The G7 Research Group presents the

2022 G7 Elmau Summit Final Compliance Report
28 June 2022 to 17 April 2023

Prepared by
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and the G7 Research Group
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“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme, in G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit
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“[We are strongly committed to] ... continuing to address noncommunicable diseases including mental health, recognising the need for accessible and effective mental health services.”

*Elmau G7 Summit Communiqué*

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**Background**

On 28 June 2022, at the Elmau Summit, G7 leaders committed to “continuing to address noncommunicable diseases including mental health, recognising the need for accessible and effective mental health services.” This pledge by G7 leaders builds on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the United Nations in 2015, which recognized noncommunicable diseases as a major public health challenge.\(^{3421}\) Sustainable Development Goal 3 was set with a target to reduce premature mortality as a result of noncommunicable diseases by one-third by 2030. Because of the prevalence of noncommunicable diseases throughout the world and their impact on the most vulnerable populations, including children and the elderly, G7 members have addressed this issue on a global level since 1997. While different aspects of the issue have been focused on at different times, such as indicating specific target groups like the elderly or addressing specific issues such as mental health, the topic of noncommunicable diseases has been steadily addressed at summits for over two decades.

At the 1997 Denver Summit, G7 leaders first made a statement regarding noncommunicable diseases and declared “increased life expectancy and improved health among our elderly” as a major achievement of the past century.\(^{3422}\) Leaders acknowledged that longer life expectancies in the next century would present opportunities and challenges for healthcare and perceptions of disability.

At the 2009 L’Aquila Summit, G8 leaders recognized that the health situation in Africa, which was already burdened by infectious diseases such as malaria, HIV/AIDS, and tuberculosis, was further aggravated by the prevalence of noncommunicable diseases.\(^{3423}\) Leaders also reaffirmed their commitment to address the health needs of vulnerable populations.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders emphasized the need for health systems to develop universal health coverage, which includes addressing noncommunicable diseases, “including those due to environmental factors and aging.”\(^{3424}\) Leaders also pledged to support the work of the Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases and

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\(^{3422}\) Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 26 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g7final.html


\(^{3424}\) G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 26 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html#health
acknowledge the impacts of ageing and noncommunicable diseases on the caregivers of the elderly population.\textsuperscript{3425} This summit marked a shift in the global health agenda to include mental health, as G7 leaders also committed to “promoting women’s, children’s, and adolescents’ mental and physical health, ensuring sexual and reproductive health and rights without discrimination of any kind.”\textsuperscript{3426}

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders committed to advancing global health security and pursuing policies regarding both physical and mental health globally by “strengthening health systems, preparedness for, and a prompt, effective and coordinated response to public health emergencies and long-term challenges.”\textsuperscript{3427} This commitment acknowledged global health’s importance to broader economic, social and security gains, highlighting the importance of continuing to promote women’s and adolescents’ health and healthcare, as well as the role of environmental factors in human health.

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to “bringing greater attention to mental health” to support growth and equal participation that benefits everyone and ensure citizens lead healthy and productive lives.\textsuperscript{3428} To ensure that citizens lead healthy lives, leaders also committed to promoting access to quality and affordable healthcare.

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, G7 leaders acknowledged the physical and mental health needs of survivors of sexual violence.\textsuperscript{3429} Leaders reaffirmed their commitment to “support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of [conflict-related sexual violence] victims’ specific medical, psychological and social needs” through the adoption of the Declaration on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment.

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders addressed COVID-19’s impacts on physical and mental health.\textsuperscript{3430} Leaders committed to “support a robust global recovery from COVID-19, ensuring that countries are able to effectively address the indirect impacts on physical and mental health and broader socio-economic consequences of the [COVID-19] pandemic.”

**Commitment Features**

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, leaders “strongly committed to … continuing to address noncommunicable diseases including mental health, recognising the need for accessible and effective mental health services.” This commitment can be broken down into three components, and to receive full compliance, G7 members must take action in both components. The components are: 1) addressing issues concerning mental health specifically, 2) addressing other types of noncommunicable diseases, including but not limited to cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer, and chronic respiratory illnesses, and 3) recognizing the need for accessible and effective mental health services.

“Address” is understood to mean giving attention to or dealing with a matter or problem.\textsuperscript{3431} In the context of this commitment, it refers to taking actions that centre around the issue of noncommunicable diseases in a manner that brings focus to the diseases, such as creating programs and providing funding to mitigate these illnesses.

\textsuperscript{3425} G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health. G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 24 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/health.html

\textsuperscript{3426} G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 26 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html#health

\textsuperscript{3427} G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 26 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html

\textsuperscript{3428} The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 24 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html

\textsuperscript{3429} Declaration on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 24 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-on-gender-equality.pdf

\textsuperscript{3430} G7 Carbis Bay Health Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 24 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-carbis-bay-health-declaration.html

\textsuperscript{3431} Address, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 9 October 2022. https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/address
“Noncommunicable diseases” (NCDs), which includes “chronic diseases,” refer to a group of conditions that are not mainly caused by infections. These include, but are not limited to: cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer, mental health illnesses and chronic respiratory illnesses.

“Mental health” refers to a state of mental well-being that allows people to realize their full abilities and contribute to their own lives and to their community. Mental health disorders include, but are not limited to: anxiety, depression, substance abuse and eating disorders. It refers to overall psychological and emotional well-being, rather than simply the absence of disorders.

“Recognize” means to explicitly acknowledge something.

“Accessible” means to make something so that people are able to obtain or use it.

“Effective” refers to something that produces a desired effect. Effectiveness relates to the provision of mental health services and refers to services that bring about a positive change for those with mental health illnesses, either by treating or mitigating those illnesses.

“Mental health services” refers to any interventions, both private and public, for the maintenance and wellbeing of mental health. Mental health services can include, but are not limited to: psychotherapy, support groups, medication, and in-hospital programs for mental health treatment.

This commitment has a breadth component regarding how many NCDs are addressed by G7 members. As the commitment refers to NCDs “including mental health,” it is implied that members committed to addressing more than one NCD beyond mental health. However, as the commitment explicitly identifies mental health, the G7 member needs to take strong action in this area to achieve a score of +1.

This commitment also applies a depth analysis. The strength of compliance can be assessed based on the types of domestic and international actions undertaken. Examples of strong domestic action include, but are not limited to: changing domestic regulations, laws or statutes to provide resources for NCDs and their treatment; initiating domestic programs that publicize NCDs, their treatment options, or how to support those with these diseases; and allocating funding to establish services that address and treat NCDs. Examples of weak domestic actions include but are not limited to: verbally reaffirming a commitment to address NCDs; attending meetings that discuss NCDs and mental health; and assigning the responsibility for addressing NCDs onto a national official or institution for future implementation. Examples of strong international actions include, but are not limited to: providing financial support, either directly or through an international institution, to other countries, especially low- and middle-income countries who require assistance in taking effective actions regarding NCDs; joining, participating in, or sending officials to international organizations where a central focus is on NCDs; and sponsoring or ratifying treaties that address NCDs. Examples of weak international action include, but are not limited to: sharing information with other countries regarding options for NCDs, including treatment and monitoring; and making bilateral or multilateral agreements that reaffirm the importance of addressing NCDs but leaving actual implementation of actions for a future date. The qualifier in the depth component is only for

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the third aspect of the commitment, in which G7 members “recogniz[e] the need for accessible and effective mental health services.” “Recognize” is a low binding commitment word, meaning that full compliance does not require a strong action. Full compliance with this criterion can therefore be a verbal acknowledgment of accessibility and effectiveness in a policy action.

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members that take strong actions to address mental health AND at least one other NCD, and that also recognize the need for effectiveness and accessibility of mental health services.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that take strong action to address mental health OR at least a few other NCDs OR some of both, and may or may not recognize the need for effectiveness and accessibility of mental health services.

Non-compliance, or a score of −1, will be assigned if the G7 member takes weak action to address mental health OR another NCD and does not recognize the need for effectiveness and accessibility of mental health services, OR fails to take any action towards the commitment OR takes action that is antithetical to the commitment.

### Scoring Guidelines

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<td>The G7 member has only taken weak actions to address mental health OR another noncommunicable disease (NCD) and has not recognized the need for effectiveness and accessibility of mental health services OR has NOT taken any actions towards the commitment OR has taken actions that are antithetical to the commitment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>The G7 member has taken strong action to address mental health OR at least a few other NCDs OR some of both and may or may not have recognized the need for effectiveness and accessibility of mental health services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+1</td>
<td>The G7 member has taken strong actions to address mental health AND at least one other NCD and has recognized the need for effectiveness and accessibility of mental health services.</td>
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**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to continue to address noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) including mental health, recognising the need for accessible and effective mental health services.

On 29 June 2022, Minister of Health Jean-Yves Duclos announced that the Canadian Institutes of Health Research is funding CAD3.8 million to support research on sleep health and insomnia. The research conducted will identify biological and behavioral measures of sleep and sleep disorders and conduct clinical research into the prevention, detection and management of insomnia and other sleep disorders.

