



21ST eHEALTH NETWORK MEETING 1-2 JUNE 2022, PARIS, FRANCE

COVER NOTE

6.3 Enhancement of MyHealth@EU service using EUDCC technology

1. Issue at stake

EU Digital Covid Certificate (EU DCC) is a global success. As shown by the EU Digital COVID Certificate (EU DCC) implementation, today's widespread use of smartphones and QR-code technology can be used as an important enabler for better digital health services rapidly deployable at a large scale. European Digital Identity Wallet could be used as a tool for implementing such new use cases.

With this in mind, the eHealth Network in its meeting of 30 March 2022 tasked its Technical Interoperability Subgroup to work on health-related use cases of the eID Wallet, highlighting the ePrescription use case. Some Member States also suggested to examine the possibility of using the EU DCC technology for this.

As performed currently, patient identification in MyHealth@EU suffers from some shortcomings. Health professionals need to enter manually patients' identification data and document identifiers. This is burdensome and error-prone (person or document identifiers have commonly over 10-digit long). To avoid manual entry of data and to improve security, several Member States have introduced the use of barcodes in their national ePrescription systems. In these national implementations, the barcodes are printed on paper or shown through mobile apps. However, barcodes issued by one Member States are not understood by pharmacy systems in other Member States. Because the barcodes are not interoperable, they are not used in MyHealth@EU. The harmonisation of ePrescription barcodes would be a relevant standardisation effort.

The need for people to be able to share their health data and technologies for this are being currently designed by G7, G20 and WHO, based on digital health trust networks. The know-how and solutions acquired with the implementation of the EU DCC might be used to address these needs. EU DCC trust framework could be adjusted and put to use to enhance MyHealth@EU services and functionalities, but also to implement other use cases, such as vaccination card or international patient access.

2. Summary

The subgroup has prepared a description of the use case on ePrescription that could be implemented through the EU Digital Identity Wallet. The document also outlines the contents of a QR code representing the ePrescription or giving access to an ePrescription list. More detailed data and messaging specifications have been already prepared and implemented in MyHealth@EU, which would be used for MS-to-MS integrations, also including the eDispensation part. Technology similar to that used in EU DCC is proposed for the digital signature of the QR code contents. Similar technology can also be used for other use cases (access to a vaccination card or an international patient summary).

Under Digital Europe Work Programme 2021-2022, at least 4 large scale pilots will be launched to test the deployment of the European Digital Identity Wallet in priority use cases, including health. Member States in the eHealth Network are invited to consider the implementation of the ePrescription use case as described by the Technical Interoperability Subgroup as part of the Large Scale Pilot of the EU Digital Identity Wallet.

3. Format of procedure in the meeting

For discussion