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

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

• Provide **concrete cross-boarder 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 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.
  – **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

- Project Steering Board
  - Advisory Boards
  - Project Executive Board
  - Project Coordinator
    - Administrative Project Management
    - Technical Project Management
  - Quality Manager
    - Work Package Leaders
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.
eHealth
without frontiers