THCS LEARNING WEEK

SAVE THE DATE
29 September – 3 October 2025

Innovate, Integrate, Inspire:
Transforming Health & Social Care

From 29 September to 3 October 2025, the Transforming of Health and Social Care System Project (THCS) will be hosting a Learning Week aimed at enhancing and sharing knowledge and experience in progressing sustainability and the transformation of health and social care systems.

Building resilient and sustainable health and social care systems requires transformation across multiple domains. The program of content for this event will include topics that directly impact on the ability to transform these systems.

Join us for an insightful and forward-thinking week of activities that will explore the transformation of health and social care systems in response to evolving societal needs, technological advancements, and policy reforms.

The THCS Learning Week will bring together expertise from an international network of health and social care policy makers, leaders and professionals, innovators and researchers to discuss integration of services, person-centred approaches, digital transformation, workforce development and sustainable care models.

Discover cutting-edge strategies, methods, tools and real-world examples of system redesign that enhance care delivery, improve outcomes and promote equity and resilience across communities. Whether you're shaping policy or delivering care on the front lines, the THCS Learning Week offers you a platform for collaboration, innovation, exchange of experience and knowledge leading to impactful change.

THCS Learning Week at a glance...

Date	Time (CET)	Title of the session	Organiser	Speakers
Monday 29 Sept 2025	11.00 - 12.00	"Empowering Change: How the THCS Knowledge Hub Fosters Capacity-building and Knowledge Sharing"	WP10	Donna Henderson, Scottish Government, UK Andrea Pavlickova, Scottish Government, UK
Monday 29 Sept 2025	13.00 - 14.00	"Supporting the transfer and implementation of health and social care solutions in Europe."	WP4	Juha Kiovisto, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare Heidi Muurinen, Finnish Institute for Welfare Hanne Savolainen, Finnish Institute for Welfare
Tuesday 30 Sept 2025	13.00 - 14.00	"Healthcare of the Future – Insights from the THCS Funded Projects"	WP10	James Robert Rudd (PEER-HomeCare project) Emanuela Foglia & Daniele Bellavia LIUC, (MI RICORDO project) Andrea Serino (NeuroRehab4EU)
Tuesday 30 Sept 2025	15.00 - 16.00	"Reducing Low-Value Care: Practical Strategies for Improving Quality and Efficiency"	WP10	Viktoria Steinbeck, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies Wendy Levinson, Choosing Wisely Canada
Wednesday 1 October 2025	11.00 - 12.00	"Healthcare of the Future – Insights from the THCS Funded Projects"	WP10	Alexander Nikolov, SYNYO, GmBH (MDR in AIS project) Andrada Ianes (ReSTAGE project) Jodi Sturge, (ARC project)
Wednesday 1 October 2025	15.00 - 16.00	"Innovate to prevent – Insights from the THCS Funded Projects"	WP10	Francisco Florez-Revuetta (Ema Frailty project) Ivan Domenech Mercade (SPINE-SYNC project) Dr Sandra Jorna Lakke (Stars-Health project)
Thursday 2 October 2025	11.00 - 12.00	"Capacity-building to strengthen R&I for the transformation of health and care systems"	WP10	Johan Hansen, Nivel (Netherlands institute for health services research) Iris van der Heide, Nivel Andrea Pavlickova, Scottish Government, UK
Thursday 2 October 2025	13.00 - 14.00	"Future skills in healthcare: Training That Transforms"	WP10	Michele Calabro, EUREGHA (Be-Well Project) Carmo Gomez, ISCTE (ManagiDTH) Lisa Baldini (HEROES Joint Action)
Friday 3 October 2025	13.00 - 14.00	"Building decision makers capacity and knowledge on evidence-based strategies in policymaking"	WP5	Cecile Fragny, Melanie Fisher, French Ministry of Health, Research and Innovation Department at the Directorate General of Health Care Provision (DGOS)

"Empowering Change: How the THCS Knowledge Hub Fosters Capacity-building and Knowledge Sharing"

Registration link

Organiser: THCS WP10 Leaders - Scottish Government, UK

Description of the session

This THCS shared learning event will feature the development of THCS Knowledge Hub which is being co-designed as a tool to support collaboration, capacity-building and knowledge sharing across THCS organisations and communities and beyond. This session will provide a comprehensive presentation of the Hub's structure and its main features such as development and access to evidence-based resources, learning and capacity-building activities enhancing the knowledge and capacity of users to support the transformation of health and social care systems.

