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How much does patient mobility cost?

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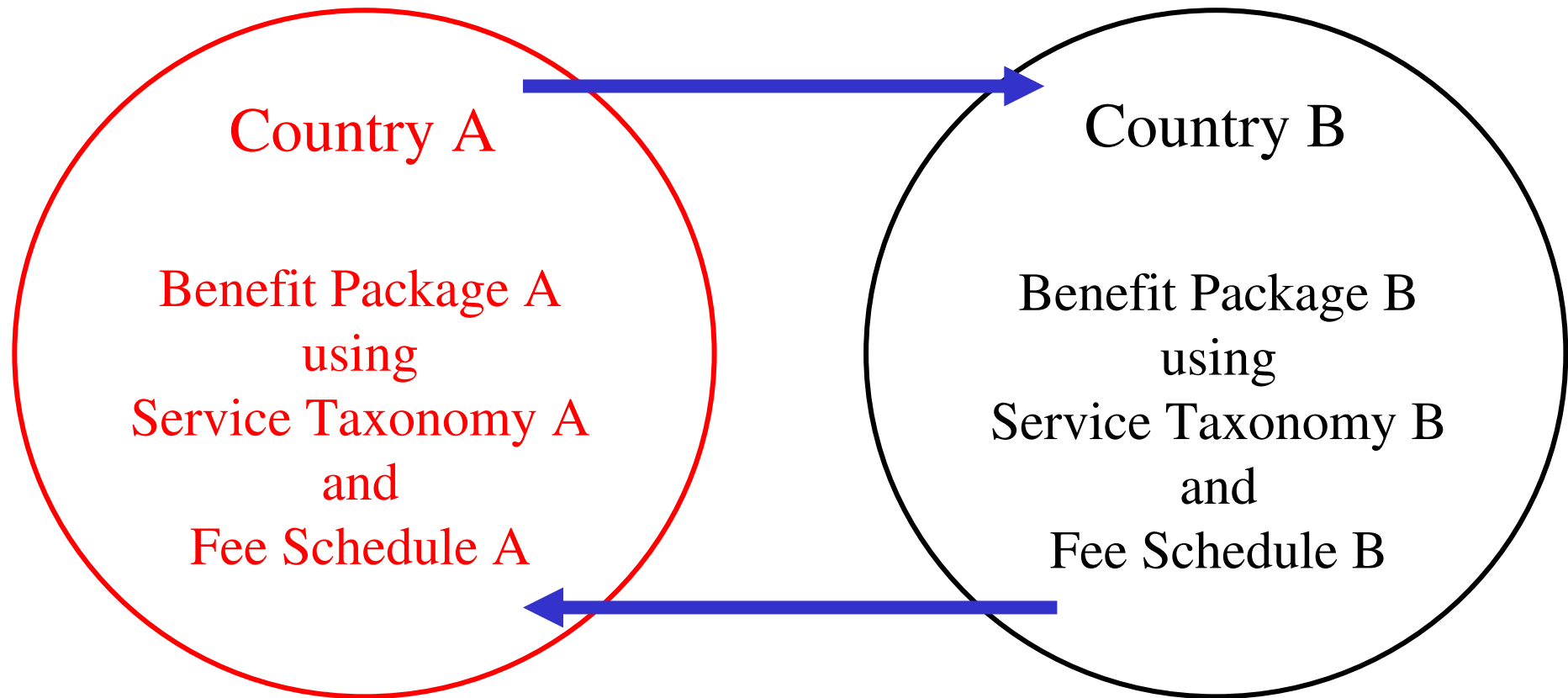
European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies



European
Observatory 
on Health Systems and Policies

Quantifying in- and exports of health goods and services in EU-member states

Goods and services (export)



Goods and services (import)

What do we know?

Trans-border care (here: imported goods and services in €/capita): negligible or under-counted?

