



Toward Semantic Interoperability of EHR systems: a joint effort for Europe

Expert Workshop on Friday, May 16, 2008, Brussels

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| Time | 09:00-16:00 |
| Location & venue | European Commission 31, Avenue de Beaulieu, BU31 0/84 (ground floor, room 84), 1160 Brussels |
| Transport & accommodation | Please see p. 4-5 |
| Background & objectives | <p>Objective of the workshop is to initiate a partnership for joint efforts to enable and support semantic interoperability of electronic health record (EHR) systems in Europe. The proposed partnership involves policy decision makers, professional bodies, health IT systems suppliers, health terminology and tool designers and developers, technical architects, healthcare providers, Standards Development Organisations (SDOs), and other stakeholders.</p> <p>The output of the workshop will also be directly related to the actions proposed in the upcoming European Commission Recommendation on cross border interoperability of EHRs.</p> <p>First specific focus will be on how EHR systems need to be developed to enable the <i>optimum and effective utilisation of terminologies</i>, such as SNOMED CT, alongside standardised data structure specifications such as archetypes and templates. The second focus will be on <i>practical implementation challenges</i> supporting semantic interoperability.</p> <p>A small group of 15 participants will discuss European Commission (EC) and Member States (MSs) activities, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the Large Scale Pilot in eHealth (Patient Summary/Emergency Record and ePrescription; to be launched soon by 12 MSs and the EC)• IHTSDO's (International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation) plans for Europe• experiences with concrete implementations and industry involvement• terminology and EHR experts' recommendations how to make progress toward semantically (including cross-language) interoperable EHR systems and solutions• priorities for European/global collaboration, concrete actions in support of the EC Recommendation, organisational support and structures needed, financing and sustainability issues <p>All of these topics will be discussed in an interactive manner, in order to arrive at concrete next steps. The workshop is organised by the ICT for Health Unit, Directorate General Information Society and Media, EC, and the EC-funded project <i>SemanticHEALTH</i>.</p> |



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| Part 1: Setting the scene Chair: <i>Gérard Comyn</i> , European Commission | | |
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| 1 | 08:30-09:00 | Registration |
| 2 | 09:00-09:10 | Welcome, introduction of participants |
| 3 | 09:10-09:20 | EC Recommendation on cross-border interoperability of EHR systems <i>Gérard Comyn</i> , Acting Director, ICT Addressing Societal Challenges, EC, Directorate General Information Society and Media |
| 4 | 09:20-09:30 | Needs for semantic interoperability in Europe, research and implementation challenges <i>Ilias Iakovidis</i> , Deputy Head of Unit ICT for Health, EC, Directorate General Information Society and Media |
| 5 | 09:30-09:40 | IHTSDO's plans for Europe / Update on SNOMED CT developments <i>Jennifer Zelmer</i> , CEO, IHTSDO (International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation) |
| Part 2: Implementation challenges Chair: <i>Flora Giorgio</i> , European Commission | | |
| 6 | 09:40-09:55 | Member States' Large Scale Pilot in eHealth: patient summary and ePrescription <i>Daniel Forslund</i> , Head of Section, Ministry of Health & Social Affairs, Sweden |
| 7 | 09:55-10:10 | Lessons learnt from SCT implementation in NHS Connecting for Health <i>Ken Lunn</i> , Head of Data Standards & Products, NHS Connecting for Health |
| Coffee Break | | |
| Part 3: Industry perspectives Chair: <i>Michael Palmer</i> , European Commission | | |
| 8 | 10:30-10:45 | Utilising SNOMED CT in electronic health record systems <i>Nick Booth</i> , British Telecom Health Executive |
| 9 | 10:45-11:00 | Applying health standards for interoperability – a software vendor experience <i>Alain Maskens</i> , HEALTHone Global |



| Part 4: SemanticHEALTH recommendations | | |
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| Chair: Karl Stroetmann, empirica Technology Research | | |
| 10 | 11:00-11:15 | Health Terminologies <i>Alan Rector, University Manchester</i> |
| 11 | 11:15-11:30 | Terminologies and EHR systems <i>Dipak Kalra, University College London</i> |
| 12 | 11:30-12:00 | Wrap up and planning of the afternoon session |
| Light lunch provided at the venue | | |
| Part 5: Facilitating the partnership & accelerating achievements | | |
| Moderation: Ilias Iakovidis, European Commission | | |
| 13 | 12:45-15:30 | Discussion Short interventions/reflections: <i>Pablo Serrano Balazote, Medical Director, Hospital de Fuenlabrada</i> <i>Mike Bainbridge, Clinical Architect, NHS Connecting for Health</i> <i>Veli Stroetmann, empirica GmbH, SemanticHEALTH</i> Major topics: All <ul style="list-style-type: none">• priorities for European / global collaboration• concrete actions needed, organisational support / structures• where do we get resources, how can sustainability be assured• what are the next steps |
| 14 | 15:30-16:00 | Conclusions and follow up actions |

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Dinner on Thursday, May 15, 19:00

Restaurant l'Atelier Européen

28, rue Franklin

B-1000 Bruxelles

Tél.: 02/734 91 40

Fax.: 02/735 35 98

<http://www.atelier-euro.be>

Nearest underground station - SCHUMAN

Lines 1a and 1b, direction Herrmann Debroux or Stockel/Stokkel

Turn into rue Archimede and first right (rue Franklin), then on the left side

For a map please see:

<http://www.resto.be/ware/detailsMap.jsp?businessid=109>



Workshop venue:

Avenue de Beaulieu is located in the Southeast of Brussels. If you arrive by public transport, take subway 1-A, direction *Hermann-Debroux*. Get off at '*Beaulieu*' station and take the exit marked '*Pont*'. When you have exited the metro, turn left and cross the road at the traffic lights, heading downhill. Building no. 31 is the second on the left hand side (see map on page 5).

Metro plan is attached for your convenience, see next page.

