



# SEMINAR MIGRATION AND HEALTH

What we know so far, what is lacking in our understanding and how to move forward?

**June 8th, 2017**

Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation

## INTRODUCTION

In the last decades, European countries have experienced an increase in immigration, making migration more common than ever before and societies more diverse. Therefore, migration has become extremely important in the international agenda given its public health implications and the multiple challenges that countries face in dealing with and adapting to this reality.

During the migration process, migrant/refugee populations often have to adapt to new societal, cultural and linguistic contexts in the host countries. Also, the current complexity of the migration phenomenon results in a heterogeneous migrant population with different characteristics and health needs across European countries. This poses significant public health challenges in terms of tackling the social determinants of health, planning and implementing effective health policies, and adapting the health systems, including the response of health services to disparate health needs as well as the ability of health professionals to deal with cultural diversity. All these aspects must be considered in societies pursue for migrants' integration and for healthcare quality and equity in order to attain the wellbeing of the whole population.

Research on the health impacts of migration has significantly increased over the years. It has been giving a valuable contribution in pointing out evidence-based efforts and strategies that may effectively improve health gain among these populations. Yet, further efforts are still needed to help societies to become more inclusive and potentiate the benefits of a successful migrant integration.

The Institute of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine of *Universidade Nova de Lisboa*, NOVA Health, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and Norwegian Institute of Public Health organize the International Seminar "Migration and Health: what we know so far, what is lacking in our understanding and how to move forward?".

This Seminar will provide an opportunity for debating these current hot topics at policy, research and intervention levels. It will gather a wide audience of international and national stakeholders and experts in Migration and Health issues. The Seminar aims to discuss what we know so far, what is lacking in our understanding and how to collectively move forward in order to achieve the ultimate goal of improving the health and wellbeing of migrant/refugee populations and societies in general. Topics under debate will include innovative ways of researching and intervening to act more efficiently and have greater impact in obtaining health gain.

Within the Seminar it will be produced a brief report with conclusions and a book with the contributions of invited speakers aimed to provide a comprehensive review of the state-of-art on migrant and health issues and recommendations for sound research, policy development and future actions.

**Steering Committee:** Jorge Simões, Pedro Pita Barros, Sónia Dias, Anne Bergh, Jorge Soares

**Organizing Committee:** Jorge Simões, Pedro Pita Barros, Sónia Dias, Inês Rego, Celeste Figueiredo

## PROGRAM (PRELIMINARY)

9.00 am	<p><b>OPEN SESSION</b></p> <p>Adalberto Campos Fernandes, Minister of Health          Pedro Pita Barros, Vice-Rector Universidade Nova de Lisboa          Jorge Simões, GHTM, Instituto de Higiene e Medicina Tropical, UNL          Sónia Dias, GHTM, Instituto de Higiene e Medicina Tropical, UNL          Anders Erdal, Norwegian Ambassador to Portugal          Jorge Soares, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation</p>
9.30 am	<p><b>Conference inaugural</b></p> <p><b>President:</b> Isabel Mota, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation  <i>Honour Speaker:</i> President Jorge Sampaio</p>
10.00 am	<p><b>The policy and politics of migrants and health: national view</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Dulce Salzedas</p> <p>Francisco George, Director-General of Health          José de Matos Rosa, President of Parliamentary Committee of Health          Pedro Calado, High Commissioner of Migration          Maria Teresa Mendes, President of Portuguese Refugee Council</p>
11.00 am	Coffee break
11.30 am	<p><b>The policy and politics of migrants and health: international view</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Constantino Sakellarides - Foundation for Health – National Health Service</p> <p>Isabel de la Mata, European Commission          Santino Severoni, World Health Organisation          Josep Figueras, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies          Teymur Noori, European Centre for Prevention and Disease Control          Maria do Carmo Silveira, Executive Secretary for CPLP          Roumyana Petrova-Benedict, International Organization of Migration</p>
1.00 pm	Lunch
2.30 pm	<p><b>Migrants and health: Current status</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Henrique Barros, ISPUP, Universidade do Porto</p> <p>Allan Krasnik, EUPHA, University of Copenhagen          Sónia Dias, Director of the International Public Health Unit, IHMT, UNL          Bernadette Kumar, Norwegian Centre for Minority Health Research (NAKMI)          Daniel López Acuña, Escuela Andaluza de Salud Publica, Junta de Andalucía</p>
3.45 pm	Coffee break
4.15 pm	<p><b>Migrants and health: current and future policies and actions</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Vera Arreigoso</p> <p>Anne Bergh, Norwegian Institute of Public Health          David Ingleby, University of Amsterdam          Antonio Chiarenza, Azienda Unità Sanitaria          Maria do Céu Machado, Hospital Sta Maria, Faculdade de Medicina, Universidade de Lisboa</p>
5.30 pm	<p><b>CLOSING SESSION</b></p> <p>Jorge Simões (Rapporteur), GHTM, Instituto de Higiene e Medicina Tropical, UNL          Paulo Ferrinho, Director of Instituto de Higiene e Medicina Tropical, UNL          António Rendas, Rector da Universidade Nova de Lisboa          Isabel Mota, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation          Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, President of The Portuguese Republic</p>