

Resilient Healthcare Systems

04.10.2013

09:00 - 12:00

With regard to financial issues, demographic change and other challenges to our health systems, it is obvious that fundamental change is necessary. Concepts are necessary that are innovative in the sense that outdated positions be left and obsolete technologies and procedures be abandoned in order to release resources for more adaptive methods. However, the impact of past health system reforms has been restricted. Health policy and health systems are highly complex and to a large extent intransparent, which leaves room to powerful stakeholder groups to pursue their needs and interests and thus secure the status quo against change. Traditional, but also modern concepts of governance for health reach the limits of their ability to enforce the necessary changes. Implementing 'stand-alone' programmes for more transparency or for more user involvement or for more outcomes orientation is useful, but not able to bring about the need basic redirection.

Instead, it is the conviction of the think tank MetaForum 'Innovation for more Health', that for real systemic innovation towards more sustainable and resilient health care, synergies of different, interdependent approaches have to be enabled:

- A new understanding of health and well-being
- Equality of chances
- Active participation
- Ability to innovate, systemic change and sustainability
- Transparency and readability of the system
- Orientation towards benefits and outcomes
- A new comprehension of health economy

- Fundamentally new health policy making

Different policy interventions need to work together in a coordinated way: Transparency without health literacy cannot work, nor can user participation without outcome orientation. It is necessary to take into account whose of the different stakeholders' goals are met actually and whose are not, if the expert-based governance that we see now is sufficient, and how healthcare reform or innovation should be designed.

The presentation will give a short overview of the mentioned concepts and their mutual dependencies. This could help clarify some of the concepts and related goals to facilitate the further discussions.