Source: Palm et al. 2000

	1989	1993	1997	1998
Belgium	3.62	8.93	8.93	4.38
Denmark	-	0.16	0.83	0.63
France	0.79	1.87	1.21	1.05
Germany	1.77	1.83	2.08	2.21
Greece	0.95	2.51	2.68	3.15
Ireland	0.18	0.65	1.68	0.93
Italy	2.99	8.36	3.52	2.89
Luxembourg	58.01	149.55	135.29	116.00
Netherlands	1.95	0.26	1.98	2.85
Portugal	0.82	3.76	6.81	7.00
Spain	0.33	1.48	1.03	1.11
United Kingdom	0.33	1.61	1.92	0.36
Austria	-	-	0.48	1.87
Finland	-	-	0.49	0.52
Sweden	-	-	0.65	0.96
AVERAGE	1.31	2.95	2.37	1.99

Foreign EU patients treated annually in 2000/01: exports

	total invoice (€)	E112 persons	E111 persons
B	168 790 871	14 061	
DK		2 401	
E	20 559 825	3 156	133 958
F	297 200 000	435 856	
I		1 022	
IRL		1 ?	
L		4 101	250
NL		3 316	
AT	5 160 000	1 000	
FIN	951 000	9	11 483
SW	9 504 411		
UK	8 720 428	871	

No data: D, GR, P

Commission staff working paper, July 2003

Germany: Imported goods and services = best contained area of health expenditure!

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
SHI expenditure total in € bn	99	99	108	113	117	116	118	122	124	129	133
in % GDP	6.14	6.00	6.20	6.27	6.36	6.18	6.13	6.15	6.13	6.21	6.32
Outside the country in € bn	0.36	0.35	0.33	0.36	0.40	0.35	0.34	0.35	0.37	0.37	0.41
as % of SHI expenditure	0.36	0.36	0.31	0.32	0.34	0.30	0.29	0.29	0.30	0.29	0.31
as % of GDP	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Total expenditure in €bn	163	168	180	194	203	204	208	214	219	227	234
in % GDP	10.1	10.2	10.4	10.8	11.1	10.9	10.8	10.8	10.8	11.0	11.1
Outside the country in € bn	0.38	0.37	0.35	0.38	0.42	0.37	0.37	0.38	0.40	0.41	0.44
as % of total expenditure	0.23	0.23	0.19	0.20	0.21	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.19
as % of GDP	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02

Federal Statistical Office, 2004.

Ca. € 4.70/capita

Ca. € 5.40/capita

What is the money spent on?

Ratios vs. overall expenditure (2002)

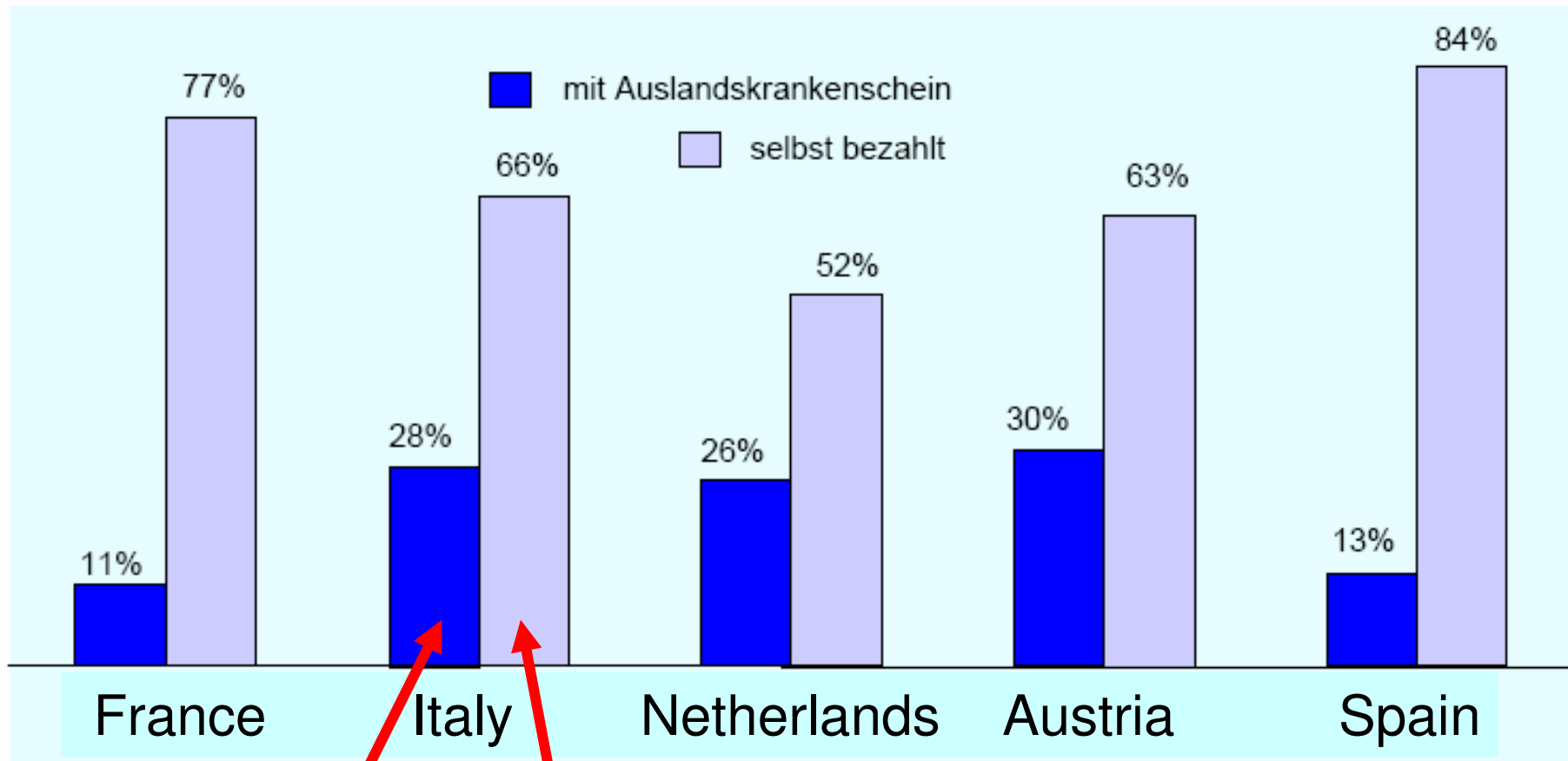
- Transport 1.3
- Physician services 1.25
- Goods 1.15
- Care/ accomodation 0.8
- Prevention 0.65

