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Poster

## Enlightening the integrated care agenda in the devolved Spain: the role of the Observatorio de Modelos Integrados en Salud (OMIS)

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### Abstract

**Introduction:** The literature on integrated care has noted that the successful development of integrated care tends to take place “only if it comes from the bottom up through the development of specific micro level interventions by a small number of providers” (Goodwin et al., 2014: 17) and advocates of integrated care have to muddle through existing organizational barriers to make the most of national and state-wide funding and policy opportunities.

Advocates of the integrated care agenda in Spain have been facing the challenge of a devolved health system, with divergent policy goals, various political allegiances and multiple interests. Responsibility for organising publicly funded health care largely rests with the 17 regions (Autonomous Communities) while the national Ministry of Health exerts a weak central leadership role. The social care system is still underdeveloped and suffering from chronic underfunding. Importantly, the scale and pace of integrated care in Spain need to be understood under the backdrop of the impact of the profound economic crisis endured by the Spanish economy since 2010, and its effect on the health and social care sectors.

**Research Question:** This poster will present the Spanish Observatory on Integrated Care (Observatorio de Modelos Integrados en Salud, OMIS) as a bottom up and collaborative initiative to provide leadership and knowledge transfer to developing integrated care in Spain. The OMIS seeks to: (i) identify best practices and make visible existing efforts to coordinate health and social care; (ii) produce independent, systematic and rigorous analyses of best practices and future trends on integrated care in Spain; (iii) contribute to the development of analytical tools for integrated care evaluation and comparisons. (iv) promote synergies and networking and knowledge transferring to empower experts and leaders; (v) contribute connect the Spanish experiences and professionals with the broader international integrated care agenda.

**The project approach:** The OMIS aims to make an impact at both decision-making and implementation levels, by engaging with decision makers at both national and regional governments and by liaising with street-level bureaucrats and practitioners responsible for developing integrated care schemes.

The poster will explain the OMIS process and methods to analyse best practices on integrated care and to disseminate findings. In particular, it will explain the analytical model for analysing Best Practices in Integrated Care, which builds around three axes: innovation; transformation; implementation (facilitating elements and barriers). Each axis includes a number of analytical dimensions, which are enounced in terms of qualitative variables.

**Preliminary results and conclusions:** The poster will summarise OMIS activities since its launch in early 2014 and will provide preliminary evidence on the “enlightenment” role of the Observatory to influence the integrated care agenda in Spain. At present, there are 11 experiences already registered at the OMIS, covering chronic care, child care, disability and personal autonomy promotion. The most popular categories are those linked to ICTs, service level practices and plans /programmes. At the time this abstract is being written (end June 2014), the OMIS is working on another 17 experiences implemented in 10 Autonomous Communities. The OMIS website includes more than 20 documents of interest for health and social care coordination, including: international reports, studies conducted by Committee members and in association with other organizations, regional plans and strategies, etc. 20 key informants from all autonomous communities have joined the Observatory and a number of working teams (RED NIC: Networks of Integrated Care) with experts on the different topics are being developed.

## **Keywords**

**Spain; OMIS; collaborative initiative; enlightenment role**

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## **PowerPoint presentation**

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