



Short Introduction to the eTEN SSA

# Interoperability Initiative for a European eHealth Area



ICT Bio 2006

Brussels,  
29 June 2006

# Vision & Context

- **Develop a conceptual basis and concrete deployment perspective**
  - in two basic application fields for interoperable delivery of eHealth services
  - across Europe
  - with the informal support of MS Health Authorities
  
- **The eTEN Programme supports the speedy market validation and deployment of eServices**

# Operational objectives

- identify **interoperability and connectivity issues** and priorities, barriers and gaps, and solution approaches (processes)
  - **identification** of patients/citizens and health professionals/organisations
  - ePrescription and **messaging**
  
- develop a **roadmap and concrete recommendations**
  - involving all relevant actors
    - Member State Health Care Authorities,
    - Competence Centres,
    - Industry and other stakeholders
  - guided by an open discussion process

## Key aspects

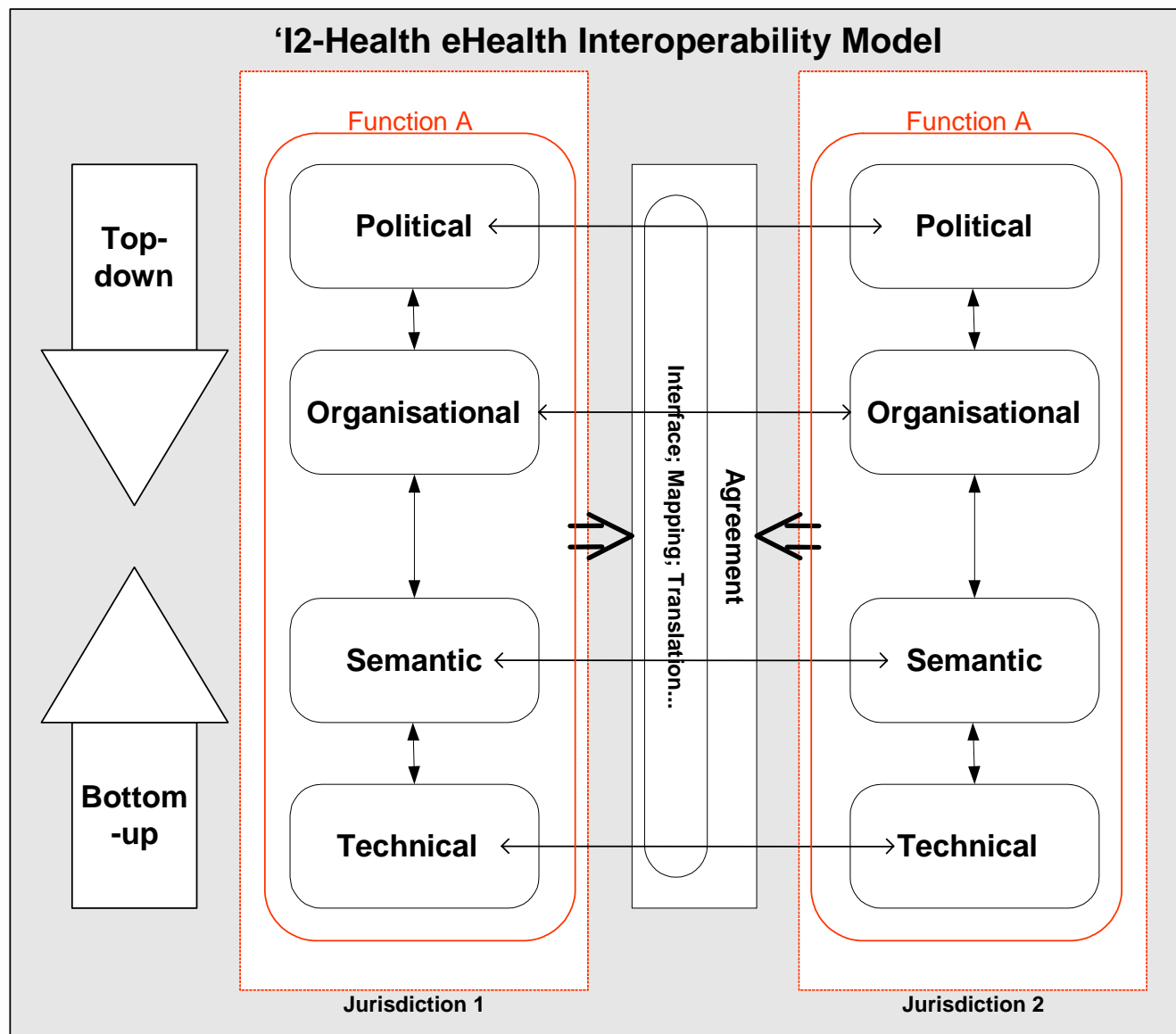
- **Health is the most information intensive sector of our economies**
  
