

The epSOS Patient Summary

Access to medical data abroad

When patients seek a Healthcare Professional¹ (HCP) abroad, it is often a matter of urgent or even emergency healthcare. This is relevant for tourists, business travellers, exchange students or regular cross-border commuters experiencing unexpected health problems.

epSOS is an eHealth (“electronic Health”) interoperability project funded by the European Commission. It aims at improving medical treatment of citizens while abroad by providing the HCP with the necessary electronic and safe patient data. The goal of the project is to develop a service infrastructure that enables the exchange of patient data – **Patient Summary and electronic Prescriptions** – across borders. This facilitates the usage of the data for patients seeking healthcare abroad. This will be subject to the patient’s consent.

¹ Healthcare Professionals are: hospitals, doctors, general practitioners



epSOS Service Definition

An epSOS Patient Summary is a standardized set of basic patient data, which includes the most important clinical facts needed to ensure safe and secure healthcare.

The services developed during the course of the epSOS project will be tested in practice in a pilot operation phase. For the first time European patients will have the opportunity to use cross-border Patient Summary services abroad when seeking healthcare in participating epSOS pilot countries.

Information included in a Patient Summary

⊕ **General Information** about the patient (e.g. name, birth date, gender, ...)

A **Medical Summary** consisting of the most important clinical patient data (e.g. allergies, current medical problems, medical devices, or major surgical procedures during the last six months). The medical summary is designed to include all essential information, and at the same time to be clear and easy to use during a consultation

⊕ A list of the **current medication** including all prescribed medication that the patient is currently taking

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⊕ **Information** about the Patient Summary itself (e.g. when and by whom was the Patient Summary generated or updated)

How to use your epSOS Patient Summary abroad?

① Consult an HCP that participates in the epSOS project. Please visit www.epsos.eu to find Points of Care (hospitals, doctor's practices) taking part in the epSOS pilot.

② Identify yourself to the attending HCP with e.g. an ID card or health card.

③ After giving **your consent**, the HCP retrieves your Patient Summary, whereby your Patient Summary is electronically transferred from your home country to the HCP in the visiting country.

epSOS data protection

This entire process is subject to very strict data security and protection standards. All personal health data are protected at all times.