- Eye diseases 3.2
- Ear diseases 3.0
- Infections 2.0
- Injuries 1.3
- ...
- Psychiatric diseases 0.4
- Pregnancy/ birth 0.4
- Cancer 0.35

3x as often as within country

1/3x as often as within country

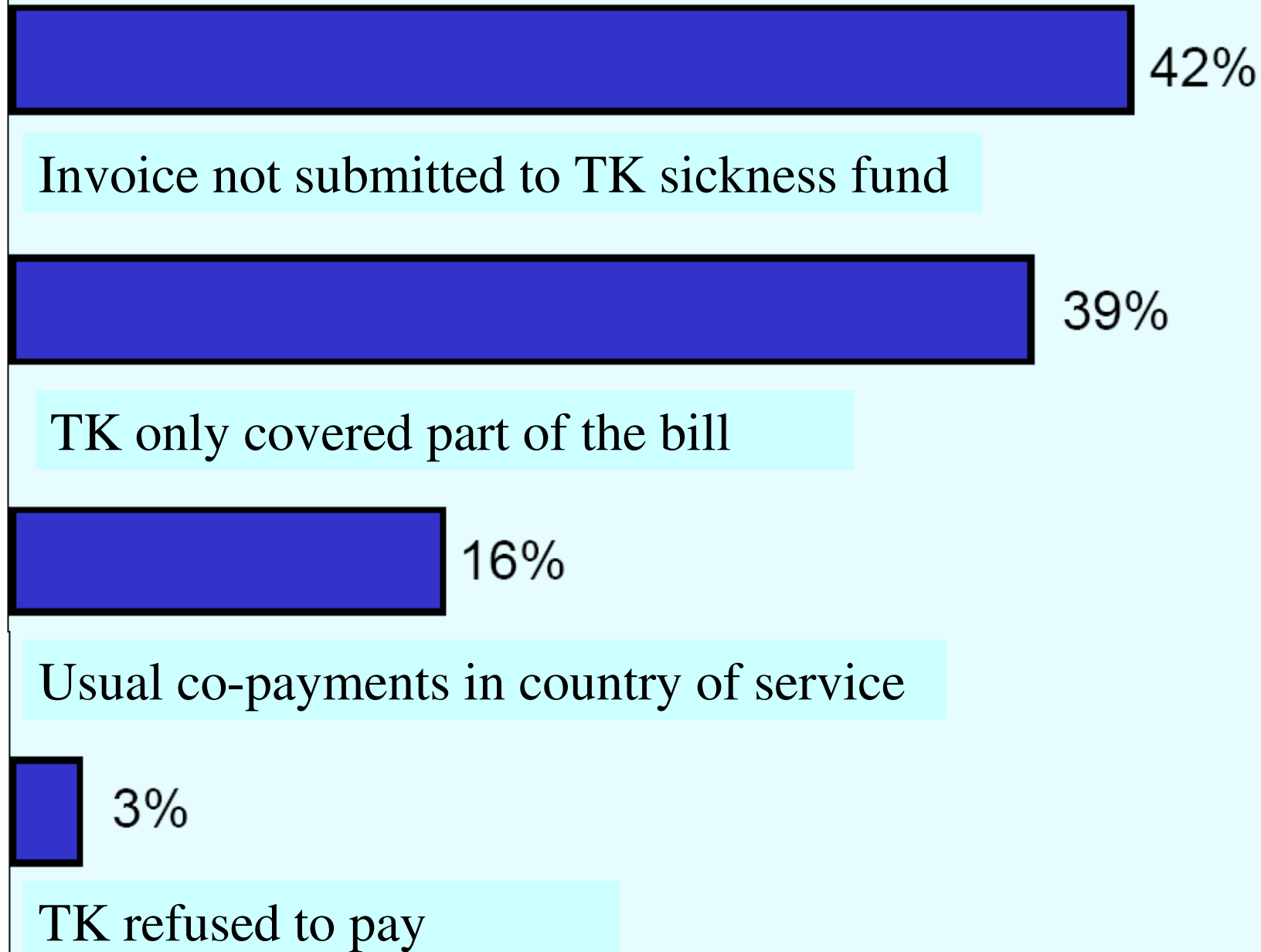
Is this the whole truth? Most likely not ...



E111

self-pay

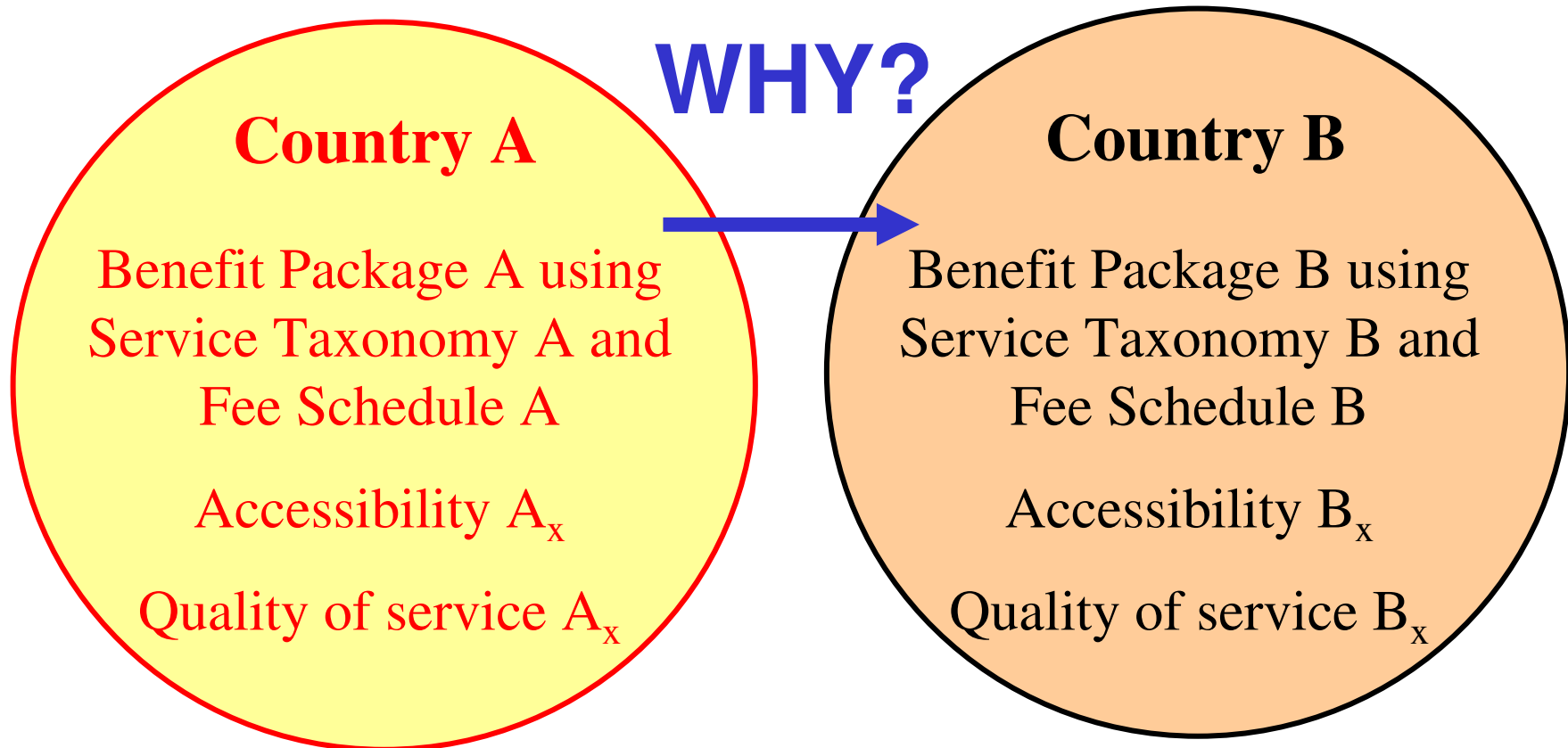
Reasons for not being (fully) reimbursed



