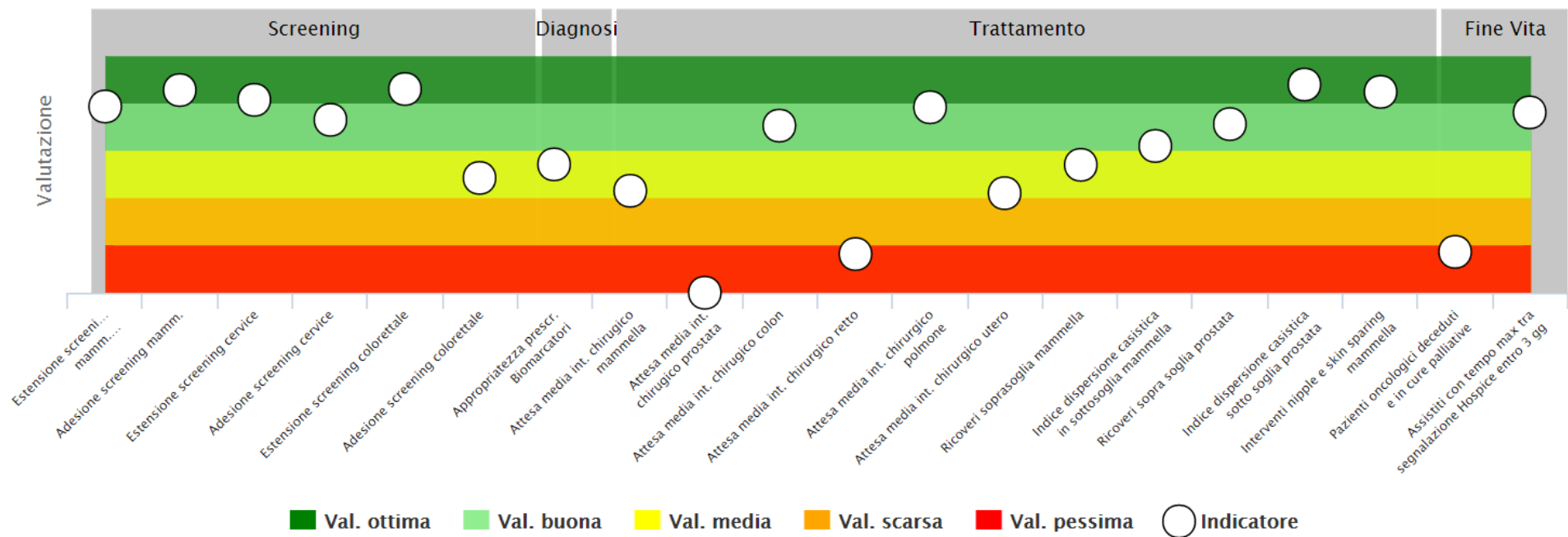


Lombardia - Il percorso Oncologico

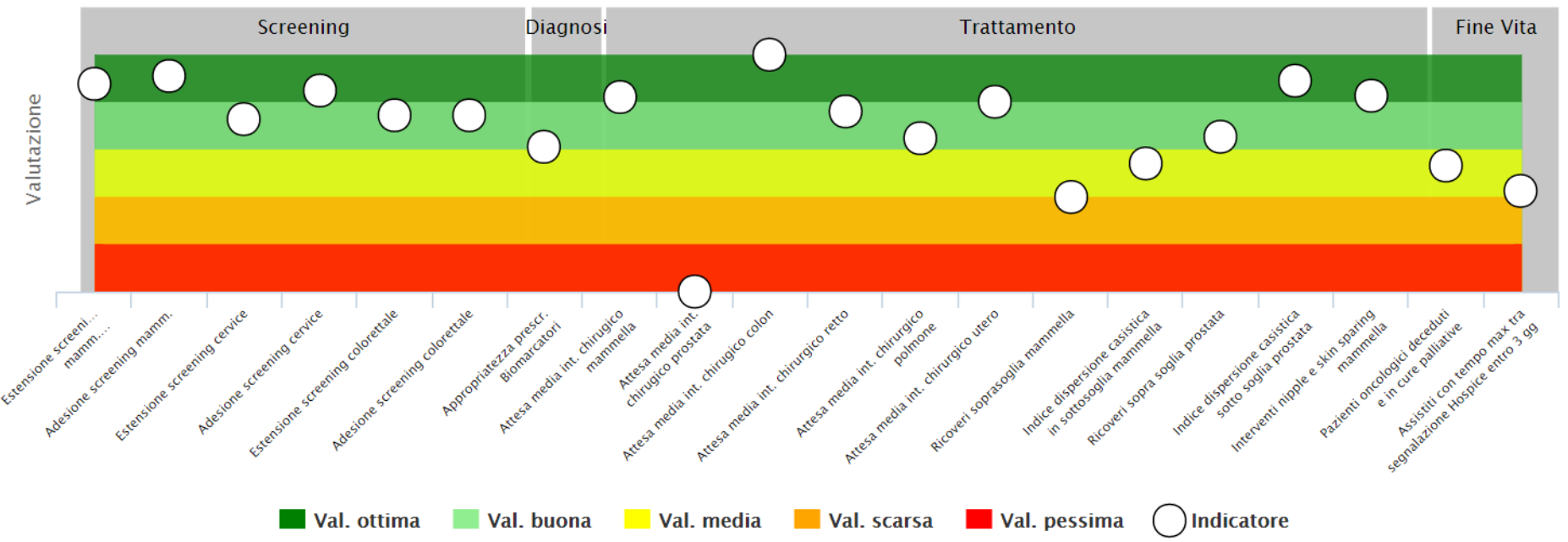




Toscana – Il percorso Oncologico



Veneto - Il percorso Oncologico



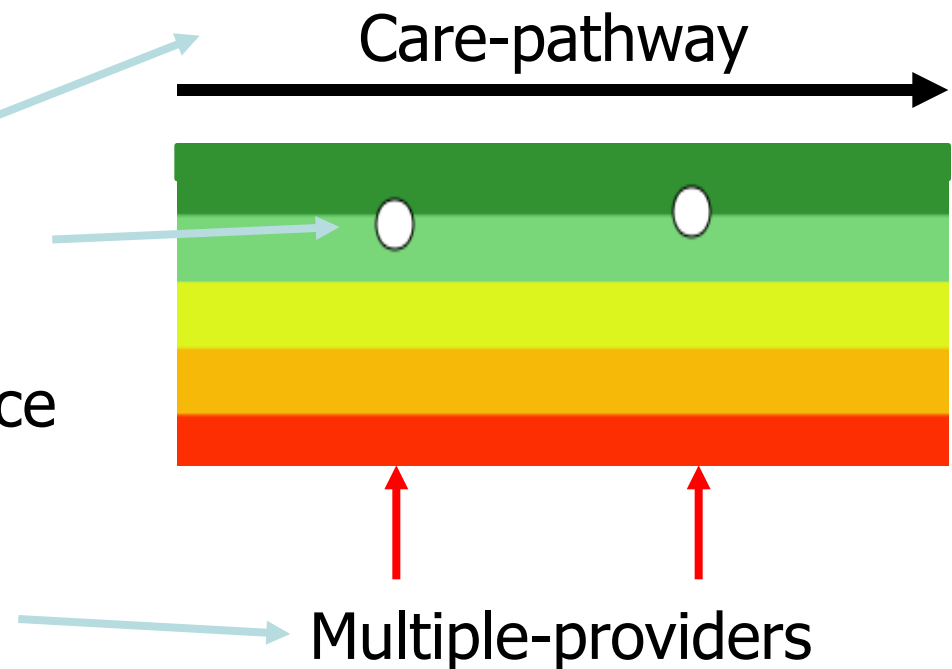
*the setting-related evaluation system should be substituted by a cross-sectoral pathway-based evaluation, where indicators of performance include also measures reported by patients. The use of PREs and PROs to understand patient perspectives will help providers deliver more **patient-centered care**, and thus improve the quality of care*

At the strategic level

current PMS lack of:

-Patient-based perspective

-Assessment of performance
at the inter-institutional
level





Reccomendations

- Integrated care implies the aim to create and delivery **value** according to a **patient and population based perspective**
- In order to avoid the so-called “performance traps”, it is pivotal to find **consistency between strategies and PMSs**
- PMSs of integrated care pathways should be reframed in order to both adopt a patient perspective and consider the **inter-institutional structure of providers** characterizing the service value-chain



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