INFACT
Joint Action on Health Information

A user guide to the Inf-Act Health Information Capacity Survey

04/2019

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1- <u>Health Information Capacity Survey</u>

The Health Information Capacity Survey is part of the *InfAct – Joint Action on Health Information* project (WP6).

This manual contains a brief introduction to the Survey and instructions for completing it.

All inquiries about completing the Survey should be directed to the WP6 team member highlighted to follow the process.

André Beja

andre.beja@ihmt.unl.pt

+351 965 630 903 (WhatsApp)

2- The Survey at a glance

a. Aim

It aims at characterizing existing capacities and training needs for the use and management of health information by public health professionals in EU Member States and associated countries.

b. Approach

Considering the objective of the survey and the need to gather elements for the creation of a flagship training program in health information, a qualitative, exploratory and expert opinion based approach is proposed.

c. Structure

Completed online, the Survey consists of 11 questions organized by 4 thematic groups. At the end of each question there is a text box that allows adding comments about the topic being analysed.

d. Main concepts

Health Information is the data and knowledge that health professionals use to support their decisions, usually available in the health information systems.

Health Information Systems - Refer to any system that captures, stores, manages or reports information related to the health of individuals or populations, or the activities of health organisations, such as

- routine information systems,
- disease surveillance systems
- laboratory systems,
- patient records systems
- Resource management systems.

It also includes aspects related with working processes (e.g. decision-making), people skills and technology. At a policy level, decisions informed by evidence contribute to more efficient resource allocation and, at the delivery level, information about the quality and effectiveness of services can contribute to better outcomes.

3- <u>Data collection</u>

a. Online survey

The Survey was built using the LimeSurvey platform tools. In this study, the collection and manipulation of information shall respect the General Regulation on Data Protection in force in the European Union.

The link to access the online survey will be provided to each country's focal point along with a pdf version of the document.

b. Expert consultation

Considering the qualitative and exploratory nature of this Survey, the collection of data will focus mostly on the opinion of experts and their knowledge about the reality of their country.

A small group of experts should be created to discuss these topics, including members of the WP6 team, public health academics, public health authority representatives, and other personalities deemed appropriate.

Experts should focus their reflection on the knowledge they have about the reality of their country and, if necessary, seek data from universities, public health authorities and bodies, professional associations and other bodies they deem relevant.

The online completion of the form must be carried out without interruption and by a single operator, for which we suggest the prior collection of all necessary information.

Each national partner should designate a person – a focal point - responsible for this process and a group of experts who can help to get/estimate the information.

> *To analyse the Portuguese situation, it was created a group with a member of the WP6 team, an academic, a specialist in statistics and two members of national public health bodies. The completion of the survey was done based on the knowledge of these people about the reality of the country.*

c. Focal points

The focal point will be in contact with the WP6team (we will have a first meeting via skype to discuss details) and will be in charge of:

- Identify the experts who can help to get/estimate the information

- Collect the data (or estimate) to complete the survey and send it on time

- Clarify doubts that arise during data analysis

d. WP6 Team Support

Regular contacts will be made with Focal Point (via e-mail and videoconference) to ensure follow-up of the process and completion of the process as soon as possible.

All inquiries about completing the Survey should be directed to the WP6 team member highlighted to follow the process.

4- The questions

The Survey consists of 11 questions organized by 4 thematic groups. Here you can find a brief description of its contents and purposes.

At the end of each question there is a text box (marked as question b)) that allows adding comments about the topic being analysed. Feel free to use it.

I Identification of the main respondent

According to the General Regulation on Data Protection, authorization will be requested for the processing of personal data, with the guarantee of protection and confidentiality of all information collected.

Q1- Q2 - Permission to collect and analyse data and respondent's Identification

Aspect of the question in the online version of the Survey

II - HIS frequent users and their training needs

With these questions we intend to identify, as much as possible, which are the most frequent users of the HIS in the activities of Public Health and, according to the opinion of the experts consulted, what their training needs (current and from a 10 years perspective).

Q3 – Identify professionals that most often use public health information systems to support Public Health Activities.

QUESTION #3

Considering the context of your country, **please rank which profiles of professionals most often use** public health information systems in support of their Public Health Activities.

- • *Please answer this question by following the suggestions, but be free to add new ones by entering them in the text box of Question #3b*

🛈 Only numbers may be entered in these fields.
❗ **This question is mandatory**
❗ **Please complete all parts.**

	Rank - #1 represents the greatest need and #12 the lowest need
Health Professionals (e.g. MD, Nurses, Psychologists, Pharmacists, Other)	
Economists	
Manager/Administrator	
Statistician	
Data analyst	
Public Health Researcher	
Public Health Information Specialist	
ICT personnel	
Public Health Program Manager	

QUESTION #3b

If you wish, you can add comments or suggestions regarding the topic addressed in Question #3.

