



10TH EHEALTH NETWORK 21 NOVEMBER 2016, BRUSSELS
COVER NOTE BY SECRETARIAT

Topic 3: Secondary use of health data

Issue at stake

In response to the Health Council conclusion under the Luxembourgish presidency on "*open, data-intensive and networked research as a driver for faster and wider innovation*" and an increasing attention for the potential benefits of Big Data in health, the EC commissioned a quick study on Big Data in Public Health, Telemedicine and Healthcare.

The contactor was requested to provide examples of Big Data in public health, telemedicine and healthcare in the EC, and make 10 policy recommendations on where to focus the activities in bringing Big Data further.

The policy recommendations are presented to the eHealth Network for discussion. This discussion should ignite common interest in bringing the use Big Data in practical public health and healthcare further and give ideas for concrete steps on how to follow-up on the policy recommendations.

Summary of document

First the report presents ten priority examples of the use of Big Data in Health and ten recommendations for EU action.

The study identified potential recommendations from the literature and developed ten recommendations, which were validated through consultations at three relevant conferences and reviewed by a group of expert. The recommendations aim to benefit European citizens and patients in terms of strengthening their health and improving the performance of Member State's health systems. They should be seen as suggestions for the European Union and its Member States on how to use the strengths and exploit the opportunities of Big Data for Public Health without threatening privacy or safety of citizens.

Recommendations were developed for ten relevant fields: awareness raising, education and training, data sources, open data and data sharing, applications and purposes, data analysis, governance of data access and use, standards, funding and financial resources, as well as legal aspects and privacy regulation.

Format of procedure in the eHN

The Commission co-chair will introduce the topic and will give the floor to Gesundheit Österreich of the contracted team, who worked on the Big Data study. The presentation will focus on the policy recommendations suggested to the eHealth Network.

The eHealth Network Members are requested to discuss the findings of the report and make suggestions on future action as regards the policy recommendations, providing input on the follow-up actions in bringing these recommendations into implementation.

The Secretariat suggests that the follow-up actions will then be tabled for endorsement at the 11th meeting of the Network.