



Healthcare Provider (HCP): healthcare organisation with highly specialised services and professionals that belong to one or more European Reference Networks.

- ✓ **Healthcare Provider Representative:** a person representing the Healthcare Provider in the Network.
- ✓ **Healthcare Provider Team (HCP team):** a highly specialised group of professionals from a healthcare provision organisation that belongs to a European Reference Network.

Board of Member States (BoMS): a governing body consisting of representatives from Member States across the European Union responsible for the formal designation of European Reference Networks.

Board of the Network (BoN): a body responsible for the governance of the Network composed of representatives from each healthcare provider Member in the Network.

European Commission (EC): the executive body of the European Union responsible for proposing legislation and implementing decisions.

European Union (EU): a formal political and economic union of Member States.

European Reference Network (ERN): European Reference Networks (ERNs) are virtual networks involving Healthcare Providers across Europe.

- ✓ **Network Coordinator:** a person from the ERN who acts on behalf of the Network to coordinate activities of the Network.

Independent Evaluation Body (IEB): an independent assessment organisation appointed by the EC to perform the external evaluation of Networks and Healthcare Providers.

- ✓ **(IEB) Coordinator:** a staff member from the Independent Evaluation Body (IEB) acting as the key contact between the IEB, the European



Evaluation Process: a process to determine the worth or significance of the work and actions developed by the ERNs.

Highly Specialised Healthcare: healthcare that involves high complexity of a particular disease or condition in its diagnosis, treatment or management and high cost of the treatment and resources involved.

Measurable Element (ME): the aspect or level of performance specified in each criterion.

- ✓ **Core ME:** those that should have been accomplished or implemented at the time of the evaluation.
- ✓ **Extended ME:** the remainder MEs that refer to important areas in which Networks or their Members should work and whose level of development can serve as an indicator of their maturity status.

Operational Criteria: a list of requirements for Networks and Healthcare Providers based on the Commission Delegated 2014/286/EU and Implementing Decisions 2014/287/EU and 2019/1269/EU.

Network: a group of Healthcare Providers approved as a European Reference Network (ERN).

Criterion: quality requirement which describes an "enhanced practice" which is both aspirational and achievable.

Toolbox: a list of tools provided to support the evaluation process.