What you'll gain

- A guided tour of the Knowledge Hub's key functionalities
- Better understating of how the Hub supports capacity development
- Q&A with Hub developers and users.

Meet the speakers

Donna Henderson
Head of International Engagement Manager
Directorate for Health and Social Care Finance, Digital and Governance, Scottish Government, UK

In her role as Head of International Engagement, Donna leads the Scottish Government's International Engagement Team for Digital Health and Care. The Team's role is to enhance Scotland's reputation as a leader in digital health and care, facilitate knowledge exchange between other countries and promote economic opportunities for Scotland. She also holds Board Director positions with the Health Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS); European Health Telematics Association (EHTEL); and the European Reference Site Collaborative Network (RSCN). In addition, she chairs the Working Group on virtual care in the home, as part of WHO Europe's Strategic Partners Initiative on Data and Digital Health.

Dr Andrea Pavlickova
International Engagement Manager
Directorate for Health and Social Care Finance, Digital and Governance, Scottish Government, UK

Andrea is responsible for international engagement activities and the management of EU funded projects, focusing on the deployment and scaling-up of digital healthcare and integrated care solutions in Europe. She is also actively engaged in a number of European and international networks to promote and enhance Scotland's reputation in digital agenda and innovation in healthcare. Her work involves knowledge exchange activities, implementation of Memoranda of Understanding and exchange of good practices at national, European and international levels to stimulate the scaling-up of innovative solutions in health and care delivery.

Monday 29 September 2025
13.00 – 14.00CET

"Supporting the transfer and implementation of health and social care solutions in Europe."

Registration link

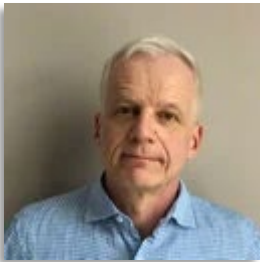**Organiser:** THCS WP4 Leaders – Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare

Description of the session

This session focuses on how health and care solutions can be successfully transferred and implemented across systems and organisations. The session will introduce the transfer and implementation framework developed within the Transforming Health and Care Systems Partnership (THCS), the tools for describing and transferring solutions and how these tools can be accessed and used in the THCS Knowledge Hub.

What you'll gain

- An overview of the THCS Transferability and Implementation Framework
- An introduction to the THCS tools for describing and transferring solutions
- A guided tour on how to use the THCS tools in the Knowledge Hub.

Meet the speakers

Juha Koivisto
Chief Specialist (DOscSci, Adjunct Professor), Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare

Juha is a sociologist and his work closely integrated development and research. His recent work focused on the health and social care service system, integrated care, the application of AI in health and social care practices as well as implementation research.

Heidi Muurinen
Senior Specialist (DOscSci), Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare

Hedi works as expert in social welfare service design and implementation support. Recently, she has been involved in projects supporting practice teams to design integrated service pathways, co-creating social work practice models, and facilitating practitioner research. Heidi is a licensed social worker with and interest in advancing social care through practice-based research.

Hanne Savolainen

Senior Planning Officer (MSocSci), Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare

Hanne is a sociologist who, in recent years, has worked on health and social care solutions within the Innokylä innovation environment (www.innokyla.fi), supporting their co-development, transfer, and implementation across systems.

Tuesday 30 September 2025
13.00 – 14.00CET

"Healthcare of the Future – Insights from the THCS Funded Projects"

Registration link

Organiser: THCS WP10 Leaders - Scottish Government, UK

Description of the session

Transforming Health and Care Systems Partnership (THCS) aims at coordinating and optimising investments in research and innovation key priority areas supporting health and care systems transformation. THCS core activity is to **fund research and innovation** projects through joint transnational calls in order to enhance the cooperation between researchers and innovators working to support health and care systems transformation across Europe and beyond. This session will particularly showcase the THCS projects funded in 2023 under the Call "Healthcare of the Future" aiming to encourage the optimisation of patient care pathways and contribute to the transition towards more sustainable, efficient, resilient, ethical, high-quality, and accessible person-centered healthcare systems.

