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

COVER NOTE

1.2 Laboratory Results guidelines – minor update (Release 1.1)

1) Introduction

The eHealth Network adopted, in 2019, the Common Semantic Strategy and mandated the subgroup on Semantics to maintain and update the Laboratory Results guidelines.

2) Issue at stake

At the November 2022 eHealth Network meeting the Subgroup on Semantics was mandated to provide clarifications about the "Laboratory Summary" concept present in the current laboratory guidelines.

3) Summary

The subgroup on Semantics, established a task force to provide such clarifications. The outcome of this task force was a minor update (release 1.1) to the existing Laboratory Results guidelines.

Upon discussion further the relevance of the concept of "Laboratory Summary", it was concluded that it was redundant with the existing dataset in guidelines. Clarifications showed that the laboratory summary is a view on the existing information more than a specific dataset or clinical document.

Considering the above conclusion, the following updates were performed:

- Removed the concept of *Laboratory summary*;

- Added examples illustrative on how to present laboratory result to health professionals.

From the discussions with stakeholders, the task force identified some additional improvements to the guidelines.

- Added guidelines on to minimise risk of misinterpretation of laboratory test results;

- Added precision on how to handle narrative text when it exists;

- Added support information on technical standards;

- Added precision to *Recipient information* (3 new fields);

- Added metadata elements to the dataset.

The subgroup consider that the clarification and improvements performed bring additional maturity to the content and facilitate the implementation of the guidelines. At this point there are no further elements identified for further improvement in the guidelines. The upcoming Joint Action may work on technical specifications and/or implementation guides to take this work further.

4) Format of procedure in the meeting

For eHealth Network adoption of the Laboratory Results guidelines release 1.1