

Short-term Gains and Long-term Pains: Healthcare expenditure reforms and obesity

Workshop European Parliament, April 10, 2013



Overweight and obesity in Europe (2008)

- 50% of all men and women overweight
- 23% of all women and 20% of all men obese
- Obesity has doubled worldwide since the 1980s

Obesity in EU Member States 2008/2009

Highest rates

- UK (23.9% of women; 22.1% men)
- Malta (21.1% women, 24.7% men)
- Latvia (20.9% women)
- Hungary (21.4% men)

Lowest

- Romania (8% women; 7.6% men)
- Italy (9.3% women; 11.3% men)
- Bulgaria (11.3%; 11.6%)
- France (12.7%; 11.7%)

A risk factor causing non-communicative and chronic diseases

- 44% of diabetes cases
(especially type-2 diabetes)
- 23% ischaemic heart diseases
- 7-41% of cancer

Obesity and fiscal costs (OECD-countries)

- 2-8% of total public healthcare expenditures are related to obesity
- Public healthcare costs equivalent to 5.7% of GDP in 2005
- Prediction 2050: 9.6% of GDP
 - e.g. Germany 21.4%;
 - Spain 25.6% in 2050