European Actions on Cross-Border Interoperability

Better health through better information

Michiel Sprenger
Senior Adviser @Nictiz
WP leader @JAsеHN
Background

• Health care is more a national theme than a European theme

• However: citizens’ mobility, and specifically safe mobility is a European theme

• That is why in the EU, and between the member states, Cross-border exchange of clinical information for the mobile patient is a European theme.
Timeline - projects


Projects

Calliope thematic NW

epSOS Large Scale Pilot

EXPAND
epSOS: European Patients – smart open services

- Phase I, 12 countries, 2008-2011
- Phase II, 23+ countries, 2011-2014
- Basics for the architecture – valid till today
- Piloting was very limited: not many real patients
- Two use cases:
  - Patient Summary
  - ePrescription (and eDispense)
- ID, consent, logging, “circle of trust” concept in agreement
Circle of Trust:

- NO EU professional register nor ID
- NO EU patients’ ID
- NO EU central data handler
- Peer-to-peer communication
- “circle of trust”
Use Cases

• Unplanned care
• Patient seeks care outside his/her country of affiliation ("Country A"), in a country of treatment ("Country B"). Two use cases supported:
  • Patient Summary
  • ePrescription (must be followed by an eDispense message when dispense occurs)
  • In general, transcoding and translation should occur → Semantic interoperability is crucial
Semantic process

Access to Terminology server A
Transcoding CA Code to epSOS Code
Translation CA language to English
Creation of pivot Document E

Access to Terminology server B
Transcoding epSOS Code to CB Code
Translation English to CB language
More technical process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NCP B (country of treatment)</th>
<th>ATNA, XUA, BPPC, etc.</th>
<th>NCP A (country of affiliation)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XCPD</td>
<td>Demographics Query</td>
<td>XCPD Responding gateway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initiating gateway</td>
<td>Cross-gateway Query with Returned Documents</td>
<td>XCA Responding gateway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XCA</td>
<td>Cross-gateway Fetch with Returned Documents</td>
<td>XCF Responding gateway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initiating gateway</td>
<td>Provide and Register Document Set</td>
<td>XDR Responding gateway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XCF</td>
<td>Internet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initiating gateway</td>
<td>Secure communications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XDR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Timeline - policy

Projects

- Calliope thematic NW
- epSOS Large Scale Pilot
- EXPAND

Policy

- March 9, 2011: Directive on patients’ rights in cross-border healthcare
- eHealth Network, twice yearly (May and November)
- eHealth Governance Initiative
- JAsEHN
2011: Directive on patients’ rights in cross border healthcare

DIRECTIVES

DIRECTIVE 2011/24/EU OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
of 9 March 2011
on the application of patients’ rights in cross-border healthcare

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Articles 114 and 168 thereof,

Article 114(3) TFEU explicitly requires that, in achieving harmonisation, a high level of protection of human health is to be guaranteed taking account in particular of any new development based on scientific facts.

(3) The health systems in the Union are a central component
Article 14: eHealth Network

• Based upon article 14
• Meeting of the policy responsible people (mostly MoH)
• Two times / year, as of May, 2012
• Co-chaired by DG Santé and a member state (currently Austria)
• Supported by projects with members from MoH and National Competence Centers (NCCs):
  • eHealth Governance Initiative (eHGI)
  • Joint Action for support of the eHealth Network (JAsHeHN)
Timeline implementation and operation

Projects
- Calliope thematic NW
- epSOS Large Scale Pilot
- EXPAND

Policy
- March 9, 2011: Directive on patients’ rights in cross-border healthcare
- eHealth Network, twice yearly (May and November)
- eHealth Governance Initiative
- JAsEHN

Implementation + operation
- CEF ➔ 16 countries in preparation to live
- CEF ➔ X more countries prep + live
- Wave 1 live 11 MS
- Wave 2 live
- Wave 3 live
Implementation and operation

• Financing from Connecting Europe Facility (CEF): EU wide program for connectivity in may sectors, here for eHealth
• Last step before routine financing and routine operation
• NOT pilot any more, but first implementation
• Roles:
  • eHN for governance, JAseHN for producing guidelines etc etc
  • DG Santé for the supply of Central Services (eHDSI, translation, identification, logging, etc etc)
  • Member States for the supply of Generic Services, i.e. National Contact Point for eHealth, connector between other member state(s) and national environment
CEF call 1

• Open from Nov 2015 to March 2016
• 16 countries positively judged
• Working forward to implementation in three waves:
  • 1: Feb 2018, decision eHN Nov 2017
  • 2: Feb 2019, decision eHN Nov 2018
  • 3: Feb 2020, decision eHN Non 2019
• CEF call 2 open shortly, closing Sep 2017
Future (?)

• Planned care: radiology, laboratory results, etc
• More on medication safety: allergies, renal function, etc
• **Role of the patient:** when patients have access to their data, the eHDSI might help them to show their data in the Country of Treatment (translation)

• 

• In all cases: the semantic plurality of Europe is a major obstacle for good and safe X-border exchange of clinical data

• ➔Work on more convergence in this, within the countries, within the systems!