

THE BUDGET IMPACT OF GLOBAL TELEMEDICINE SOLUTION IN FRANCE

I. Berard¹, F. Benazet¹, M. Halimi¹, D. Amory¹, G. Bouchara¹

1. NEXTEP, Paris, France

Poster presented at ISPOR 21th Annual Congress, 10-14 Nov. 2018, Barcelona, Spain

INTRODUCTION

The global telemedicine solution allows patients to consult a physician from a distance in the same conditions as a visit in a traditional office: the physician talks with the patient and provides clinical health care, such as monitoring medical measurement or delivering prescriptions.

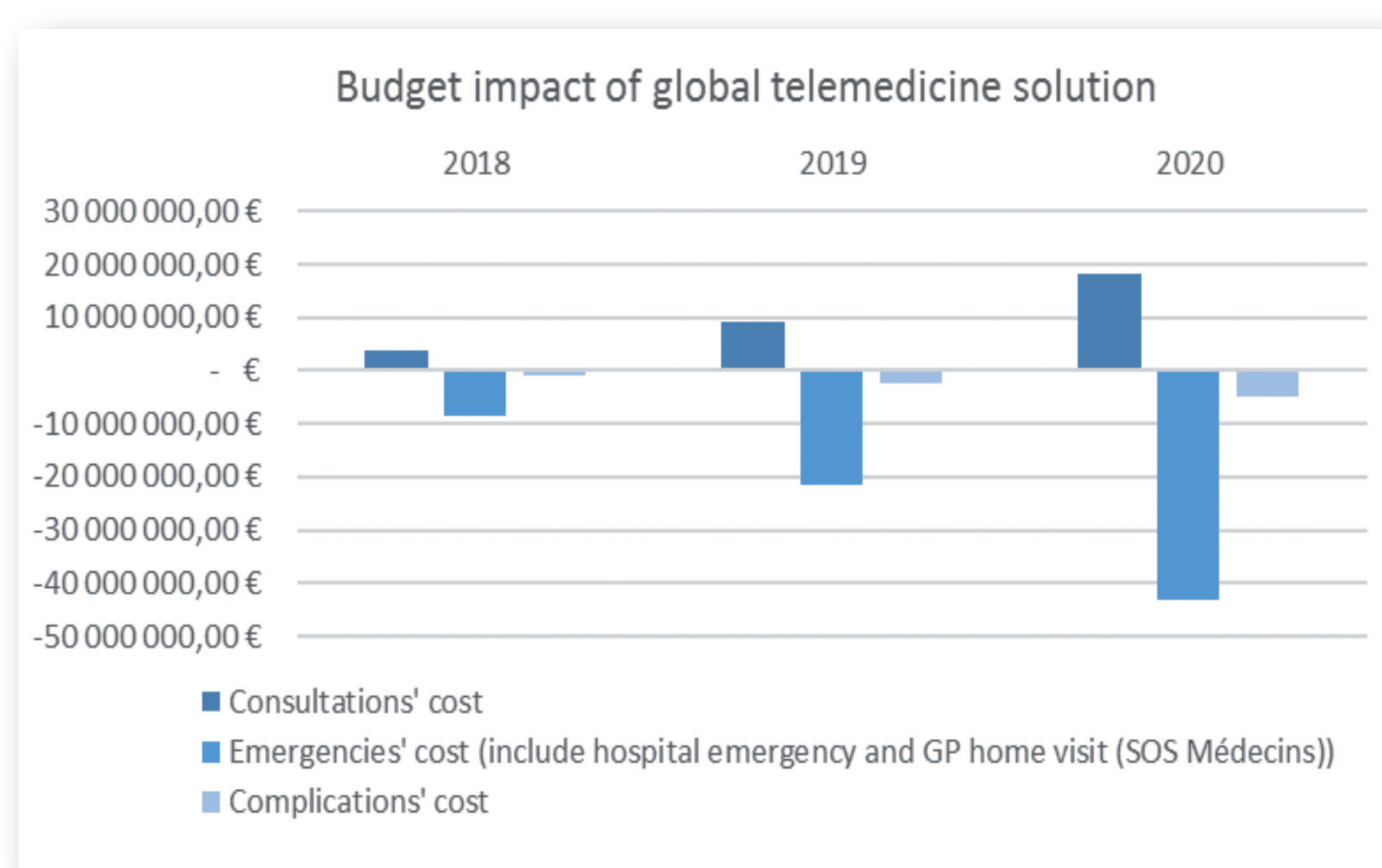
OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the budget impact of the global telemedicine solution for the French social security for the period 2018-2020.

METHODS

The budget impact analysis was conducted to calculate the financial gap between the situation before the reimbursement of global telemedicine consultations (Scenario 1), and a scenario where patients could use the global telemedicine solution to consult a general practitioner (Scenario 2). The base case hypothesis was the installation in France of 100 booths in the first year, 150 more in the second year and 250 more in the third year to reach a total of 500 booths in 2020.

RESULTS



The global telemedicine solution have an impact on three types of cost:

- **An increase in consultation costs** : the availability of global telemedicine solution will increase the number of general practitioner consultations. This increase will be driven by :
 - New consultations: 480 000 new consultations compared to scenario 1 (approximately 1% of the total consultation in scenario 1)
 - The transfer of patients who use the global telemedicine solution instead of emergency hospital visits (outside of normal working hours or for old patients in institutional home care or GP home visit ("SOS Médecins"))

The increase in consultations costs is estimated at € 3.6 M the first year, € 9.16 M the second year and € 18.32 M the third year.