On 30 June 2022, Minister Duclos announced new regulations regarding labelling for packaged foods to allow Canadians to make informed choices on their food intake and lower the risk of diet-related chronic diseases. The regulations address excess consumption of saturated fat, sugars and sodium, which is linked to increased chronic disease risks.

On 18 August 2022, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health Élisabeth Brière announced the funding of CAD150,000 for Tel-Aide Montréal to provide

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support for its crisis line during the COVID-19 pandemic. The funding will provide the organization with the training and resources required to help meet the needs of callers in terms of mental health.

On 19 August 2022, Parliamentary Secretary Brière announced the funding of CAD4.7 million to support new research projects regarding mental health at the Douglas Mental Health University Institute. The research funded will provide insights into the neural processes in the brain that contribute to mental illnesses.

On 31 August 2022, the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) released a statement promoting the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunication Commission’s decision to establish a national telephone helpline for suicide prevention and mental health crisis. The three-digit number 988 is meant to be easier to remember in a time of crisis than a ten-digit number.

On 21 September 2022, Minister Duclos released a statement for World Alzheimer’s Day to restate Canada’s commitment to supporting Canadians with dementia, as well as their family members and caregivers. This includes implementing Canada’s 2019 dementia strategy, which aims to prevent dementia, advance cures and treatments for dementia, and improve the lives of those with dementia and their caregivers.

On 3 October 2022, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health Carolyn Bennett released a statement for Mental Illness Awareness Week. She stressed that the Canadian government is committed to working with experts, frontline workers, provincial officials, and other partners to develop a comprehensive and efficient plan to improve mental health supports in Canada.

On 4 October 2022, Minister Bennett announced an investment of CAD1.2 million in mental health support for long-term care frontline workers and essential service providers in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The investment will equip long-term care homes with facilitators trained in destigmatizing mental illness and addressing and promoting mental health resilience in the workplace.

On 5 October 2022, Minister Duclos released a new framework for directing policy regarding diabetes in Canada. The Framework for Diabetes was established using information from various groups, including

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people living with diabetes, researchers, Indigenous communities and other partners to ensure that it makes a meaningful difference in the lives of those living with diabetes.

On 7 October 2022, Minister Bennett announced CAD3 million in funding to support the mental wellness of young people from Indigenous, Black, newcomer and underserved communities in Canada.\textsuperscript{3449} This investment will be used to expand two programs. The Weaving Threads program will be expanded to reach Indigenous communities nationally and be adapted for Black and newcomer communities. The funding for Kids Help Phone will help expand its Counsellor in the Classroom program, which educates elementary school students on how counsellors can support them with their mental health.

On 13 October 2022, Minister Duclos announced the investment of about CAD1.7 million towards four organizations to support their initiatives to promote physical activity, healthy eating and decreased tobacco usage in low-income neighbourhoods and marginalized communities within Quebec to support healthy behaviours that address risk factors of chronic diseases.\textsuperscript{3450}

On 14 October 2022, Minister Bennett attended the Global Mental Health Summit as part of the Canadian delegation.\textsuperscript{3451} At this summit, the Government of Canada committed to continue to work with its international partners to increase mental health awareness, reaffirm global cooperation and advance approaches to mental health and substance use that focus on community relations.

On 15 October 2022, PHAC released a statement for Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day to raise awareness for the mental health of those who have suffered ectopic pregnancies, miscarriages, stillbirths, or death in infancy.\textsuperscript{3452} The statement addresses the mental health of a target group in order to promote larger awareness.

On 2 November 2022, Minister Duclos released a statement stating that the Government of Canada would raise awareness for radon, a radioactive gas which leads to lung cancer.\textsuperscript{3453}

On 7 November 2022, Minister Bennett announced an expansion of the Pain Canada Network, an organization dedicated to addressing chronic pain, as well as government funding of CAD4.5 million over the next five years.\textsuperscript{3454}

On 10 November 2022, Minister Responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario Filomena Tassi announced that the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario) would invest up to CAD2 million in SQI Diagnostics Inc., a medical diagnostics company


working on tests for respiratory diseases.\textsuperscript{3455} FedDev Ontario’s investment will allow SQI to bring the tests to market faster.

On 19 November 2022, President of the Treasury Board and Member of Parliament (MP) Mona Fortier announced on behalf of Minister Bennett that CAD500,000 in funding would be granted to a project supporting youth mental health in Ottawa.\textsuperscript{3456} The project plans to use well-being activities as mental illness prevention to help youth reach their full potential.

On 28 November 2022, Minister Bennett announced up to CAD18 million in funding for projects aimed at addressing mental health and substance use issues in youth.\textsuperscript{3457} The funding seeks to create a network of learning health systems to inform policies addressing youth addiction and mental health.

On 7 December 2022, MP Wilson Miao announced on behalf of Minister Bennett that CAD1.2 million in funding will go to the United Chinese Community Enrichment Services Society.\textsuperscript{3458} The goal of the funding is to promote the mental health of postpartum women and their families in Asian and Southeast Asian communities.

On 13 December 2022, Federal MP David McGuinty announced on behalf of Minister Bennett CAD2.8 million in funding to increase mental health literacy in coaches and leaders in sport.\textsuperscript{3459} The initiative seeks to increase mental health awareness in coaches and sports leaders within remote, economically disadvantaged and Indigenous communities, newcomers to Canada and disabled individuals.

On 10 January 2023, Minister Bennet announced that nearly CAD7 million in funding would be allotted to YMCA Canada in order to benefit the mental health of youth.\textsuperscript{21} The “Y Mind” and “Mind Medicine” programs that this funding is set to go to are intended for youth between 13-30 who suffer from mild to moderate symptoms of depression and anxiety.

On 18 January 2023, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health Adam van Koeverden and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Public Safety Pam Damoff announced on behalf of Minister of Health Jean-Yves Duclos CAD23 million in funding to establish the Canadian Pediatric Cancer Consortium.\textsuperscript{3460} This research seeks to increase treatment for pediatric cancer, a noncommunicable disease affecting children.


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On 10 February 2023, Federal MP Yasir Naqvi announced, on behalf of Minister Duclos, CAD568,106 in funding to the University of Ottawa Heart Institute. The funding will be used for research into preventing and treating cardiovascular disease in women.

On 16 February 2023, Minister Bennett announced an investment of over CAD365,000 to promote mental health and well-being amongst Black youth in Ottawa school districts. This will be done by raising awareness about the social determinants of health and educating teachers and administrators about the mental health challenges faced by Black youth.

On 21 February 2023, Minister Bennett announced an investment of nearly CAD4 million in funding to OCAD University to support their mental health programs on campus. This funding will go to promotional materials associated with a peer support program on campus, as well as mindfulness training and practice programs.

On 28 February 2023, Minister Bennett announced that the Canadian Institutes of Health Research had invested nearly CAD5 million in 25 research projects examining guidelines of mental health and substance use services for children, youth and young adults.

On 28 February 2023, Minister of Seniors Kamal Khera announced, on behalf of Minister Bennet, CAD2.5 million in funding for the Canadian Coalition for Seniors Mental Health. This funding will be used to investigate multiple mental health disorders in older adults and their providers and caregivers.

On 28 February 2023, Minister Bennett announced close to CAD1 million in funding to support five research teams in Quebec researching and examining standards and guidelines for delivery of mental health and substance use services for children and young adults.

On 2 March 2023, David McGuinty announced, on behalf of Minister Bennett, CAD798,500 in funding for the Canadian Teacher’s Federation in order to prevent mental illnesses and promote mental health in educators and administrators working in K-12 schools.

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On 2 March 2023, Minister Bennett announced CAD4.2 million in funding to Community Health and Social Services Network. This funding will go towards enhancing the ability of anglophone communities in Quebec to better promote mental health and prevent mental illnesses.

On 3 March 2023, Minister Bennett announced nearly CAD4 million in funding to the Alliance for Healthier Communities to expand their social prescription program. This program “socially prescribes” a variety of activities to individuals in order to promote mental health and well-being.

On 8 March 2023, Minister Bennett announced CAD2.7 million in funding to Jack.org for its digital hub of mental health resources. This program serves to provide an online hub for mental health resources for members of disenfranchised communities.

On 10 March 2023, Minister Bennett announced nearly CAD3 million in funding for six organizations in Toronto. This funding will be used to address the mental health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Black communities in Canada.

On 13 March 2023, Minister Bennett announced over CAD7 million in funding to address mental health in Ontario. This funding will go towards eight different projects, allowing Ontarians to access better care for mental health.

On 15 March 2023, Minister Bennett announced over CAD13 million in funding to address harms related to substance abuse in the Prairies, Northwest Territories and Yukon.

On 16 March 2023, Minister Kamal Khera announced on behalf of Minister Bennett CAD1 million in funding towards funding for Peel Region’s mental health services. This funding will go towards the Indus Community Services’ programs, which provide mental health support to newcomers and international students in the South Asian community.

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On 17 March 2023, MP Andy Fillmore announce on behalf of Minister Bennett CAD1.28 million in funding to support mental health in Nova Scotia. This funding is being used to support youth with eating disorders in Nova Scotia, and to expand their peer support programs to a national scale.