What you'll gain

- Insights into the three THCS funded projects in 2023 https://www.thcspartnership.eu/funded-projects/funded-projects-2023.kl
  - PEER-HomeCare (Pedagogy and Enriched Environment for Rehabilitation -Holistic, Optimised, Methodical, and Empathetic care:
  - MI-RICORDO (Transcultural and Multidimensional validation of Digital Rehabilitation Intervention of COgnitive Resources Domain-Oriented)
  - NeuroRehab4EU (Democratising access to an innovative, evidence-based model of care for neurological disorders in Europe).
- Improved knowledge on how to build the health and care of the future
- Improved knowledge on the implementation of innovative solutions that can inform decision-making and optimise the delivery of health and care services across different settings.

Meet the speakers

Professor James R. Rudd
PEER-HomeCare

Professor James R. Rudd is Professor at the Norwegian School of Sport Sciences (NIH) in Oslo. His research focuses on movement learning and its application to the learning and relearning of movement skills in children and stroke survivors.

James R. Rudd is the Coordinator and Project Lead of the PEER-HOMEcare project, where he and an international team based across Norway, Sweden, and Latvia are working to translate the enriched environment paradigm into an effective, home-based rehabilitation practices across Europe. PEER-HOMEcare is a European THCS-funded project supporting stroke survivors to continue recovery at home. *"Our goal is simple: to make everyday life part of your rehabilitation, fitting into your routines, your home, and what matters most to you."*

Emanuela Foglia
MI-RICORDO

Emanuela Foglia is a fixed-term Researcher at the School of Industrial Engineering, at Carlo Cattaneo LIUC University. She also serves as Director of the Healthcare Data Science Lab, one of the institutional research centers at LIUC and she is member of the core faculty of the LIUC Business School.

Her research focuses on health technology assessment (HTA), health economics and modelling, organizational performance evaluation, co-creation, quantitative and qualitative research. Health technology assessment through the application of multidisciplinary approaches such as HTA.
Emanuela is actively involved as coordinator in two THCS projects aimed at developing, testing, and validating innovative digital solutions.

Daniele Bellavia
MI-RICORDO

Daniele Bellavia is a dedicated research fellow at the School of Management Engineering at Carlo Cattaneo LIUC University, and member of the adjunct faculty of LIUC Business School. His primary research interests revolve around healthcare management, where he applies advanced techniques such as Activity-Based Costing and economic evaluation of health technologies to optimize healthcare processes and enhance operational efficiency. Daniele's work aims to bridge the gap between engineering principles and healthcare applications, ensuring that health systems are both effective and economically sustainable.

Andrea Serino
NeuroRehab4EU

Andrea Serino, Prof, PhD is Professor at the University Hospital of Lausanne, where he directs the Neurorehab Research Center and MySpace Lab. The lab investigates the neural basis of body representation in space for action, perception and consciousness. Neurorehab has the mission of translating this knowledge to develop novel solutions for neurological disease.

In this context, Andrea Serino coordinates the Innosuisse Flagship project SwissNeurorehab and the THCS project NeuroRehab4EU, aiming at implementing innovation into healthcare to improve the outcomes of neurological patients in Switzerland and in Europe.

Tuesday 30 September 2025
15.00 - 16.00CET

"Reducing Low-Value Care: Practical Strategies for Improving Quality and Efficiency"

Registration link

Organiser: THCS WP10 Leaders - Scottish Government, UK

Description of the session

Low-value care—tests, treatments, or procedures that provide little or no benefit to patients—remains a significant challenge for healthcare systems worldwide. Not only does it expose patients to unnecessary risks, but it also drives up costs and diverts resources away from high-value services. This shared learning event will explore evidence-based strategies to identify, measure, and reduce low-value care within clinical practice.

