



**14<sup>TH</sup> eHEALTH NETWORK 13 NOVEMBER 2018, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM**  
**COVER NOTE BY eHEALTH NETWORK SECRETARIAT**

**Agenda topic 1b: Electronic Health Record exchange Format (EHRxF) Recommendation**

**Issue at stake**

The Commission intends to adopt a Commission Recommendation to establish a format for a European EHRxF before the end of its mandate.

The Commission would like to present its current approach to the eHealth Network and to receive feedback from the Network. The feedback will then inform the final document.

**Summary**

The initiative aims to make it possible for people to access their health records across borders as needed for cross-border healthcare purposes such as in case of accidents while travelling, or to seek treatment of chronic conditions, or rare diseases. In any situation where a person requires health care treatment in another Member State, having access to their personal health records will support and improve the quality of this care, for example by enabling faster, more accurate diagnosis and improved prognosis. The initiative also aims to facilitate the flow of health data across borders to the benefit of citizens, to underpin the digital transformation of health and care. It therefore aims to give further impetus to Member State efforts to develop the interoperability of their systems.

The Commission's approach aims to draw on the extensive activities so far undertaken in EU projects, activities at MS level, the eHealth DSI, etc. The initiative has been discussed regularly with MS technical experts, in particular two technical workshops (July and September 2018) and bi-weekly telcos.

The Commission will present its current thinking as set out in the document and would value feedback from Member States during the meeting, with a view to further refining.

**Format of procedure in the eHealth Network meeting**

The Commission co-chair opens the topic, and hands over to Marco Marcella, Head of Unit on Health and Wellbeing in DG CNECT, for further details.

The Commission co-chair will then open the floor for the eHealth Network for discussion on the approach to develop an EHRxF.

Marco Marcella will summarise the discussion and present the next steps of the process on the adoption of the Commission Recommendation.