On 17 March 2023, Minister Bennett announced over CAD3 million in funding to address substance use related harms in British Columbia. The funding will go towards three programs, allowing those in BC to access greater prevention, harm reduction and treatment services for substance use and abuse.

On 17 March 2023, MP Leah Taylor Roy announced, on behalf of Minister Bennett, CAD666,054 in funding to support the needs of 2SLGBTQIA+ youth. This funding will go towards the Gilbert Center for Social and Support Services to further fund their online program for mental health support for 2SLGBTQIA+ youth.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to continue to address NCDs including mental health, recognising the need for accessible and effective mental health services. It has funded multiple programs to address NCDs, including mental health, diabetes and cancer. National measures to address NCDs included funding research initiatives for treatments and cures, as well as establishing frameworks for mental health services and diabetes services. Canada has also provided sufficient recognition to the need to promote effective and accessible mental health resources by funding and training services and service providers. Canada has also reiterated its commitment to addressing mental health on a global scale, and the public research funding it has provided towards cures and treatments will support global efforts towards such purposes.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Zekai Zhu

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to continue to address noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) including mental health, recognising the need for accessible and effective mental health services.

On 19 September 2022, Minister of Health and Prevention François Braun announced that French health insurance will cover three free medical visits at ages 25, 45 and 65 to address physical and mental health. Assessments at visits will include screening for cardiovascular diseases, cancers and possible mental health disorders at age 45 and screening for cancers and preventable diseases at age 65.

On 10 October 2022, the Ministry of Health and Prevention and the French Public Health Agency announced the launch of Tobacco Free Month in November 2022, encouraging French residents to stop smoking for 30

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days.\textsuperscript{3479} This is intended to promote improved respiratory health in order to prevent chronic respiratory diseases.

On 13 October 2022, the Ministry of Higher Education and Research announced the provision of an additional EUR8.2 million to the Student Health Services (SSE), which, among other objectives, contribute to action for mental health support and prevention of mental illnesses.\textsuperscript{3480} This funding, which will be disbursed in 2023, will allow for a reform of the SSEs, and bring in student voices to address their mental health needs and bring about a strategy for all areas of student health, including mental health and addictions.

On 13 October 2022, France took part in the World Summit for Mental Health in Rome and engaged in discussions regarding the importance of a “community-focused approach to mental health,” organizations to support recovery, challenges facing the mental health profession and the involvement of those affected by mental health issues in determining public policies.\textsuperscript{3481} Additionally, France reaffirmed its commitment to addressing mental health internationally and discussed ongoing actions in support of this mission.

On 16 October 2022, Minister Braun attended the World Health Summit in Berlin and participated in discussions surrounding global healthcare systems and reducing inequalities.\textsuperscript{3482} As part of his speech at the summit, he reaffirmed France’s support of international efforts to address communicable and non-communicable diseases.

On 25 October 2022, the National Assembly published a proposal for a European resolution to prohibit the usage of nitrate additives in charcuterie products due to their carcinogenic properties as recognized by the International Agency for Research on Cancer of the World Health Organization.\textsuperscript{3483} The proposal calls for several actions, including urging the European Food Safety Authority to broaden their current assessment to include the work of the National Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health Safety regarding the dangers posed by the use of nitrates or nitrites in food; requesting the European Commission to regard the issue of the cancer-causing effects of nitrites in charcuterie as one of its priorities; and reviewing the consumption recommendations by the European Food Safety Authority in light of this risk.

On 27 October 2022, Delegate for European and International Affairs Antoine Saint-Denis participated in the G20 Health Ministers meeting in Bali and partook in discussions regarding global health standards and systems.\textsuperscript{3484} As part of the meeting, the Ministers reaffirmed the importance of achieving “the highest attainable standards of physical and mental health” and considered how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the


\textsuperscript{3480} Les Services de santé universitaires (SSU) deviennent des Services de santé étudiants (SSE) : 8,2 millions d'euros supplémentaires pour la santé des étudiants, Ministère de L'Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche (Paris) 13 October 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 November 2022. https://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/fr/les-services-de-sante-universitaires-ssu-deviennent-des-services-de-sante-etudiants-sse-82-millions-87514


mental health of care workers.\textsuperscript{3485} The Ministers also discussed seven steps to implement the One Health approach, which is deemed essential to preventing NCDs.

On 5 December 2022, the French Government announced the Paris Saclay Cancer Cluster (PSCC) as the first winner of the France 2030 Biocluster plan to accelerate research and development.\textsuperscript{3486} The PSCC will be situated in Villejuif and funded by France 2030 conditionally for ten years, during which time it will focus on “improving prevention, diagnosis, treatment and follow-up” for cancer. The overall goal of the PSCC will be to work towards a cure and to improve the quality of life for those living with cancer.

On 9 December 2022, Minister for Territorial Organization and Health Professions Agnès Firmin Le Bodo participated in the Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council meeting in Brussels and engaged in discussions with European health ministers regarding vaccinations and cancer.\textsuperscript{3487} The Council adopted a recommendation that aims to support cancer prevention by enabling the early detection of cancers, in part through “new organized programs for certain cancers such as prostate and lung.”\textsuperscript{3488} Additionally, the Ministers discussed mental health policy during their lunch, in preparation of an upcoming initiative.

On 19 December 2022, Minister Braun announced that Kaftrio, “an innovative treatment for cystic fibrosis,” will become available for all children suffering from cystic fibrosis in France.\textsuperscript{3489} The treatment was previously only available to those above 12 years of age.

On 10 January 2023, the French Government announced the winners of the ninth wave of the i-Nov Innovation Contest, which provides funding to winners by the France 2030 investment plan.\textsuperscript{3490} 24 of the 53 winners selected are contributing to the contest’s health innovation theme, most of which aim to develop treatments for mental illnesses and noncommunicable diseases.\textsuperscript{3491} DAMAE medical was granted EUR1.9 million to improve the management of skin cancers, Phost’in Therapeutics was granted EUR1.67 million to conduct a study on the effectiveness of the N-glycosylation inhibitor in treating tumours such as glioblastomas and Healthy Mind was granted EUR452,000 to support its development of a digital therapy for depression using virtual reality and neurofeedback.

On 3 March 2023, Minister Braun offered a progress report on the 50 measures set forth in the government’s 2018 Mental Health and Psychiatry Roadmap, including the establishment of a national number of suicide

\textsuperscript{3485} Chair’s Summary: Health Ministers’ of the G20, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 October 2022. Access Date: 21 December 2022. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2022/221028-health.html
prevention and first aid training for mental health.\textsuperscript{3492} He also announced five new objectives, with respect to accomplishing the ambitions outlined in the Roadmap. The objectives include supporting innovative research, strengthening cooperation regarding mental health between authorities, promoting mental wellbeing and supporting the early detection of mental health issues, especially for youth.

France has fully complied with its commitment to continue to address NCDs including mental health, recognising the need for accessible and effective mental health services. This includes strong domestic action, such as budgets for broad health goals, including funding directed towards cancer research and mental health services, and legislative changes for insurance for NCDs. France has also recognized the need for mental health support by promoting local approaches to addressing and treating mental health at an international forum.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

\textit{Analyst: Mahek Kaur}

\textbf{Germany: +1}

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to continue to address noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) including mental health, recognising the need for accessible and effective mental health services.

On 14 July 2022, the Ministry of Health organized an interview with patient representatives Andrea Hahne and Dr. Christine Mundlos, who are participants in the German government’s genomDE initiative that aims to increase awareness of and access to genomic medicine for those suffering with rare genetic diseases, such as cancers.\textsuperscript{3493} Genomic medicines can increase preventative measures and early detection of genomic cancers, and this interview was intended to increase public involvement with the initiative.

On 24 August 2022, Federal Minister for Family Affairs Lisa Paus announced the investment of EUR4 billion in children’s daycare and childhood education through the Children’s Daycare Quality Act.\textsuperscript{3494} The funding will be dispersed within the next two years and aims to, among other things, promote health, nutrition and exercise in childhood education to combat the increase of mental and physical disorders among children after the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 21 September 2022, State Secretary Jörg Kukies met with leaders from Barbados, Mauritius, Samoa and Tonga at the first ever Annual Gathering of a Heads of State and Government Group for the Prevention and Control of NCDs on behalf of the G7.\textsuperscript{3495} Leaders discussed the importance of the Global NCD Compact, which aims to, among other things, involve the 1.7 billion people worldwide living with NCDs and mental health conditions in policy decisions and guarantee access to medical care and health coverage.

On 1 October 2022, two Joint Actions of the EU4Health Workprogram 2021 (“CraNE” and “JANE”) were launched with the participation of the German Federal Ministry of Health and other key national

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stakeholders. These two Joint Actions will help implement “Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan,” which aims to establish EU Network of Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures by 2025.

On 2 November 2022, the German Federal Statistical Office released a report on Men’s World Day that stated that the number of inpatient treatments for those with testicular cancer had decreased by 40 per cent in the last 20 years, as compared to a 5 per cent decrease in the 20 years before that. Germany has been steadily noting and tracking rates of testicular cancer, demonstrating a recognition of its severity.