What you'll gain

- Insights into the scope and impact of low-value care on patient outcomes and healthcare systems, including the drivers of overuse (cultural, financial and systematic factors)
- Knowledge on practical interventions, approaches and strategies reducing low-value care
- Real-world examples of successful efforts:
    - Choosing Wisely Canada: https://choosingwiselycanada.org/
    - Identifying, measuring and reducing low-value care in the context of health system performance assessment report: https://health.ec.europa.eu/document/download/1adc2134-5753-4ffb-a6d5-ab8d224874c6_en?filename=hspa_low-value-care_report_en.pdf

Meet the speakers

Dr. Viktoria Steinbeck
European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

Dr. Viktoria Steinbeck is a Research Fellow at the Department of Healthcare Management at Technical University Berlin.

Her research focuses on improving patient-centered value in healthcare systems through the integration of patient-reported outcome measures, the reduction of low-value care and following principles of value-based healthcare (VBHC). She is the co-founder of the first German-speaking VBHC seminar and a Senior Harkness Fellow, who recently returned to Germany from a fellowship at Harvard Medical School and the Brown School of Public Health in the United States. She holds a PhD in Health Economics.

Wendy Levinson

MD OC Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Toronto
Chair, Choosing Wisely Canada

Wendy Levinson is a Professor of Medicine and Past Chair of the Department of Medicine at the University of Toronto. She led the creation of Choosing Wisely Canada, and presently serves as Chair of Choosing Wisely Canada and Choosing Wisely International. She is an officer of the Order of Canada.

Wednesday 1 October 2025
11.00 – 12.00CET

"Healthcare of the Future – Insights from the THCS Funded Projects"

Registration link

Organiser: THCS WP10 Leaders - Scottish Government, UK

Description of the session

Transforming Health and Care Systems Partnership (THCS) aims at coordinating and optimising investments in research and innovation key priority areas supporting health and care systems transformation. THCS core activity is to **fund research and innovation** projects through joint transnational calls in order to enhance the cooperation between researchers and innovators working to support health and care systems transformation across Europe and beyond. This session will particularly showcase the THCS projects funded in 2023 under the Call "Healthcare of the Future" aiming to encourage the opimisation of patient care pathways and contribute to the transition towards more sustainable, efficient, resilient, ethical, high-quality, and accessible person-centered healthcare systems.

What you'll gain

- Insights into the three THCS funded projects in 2023, namely:
  - ReStage (Integrative Decision Making in Rectal Cancer Care: Advanced Imaging, Predictive Models, and Patient-Centered Digital Tools): https://re-stage.eu/
  - MDR in AIS (Minimizing Door to Reperfusion Times in Drip and Ship Model for Patients with Acute Ischemic Stroke) https://www.mdrinais.eu/
  - ARC (Ageing Right Care(fully) a system approach to understanding, redesigning and futuring integrated care for older adults ageing in place in the Netherlands, Israel and Sweden)
- Improved knowledge on how to build the health and care of the future
- Improved knowledge on the implementation of innovative solutions that can inform decision-making and optimise the delivery of health and care services across different settings.

Meet the speakers

Andrada Ianus
ReStage project

Dr. Ianuş is a Lecturer in the School of Biomedical Engineering & Imaging Sciences at King's College London, UK and an Associate Researcher at the Algarve Biomedical Center in Portugal. Her research focuses on advanced MRI techniques, including diffusion, perfusion and quantitative relaxometry, with applications to mapping tissue microstructure and function in both preclinical and clinical settings. In recent years, she expanded her research to the benefits of advanced MRI in cancer imaging, with a focus on informing decision making in rectal cancer and early detection and characterisation of liver micrometastases, projects supported by THCS and an ERC Starting Grant.

Alexander Nikolov

SYNYO, GmBH, MDR in AIS project

Alexander Nikolov, MA is a Research Manager & Project Coordinator at SYNYO GmbH. He holds a master's degree in business informatics and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics. Mr. Nikolov gained experience in product and IT project management being responsible for the implementation of customer projects and the development of service platforms and tools. He has in-depth knowledge in product management and experience in the design of new services and tools. At SYNYO he is responsible for the coordination of ongoing national and international innovation projects, project related analysis, dissemination and networking activities.

Jodi Sturge

ARC project

Jodi Sturge is an Assistant Professor in Interaction Design at the University of Twente in the Netherlands. She is also the project coordinator of Ageing Right Care(fully). During this session, Jodi will share insights from the first year of the project.

