

eHealth Network

Guideline on

Laboratory Results

RELEASE NOTES (Release 1.1, June 2023)

The eHealth Network guidelines on Laboratory Results are one fine example on how the eHealth Network interoperability efforts shape the way how health data exchange takes place around EU. This is the case of cross-border exchange of Laboratory Results (in MyHealth@EU) as well as other projects at European or national level that leverage working solutions on top of these guidelines.

The Release 1.1 is a minor update eHealth Network Laboratory Results guidelines, that includes the following improvements:

- Upon discussion further the relevance of the concept of "Laboratory Summary", it was concluded that it was redundant with the existing dataset in guidelines. Clarifications showed that the laboratory summary is a view on the existing information more than a specific dataset or clinical document. Considering the above conclusion, the following updates were performed:
 - Removed the concept of Laboratory summary;
 - Added examples illustrative on how to present laboratory results to health professionals, even combined from multiple laboratory reports.
- From the discussions with stakeholders, some additional improvements were introduced, namely:
 - Added guidelines on to minimise risk of misinterpretation of laboratory test results;
 - Added precision on how to handle narrative text when it exists;
 - Added support information on technical standards;
 - Added precision to Recipient information (3 new fields);
 - Added metadata elements to the dataset.

The clarification and improvements performed bring additional maturity to the content and facilitate the implementation of the guidelines. The upcoming Joint Action may work on technical specifications and/or implementation guides to take this work further.

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