On 14 November 2022, the Federal Ministry of Health adopted and published the “National Education and Communication Strategy on Diabetes Mellitus” with the aim of improves diabetes prevention in Germany. The strategy aims to gather health professionals and experts in the field into a network titled ‘Diabetes Network Germany – Healthier Together.’

On 15 November 2022, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) announced EUR2.6 million in funding to the Central Institute of Mental Health (CIMH) in Mannheim and the Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin to study how the psychedelic substance psilocybin could be used to combat treatment-resistant major depression. Previous studies have shown that psilocybin can have a rapid and long-lasting effect on depression, so the funding will be used to determine whether it can safely be used as treatment for people who have tried other treatments for depression without success.

On 23 November 2022, researchers from Heidelberg University Hospital and the German Cancer Research Center, which is funded by the BMBF, published the results of a study examining leukemia stem cells. The results provide insight into the development of tumor cells and will be used in attempts to create new treatments for leukemia and other blood cancers.

On 5 December 2022, the Federal Office for Radiation Protection released a report stating that women between the ages of 70 and 75 could benefit from Germany’s mammography screening programme for early detection of breast cancer. The Federal Office is now advocating to extend the age limit for participants to 75 years of age.

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On 13 December 2022, the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community launched the Entwicklungsplan Sport, an action plan to promote physical activity and sports at all levels to promote a healthier lifestyle and combat obesity.\textsuperscript{3502}

On 13 December 2022, a new drug against prostate cancer, whose active ingredient was developed under the leadership of the German Cancer Research Center, was approved by the European Commission to improve the outcomes of patients.\textsuperscript{3503}

On 2 February 2023, the Federal Statistical Authority reported on World Cancer Day that the number of cancer-related hospital treatments had decreased by 1.2 per cent in 2021.\textsuperscript{3504} Germany tracks the rate of cancer treatments, noting that it is still the fourth-most common reason for treatment, with lung and bronchial cancers being the most common. This demonstrates Germany’s continued willingness to report on and raise awareness for cancer.

On 1 March 2023, the Federal Foreign Office released “Shaping Feminist Foreign Policy,” a series of guidelines for Germany’s foreign policy, which includes taking into account the vulnerability of women and girls, who face a higher risk of developing cancer due to radioactive fallout from nuclear explosions.\textsuperscript{3505} This is a demonstration of Germany’s willingness to take into account noncommunicable diseases in its policymaking.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to continue to address noncommunicable diseases including mental health, recognising the need for accessible and effective mental health services. Germany has taken strong action to address some mental health challenges and NCDs through funding and releasing reports. It has also taken some action towards raising awareness for access to mental health resources by discussing the need for improved health coverage for conditions including mental illnesses.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

\textit{Analyst: Zekai Zhu}

\textbf{Italy: +1}

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to continue to address non-communicable diseases including mental health, recognizing the need for accessible and effective mental health services.

On 26 September 2022, the Ministry of Health held a conference called “The projects of the Dementia Fund: what changes in the diagnosis and assistance of people with dementia?” to present projects based on the three-year plans established by the “Fund for Alzheimer’s and dementia” in order to promote a public health


intervention for dementia. This was done to mark World Alzheimer’s Day. The conference will present regional and Provincial projects as well as initiatives by the Istituto Superiore di Sanità.

On 29 September 2022, the Working Group on Cardiovascular Diseases of the Italian Alliance for Cardio-Cerebrovascular Diseases released an informative brochure on “How to prevent cardiovascular diseases” to provide information to citizens on how to prevent cardiovascular disease, focusing on risk factors, healthy lifestyles, and primary prevention. This was done to mark World Heart Day in order to raise awareness on heart health.

On 30 September 2022, the IncontraDonna Foundation and the Ferrovie dello Stato Italiane Group hosted the Frecciarosa campaign for health promotion and prevention in order to promote healthy lifestyles and increase awareness on the importance of cancer prevention through regular check-ups. This initiative was part of the Ministry of Health’s observance of Breast Cancer Prevention Month.

On 5 October 2022, the Italian Cooperation Service donated EUR1.75 million in humanitarian aid to Lebanon. Out of this, EUR1 million will be directed to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to assist with medical and sanitation facilities and first aid facilities, while EUR750,000 will be directed to the World Health Organization to provide necessary medication for patients with cancer and other diseases.

On 10 October 2022, the Ministry of Health commemorated World Mental Health Day to bring attention to the goal of making mental health and well-being a priority internationally.

On 13 October 2022, the Ministry of Health hosted the Global Mental Health Summit in Rome to raise awareness and find solutions for mental health both domestically and internationally. The two main focuses of the summit, held in collaboration with the World Health Organization, was to highlight a community-based approach to mental health and the importance of the direct involvement of those living with mental illnesses as well as their families in the psychosocial care and recovery process.

On 16 November 2022, the Ministry of Health held the fourth meeting of the General Assembly of the Italian Alliance for cardio-cerebrovascular diseases to elect ten companies working towards cardio-cerebrovascular...
health as an Executive Committee. The Alliance oversees the development of a national prevention agenda or cardiovascular health.

On 6 December 2022, Minister of Health Orazio Schillaci presented a speech to the Commissions of the Chamber and Senate (Social Affairs - Health and Work). In the speech, he reiterated his commitment to obtain a guarantee on financial coverage with regards to improving the healthcare system and provide lines for investment into various spheres of healthcare, hospitals, and staff. He also reinforced the guarantee to assist all citizens with rare diseases and support the recently established National Committee for Rare Diseases. Furthermore, he reinforced the commitment to the National Cancer Plan for the years 2022-2027, in which Italy is planning to increase and improve screenings, coverage and overall aid the oncology field. Additionally, Minister Schillaci is planning to provide EUR10 million in 2023 and EUR10 million in 2024 to fight cancer.

On 19 December 2022, Minister Schillaci presented the report “The numbers of cancer in Italy 2022” to recognize the setback caused in Italy actions against cancer as diagnostic events were slowed down due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He outlined the necessity of providing the best quality of prevention, treatment, and assistant to cancer patients, as well as the need to ensure that all such patients are vaccinated against COVID-19. Lastly, he reaffirmed the Ministry of Health’s previous commitment to adopting the National Oncology Plan to improve the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and assistance of cancer patients.

On 26 January 2023, the Italian Government adopted the National Cancer Plan 2023-2027, which aims to reduce inequalities in access to prevention and treatment interventions. The goals of the Plan are to complete setting up the national cancer registry and establish full organizational functionality across the country. The Plan will look at primary prevention in accordance with the 2020-2025 National Prevention Plan through the adoption of a healthy lifestyle. It will also promote intervention through vaccination against cancer-causing infectious agents, as well as secondary prevention through strengthening of organized screening programs.

On 9 February 2023, Minister Schillaci spoke at a talk show about cancer prevention at Casa Sanremo with information on the three screening programs organized by the Italian Government for breast, colorectal and cervical cancer in order to promote the awareness campaign.

On 15 February 2023, the Ministry of Health released a statement relating to the World Childhood Cancer Day explaining the statistics that approximately 2,400 childhood cancer diagnoses are expected in Italy every year. The ministry reinforced its strong stance on battling cancer and stated that its National Oncology Plan 2023-

3513 Alleanza italiana per le malattie cardio-cerebrovascolari: nella seduta del 16 novembre l’Assemblea generale rinnova il Comitato Esecutivo, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 6 December 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 3 January 2023. https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=6083
3515 Prova attitudinale per il riconoscimento del titolo di medico veterinario conseguito in un paese terzo, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 6 December 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 February 2023. https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=6091
3518 Screening oncologici, la campagna di prevenzione a Casa Sanremo, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 7 February 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 19 March 2023.
2027 is in line with the World Health Organization’s Global Childhood Cancer Initiative aiming to ensure at least 60 per cent survival for all children diagnosed with cancer by 2030.

On 21 February 2023, the Ministry of Health commenced the National Conference on Nutrition, taking place over three days, to bring together institutions, scientific committees, academics and representatives of the agri-food chain to discuss health promotion and the prevention of diet-related diseases.\(^{3520}\)

On 12 March 2023, the Ministry of Health commenced World Glaucoma Week, attempting to raise awareness for glaucoma, the world’s second-leading cause of blindness.\(^{3521}\) The International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness Italia (IAPB Italia Onlus) released data from the Vista in Salute campaign from the Ministry of Health, which had offered screening for glaucoma, maculopathies and diabetic retinopathy, leading to a greater understanding of vision diseases. The IAPB Italia Onlus also announced prevention and awareness-raising activities in conjunction with the Italian Union for the Blind and Visually Impaired in 85 cities.

On 15 March 2023, the Ministry of Health marked National Lilac Bow Day, which is dedicated to eating disorders including anorexia, bulimia nervosa and binge eating.\(^{3522}\) The Ministry of Health announced a series of guidelines to combat these diseases, especially in youth, including an interactive platform to publicize the availability of interventions and the creation of a census of organizations working with those suffering from eating disorders. Eating disorders are both a cause and symptom of mental health illnesses and can cause a series of organ complications, including cardiovascular, gastrointestinal and endocrine diseases.

