15th eHealth Network 11-12 June 2019, Bucharest, Romania

Cover Note by eHealth Network Secretariat


Issue at stake

The aim of this agenda point is for eHealth Network to:

Gather a deeper understanding on the key elements of the European EHR Exchange Format and the important role played by the Recommendation in the wider context of health data space, as well as the way forward.

Summary

The Recommendation on a European Electronic Health Record exchange format, adopted 6 February 2019, sets out a framework for the further development of interoperability that comprises a set of principles that should govern the cross-border exchange of data exchange, such as data protection and cybersecurity, a set of common technical specifications and a joint coordination process for further development, monitoring and review.

The work on interoperability builds on ongoing efforts in the context of the e-Health Digital Service Infrastructure and its work to make possible the exchange of patient summaries and e-prescriptions. The Recommendation aims is to go further in order to achieve the EU-wide interoperability and to ensure a comprehensive exchange of full electronic health records. In a next step, the work to elaborate further the technical specifications for the exchange should cover laboratory reports, medical images and reports, and hospital discharge reports.

In addition to providing a service for citizens in supporting their secure access and sharing of their health data across EU borders, this activity is also a cornerstone for the development of an EU health data space that will support the development of the next generation of digital technologies for faster diagnosis, health treatments and preventive population health measures.

Format of procedure in the eHealth Network meeting

- The Commission co-chair invites the DG CNECT to present the European EHR Exchange Format, perspectives on health data space and the importance of the Recommendation in achieving it, as well as next steps

- Presentation by the Commission

The Commission co-chair opens the floor for discussion.