

EuroGentest2 workshop on priority setting in genetic testing: Short report

On the **28th and 29th November 2012** a group of invited patient representatives and experts in the field of genetics, ethics and health policy participated in a workshop held in Hohenkammer, Munich, **Germany**. The stakeholder workshop oriented at the principles of accountability for reasonableness was part of the activities of Work Package 6 in EuroGentest2 and conducted in collaboration with the ESHG's Public and Professional Policy Committee.

Harmonizing genetic testing in Europe is also an issue of consistently fair and reasonable prioritization of genetic health services in the face of limited budgets. Aim of the workshop was to develop a shared set of points to consider for prioritizing genetic tests for regional and local decision makers across Europe.

The focus of the discussion was on predictive and diagnostic testing in born individuals. Prenatal testing and population screening programs were excluded from the discussions as these are expected to involve a range of very specific ethical issues that have to be discussed separately. The following criteria were discussed for priority setting of genetic tests: risk for the disease, severity of the disease, purpose and timing of the test, evidence of medical benefit for the individual being tested, benefit for live decision making, benefit for other persons (apart from the testee), costs and budget impact of the test.

A draft document including further details is currently in preparation. Its final version will be circulated for commenting among interested stakeholders across Europe.