- Why do patients move? **More push than pull** (*difference to professionals!*) ... and a lot of **need arising when abroad.**
- Has this led to unsustainable expenditure in the past? **No, but there is probably a lot of expenditure not accounted for.** Might this change? **Not imminently ...**
- *Speculation:* The major reason for low volumes is that **actors, policy makers and patients lack accurate information on ...**

Patient mobility

HOW MANY?



WHICH SERVICES?

WHAT COSTS?
(SERVICES \times REIMBURSEMENT)



HEALTH BENEFITS AND SERVICE COSTS IN EUROPE

A European Research Project
April 2004 – March 2007



PROJECT PARTNERS ARE...



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Berlin University of Technology, Germany



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HealthBasket Project
(funded under the 6th Framework)
Phases I, II & III

Country A

Benefit Package A using
Service Taxonomy A and
Fee Schedule A

Accessibility A_x

Quality of service A_x

Country B

Benefit Package B using
Service Taxonomy B and
Fee Schedule B

Accessibility B_x

Quality of service B_x



Taxonomy

theoretical study of classification,
including its basic principles,
procedures, and rules –
“the science of classification”

Diseases: ICD;

Functional impairments: ICF;

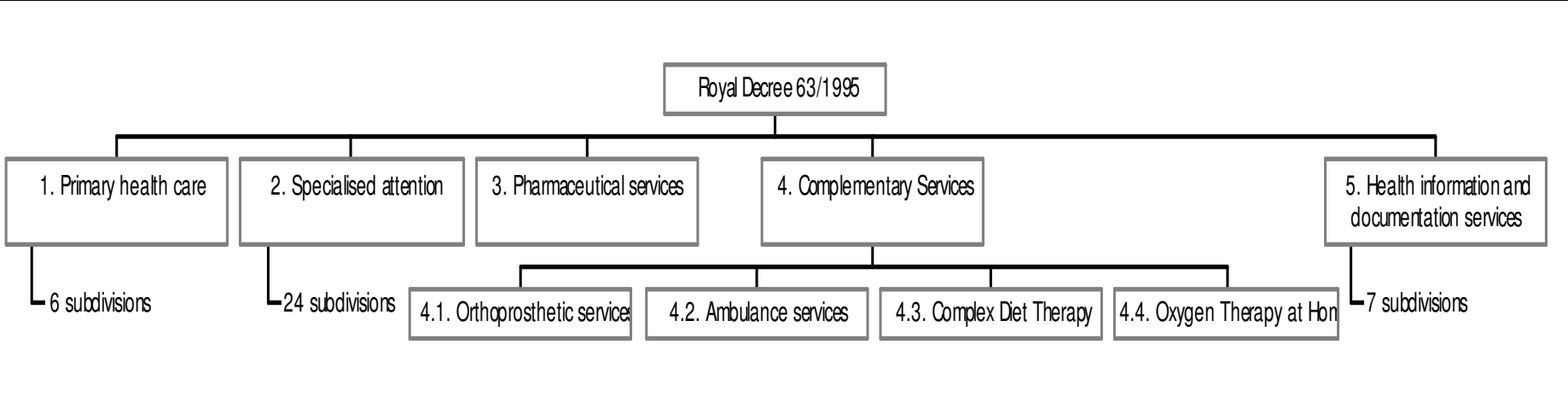
Health care providers: System of Health Accounts;