She will focus on experience navigating differences in allocated funding, institutional research ethics board procedures and initiating the research comparison across diverse healthcare systems. She will also discuss the strategies used to overcome these challenges, including flexible planning, building rapport, and collaborative analysis.

Wednesday 1 October 2025
15.00 – 16.00CET

"Innovate to Prevent – Insights from the THCS Funded Projects"

Registration link

Organiser: THCS WP10 Leaders - Scottish Government, UK

Description of the session

Transforming Health and Care Systems Partnership (THCS) aims at coordinating and optimising investments in research and innovation key priority areas supporting health and care systems transformation. THCS core activity is to **fund research and innovation** projects through joint transnational calls in order to enhance the cooperation between researchers and innovators working to support health and care systems transformation across Europe and beyond. This session will particularly showcase the THCS projects funded in 2024 under the Call "Innovate to Prevent" aiming to support the implementation of innovative person-centered health and care models addressing prevention strategies, with the key help of existing IT and digital technologies and services.

What you'll gain

- Insights into the three THCS funded projects in 2024, namely:
  - Ema_Frailty (Ecological monitoring for the assessment of frailty in older people)
  - SPINE-SYNC (Multi-stakeholder platform for scoliosis education, communication, professional collaboration and health literacy)
  - Stars-HEALTH (STARS EU, the strategic alliance for regional transition Europe, integrates a health care team system around patients with lower health literacy and digital literacy)
- Improved knowledge and tips for overcoming common barriers for the implementation of effective prevention strategies.
- Opportunities to connect with experts and share best practices and lessons learned from the implementation of effective prevention strategies.

Meet the speakers

Francisco Florez-Revuetta
Ema Frailty project

Francisco Florez is a Full Professor at the Department of Computer Technology, University of Alicante (Spain), and head of the Research Group on Ambient Intelligence for Active and Healthy Ageing (AmI4AHA). His research work focuses on technologies for active assisted living, particularly in the continuous monitoring of people and their environment.

He has recently finished the coordination of a large EU projects, visuAAL - Privacy-Aware and Acceptable Video-Based Technologies and Services for Active and Assisted Living, a Marie Sklodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network. He was also the Chair of the GoodBrother COST Action - International Network on Privacy-Aware Audio- and Video-Based Applications for Active and Assisted Living. He is currently the coordinator of EMA-FRAIITY - Ecological monitoring for the assessment of frailty in older people, funded under the THCS programme.

Ivan Domenech Mercade
SPINE-SYNC project

Ivan Domenech Mercadé is a Scientific Project Manager at the Fundació de Recerca Sant Joan de Déu in Barcelona, Spain. He holds a PhD in Medical Sciences and has over nine years of experience spanning academia, biotechnology, and the pharmaceutical sector. Ivan has a strong background in translational research and scientific communication, demonstrated through peer-reviewed publications and effective cross-functional collaborations. He currently manages the SPINE-SYNC project, supporting its scientific, strategic, and collaborative development.

Dr Sandra Jorna Lakke
Stars-Health project

Sandra Jorna-Lakke, Phd., senior researcher of the research group Healthy Ageing, Allied Health Care and Nursing within the Centre of Expertise Healthy Ageing, Hanze University of Applied Sciences, Groningen, The Netherlands.

In the THCS STARS-Health project, she serves as the project leader. The project is embedded in the STARS EU alliance. In this STARS-Health project, a method is applied that contributes to the transformation of healthcare, with person-centred care as a central principle. A network of healthcare providers surrounding older adults with lower health and digital literacy empowers them to use easily accessible and user-friendly digital tools. Family members and friends, so-called informal caregivers, will also be supported and coached by professional caregivers.

