

EHMA 2024

Shaping and managing
innovative health ecosystems

Local Health Units in Portugal: key factors for successful implementation of an integrated care model

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Agenda

- Introduction
- Local Health Units: *What they are?*
- Methodology
- Principal Findings
- What's next?

Portuguese National Health Service

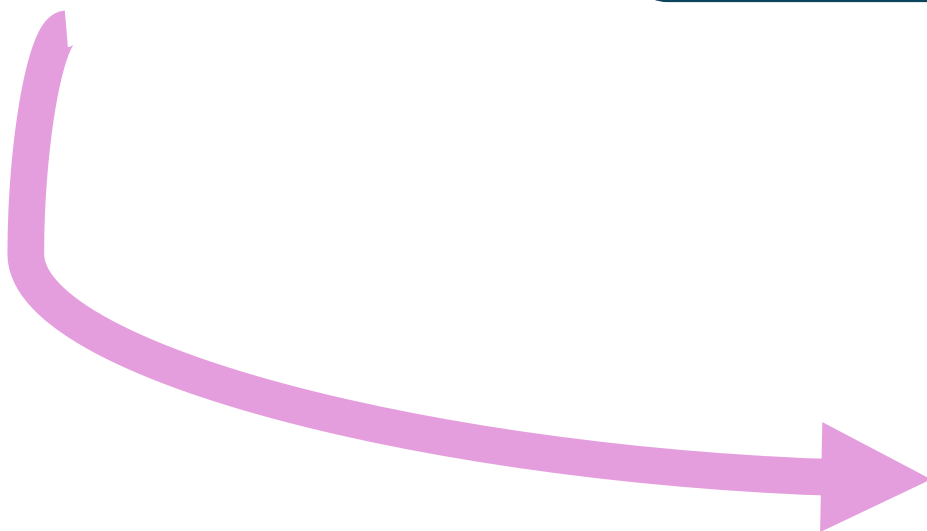


Portugal's National Health Service (NHS) is a **universal, tax-financed health system**, covering all residents.

Until 31st December 2023



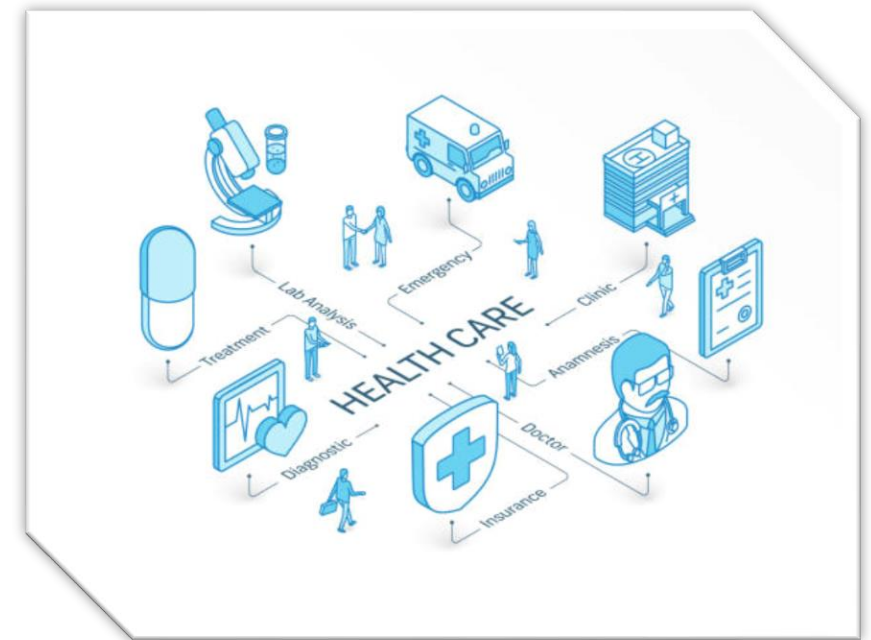
From 1st January 2024



Local Health Units: *What they are?*

LHU's are **organizations that integrate hospitals and primary health care** under a single management umbrella.

Each LHU concentrates the organization of human, financial and material resources, making it easier for people to access and move between primary healthcare and hospitals according to their needs. The new LHUs will reinforce the focus on health promotion and disease prevention.



Methodology

Review of international experiences

Accountable Care Organizations, USA



Integrated Care Systems, UK



Experience of New South Wales, Australia



Experience of Quebec, Canada



Organizaciones Sanitarias Integradas,
Basque Country, Spain



Methodology

Principal Questions:



What?

For whom?

Why?

What was the strategic objectives?

How was the implementation process carried out?

What was its framework?

What was the financing model?

What was the impact of the experience?

Principal Findings

Adaptability and
Flexibility

Strong leadership
and team
involvement

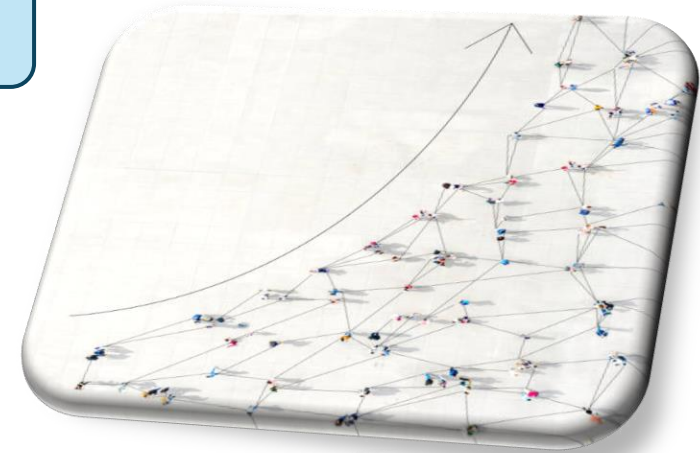
Functional
instruments
aligned with
objectives

Innovation-
promoting
environments

Health outcomes
essentially arise
from clinical
integration

Medium-long
term process

Need for
investment

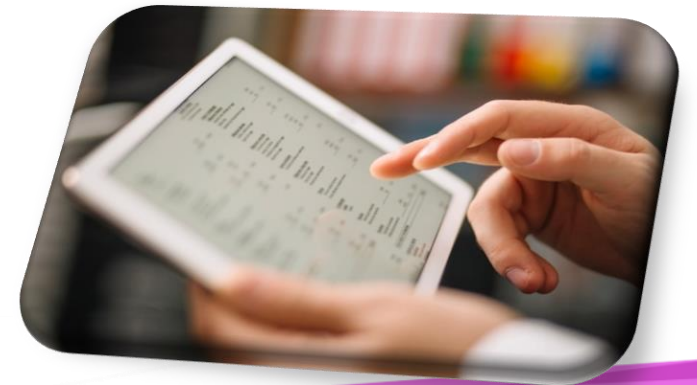


Next Steps

1. Diagnosis of the current situation of LHU's



2. Definition of a strategic development framework





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Thank you

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