On 18 March 2023, the Ministry of Health commenced the National Week for Oncological Prevention and announced a collaboration with the Italian League for the Fight against Tumors to spread prevention culture and raise public awareness on the importance of adopting a correct lifestyle to prevent cancer.\(^{3523}\) This includes preventing smoking, adopting healthy diets and maintaining regular physical activity.

On 28 March 2023, the Ministry of Health published a press release on World Endometriosis Day to raise awareness about the disease and inform about its impact, as well as different ways to detect and treat the disease.\(^{3524}\) The Ministry of Health also commented and ensured its compliance with the 2021 plan authorizing the expenditure of EUR3 million spread over the three years of 2021, 2022 and 2023.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to continue to address noncommunicable diseases including mental health, recognising the need for accessible and effective mental health services. Italy has taken strong actions to promote mental health, cardiovascular health and cancer prevention, with a particular emphasis on cancer prevention. This includes hosting the Global Mental Health Summit, providing funding to be used in Lebanon to treat those with cancer, releasing reports and domestic initiatives in conjunction with scientists and researchers.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.


Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to continue to address noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) including mental health, recognising the need for accessible and effective mental health services.

On 21 July 2022, the National Cancer Centre Japan announced the launch of a joint research project with the International Agency for Research on Cancer focusing on identifying associations between lifestyle risk factors and the prognosis of cancer patients. The research has the goal of providing long-term benefits to cancer patients by identifying lifestyle risks that can be mitigated for the best prognosis, thus tackling a prominent noncommunicable disease.

On 1 August 2022, the National Cancer Centre Japan reported on its attendance at cancer registration workshops with the Ministry of Health of Vietnam as part of the Global Initiative for Cancer Registry Development. Discussions focused on alignment with international standards of cancer registration and establishing standard operation procedure. This action plans to improve the quality of cancer statistics in Japan and link health insurance information to cancer statistics.

On 18 August 2022, Ambassador to Sri Lanka Hideaki Mizukoshi signed an Exchange of Note for grant assistance to provide JPY500 million worth of medical equipment to Sri Jayewardenepura Hospital. Equipment includes an angio-CT, ophthalmic instruments and radiological instruments and is meant to improve the hospital’s capacity to address NCDs.

On 25 August 2022, the Health, Labor and Welfare Ministry announced that they would begin setting new guidelines for transplanting animal organs and tissues into humans over the next fiscal year. This measure is meant to combat the shortage of organs that are needed by those suffering from chronic diseases by allocating an estimated budget of several tens of millions of yen to the project.

On 10 October 2022, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare commemorated World Mental Health Day 2022 by creating a promotional awareness poster for the movie “The Three Sisters of Tenmaso,” which deals with the themes of sadness and mental health. Through this initiative, the Ministry hopes to raise awareness for World Mental Health Day and increase public understanding of mental health and mental disorders.

On 27 October 2022, Ambassador Mizukoshi provided JPY800 million worth of medical equipment, including CT scanners, to the National Hospital in Sri Lanka and the Ragama Teaching Hospital. The equipment is meant to enhance the inspection and treatment of those with noncommunicable and chronic diseases.

3530 Japan Grants JPY 800 million (USD 5.5 million) Medical Equipment to National Hospital and Ragama Teaching Hospital to Strengthen the Sustainable Medical System under the Current Economic Crisis, Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka (Colombo) 27 October 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. https://www.lk.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/11_000001_00074.html
On 22 December 2022, the Ministry of Health announced the authorization of a blood test kit to detect Alzheimer’s disease. This is one of the first blood test kits of its kind to be approved. The approval of the blood test kit aims to streamline the Alzheimer’s screening process in Japan, enabling physicians to decide which patients qualify for new Alzheimer’s therapies and improving treatment of the disease.

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to continue to address noncommunicable diseases including mental health, recognising the need for accessible and effective mental health services. Japan has taken some action towards addressing mental health, such as creating promotional material. Japan has also taken strong action towards noncommunicable diseases at large, such as through donations to Sri Lanka while also taking weak actions on diseases such as Alzheimer’s disease and cancer. However, Japan has not addressed the need for accessibility.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Mathula Muhundan

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to continue to address noncommunicable diseases including mental health, recognising the need for accessible and effective mental health services. On 14 July 2022, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) published the Building the Right Support for People with a Learning Disability and Autistic People Action Plan. The plan, in part, outlines an intersectional approach to prevent crises and admission into mental health facilities, ensures that individuals receive the quality care when in inpatient mental health facilities and removes roadblocks preventing them from leaving inpatient facilities once their treatment is complete.

On 19 July 2022, Minister for Care and Mental Health Gillian Keegan announced the launch of the Down Syndrome Act to improve the lives of people with Down’s syndrome. To implement this legislation, the UK Government will be collecting information regarding the experience of people with Down’s syndrome as well as experts on the disease, and will require the National Health Service (NHS), health commissioners, and integrated care boards to provide guidance.

On 10 August 2022, the DHSC announced that over the next three years, hundreds of thousands of social care staff would be offered opportunities for further training to develop necessary skills to support diabetes, stroke awareness and mental health care. This comes as part of the UK Government’s GBP500 million support package and continuation of the Workforce Development Fund for 2022 to 2023.

On 14 August 2022, Prime Minister Boris Johnson launched the Dame Barbara Windsor Dementia Mission with a new task force to accelerate research, a vow to double annual funding for dementia research to GBP160 million, and a new task force to accelerate research, a vow to double annual funding for dementia research to GBP160 million.
million by 2024 and an additional GBP95 million to support the national mission. This is a step towards better understanding the causes of dementia, which is a NCD, and developing treatments for the illness.

On 1 September 2022, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care Steve Barclay announced the opening of seven additional community diagnostic centres (CDCs) to provide diagnostic testing for a range of conditions including cancer, heart disease and lung disease. The CDCs are part of a plan by the UK Government to open 160 diagnostic centres by 2025 to reduce wait times for diagnosis and mitigate health disparities.

On 9 October 2022, the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities launched a new Better Health – Every Mind Matters campaign. The campaign offers a personalized “Mind Plan” with advice via the Every Mind Matters website and encourages individuals to take steps to improve their mental wellbeing.

On 10 October 2022, the Department of Work and Pensions announced GBP122 million in funding towards the national expansion of an initiative by the NHS, which brings together employment advisors and therapists to best support individuals with mental health issues, enabling them to stay employed or return to work quicker. This is a step towards mitigating barriers that prevent individuals from entering or remaining in the workforce due to mental health concerns and pushes for individual wellbeing, which in turn supports the economy.

On 13 October 2022, the UK attended the Global Mental Health Summit in Rome and engaged in discussions regarding the human rights of people with mental health issues, community approaches to mental health, mental wellbeing in the workplace and other key issues. The NHS’s Tim Kendall was a member of the Steering Committee for the summit. Participants of the summit came to a unanimous consensus that “there is no health without mental health” and highlighted mental health as a global health priority.

On 14 October 2022, the UK Government announced over GBP800 million in funding over the next five years directed towards the National Institute for Health and Care Research for addressing health inequalities and for research into innovative treatments such as experimental medicine research. Of this, GBP790 million will go towards innovation for diagnostic and treatment options for key diseases such as cancer, mental health issues and dementia, along with an additional GBP25 million being invested into research to address patient safety challenges, including those associated with cancer treatment.

On 8 November 2022, the UK’s Joint Committee investigating a draft Mental Health Bill continued its examination of the bill, which proposes mitigating long-term inpatient care for individuals with learning

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disabilities or autism.\textsuperscript{3542} The Committee aims to examine whether the draft Mental Health Bill is sufficient in prohibiting unnecessary detention and addressing poor inpatient care and lack of advocacy for young people. The Committee is also investigating if the bill has enough safeguards in place to protect those with learning disabilities or autism, as well as children and young people suffering from mental illness.

On 23 November 2022, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy shared a memorandum of understanding between the governments of the UK and South Africa “on cooperation in science, technology, research and innovation.”\textsuperscript{3543} In terms of health research, the governments agreed to continued cooperation between their Medical Research Councils, in part, to support the international response to NCDs.

On 23 November 2022, the UK Government announced that the UK and South Africa updated their health partnership and will take part in nine collaborative research projects that focus on a range of health issues including NCDs and mental health.\textsuperscript{3544} The governments will also “[increase] shared knowledge and expertise” and engage in training and development to improve the overall capacity of their health systems.

On 27 November 2022, the DHSC announced GBP20 million in research funding for “cutting-edge obesity treatments and technologies” to support people in living healthier lives.\textsuperscript{3545} The funding aims to make new treatment options available which enable individuals to lose up to 20 per cent of their weight, thus improving their long-term health outcomes and preventing future NCDs.

On 28 November 2022, the UK Government announced over GBP113 million in funding for the research and development of new medications and technologies for significant public health issues within the UK.\textsuperscript{3546} The funds will be divided between four healthcare missions, with GBP22.5 million being directed towards cancer research, GBP40.2 million for digital technologies to support mental health, GBP20 million for obesity-related treatments and GBP30.5 million to tackle addiction. Each mission will be led by an independent chair, selected by a panel of experts in that field.