Thursday 2 October 2025
11.00 – 12.00CET

"Capacity-building to strengthen R&I for the transformation of health and care systems"

Registration link

Organiser: THCS WP4 Partner – Nivel (NL), together with WP 10 Leaders - Scottish Government (UK)

Description of the session

THCS aims to contribute to strengthening R&I capacity building for the purpose of transforming health and care systems, among others by exploring R&I capacity building needs and contributing to R&I capacity building tools and resources within the EU. The session will provide a presentation on the current R&I landscape including an assessment of capacity building resources, strategies and expertise that could be beneficial to support health and care system transformation. The session will also feature the THCS Knowledge Hub as a tool to support collaboration, capacity-building and knowledge sharing across THCS organisations and communities and beyond. There will also be extensive room for exchange with participants, allowing to share their views on the topics, tools and resources that could help strengthen a capacity building programme aiming to transform health and care systems at national and European levels.

What you'll gain

- A snapshot of the current R&I landscape in the EU, including existing EU- and national level R&I capacity-building tools, resources, and initiatives.
- A summary of the THCS Knowledge Hub's functionalities in relation to capacity building
- A Q&A to share your views on needs and priorities in capacity building in R&I for health and care system transformation.

Meet the speakers

Johan Hansen
Senior researcher, Nivel (Netherlands institute for health services research)

Johan leads a range of international research activities at Nivel, with a special interest in the comparison of health care systems, the transfer of service and policy innovations across sectors and countries, and the use of evidence in decision-making.

He has also been involved in EU level networks to help improve the contribution of European health services research to policy and practice, among others as coordinator of the network HSR Europe and, currently, as President of the Section Health Services Research at the European Public Health Association (EUPHA).

Iris van der Heide

Senior researcher, Nivel (Netherlands institute for health services research)

As a senior researcher Patient-centered Care, Iris is mainly involved in projects that focus on the experiences of patients/citizens.

She has a master's degree in Communication Sciences (Humanities/Social sciences) and a PhD degree in Life Sciences (on the topic of health literacy). Her knowledge and expertise are among others in the field of health differences, access to care and support among vulnerable groups, diversity and health literacy.

Dr Andrea Pavlickova

International Engagement Manager
Directorate for Health and Social Care Finance, Digital and Governance, Scottish Government, UK

Andrea is responsible for international engagement activities and the management of EU funded projects, focusing on the deployment and scaling-up of digital healthcare and integrated care solutions in Europe. She is also actively engaged in a number of European and international networks to promote and enhance Scotland's reputation in digital agenda and innovation in healthcare. Her work involves knowledge exchange activities, implementation of Memoranda of Understanding and exchange of good practices at national, European and international levels to stimulate the scaling-up of innovative solutions in health and care delivery.

THCS
TRANSFORMING HEALTH AND CARE SYSTEMS

Thursday 2 October 2025
13.00 – 14.00CET

"Future skills in healthcare: Training That Transforms"

Registration link

Organiser: THCS WP10 Leaders - Scottish Government, UK

Description of the session

This webinar explores the future skills healthcare professionals need to thrive in an evolving landscape shaped by digital innovation, shifting patient needs, global health challenges and the need for continuous reskilling and upskilling. Experts will share strategies, programmes and approaches on how healthcare organisations and professionals can bridge current gaps, embrace lifelong learning, and prepare for future roles that go beyond traditional care delivery.

What you'll gain

- Insights into emerging competencies, training and educational programmes developed in 3 EU funded projects – Be-Well, HEROES and ManagiDITH.
- Improved knowledge and foresight to resilient and adaptable training and educational programmes for long-term sustainability.
- Lessons learned from organisations preparing the workforce for future roles.

Meet the speakers

Michele Calabro
Director, EUREGHA (Be-Well Project)

Michele Calabrò is Executive Director of EUREGHA – the European Regional and Local Health Authorities network, where he leads the Secretariat's work on advocacy, knowledge exchange and partnerships, communication, and events.

In this role, he also serves as Co-Chair of the European Alliance for Value in Health and is actively engaged in the EU Health Coalition. Before joining EUREGHA in May 2022, Michele held positions at the European Health Management Association (Policy and Communications Manager), the European Patients' Forum (Policy Adviser), and DIGITALEUROPE (Senior Manager, Digital Health Policy). Over the years, he has played a leading role in several strategic EU-level projects, including TO-REACH, DigitalHealthEurope, PERISCOPE, IN-4-AHA, and BeWell. Between 2020 and 2022, he also served as Co-Chair of the EU4Health Civil Society Alliance. Michele is an active member of several informal health policy communities, such as the Young Forum Gastein Alumni network and the IPSE Network – Italiani per le Politiche Sanitarie Europee.