Health services and goods: ???

SPAIN

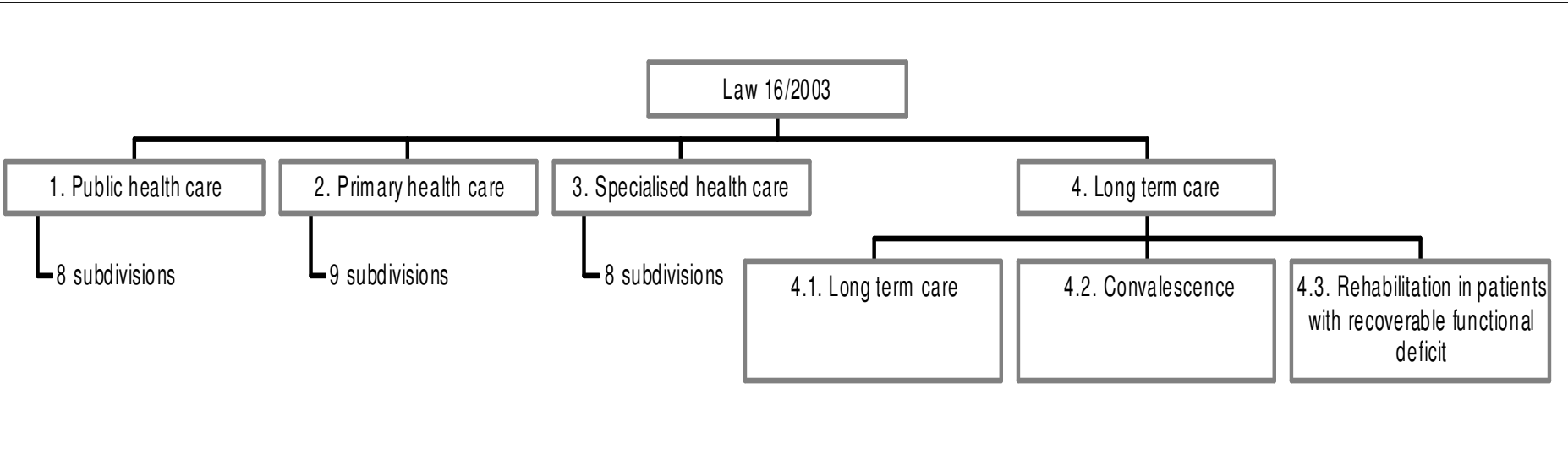


Figure 1: Taxonomy of the Royal Decree. 63/1995



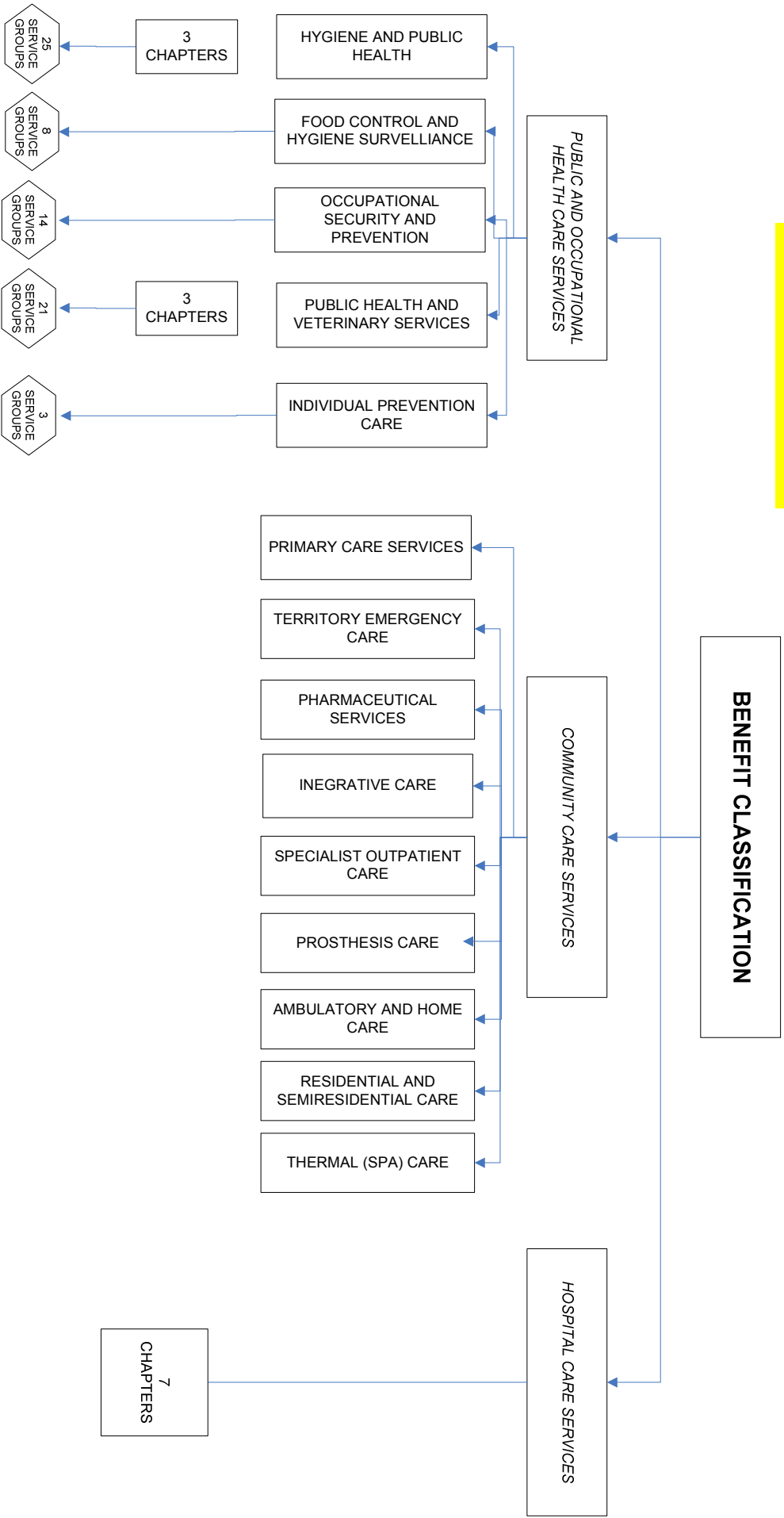
Source: Own elaboration.

Figure 2: Taxonomy of LAW 16/2003



Source: Own elaboration.

ITALY



*Health***BASKET** Phase I –
How are benefit baskets determined
and which services are included?



- Taxonomy differs largely from country to country – even if most tend to sort **ambulatory care by physician specialty** and **inpatient care by diagnosis and procedure** (DRGs/HRGs/DBCAs ...)
- No country has one uniform catalogue; it's rather a mixture of differently defined lists (entitlements, payment, guidelines ...)

***Health*BASKET Phase I –
How are benefit baskets determined
and which services are included?**



- Only small variation of provided benefits between countries – most countries exclude similar benefits: cosmetic surgery, vaccination for travelling purposes) and certain non-conventional treatments (e.g. acupuncture)
- variation might be even larger within countries due to decentralisation processes e.g. in Spain and Italy

***Health*BASKET Phase I –
How are benefit baskets determined and which
services are included?
-> The example of inpatient care**

- France and Poland have defined explicit inpatient benefit catalogues, listing detailed procedures/ in other countries DRGs- and other grouping-systems (e.g. HRGs in UK) serve as implicit tool for defining maximum resource consumption
- Regional variations of explicitness in Italy and Spain; e.g. Italian region of Lombardy added three new DRGs to its system in order to specifically consider the use of drug eluting stents (DES) and to encourage its utilisation
- decision criteria for the inclusion of benefits are in most cases officially announced, but seldom applied/ in reality inclusion decisions are rather guided by lobbyism of actors

***Health*BASKET Phase I –
How are benefit baskets determined and which
services are included?
-> The example of inpatient**

**A supplement of the
European Journal of Health Economics
will be available in November.**

*Health***BASKET** Phases II & III

- How do countries fix/ negotiate reimbursement?
- How much do prices/ reimbursement rates really differ?

