



**eHealth**  
without frontiers

**S.O.S. eHealth Project**  
Open eHealth initiative for a  
European large scale pilot of  
patient summary and electronic prescription

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Slovensko predsedstvo EU 2008  
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La Présidence slovène de l'UE 2008



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# From Strategies to Services with the S.O.S. eHealth Project



- Provide **concrete cross-border services** that ensures a safe, secure and efficient medical treatment for citizens when travelling across Europe.
- Focus on services close to the patient:
  - European Patient Summary
  - ePrescribing across the EU
- Build on existing National eHealth Projects and use experiences and knowledge from all Member States.



What do we want to  
achieve?

## - Scenarios and use cases



- Patient Summary:
  - Safe **emergency treatment** for the occasional visitor on holiday or attending a conference.
    - characteristics: irregular, infrequent, may not be repeated.
  - Provide **continuity of care** for routine treatment for citizens living in one country and working in another.
    - characteristics: regular, frequent, information from two countries.



What do we want to  
achieve?

## - Scenarios and use cases



- ePrescribing:
  - Medicine that is already prescribed in the home country will be **available for dispense** in another country.
    - characteristics: prescribing thru regular national system, notification to home country after dispense.
  - A healthcare provider can prescribe a new drug to a **visiting patient** from another country.
    - characteristics: medical and pharmaceutical history from home country available, copy of the prescription included in the national medication summary.



# How do we reach our goal?



- **Goal for the S.O.S. eHealth Project:**
  - “To develop a practical eHealth framework and ICT infrastructure that will enable secure access to patient health information between European healthcare systems.”
- **Challenges to get there:**
  - legal constraints
  - privacy issues and patient consent
  - semantic issues
  - technical interoperability
  - ...



# Strong political pressure to accelerate eHealth co- operation



- **Main political objectives:**
  - support patient mobility throughout Europe
  - ensure that patient safety is guaranteed
  - increase efficiency and cost-effectiveness in cross-border care.
- **Obligation** to deliver safe and secure medical treatment nationally – and across Europe!
- **Breaking new ground** – Ministries, Competence Centres, Universities and Industry hand in hand.



# The S.O.S. Project Team



- The Project Team consists of 23 beneficiaries from 12 member states:
  - 6 national Ministries of Health
  - 15 national/regional Competent Centres with mandate to represent their country
  - IHE-Europe representing ICT industry team
  - Empirica responsible for administrative management



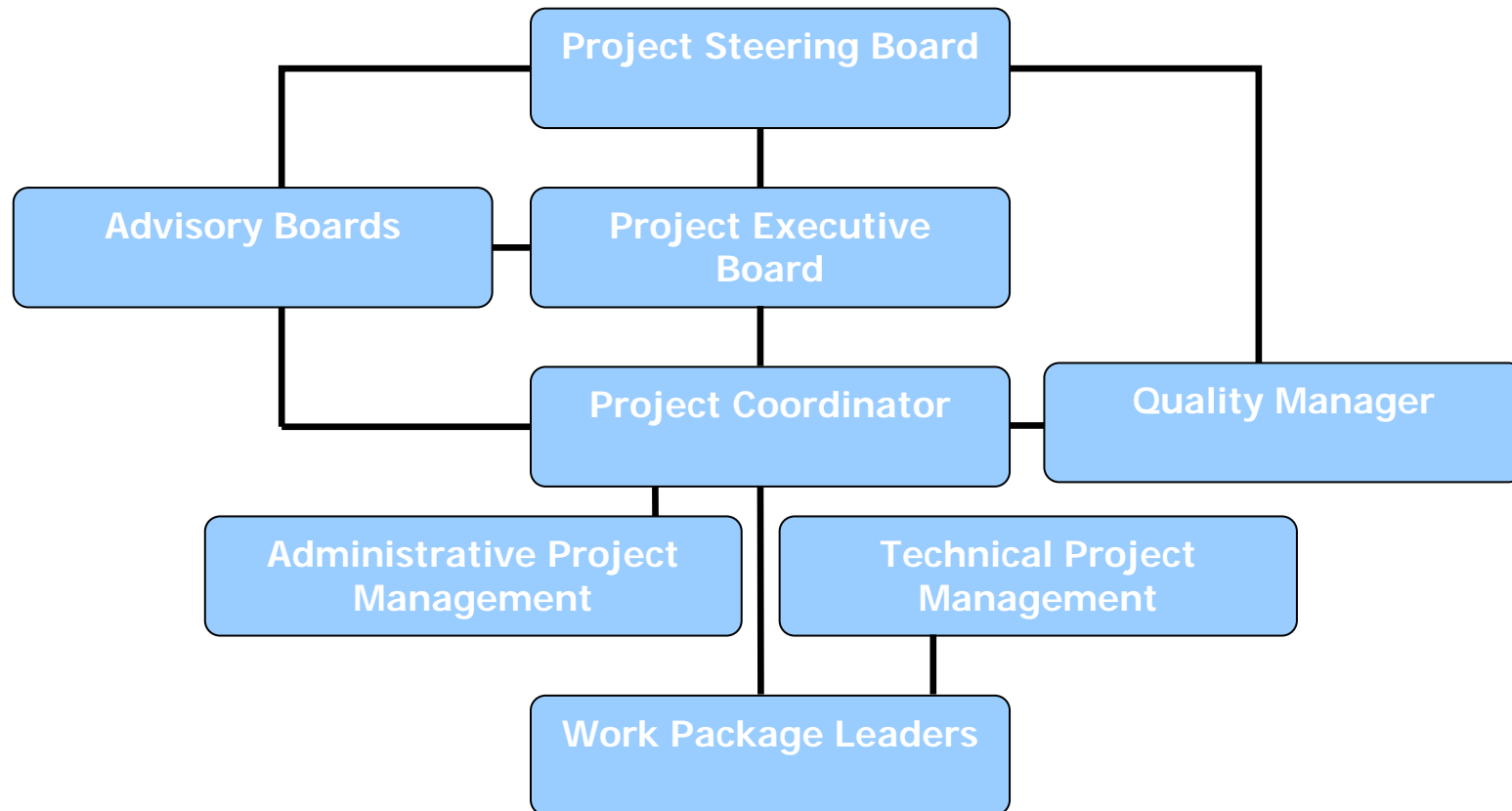
# Strong team work within the Project



- Examples of Work Package responsibilities:
  - **Sweden** – project coordination.
  - **the Netherlands** – Analysis/comparison of national plans/solutions.
  - **France** – overall evaluation, system architecture, semantic services.
  - **Austria** – communication and dissemination, identity management.
  - **Greece** – Analysis and comparison of legal and regulatory issues.
  - **Spain** – definition of Patient Summary and ePrescribing services, test site scenarios.
  - **Germany** – Technical management, Common Components Specification.
  - **Italy** – Security Services, Pilot System, Proof of Concept.
  - **Denmark** – Integration and customisation.
  - **the Czech Republic** – Pilot preparation, implementation and operation.
  - **the United Kingdom** – Quality Management.
  - **Slovakia** – overall contribution.



# Preliminary project organisation



# Broad co-operation the key to success



- **Openness** and **transparency** key values for the S.O.S. eHealth Project!
  - all Member States welcome to get insight in the project, provide feedback and input.
  - the project is open to additional participating Member States.
  - progress reports at EU meetings and conferences.
  - stakeholder involvement pivotal.





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