On 28 November 2022, Innovate UK announced GBP30 million in funding to support immuno-oncology-based research for cancer treatment and to fill existing gaps in treating childhood cancer.\textsuperscript{3547} This funding will be delivered through the Biomedical Catalyst Programme and is aligned with the UK Government’s cancer mission.


On 28 November 2022, the NHS shared that approximately 9,000 men with advanced prostate cancer will become eligible for Darolutamide, a “new life-extending treatment.” The treatment is expected to improve quality of life and increase survival rates for those living with prostate cancer.

On 8 December 2022, Ministers of Parliament engaged in a debate about the Health and Social Care Committee’s report on Cancer Services, which highlights the need for early diagnosis and effective treatments. Minister of State Helen Whately affirmed the UK Government’s commitment to addressing the pandemic backlog in relation to cancer services, to improve early diagnosis and treatment options and to “invest in research and innovation.”

On 9 December 2022, the DHSC and the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport shared their final policy for TV and online advertising restrictions for products which are high in fat, salt or sugar (HFSS). The UK Government is currently seeking feedback on the draft regulations, prior to their implementation. The policy is aimed at decreasing children’s exposure to HFSS products and thus supports the government’s mission to decrease childhood obesity by 50 per cent by 2030 and preventing the development of future illnesses.

On 12 December 2022, the UK Government fulfilled its pledge to provide GBP50 million in funding for motor neurone disease (MND), with GBP29.5 million being invested in research and the remaining GBP20.5 million being directed towards treatment projects via an open call process. The funding is expected to support researchers in furthering knowledge about MND, developing treatments and eventually improving the quality of life for those living with the disease.

On 13 December 2022, the UK Government announced GBP175 million in funding as part of its 2022 to 2025 Genome UK implementation plan. GBP105 million of these funds will be used to develop diagnostic and treatment options for rare genetic diseases affecting newborns, GBP26 million will be allocated towards cancer-related innovation and GBP22 million will address healthcare inequalities in genomic research.

On 14 December 2022, Minister of State for Science, Research and Innovation George Freeman announced a global research fund to further scientific collaboration between the UK and nations specializing in research and development such as Japan. As part of phase one of the International Science Partnerships Fund, the UK Government will be providing GBP119 million in funding for research to address health issues such as neurodegenerative diseases and dementia.

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On 23 December 2022, the UK Government announced GBP3.6 million in funding for the National Academy of Social Prescribing (NASP) to address mental health.\textsuperscript{3555} The funding will enable NASP to continue providing access to mental health services and will support community initiatives that help those struggling with grief, loneliness, dementia or addiction.

On 29 December 2022, the UK Government announced GBP1 million in funding for approximately 1,000 automated external defibrillators to be provided in community spaces across England, available to help anyone experiencing cardiac arrest.\textsuperscript{3556} In part, the funding supports the government’s commitment to preventing and treating cardiovascular diseases.

On 12 January 2023, the UK Government pledged GBP10 million in funding to provide 29 new NHS breast cancer screening units and nearly 70 critical upgrades to services, including mobile breast screening units, static units and software upgrades for X-rays and ultrasound machines.\textsuperscript{3557} The funding is expected to increase cancer screening rates, resulting in earlier diagnosis and treatment.

On 16 January 2023, the UK Government approved a new community diagnostic centre in Stockton-on-Tees to provide diagnostic services, including cancer screening.\textsuperscript{3558} The centre will be able to conduct MRI, CT and ultrasound scans, X-rays, blood tests, respiratory checks and cardiology-related testing.

On 19 January 2023, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Health and Social Care Nick Markham and Thailand’s Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Public Health Anutin Charnvirakul signed a memorandum of understanding committing to work collaboratively on genomics and improving the understanding of rare diseases and cancer.\textsuperscript{3559} The partnership will allow the UK to benefit from Thailand’s capabilities regarding genomic sequencing which can accelerate diagnosis for cancer, resulting in earlier treatment and better patient outcomes.

On 23 January 2023, the UK Government announced GBP150 million in funding for improved mental health services and support for individuals experiencing mental health crises. Of this, GBP7 million will be allocated towards procuring up to 100 mental health ambulances, while GBP143 million will support 150 new projects to improve mental health crisis response and access to urgent mental health care.\textsuperscript{3560} This includes the establishment of new urgent care centres, upgrading mental health facilities in emergency departments and expanding crisis lines.

\textsuperscript{3555} £3.6 million social prescribing funding for mental health support, Department of Health and Social Care, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, Maria Caulfield MP, The Rt Hon Stuart Andrew MP, and Helen Whately MP (London) 23 December 2022. Access Date: 23 December 2022. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/36-million-social-prescribing-funding-to-bolster-mental-health-support-and-ease-pressure-on-gps

\textsuperscript{3556} Number of defibrillators to be increased with new funding, Department of Health and Social Care, Helen Whately MP, and The Rt Hon Steve Barclay MP (London) 29 December 2022. Access Date: 3 February 2023. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/number-of-defibrillators-to-be-increased-with-new-funding


On 2 February 2023, Ministers of Parliament engaged in a debate regarding the rising challenges and costs associated with cystic fibrosis, including the cost of medication and loss of income.³⁵⁶¹ Minister Whately partook in the debate, reaffirming the government’s commitment to supporting individuals and families affected by cystic fibrosis and highlighting the government’s actions to enable individuals with cystic fibrosis to work if they are able to do so, with appropriate accommodations. She also agreed to address concerns regarding the travel costs associated with cystic fibrosis appointments and treatment.

On 3 February 2023, the UK Government announced GBP53 million in funding to support housing needs for those recovering from alcohol and drug addiction.³⁵⁶² The funds, which will be split between 28 local authorities in England, are part of the government’s ten-year drug strategy and aim to enable long-term recovery.

On 13 February 2023, the UK Government announced the opening of 19 new CDCs for the upcoming year, which will perform approximately 1.1 million tests, checks and scans annually.³⁵⁶³ The CDCs aim to reduce wait times for diagnostic testing for illnesses such as cancer and lung disease, thus improving healthcare outcomes.

On 16 February 2023, the UK Government announced GBP421 million in funding between 2023 and 2025 to improve treatment and recovery for drug and alcohol addiction.³⁵⁶⁴ The funds will support 151 local authorities across England to hire more staff to work with individuals experiencing addiction, improve the quality and capacity of recovery services including residential rehabilitation and inpatient detoxification and increase access for life-saving overdose medications.

On 3 March 2023, the UK Government announced GBP16 million in funding for artificial intelligence healthcare technologies including systems to diagnose cancer and rare diseases, as well as treat neurological conditions like dementia.³⁵⁶⁵ The funds will be split between nine companies “to support the testing, evaluation and adoption of their technologies by the NHS.”

On 7 March 2023, Secretary Barclay announced the appointment of Professor John Deanfield as the Government Champion for Personalized Prevention.³⁵⁶⁶ Professor Deanfield will lead a taskforce to identify new prevention, diagnostic and management methods for cardiovascular diseases, develop partnerships for innovative preventative services and determine connections between cardiovascular diseases and other diseases like diabetes and dementia, which have shared risk factors.

On 16 March 2023, the UK Government announced that its Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) is testing a new stem cell robot called the CellQualia™ Intelligent Cell Processing System. The MHRA’s 12-month trial aims to determine if the stem cells produced by the robotic system meet the necessary standards to be used in life-saving treatments. The government hopes the robot will allow for more innovative, accessible and cost-effective stem-cell therapies to treat a range of diseases, including Parkinson’s.

On 17 March 2023, the UK Government announced that it will match public donations of up to GBP6 million for Comic Relief’s Red Nose Day appeal. The funds will go towards Comic Relief and the UK’s Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office’s joint Shifting the Power program which supports local organizations in Ghana, Zambia and Malawi that aim, in part, to increase access to mental health services and foster childhood development.

On 28 March 2023, Minister Freeman announced GBP277 million in funding for four UK life science companies, as the first installment of the Life Sciences Innovative Manufacturing Fund grants. The government will provide GBP17 million in funding, while the private sector invests GBP260 million, to support life science manufacturing projects including the production of “innovative medicines for neurological conditions,” antibodies for diagnostic testing and critical gene therapies.

On 2 April 2023, Minister Freeman announced GBP50 million in funding for 90 charities to conduct research to develop cutting-edge treatments, effective diagnostic methods and preventative options for a range of diseases including cancer and dementia. Charities receiving funding include Epilepsy Research UK, North West Cancer Research and Leukaemia & Lymphoma NI. The government also allocated GBP2.8 million to dementia charities including the Alzheimer’s society and GBP1.7 million to motor neurone charities.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to addressing mental health issues and noncommunicable diseases both domestically and internationally, recognising the need for accessible and effective mental health services. The UK has invested in supporting accessible access to mental health services, has addressed mental health issues through public campaigns and action plans and has taken part in an international summit to address mental health, recognizing the need for accessible mental health support. The UK has also funded research, domestically and in collaboration with international counterparts, to address NCDs and develop innovative diagnostic and treatment options to address them.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Mabek Kaur*

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United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to continuing to address non-communicable diseases including mental health, recognising the need for accessible and effective mental health services.

