



Health Consumer
Powerhouse

About the Euro Vision Scorecard – in short

The 2013 Euro Vision Scorecard (EVS) was developed by the Health Consumer Powerhouse (HCP) to examine the provision of vision care in a representative sample of European countries.

Euro Vision Scorecard 2013 – Key Findings

- Modern eye care is successful in Europe; in spite of an ageing population.
- Advances in treatment mean that the number of European citizens experiencing sight loss or severe visual impairment (c. 25 million) is not increasing.
- However, where you live can determine specialist access and quality of care - significant inequalities remain.
- The differences are substantial; a Hungarian citizen is three times more likely to suffer debilitating sight problems than the equivalent Dutch citizen.
- Cataract surgery is widely accepted as a minor, routine and inexpensive treatment. Yet waiting times for surgery vary widely between countries, from virtually 'on demand' treatment in France, Denmark and the Netherlands to potentially extended delays in Slovakia, Hungary, Poland, the UK and Italy
- In the countries surveyed, only Sweden can boast a national quality registry to monitor and assess sight loss.
- Despite the known link between diabetes and eye problems, patients with diabetes cannot be certain of annual screening. No country in the EVS exceeded 90% coverage – the lowest was almost certainly below 50%.
- Access to modern medicine to treat common eye conditions, such as wet age-related macular degeneration (AMD), varies dramatically. There is no clear link to funding of healthcare; France and Denmark are willing to fund access, yet Austria, the Netherlands.

Euro Vision Scorecard – Methodology

The Euro Vision scorecard was conducted primarily via desk research, using a number of sources. These include official data from sources such as the WHO and OECD, national Ministries of Health, National offices of statistics and specialist eye care organizations. Pharmaceutical data was supplied by IMS Health.

Where no official data was available, we supplement from other robust sources, including our own expert panel, advocacy groups, academia and estimates.

In general, eye care in Europe is characterized by a lack of open systematic data. This is why the key recommendation of the EVS scorecard includes national quality registries for ophthalmology care in each country and pan-national alignment of the criteria for blindness and vision impairment.

The countries surveyed were:

- | | | |
|-----------|-------------------|---------------|
| • Austria | • Hungary | • Spain |
| • Belgium | • Italy | • Slovakia |
| • Denmark | • Lithuania | • Sweden |
| • France | • The Netherlands | • Switzerland |
| • Germany | • Poland | • UK |

This selection covers 430 million inhabitants, including the majority of the total EU population. They were chosen to provide an overview of a wide variety of levels of economic and social development, care policy, organization modes and patient influence.