Or are they rather explained by systematic differences (e.g. capital costs included/ not included)?

Or by differences in service intensity (e.g. pre-operative tests)?

Methodology:
Case vignettes

***HealthBASKET Phase II –
How are services priced and
how are prices determined?***

- Most countries have already installed performance-based remuneration schemes for in- and outpatient services, while they are often lacking for long-term care, rehabilitation etc.
- There is a clear trend towards the use of micro-costing data (especially for inpatient services) to determine remuneration rates, reflecting the real costs of providers
-> problem:
insufficient quality of data delivered by providers
- Phases I+II = basis for phase III as the core of the project

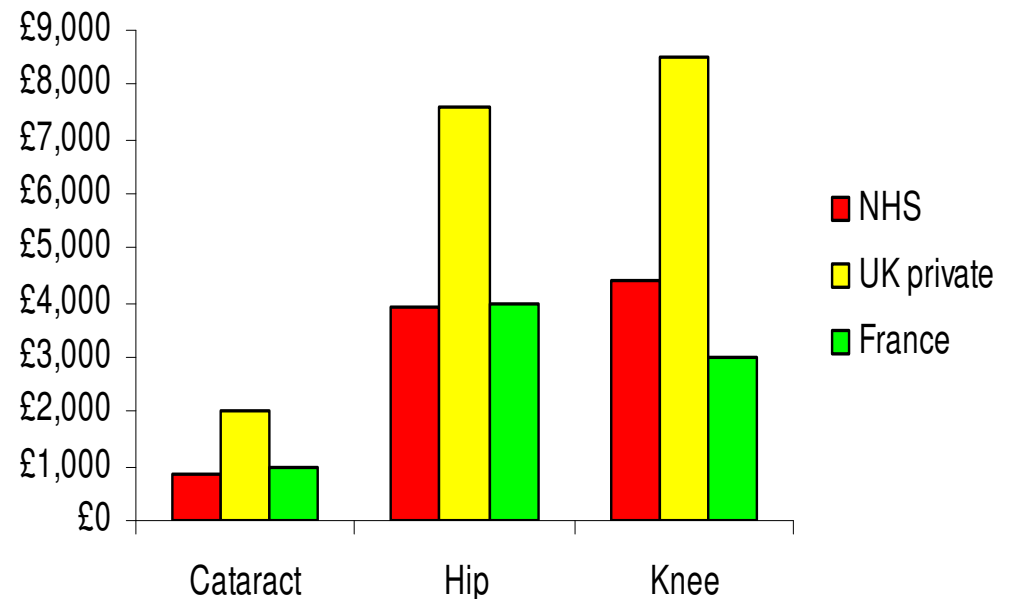
***Health*BASKET Phase III –
Calculation of costs and prices for 10 case vignettes
and analysis of differences**

- 10 case vignettes (“service packages”) are designed around episodes of care, e.g. hip replacement, cataract, coughing child
 - To ensure comparability across vignettes, each is divided into detailed path components e.g. diagnostic procedures, care before operation etc.
 - To ensure homogeneity within case vignettes, health status and indication of each patient is defined in detail for each vignette
 - Partners in each country calculate costs and prices for case vignettes with data from at least 5 representative providers
- > Finally costs and prices are compared and differences are analysed

The *HealthBASKET* project is limited in scope – but important!



The first nine patients sent to France by the English NHS (not shown: the 40 journalists who accompanied them)



**ARE THESE DATA REALISTIC?
ARE THEY REPRESENTATIVE?
HOW CAN THE DIFFERENCE BY EXPLAINED?**

This presentation and more material can be found on the following websites:

<http://mig.tu-berlin.de>

[www.**HealthBASKET**.org](http://www.HealthBASKET.org)