On 31 August 2022, President Joe Biden recognized September 2022 as National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month in an effort to encourage US citizens to increase their awareness regarding the detection and treatment of ovarian cancer.3571

On 1 September 2022, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) awarded USD2 million to the American Academy of Pediatrics through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration in order to create a National Center of Excellence on Social Media and Mental Wellness in order to release information, guidance, and training on the impact of social media on youth, especially in relation to the risks to their mental health.3572

On 1 September 2022, HHS announced that through August, it had awarded USD40.22 million through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration for youth mental health grants.3573 This includes USD5.3 million from American Rescue Plan for addressing stressors related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The HHS also announced USD47.6 million in new grant funding from the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act.

On 16 September 2022, HHS released the HHS Roadmap for Behavioral Health Integration to outline policy suggestions to integrate mental healthcare and substance abuse care into the overall healthcare system.3574 This Roadmap was established based on feedback received by Health Secretary Xavier Becerra from patients and care providers. The Roadmap will build on previous investments, including USD40.22 million for youth mental health grants related to the COVID-19 pandemic and USD47.6 million in new grant opportunities for mental health programs in schools.

On 23 September 2022, the White House brought together the Childhood Cancer Forum as part of National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in order to have leaders of the community focus on ways to share information, accelerate trials for treatments and cures, and mitigate the impact of childhood cancer.3575 Among the topics discussed were the Childhood Cancer Data Initiative, which provides USD50 million per year to find ways to use data so as to accelerate cancer research, and the Childhood Cancer Survivorship, Treatment, Access and Research Act, which provides USD30 million every year to further the research of childhood cancer. This forum was held as part of the Cancer Moonshot initiative, which aims to cut the death rate from cancer by at least 50 percent within the next 25 years.


On 23 September 2022, HHS invested over USD5 million to 11 community health centres to provide access to cancer screening and early detection services for underserved populations to close the cancer screening gap, decrease the effects of preventable cancers, and support patients and caregivers.3576

On 27 September 2022, President Biden announced a goal of ending hunger and increasing healthy eating and physical activity by 2030. This plan is aimed to advance the President’s goal to lower diet-related diseases such as obesity and diabetes. This would improve food access and affordability, integrate better nutrition and lower chronic diet-related diseases.3577

On 30 September 2022, the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Domestic Policy Council and the Department of Health and Human Services organized a meeting to discuss the United States’ mental health crisis in order to advance access to mental health resources and care in recognition of Suicide Prevention Awareness Month.3578

On 3 October 2022, HHS announced the investment of around USD27 million to improve and expand pediatric mental healthcare services.3579 The funding will go towards raining pediatric doctors and other healthcare providers regarding mental health conditions and offering teleservices for consultation with mental health experts for pediatric primary care providers.

On 13 October 2022, HHS and the European Commission released a press statement following their arrangement to strengthen global cooperation on health preparedness and response as well as cancer.3580 They discussed Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan and the US Cancer Moonshot SM, agreeing to facilitate the exchange of health information and strengthen research and funding on topics related to pediatric, rare and adult cancers in order to improve cancer prevention, detection, and care.

On 18 October 2022, HHS announced a new funding opportunity through the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act for states to develop Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) as a means of improving “health outcomes while lowering costs, by delivering 24/7 mental health and substance use care to millions of Americans.”3581 This was reaffirmed with their promise to announce “additional resources to support our heroic mental health workers.”3582 Along with USD300 million having been provided in September for new and existing CCBHCs, USD15 million will now be provided to expand these centres.


On 20 October 2022, the United States Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy released the “Surgeon General’s Framework for Mental Health and Well-Being in the Workplace” in order to promote mental healthcare and wellness for workers.\textsuperscript{3583} The Framework emphasizes protecting workers from psychological harm, establishing connections and social relations within the workplace, establishing work-life balance, and allowing means for dignified work and personal growth.

On 21 October 2022, HHS announced that more than USD100 million would be funded through the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act to states and territories for mental health emergency preparedness, crisis response, and expanding the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline services.\textsuperscript{3584} The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act was established by President Joe Biden in order to address the United States’ mental health crisis. Out of this funding, USD59.4 million will be dedicated for mental health emergency preparedness and USD50 million will go towards expanding the suicide and crisis lifeline services.

On 31 October 2022, the White House issued a Proclamation on National Lung Cancer Awareness Month, with President Biden reaffirming his commitment to investing in advanced technology for cancer screening, as well as in prevention and treatment of cancer, all the while making them more affordable and effective.\textsuperscript{3585} In this statement, President Biden cited revisiting former President Obama’s Cancer Moonshot initiative, convening the nation’s first “Cancer Cabinet” and launching the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health, which invest in cancer-treating technologies, as evidence of the implementation of this commitment.

On 31 October 2022, the White House issues a Proclamation on National Diabetes Month, with President Biden confirming his commitment to lowering the cost of insulin in order to ensure that treatment for diabetes is affordable for all.\textsuperscript{3586}

On 16 December 2022, HHS announced that it would award more than USD130 million in 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline grants as part of the USD800 million provided to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration by the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act to address the ongoing mental health and substance use crises.\textsuperscript{3587}

On 19 December 2022, Health Secretary Becerra announced the release of the 2022 update to the National Plan to Address Alzheimer’s Disease, which aims to improve research on Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias, support caregivers and encourage preventative action.\textsuperscript{3588} The Update includes recent actions such as the Alzheimer’s Grant Program that provides funding for comprehensive dementia programs, as well as the


Indian Health Geriatric Scholars program to provide training to primary care physicians working with Indian peoples. The actions in the Update include ways to reduce risk factors, such as through a National Summit on Dementia Risk Reduction in May 2023.

On 9 January 2023, HHS announced that it awarded around USD245 million in Bipartisan Communities Act. The following investment was split into USD185.7 million from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and USD60 million from the Health Resources and Services Administration.3589 The goal of both is to support youth, healthcare workers’ mental health, and other critical mental health supports.

On 25 January 2023, HHS announced that it will be investing USD139 million in funding for the Fiscal Year 2023 for a Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI).3590 SDPI will provide diabetes prevention and treatment services for American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

On 2 February 2023, HHS provided nearly USD111 million to 22 health centres to improve access to cancer screenings and early detection services for vulnerable communities in order to mark the first anniversary of President Biden’s Cancer Moonshot initiative.3591

On 7 February 2023, President Biden announced in his State of the Union Address that the USD35 cap on the cost of insulin, which had until that point been in place only for seniors on Medicare, would be extended to every American who required insulin in order to make it more affordable.3592 Insulin is a necessary medication for those with diabetes.

On 10 March 2023, HHS announced USD25 million in funding through the Health Resources and Services Administration to expand primary health care in schools, including mental health services.3593

On 16 March 2023, HHS announced the provision of USD1 million each to 15 states through the Substance and Mental Health Services Administration as one-year Certified Community Behavioural Health Clinic planning grants.3594 These clinics are part of the Biden administration’s commitment to increasing equitable behavioural health for all Americans suffering mental health illnesses or substance abuse.


On 3 April 2023, HHS released the National Cancer Plan, which provides a detailed framework of collaboration across the federal government and all of society to end cancer. The National Cancer Plan aims to tackle eight different goals: prevention, early detection, development of effective treatments, elimination of inequities, delivery of optimal care, individual engagement, maximisation of data utility and optimization of the workforce.

On 10 April 2023, President Biden announced the Blueprint for Addressing the Maternal Health Crisis, which lays out the actions that the U.S. Federal Government will take to improve maternal health conditions such as hypertension, diabetes, epilepsy and mental health. The Biden Administration has launched a Maternal Mental Health Hotline to aid with mental health complications during pregnancy. Moreover, this plan addresses the disparities within the Black communities and refers to Black Maternal Health Week to raise those issues.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to continue to address noncommunicable diseases including mental health, recognising the need for accessible and effective mental health services. The United States has taken strong steps to continue existing initiatives addressing these noncommunicable diseases, including by providing funding towards mental health, dementia, and cancer initiatives. The United States has also organized meetings to advance access to mental health resources, thereby recognizing the need to make treatment effective and accessible.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alexander Kanj

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to continue to address noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) including mental health, recognising the need for accessible and effective mental health services.

On 29 June 2022, the European Commission announced the launch of the “Innovative Collaboration for Inter-specialty Cancer Training across Europe,” (INTERACT-Europe), co-financed by the EU4Health program. The program was launched as part of Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan, with the goal of investing in high quality healthcare workforce training for high quality cancer treatment and care.

On 30 June 2022, the European Commission launched a joint project with the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) focusing on cancer control in Slovakia, with the aim of developing a strategic plan to reduce cancer mortality in the region. Some of the actions to be taken as part of the project include reviewing the current health infrastructure in Slovakia and improving screening programs for breast, cervical and colorectal cancer.

