



## 20<sup>TH</sup> EHEALTH NETWORK 8 NOVEMBER 2021, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

### COVER NOTE

#### 7.1. Capacity building

##### 1. Issue at stake

The Commission is working on the call of tender under by EU4Health 2021 Work Programme “**DI-p-25.1 - EHDS: primary use of health data - infrastructure governance**; f) by using a twinning approach, **to support Member States** in the development and/or improvement of their own digital health strategies at national level. Support exchange of best practices”. The aim of this agenda point is **to present** this capacity building initiative to eHealth Network members, which aims to support the Member States in the development and/or improvement of their own digital health strategies at national level, and **to have first exchange of views** with Member States.

##### 2. Summary

As regards primary use of health data, the cross-border interface between different national healthcare systems is characterised by an insufficient exchange of health data for the provision of healthcare services, impacting on the provision of healthcare. The possibility of individuals to access and share their health data between healthcare providers, but also from different sources (tele-health, m-health) remains limited. The uptake and free movement of digital health services and products (eg tele-health and m-health) is yet limited, as well as their integration in clinical pathways, leaving their potential untapped.

Member States are in very different development stage on the digitalisation of the healthcare systems. Meanwhile they have invested and are planning to invest EU funds and national funding to develop their national digital health strategies.

The capacity building initiative aims at stimulating the developing and strengthening of skills, abilities, processes and resources working on national digital health services.

The initiative would be based on the twinning approach (experts from Member States going on the ground, analysing the situation, sharing their expertise and supporting the host country with advice in setting up different services, analysis of financing etc.).

The areas of the capacity building (cross border and on national level) could include sharing of expertise in the field of:

##### - exchange of health data,

- a) To enable patients to access their health data and make it accessible to other healthcare providers; setting up national electronic health records/patient portals etc;
- b) To increase the quality of electronic health records;

- c) To promote the participation and usage of the eHDSI - MyHealth@EU in order to improve the cross-border exchange of health data for healthcare, such as patient summaries and e-prescriptions.
- d) To expand digital rules and standards and data quality in order to increase digital interoperability between healthcare systems.
- e) To share information about features and capabilities of national infrastructures, as well as financial details related to building them, such as the return on investments;

- **development of digital products** and services – tele-health and m-health and
- **access and control** by individuals over their own health data;

Target audience - decision makers in Member States (ministry level, national competent authorities for digital health, data protection authorities, HTA bodies etc) and other relevant stakeholders.

The possible activities are: provision of experts (remunerated), seminars, workshops, working visits and training.

**Questions for the Member States:**

- 1) Would you be interested to apply in order to receive advice from other Member States?
- 2) Would you be interested to apply in order to provide experts?
- 3) If yes, what are the areas where you would be interested to build the capacity?
- 4) If not, what are the main reasons?
- 5) Do you see a need for a more structural follow up once the project is over and in what form?

**3. Format of procedure in the meeting**

- 1) For information.
- 2) To receive Member States reflections on the initiative.