- **Collaboration within and across jurisdictions (including cross-border) is driving information exchange**
  
- **Record once, use many times in many places**
  - **Primary and secondary use of information**

# Health systems “interoperability” (IOp)

**True health system “interoperability”  
assures the ability**

- **to exchange, understand and *act* on patient and other health information & knowledge**
- **among *linguistically and culturally* disparate clinicians, patients and other actors**
- **within and *across jurisdictions* in a *collaborative* manner.**

# i2-Health IOp model



# IOp Model applied to Identification Management



- What is the legal base for issuing/using the identifier
- How is the registering process organised?
- Which identifier is to be used?
- On which support is the identifier available?

Political / Legal

Legislation, nomination of responsible authorities, definition of covered entities

Organisational

Registration procedures, verification procedures

Semantic

Data models, identifiers, numbering systems

Technical

Certificates, ID-tokens (e.g. cards), directory databases, networking infrastructure

# IOp Model applied to ePrescribing



Political / Legal

Legal base for issuing/dispensing electronic prescriptions: National / Cross-border / Internet-Pharmacies

Organisational

Rules, existing Forms and Logistics for Prescribing, Dispensing, Reimbursement, Surveillance

Semantic

Naming (Generic/Product), Coding Schemes

Technical

Syntax (XML ..), Messaging Standards, Transportation, Networks, ...



# Realising citizen-centred European health services: 4 action levels



<b>Health policy:</b> <u><i>cooperation</i></u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vision &amp; strategies</li> <li>• Processes &amp; measures, incentives</li> <li>• Socio-economic (sustainable), legal framework</li> <li>• Accreditation and certification</li> </ul>
<b>Health service providers (Organisational level):</b> <u><i>collaboration</i></u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organisational structures and culture</li> <li>• Intra &amp; inter-jurisdictional service processes</li> <li>• Change management, behavioural change</li> <li>• Systems thinking, business process re-engineering</li> </ul>
<b>Semantic</b> <u><i>interoperation</i></u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Terminologies, classifications</li> <li>• Translation</li> </ul>
<b>Technical / functional</b> <u><i>interoperation</i></u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical standards</li> <li>• Hardware and software connectivity</li> <li>• User interfaces</li> </ul>



## Output (I)

- European-level key eHealth interoperability issues and processes needed to overcome barriers, including a review of international and mobility issues
  - + eHealth 2006 Conference in Malaga  
*“World Panel on Interoperability”*
- **Identification management eHealth interoperability issues**
  - state-of-the-art and use cases
  - gaps and needs analysis and a set of recommendations
  - + Schiphol Workshop  
*“Health-ID Management in Europe – one touchstone for interoperability”*

## Output (II)

- **ePrescribing and eHealth messaging interoperability issues**
  - state-of-the-art and use cases
  - gaps and needs analysis and a set of recommendations + Ljubljana Conference  
*“ePrescribing & Medication Management”*
  
- **European eHealth interoperability plan and roadmap**

# Consortium & Funding

**Project start: Feb. 2005      Duration: 24 months**

## Consortium:

- ***empirica* Institute for Communications- und Technology Research, Bonn, Germany (*Coordinator*)**

Members to *empirica*:

- **Work Research Centre Ltd. (WRC), Dublin, Ireland**
- **Central Research Institute of Ambulatory Health Care in the Federal Republic of Germany (ZI), Berlin, Germany**
- **Technical University of Košice (TUK), Slovakia**
- **EHTEL (European Health Telematics Association), Brussels, Belgium**
- **(Informal) Steering Committee of Member State Health Authorities**

**Support: eTEN Program of the European Commission**