(Please note that the answer to this question is not required)

Aspect of the question in the online version of the Survey

Q4 – Identify needs regarding knowledge and skills for public health information

(THE STRUCTURE OF THIS QUESTION IS SIMILAR TO THE STRUCTURE OF QUESTION 3)

Q5 –needs for developing knowledge and skills for public health information in 10-year perspective

(THE STRUCTURE OF THIS QUESTION IS SIMILAR TO THE STRUCTURE OF QUESTION 3)

Q6 - Identify public health professionals mostly need further training in health information

❶ This question is mandatory
❶ Please check at least one box per row.

	1 – 2 Days Seminar/ workshop	Intensive course (1-2 weeks)	E-learning (ex. MOOC)	Mentoring	Availability of guide-lines/ standard-ized proto-cols/ pro-gram codes	Site visits/ re-searcher exchange pro-gramme	Other	Not Appli-cable
Economists	☑	☑	☑	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐
Public Health Information Specialist	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Data analyst	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐
Public Health Researcher	☐	☐	☑	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐
Epidemiologist	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑
Public Health Program Manager	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☑	☐	☐
ICT personnel	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑
Statistician	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑
Social scientists	☐	☐	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☐
Manager/Administrator	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐
Physician	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐
Nurse	☐	☐	☐	☑	☑	☐	☐	☐
Other (Please specify in question #6b)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑

you must mark at least one option for each profession

(or not Applicable)

Aspect of the question in the online version of the Survey

III - Availability of Health Information Training

With these questions we intend to identify the availability of training initiatives in Health Information Systems.

It is not intended to exhaustively list the initiatives available in each country, but rather to make an effort to understand whether there is a formative response oriented to a set of contents.

Q7 - courses available concerning data sources, standardized data collection tools and epidemiological methods

<u>in filling this question</u>

- o **Should be considered** specific undergraduate and postgraduate education courses in these areas (undergraduate, master and PhD courses, advanced studies for professional development), and training initiatives for public health professionals and others.
- o **Should not be considered** modules integrated in undergraduate courses (e.g. statistics and epidemiology in medical courses) or postgraduate courses (e.g. global health module in an international policy master's degree).

QUESTION #7

Please fill out the table below regarding **Health Information-related courses available** in your country concerning **data sources. standardized data collection tools and Epidemiological methods** (availability, access, contents).

- *Please address this question following the suggestions, however be free to add new ones by entering them in the text box of Question #7b*

	Provider	Format
Health records (hospitalizations/ patients records)	Please choose...	Please choose...
Registries (mortality or disease-specific registries, such as cancer registry, diabetes registry)		Please choose...
Health interview surveys (surveys based only on questionnaires)		Please choose...
Health examination surveys (surveys with objective measurements and collection of biological samples additional to questionnaires)	Please choose...	Please choose...
Longitudinal epidemiological studies	Please choose...	Please choose...
other (specify in Question #7b)	Please choose...	Please choose...

Dropdown options shown:
Please choose...
Not Available
Public Health Organization
Health Association
University
another

Menu drop down

- fill in all the lines
- choose one of the options or "not applicable"

QUESTION #7b

If you wish, you can add comments or suggestions regarding the topic addressed in Question #7.

(Please note that the answer to this question is not required)

Q8 - courses available concerning statistical analysis and exploitation of data

(THE STRUCTURE OF THIS QUESTION IS SIMILAR TO THE STRUCTURE OF QUESTION 7)

Q9 - courses available concerning translation from data to policy

(THE STRUCTURE OF THIS QUESTION IS SIMILAR TO THE STRUCTURE OF QUESTION 7)

IV Capacity Building activities

With these questions, we intend to have access if there has been a recent participation in HIS Capacity Building activities and what areas that experts identify as of greater interest to integrate the flagship program

Q10- courses available concerning translation from data to policy

QUESTION #10

Please choose how useful the following capacity building topics would better fit as modules of a flagship training program on Health Information in your country (choose only one option per row).

	Not at all helpful	Not so helpful	Somewhat helpful	Very helpful	Extremely helpful
Data sources, metrics and indicators	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐
Health data collection methods v	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐
Public health studies and surveys	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐
Data analysis and interpretation	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐
Data presentation methods	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑
From data to policy: Evidence, translation and communication	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐
Health information programme management	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐
Health information research and partnerships	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐
Fundamentals on Public Health information systems (including eHealth/mHealth)	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐
Data Privacy and Ethics	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐

You should only select one option per line

QUESTION #10b

If you wish, you can add comments or suggestions regarding the topic addressed in Question #10.

(Please note that the answer to this question is not required)

Q11 – Country participation in international capacity building activities

	Activity desig-nation	Role (Orga-nizer/ Lecturer / Student / Other)	Type of capacity-building activ-ity	Partner insti-tution (e.g. WHO, ASPHER)	Location	Timeline
activity 1						
activity 2						
activity 3						
activity 4						
activity 5						

QUESTION #11b

If you wish, you can add comments or suggestions regarding the topic addressed in Question #11.

(Please note that the answer to this question is not required)

you should write the answer in the respective field