



24TH eHEALTH NETWORK MEETING 1-2 JUNE 2023, STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

COVER NOTE

2.1 Semantic Subgroup update (for information)

1) Introduction

In November 2019, the eHealth Network adopted the Common Semantic Strategy and mandated the subgroup on semantics to pursue the scope and goals established in this document.

2) Issue at stake

The scope of the Common Semantic Strategy is aligned with the European electronic health record exchange format (EHRxF) (patient summary, ePrescription, laboratory results, medical imaging and reports and hospital discharge letters).

The 3 goals of this strategy are:

- G1 – Structure a common approach on health semantics in the EU;
- G2 – Provide guidance for EU level decisions on health semantics;
- G3 – Ensuring establishment and continuity on health semantics in the EU.

This strategy organizes work in a 5-year overall plan (2020 to 2024) with an evaluation activity at the 4th year (2023) to analyse sustainability and the need for continuation of work.

3) Summary

To meet the goals above the subgroup on Semantics took on a joint process for semantic content development and maintenance, applied in the development of new eHealth Network guidelines as well as the review and revision of existing ones, keeping alignment between guidelines. Furthermore, the subgroup took on a role enabling pan-European discussions on semantics across projects and functions.

In a joint effort with the Technical Interoperability subgroup, the subgroup on Semantics contributed to the fulfilment of the of the objectives in the Common Semantic Strategy, namely:

- Revision and maintenance of Patient Summary Guidelines;
- Revision and maintenance of ePrescription/eDispensation guidelines;
- Revision and maintenance of General guidelines;
- Preparation of the first version of the Laboratory Results guidelines;
- Preparation and maintenance of EU DCC guidelines;
- Assessed the readiness and prepared a draft version of Hospital Discharge Report guidelines;
- Assessed the readiness and prepared a draft version of Imaging Studies and Imaging Reports guidelines;
- Assessed the need and readiness for guidelines on metadata;
- Promoted the coordinated adoption of coding systems, namely SNOMED CT, ISO IDMP.

Until the end of the 5-year horizon established in the Common Semantic Strategy, the sg on Semantics aims at achieving the following objectives:



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- Submit for eHN adoption the first version of the Hospital Discharge Report guidelines;
- Submit for eHN adoption the first version of the Imaging Studies and Imaging Reports guidelines;
- Submit for eHN adoption the first version of guidelines on metadata;
- Support the transition from eHealth Network to European Health Data Space.

Additionally, the sg on Semantics will also undergo the election of new MS-Co-Chair and Rapporteur in November 2023.

As the EHDS Regulation is under discussion and work of the eHN is ongoing on recommendations for future organisation of the work, the Subgroup on Semantics recommends not formally conducting an evaluation exercise in the year 2023 but rather contributing, as planned, to the work of the eHN on future structure of Subgroups of the EHDS Board.

4) Format of procedure in the meeting

For eHealth Network discussion and approval of work ahead.