This documentation sheet is designed to match the questionnaire of the European Health Interview Survey (EHIS) as it was used in EHIS wave 1. For EHIS wave II, which is envisaged to take place in 2014, the questionnaire is being revised. Therefore, questions underlying ECHI indicators may have changed in wave II compared to wave I, with possible consequences for the adequacy of the current documentation sheet. The ECHIM Core Group recommends that the consequences of this revision, once finalized, will be processed in the documentation sheets for the affected ECHI indicators. Subsequent changes in the documentation sheets will relate to the indicators’ definition and calculation.

Most of the ECHI shortlist indicators, for which EHIS data have been appointed as preferred (interim) source, have been placed in the implementation section of the 2012 version of the shortlist. This does not apply to indicators 37. General musculoskeletal pain, 38. Psychological distress and 39. Psychological well-being, however. These indicators are placed in the development section. The reason for this is that in preliminary versions of the revised EHIS questionnaire the questions underlying these indicators were removed. Hence, EHIS wave II will not result in data for these indicators.

The outcomes of the assessment of the results of EHIS wave II may have consequences for assigned status of the ECHI indicators (implementation section, work-in-progress section, development section). This relates for example to the performance of the new instruments applied in wave II for alcohol use, physical activity and mental health; if they do not perform adequately, shifting the related indicators to the work-in-progress section needs to be considered. Like the changes in definitions and calculations due to the revised questionnaire, such changes in indicator status also need to be processed in the relevant documentation sheets.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ECHIM Indicator name</th>
<th>D) Health interventions: health services</th>
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<td>59. Cervical cancer screening</td>
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**Relevant policy areas**
- Healthy ageing, ageing population
- Health system performance, quality of care, efficiency of care, patient safety
- Non-Communicable diseases (NCD), chronic diseases
- (Preventable) Burden of Disease (BoD)
- (Planning of) health care resources

**Definition**
Proportion of women (aged 20-69) reporting to have undergone a cervical cancer screening test within the past three years.

**Calculation**
Percentage of women aged 20-69 reporting to have had a cervical smear test (pap smear) within the last 3 years, derived from EHIS questions PA.13 and PA.14. PA.13: Have you ever had a cervical smear test? Yes / No; PA.14: When was the last time you had a cervical smear test? Within the past 12 months / More than 1 year, but not more than 2 years / More than 2 years, but not more than 3 years / Not within the past 3 years. EHIS data will not be age standardized.

**Relevant dimensions and subgroups**
- Country
- Calendar year
- Age group (20-69)
- Socio-economic status (educational level. ISCED 3 aggregated groups: 0-2; 3+4; 5+6)
Preferred data type: HIS
Preferred source: Eurostat (EHIS = interim source, see remarks).

Data availability
BE, BG, CZ, DE, EE, EL, ES, FR, IT, CY, LV, HU, MT, AT, PL, RO, SI, SK, CH, NO and TR conducted a first wave of EHIS between 2006 and 2010. It is noted that not in all of these countries a full scale survey was carried out; in some only specific modules were applied, in others the full questionnaire was applied in a small pilot sample. It is expected that all EU Member States will conduct EHIS in the second wave, which is planned for 2014. The results of the first wave are expected to be published in two stages, 11 countries in October 2010, the remaining countries in April 2011. EHIS data are available by sex, 8 age groups (15-24/25-34/35-44/45-54/55-64/65-74/75-84/85+) and ISCED groups.

Data periodicity
EHIS will be conducted once every 5 years. The first wave took place in 2007/2010 (with some derogations in 2006) and the second wave is planned for 2014.

Rationale
Among all malignant tumors, cervical cancer is the one that can be most effectively controlled by screening. Detection of cytological abnormalities by microscopic examination of Pap smears, and subsequent treatment of women with high-grade cytological abnormalities avoids development of cancer. Information collected in population surveys can be directly used by the public health decision makers in order to possibly adapt the organization of the prevention/screening programmes. The domain of cervical cancer screening is a priority in European Community public health policy.

Remarks
- This indicator is also one of the Health and Long Term Care Indictors of the Social Protection Committee (SPC).
- Ideally, the recall period used in the definition for this indicator coincides with the recall period actually applied in the screening programmes. However, the recall periods applied in national cancer screening programmes differ. As a common methodology needs to be applied in EHIS for all countries, a flexible approach with country specific questions is not possible. The recall period used in the definition for this indicator therefore represents an average and hence it will not be aligned with the programme methodologies for all countries.
- Administrative sources based on screening programme data would be preferable over (E)HIS based data, as the latter will be influenced by recall and sampling biases. Currently however there is no adequate international coverage of programme based data. Therefore for the moment EHIS is the best source available for this indicator. In future however, when the situation with regard to programme based data has improved, ECHIM prefers to use those data instead of EHIS. A disadvantage of programme based data however is that they seldom allow for breakdowns according to socio-economic status.
- According to current plans, Eurostat will probably not age-standardize EHIS data. For comparability reasons ECHIM would however prefer age-standardized data.
- The above definition and calculation are based on the first version of the EHIS questionnaire, as used in the first EHIS wave (2007/2010). The EHIS questionnaire will be revised, hence adaptations to the EHIS question underlying this indicator may occur in the second wave (planned for 2014). The legal basis for EHIS is regulation (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work. This is an umbrella regulation. Specific implementing acts will define the details of the statistics Member States have to deliver to Eurostat. An implementing act on EHIS is expected to come into force in 2014.

References
- EHIS standard questionnaire (version of 11/2006, used in first wave):
- EHIS 2007-2008 Methodology: Information from CIRCA:
evessurvey/2007-2008_methodology&vm=detailed&sb=Title
38-2008%20Dec2008%20OJL354%20p.70.pdf
- Indicators of the Social Protection Committee, health and long term care strand:
  http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/employment_and_social_policy_indicators/
| Work to do | - Monitor EHIS/Eurostat developments |

**omc social inclusion and social protection/health long term care strand**