- **A decrease in emergency costs**: the global telemedicine solution could reduce the number of patients who go to a hospital ER:

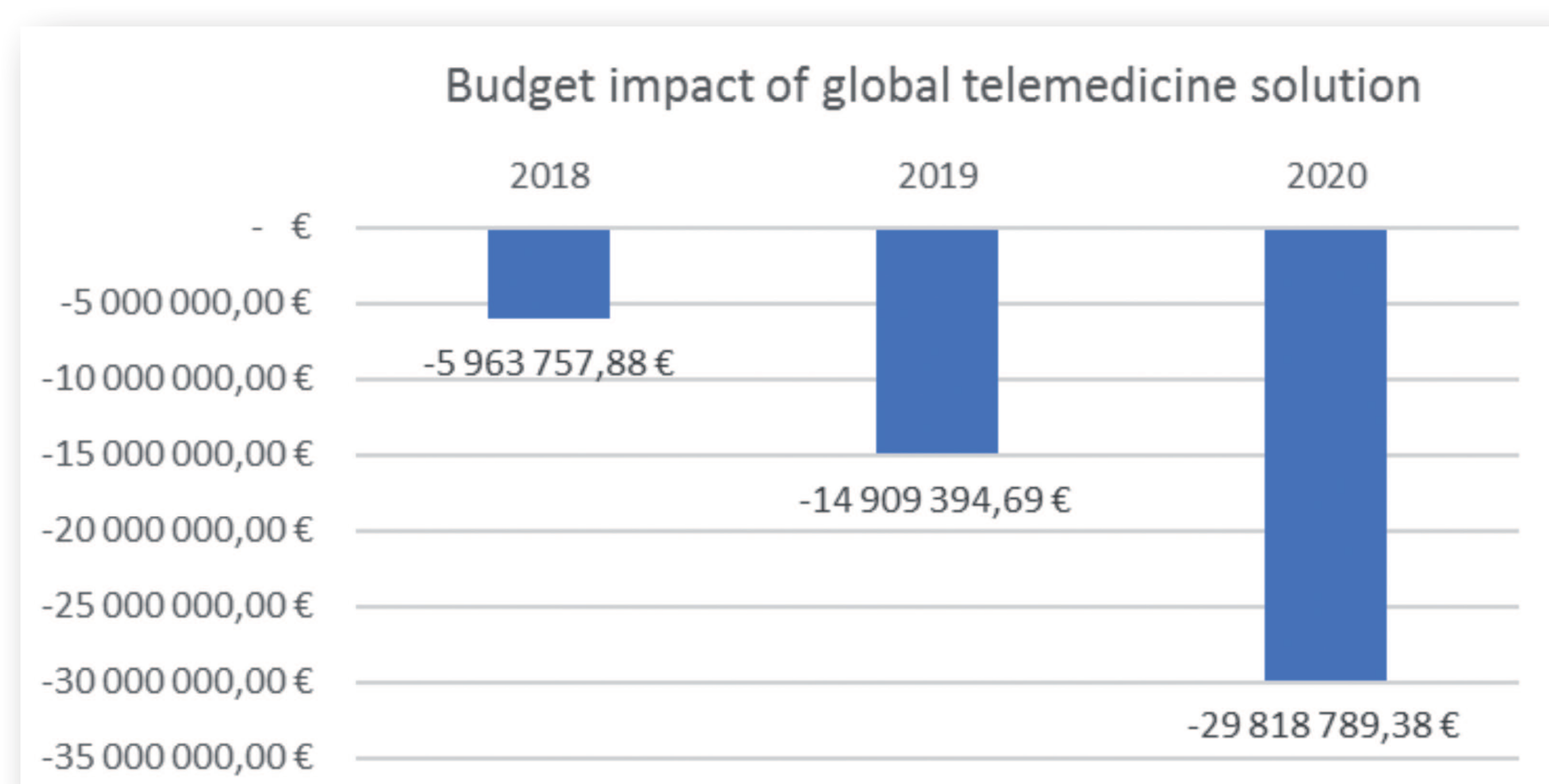
- Patients in institutional home care who are transferred to the hospital emergency room when the general practitioner is not available in scenario 1, could have a teleconsultation in scenario 2, in order to decide whether a transfer is necessary
- Patients who go to a hospital emergency room because their general practitioner is not available (too busy or after working hours) or call GP Home visit ("SOS Médecins")

Savings are estimated at € 8.6 M the first year, € 21.6 M the second year and € 43.3 M the third year.

- **A decrease in complications for patients who did not go to see their general practitioner for the primary disease** in scenario 1 but use the telemedicine solution in scenario 2: savings are estimated at € 0.9 M at year 1, € 2.4 M at year 2 and € 4.8 M at year 3.

- The cost of the global telemedicine solution (installation and maintenance) for the community will be about €14.6 M the first year, € 23.8 M the second year and € 41.4 M the third year.

CONCLUSION



With the reimbursement of telemedicine consultations, some savings could be generated for several reasons: by transferring some patients from emergency care in hospital to using the booth and by avoiding medical complications linked to reduced access to general practitioners. Some of the savings would be balanced by the increase in the number of consultations.

Reimbursement of the global telemedicine solution could save for the French social security about € 5.9 M the first year, € 14.9 M the second year and € 29.8 M the third year.