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ICT provides Europeans with better and cheaper tools to improve the quality and delivery of social care, health monitoring and electronic health records.

Europeans live longer, hence the costs of health and social care will rise substantially to about 9% of EU GDP in 2050. ICT can be our most powerful ally to maintain cost efficient and high quality health and social care, as it empowers people of every age to better manage their health and quality of life, in any place.

ICT for health and ageing: a triple win

ICT can contribute by providing European citizens with better and cheaper services for health and [ageing well](#) [1]. The introduction of ICT and telemedicine alone is estimated to improve efficiency of health care by 20%. Moreover, ICT empowers users of every age to better manage their health.

As the global telecare and telehealth market is forecast to grow from 7.6 to 17.6 billion Euros already by 2017, therefore European economy can benefit from such growing market. We can achieve a triple win: a better quality of life for European citizens, innovation and growth for a competitive EU industry and more sustainable healthcare systems for society.

- Receive the latest news by subscribing to the [ICT for Ageing Well newsletter](#) [2]

eHealth policy

The EU [eHealth Action Plan](#) [3] covers areas as diverse as patient rights in cross-border healthcare, funding [advanced research and development](#) [4], and ensuring that electronic health record systems are compatible internationally.

- Receive the latest news by subscribing to the [eHealth in Focus newsletter](#) [5]
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Links

[1] <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/node/374>

[2] http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/newsroom/cf/userregistration.cfm

[3] <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/news/putting-patients-driving-seat-digital-future-healthcare>

[4] http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ict/programme/challenge5_en.html

[5] <http://bit.ly/eHealthinFocus>