



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

COVER NOTE

1.4 Hospital Discharge report guidelines (for discussion)

1) Introduction

The eHealth Network adopted, in 2019, the Common Semantic Strategy and in 2022 mandated the subgroup on Semantics to prepare the Hospital Discharge Report guidelines.

2) Issue at stake

At the November 2022 eHealth Network meeting the Subgroup on Semantics was mandated to prepare the guidelines on Hospital Discharge Reports. Following the eHealth Network guidance on key topics, the sg on Semantics established a Task Force that prepared a first draft version of the guidelines.

This version is now available for eHealth Network discussion and, afterwards, to be submitted to a broader consultation to include the views of relevant stakeholders.

3) Summary

The first draft version of the Hospital Discharge Report was build using as foundation the latest release of the eHealth Network (eHN) Patient Summary and ePrescription guidelines. This approach ensure consistency between guidelines as well as provides a solid ground on what is expected from eHN guidelines.

The path to build this first draft faced many challenges. Even if the team was able to address all challenges, we would like to highlight the major ones for eHN consideration over the upcoming discussions:

- Adoption of standards-based definitions for key concepts, such as ISO standards, where available, and consideration as to how this would impact other guidelines, including the general guidelines, which are already published. When inexistent or unknown (i.e. like “Hospital Discharge reports”, the group developed a custom definition with inputs from different sources;
- Inclusion of both workflows (country of affiliation to country of treatment – A-2-B, and country of treatment to country of affiliation – B-2-A) or focus only on the B-2-A workflow. The group opted for including both workflows, for sake of addressing the clinical needs (ensure continuity of care in the affiliation country after a treatment in another country) but also to address the typical scenario in MyHealth@EU where information flows from the country of affiliation to the country of treatment;
- Include a full-fledged dataset (with all possible sections and data elements) or a minimum dataset (the essential common sections and data elements considering cross-border scenarios). The group opted for including a full-fledged with a view to seek input into what might be considered a minimum dataset to fulfil the requirement of a Hospital Discharge Report and what elements are considered non-compulsory;



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- Include specification of cardinality (e.g. number of times the section or data element is present) and conformance (i.e. mandatory, required, optional) or mention only the preferred code systems. The group opted for including only the preferred code systems, to ensure consistency with existing guidelines;

The sg on Semantics is seeking eHN guidance on the options made, namely if different options shall be considered.

As next step, and considering that this will be the first version of these guidelines, the subgroup recommends:

1. Organise a stakeholder consultation (MS organise it at national level, EC organise it at EU-level stakeholders), focusing on the key points:
 - Use case description (chapter 1) and guidelines (chapter 2);
 - Recommendations towards a minimum dataset;
2. Consolidate the guideline text based on the comments received and submit for eHealth Network adoption in the fall 2023 meeting.

4) Format of procedure in the meeting

For eHealth Network

1. discussion of the Hospital Discharge Reports guidelines draft release 1;
2. endorsement of the proposed next steps.