Knowledge translation and health policy for burden of disease

Elena Pallari

E Pallari^{1,2}, ST Thomsen³, HBM Hilderink⁴

¹Institute of Clinical Trials and Methodology, UCL, London, UK

²Cube Integrated Engineering, Nicosia, Cyprus

³National Food Institute, Technical University of Denmark, Kgs. Lyngby, Denmark

⁴Center for Health and Society, RIVM, Bilthoven, Netherlands Contact: elena.pallari@outlook.com

A key goal of most Burden of Disease (BoD) studies is to support public health policies. However, while the concepts of BoD and Disability Adjusted Life years have been introduced more than 25 years, BoD researchers are still struggling to find better ways to translate their findings and communicate them to the relevant decision makers and other stakeholders.

To address this gap, the burden-eu COST Action aims to generate better guidance of the use of BoD metrics in policymaking processes. In collaboration with experts in knowledge translation and risk communication, the Action will compile good practices in knowledge translation and develop a roadmap to integrate knowledge translation in national BOD studies. To support these objectives, collaborations have been established with knowledge translation experts from the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, the WHO Regional Office for Europe, and the European Public Health Association.

During an initial meeting of the "knowledge translation" working group, 29 participants identified elements in the pathway from evidence generation to practice that need to be addressed. Building on the outcomes of this meeting and the inputs from the knowledge translation experts, this presentation will introduce the knowledge translation framework, and address some of the challenges in identifying best routes to reach out to the public and policy-makers. Specific emphasis will be placed in profiling the context, actors and processes of each country within the policy triangle, and drawing on best and worst example case studies. Additionally, the process will be discussed to co-create a toolkit or guide for using BoD evidence in policy and practice. The session will conclude with an interaction with the audience to learn about the perceived barriers for implementing knowledge translation within the BoD framework.