Maria do Carmo GOMES
ManagiDiTH

Maria do Carmo GOMES is Adviser to the Rectorate of Iscte - University Institute of Lisbon Senior Expert, working for the Mission Tean on Strategic Projects Development. She is the Executive Director of the Managing Digital Transformation in the Health Sector (ManagiDiTH) project, as well as of the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master on Coordinated Response on Humanitarian Action, Health and Displacement (Human Response), and the national delegate for the Pionneer Alliance at Iscte. She is also a Senior Expert on Skills Development and Employment working nationally and internationally on these topics. Currently, she is an international consultant in the topics of lifelong learning systems development, Vocational Education and Training (VET) policies, namely on policy analysis and system performance monitoring, validation of non-formal and informal learning, and qualification systems and frameworks. She is an Associated researcher of CIES-IUL (Centre for Research and Studies in Sociology) since 1998 having as main interest and scientific areas: adult education and training public policies; literacy and competences; social and technological networks and digital transformation; social exclusion and poverty.

Lisa Baldini
HEROES Joint Action

Lisa Baldini is a multidisciplinary professional with degrees in European Languages and Cultures, International Business Development and Healthcare Innovation and Management. Her main interest is in international and European collaborations to promote the sustainability, accessibility and resilience of healthcare systems. With this goal in mind, she has been working at the Research Unit in AGENAS – the Italian National Agency for Regional Health Services – as programme and financial manager for 6 years on multiple projects within Horizon Europe (Cluster 1 Health), the Third EU Health Program and EU4Health programme. She is currently principally working as project and financial manager within the coordinator team of the HEROES Joint Action ("HEalth woRkfOrce to meet health challEngeS"), the largest EU Joint Action ever fielded dedicated to Healthcare Workforce planning.

Friday 3 October 2025
13.00 – 14.00CET

"Building decision makers capacity and knowledge on evidence-based strategies in policymaking"

Registration link

Organiser: THCS WP5 Leaders - French Ministry of Health – Research and Innovation Department at the Directorate General of Health Care Provision (DGOS)

Description of the session

The THCS partnership aims to build innovative and responsive public policies through research projects, addressing major challenges facing our health systems. However, studies show that funding research alone is not enough. Its results must also be widely disseminated to decision makers, who need to fully understand their implications in order to inform and influence public policy decisions. This webinar will cover the strategy and tools developed to reinforce policymakers confidence and capacity in driving policy making through strong evidence as well as foster mutual learning.

What you'll gain

- Lessons learned from mapping facilitators and barriers in using evidence in policymaking
- Gain insight into how THCS funded projects can be presented for policymakers to access and understand them (research results platform located on the Knowledge Hub
- Peek into different knowledge sharing tools being developed for capacity building on evidence-based policy.

Meet the speakers

Cécile FRAGNY
French Ministry of Health, Research and Innovation Department at the Directorate General of Health Care Provision (DGOS)

Cécile Fragny is a senior health manager. With degrees in law and political science, she later studied at the École des Hautes Études en Santé Publique in Rennes before working for 12 years as deputy director in several French hospitals. Since 2017, she has been working at the French Ministry of Health on European and international issues related to social protection and health. Her work at the Directorate General for Healthcare Provision focuses on European-level research funding and the promotion of evidence-based public policies among decision-makers in partner countries.

Mélanie FISHER

French Ministry of Health, Research and Innovation Department at the Directorate General of Health Care Provision (DGOS)

Mélanie Fisher is a French-Brazilian-American policy officer at the French Ministry of Health, working within the Research and Innovation Department. She focuses on European partnerships including THCS and ERA4Health. Before entering public service, she worked as a Senior Data Consultant in the private sector. She holds a dual Master's degree in Public Policy from Sciences Po Paris and the Hertie School, specializing in global health and policy analysis. Her experience includes work with NGOs in Brazil, Argentina, and the U.S. on public health and equity-focused initiatives targeting disadvantaged populations, as well as contributions to projects on climate change sensitive emerging infectious diseases and pathogen genomic data-sharing platforms.