On 5 July 2022, the European Parliament passed a resolution noting that there currently exists unequal legal protection regarding psychosocial risks from digital work in the EU. Members of European Parliament (MEPs)

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recommended tackling this issue of mental health through an EU Mental Health Strategy, a European Care Strategy and national action plans, thus adhering to the commitment by tackling mental health in the region.

On 13 July 2022, MEPs belonging to the Committee on Culture and Education released a report with a majority stating that the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, including closures of schools, care providers, and other recreational facilities have produced long-term effects on the mental health of children and youth in the EU.\(^{3600}\) The report urged EU Member States to invest in mental health facilities and awareness in schools, as well as the promotion of mental health literacy for educational staff. The report also called for Member States and the European Commission to address the stigma surrounding mental health by means of a campaign to raise awareness about mental health in vocational and educational institutions.

On 14 September 2022, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen outlined a proposal for a new mental health initiative in a letter to the President of the European Parliament, emphasizing appropriate, affordable and accessible support.\(^{3601}\) This is a step towards improving the mental health service capacity of the EU and increasing mental health service coverage amongst its population.

On 15 September 2022, the EU launched the canSERV project in conjunction with the IARC.\(^{3602}\) The project is funded by the EU and aims to integrate the European cancer research landscape by providing academia and industry with access to services and support. This will enable research in the EU to provide personalized medicine to cancer patients.

On 16 September 2022, the EU launched a project in conjunction with the IARC to strengthen cancer screening data across Europe.\(^{3603}\) The CanScreen-ECIS project aims to update the existing European Cancer Information System and the quality of existing cancer screening programmes in the region.

On 20 September 2022, the European Commission put forth a new approach to support Member States in increasing uptake of cancer screening as part of the EU Cancer Screening Scheme under Europe’s Beating Cancer plan.\(^{3604}\) The new recommendation will assist Member States in ensuring that 90 per cent of the EU population who qualify for breast, cervical and colorectal cancer screening are offered these screening services by 2025 while also expanding screen coverage to other types of cancer such as lung, prostate, and under some circumstances, gastric cancer to increase treatment options with early diagnosis.

On 28 September 2022, the European Commission released a communication to the European Parliament addressing the health risks of asbestos exposure.\(^{3605}\) The communication calls for implementing the European Green Deal and the Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan to protect against the adverse noncommunicable health risks of asbestos exposure such as cancer, as 78 per cent of cancers recognized as occupational cancer are related to asbestos.


On 28 September 2022, the Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Stella Kyriakides released a statement for World Heart Day to emphasize the EU’s Healthier Together initiative. The initiative aims to improve their citizens’ health and address cardiovascular disease, improve heart health, and address diabetes.

On 5 October 2022, the EU Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and the Management of Non-Communicable Diseases held a meeting to decide on funding for actions on chronic respiratory illness, mental health and neurological disorders as part of the Healthier Together Initiative tackling NCDs in the EU for the years 2022 to 2027. The Group also discussed the work undertaken by the Joint Research Centre in collecting NCD indicators harmonized at the EU level to determine disease burden and improve the EU’s ability to identify and treat those who may be living with NCDs. The Steering Group suggested carrying out pilot indicator collections for diabetes due to its large disease burden in the EU and the activities of the existing European network of diabetes registries, thus helping identify the causes of high diabetes incidences in the EU.

On 13 October 2022, the European Commission and the United States Department of Health and Human Services released a press statement following their arrangement to strengthen global cooperation on cancer and health preparedness and response. The Commissioner and Secretary discussed Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan as well as the US Cancer Moonshot SM, agreeing to facilitate exchange of health information and strengthen research and funding on topics related to pediatric, rare and adult cancers in order to improve cancer prevention, detection and care.

On 26 October 2022, the European Commission proposed stricter legal limits on air pollutants that have adverse impacts on health in accordance with the World Health Organization’s recommended limits. This is part of the European Green Deal proposed by the Commission. By 2030, the Commission aims to meet these new legally binding limits, which include halving the current annual EU limit on fine particulate matter. This will help the EU reduce incidences of NCDs caused by air pollutants, such as lung disease, cancer and diabetes.

On 28 October 2022, the European Medicines Agency released a statement regarding their new measures to minimize the serious side effects of Janus kinase inhibitors used for chronic inflammatory disorders. These medications have been proven to cause cardiovascular conditions, blood clots and cancer as serious non-communicable side effects. Therefore, the new recommendations, warnings and educational material revisions for healthcare professionals will limit the medication’s use to a subset of patients in the case where no other viable treatment options are available for their chronic inflammatory disorder, thus reducing the incidence of noncommunicable side effects.

On 13 November 2022, Commissioner Kyriakides made a statement ahead of World Diabetes Day, stating that under the Healthier Together Initiative, the EU has launched actions worth EUR156 million. The funding aims to improve early detection of diabetes and cardiovascular diseases through screening. Commissioner

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Kyriakides also announced that EUR75 million has been allocated to address diabetes risk factors, other NCDs and support actions to mitigate them.

On 17 November 2022, the EU launched the “Better to know about” campaign alongside the United Nations Development Programme to raise awareness for mental health issues in Ukraine. The information campaign promotes awareness of psychological first aid to Ukrainians through leaflets, posters and media outlets and spreads awareness of other NCDs to promote their early detection amongst the Ukrainian population.

On 23 November 2022, the European Commission announced their ban on flavoured heated tobacco products. This ban is part of Europe’s Beating Cancer plan and aims to create a tobacco-free generation in part of a strategy to address lung cancer. Commissioner Kyriakides stated that tobacco causes 90 per cent of lung cancers, and that it is essential to take a firm stand on tobacco consumption.

On 24 November 2022, the European Commission launched the LEONARDO supercomputing system in Italy alongside the European High-Performance Computing Joint Undertaking. The system aims to use artificial intelligence to complete complex tasks, including cancer research and drug discovery.

On 24 November 2022, the EU awarded EUR7 million to the HUS Helsinki University Hospital led Consortium. The award aims to ensure the collection of high-quality clinical real-world data for the continuous development of cancer treatment and improvement of cancer outcomes.

On 1 December 2022, the EU saw the launch of the RE-MEND project coordinated by Uppsala University and funded by the EU. The project aims to improve understanding of mental health at four different life stages influenced by changes in hormonal signalling (early life, puberty, peripartum and transition into old age) and aims to find better strategies to protect vulnerable individuals at these stages from mental illness, considering biological sex and other factors that account for biological differences between individuals.

On 12 December 2022, the EU participated in a joint discussion on cardiovascular disease and diabetes health led by the Czech Society of Cardiology in collaboration with the European Society of Cardiology, the European Diabetes Forum and the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations CVD network. The aim of the expert conference was to complement the EU Commission’s Healthier Together initiative and call for public policy action to improve diagnosis and interventions for cardiovascular disease in all age groups.

On 16 December 2022, the EU announced the allocation of EUR16 million towards increasing access to mental health and psychosocial support services in Afghanistan. The funding is meant to ensure that vulnerable populations in Afghanistan have access to mental health and drug use disorder services that promote their physical, mental, social, psychological and economic well-being.

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3616 New major EU-funded research project takes broader approach to mental health, Uppsala University (Uppsala) 30 November 2022. Access Date: 22 December 2022. https://www.uu.se/en/news/article/?id=19926&type=article&lang=en
On 30 January 2023, the European Commission expanded the marketing authorization for Dupixent, making it the only targeted medicine for eosinophilic esophagitis.\textsuperscript{3619} This expansion aims to expand treatment options for those suffering chronically from eosinophilic esophagitis who are not candidates for conventional medical treatments.

On 1 February 2023, the European Commission presented the first Country Cancer Profiles under the European Cancer Inequalities Registry.\textsuperscript{3620} This action was undertaken as part of Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan and aims to elucidate the challenges that member states face in providing high quality care to determine the most efficient way to reduce inequalities in care through budget spending.

On 3 April 2023, the European Commission granted marketing authorisation in the EU for a citrate-free high concentration formula of a biosimilar produced by Sandoz (Hyrimoz®), which includes authorisation for the treatment for rheumatic diseases, Crohn’s disease, ulcerative colitis, plaque psoriasis, uveitis and hidradenitis suppurativa.\textsuperscript{3621} This was done to expand treatment options for a variety of chronic diseases in the EU for which there are currently limited treatment options.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to continue to address noncommunicable diseases including mental health, recognising the need for accessible and effective mental health services. The EU has taken strong steps domestically to fund and implement initiatives tackling NCDs such as cancer in addition to mental health initiatives. The EU has also taken steps to establish international cooperation to address NCDs, which include providing funds to other countries and their populations, such as Afghanistan and Ukraine, passing regulations such as a ban on tobacco, and launching projects to improve research and understanding of diseases.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

\textit{Analyst: Mathula Muhundan}

\textsuperscript{3619} Dupixent approved in EU as first and only targeted medicine for eosinophilic esophagitis, BioPharma Reporter (Crawley) 30 January 2023. Access Date: 5 February 2023. https://www.biopharma-reporter.com/Article/2023/01/30/Dupixent-approved-in-EU-as-first-and-only-targeted-medicine-for-eosinophilic-esophagitis
