



**25TH EHEALTH NETWORK MEETING 28 NOVEMBER 2023,
BRUSSELS
COVER NOTE**

7. Exchange of Best Practices by Member States (*for discussion*)

1) Introduction

There is great value in exchange of knowledge and best practices between Member States. Those that are particularly good examples in a certain area can serve as ‘best practices’ for others to learn from. From the Study on Capacity Building on Primary Use of Health Data, a Country Mapping exercise identified the state of play in several Member States on various aspects related to digital health, digital competencies, and services in the healthcare sector. In this study Member States also highlighted their willingness to mentor other Member States in areas in which they felt they have expertise in and reported the capacity building needs in areas where they could improve with the help of other Member States. Based on this study, we propose short presentations of best practices from two Member States during the eHealth Network that were interested in becoming mentors, followed by Q&A and discussion.

2) Issue at stake

Portugal has the capacity to mentor and teach other countries about Patient Summaries. The country mapping exercise indicated that in Portugal:

“Citizens in Portugal have nationwide access to national Patient Summaries. The national DHI is able to exchange Patient Summaries with structured and coded data in an interoperable format. The Patient Summaries are structured according to the provisions of the EHDS Regulation proposal and currently cover: Personal Details; Medical devices and implants; Contact Information; Procedures; Information on Insurance Functional Status; Allergies; Current and relevant past medications; Medical Alerts Social history observation related to health; Vaccination/prophylaxis information (e.g., vaccination card); Information on a rare disease such as details about the impact or characteristics of the disease; Current, resolved, closed or inactive problems Plan of Care; Textual information related to medical history. The following Patient Summary capabilities are currently present: Patients can access their Patient Summary via an online portal; Patient Summaries of citizens can be sent to health professionals in other Member States via the eHDSI (i.e., Country A functionality); Health professionals can receive Patient Summaries originating from other Member States via the eHDSI (i.e., Country B functionality).”

Estonia has the capacity to mentor and teach other countries about ePrescriptions. The country mapping exercise indicated that in Estonia:

“ePrescription / eDispensation information is deployed and available to citizens via the national EHR system. The national digital health infrastructure is able to exchange ePrescription / eDispensation information with structured and coded data in an interoperable format. Patients



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can access ePrescription / eDispensation information via an online portal; All types of prescriptions can be issued electronically; Renewal of prescriptions can be requested online; There is a medication list to which prescriptions are linked; Reimbursement of prescriptions is handled automatically via the system; Dispensation via online pharmacies, incl. receiving medicinal products by post, is available; ePrescriptions of citizens can be sent to pharmacies in other Member States via the eHDSI (i.e., Country A functionality); Pharmacists can dispense ePrescriptions presented by citizens from other Member States via the eHDSI (i.e., country B functionality, dispensed to foreign citizens and dispensation information reported to Country A).”

3) Summary

Portugal and Estonia will present their experience regarding the service preparation, implementation and lesson learnt on Patient Summaries and ePrescriptions respectively, in order for other countries to draw inspiration from their best practices.

4) Format of procedure in the meeting

This Agenda point is for discussion.