



12TH EHEALTH NETWORK 28 NOVEMBER 2017, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM
COVER NOTE BY EHEALTH NETWORK SECRETARIAT

Agenda point 1b: eHealth Network multiannual work programme 2018-2021

Issue at stake

The eHealth Network has commissioned a sub-group in November 2016 to prepare a proposal for a new Multiannual Work Programme for the years 2018-2021. Bearing in mind the Commission's Digital Single Market Strategy and the upcoming Communication, the sub-group has drafted this proposal and submitted it to the eHealth Network. The new MWP should go into effect on 1 January 2018. The Members of the eHealth Network are invited to discuss this proposal after which they will have to decide on its adoption. Furthermore, to support the implementation of the priorities mentioned in the MWP, a new Joint Action will be set up.

Summary

The MWP sub-group of the eHealth Network has identified 4 priority areas:

1. Empowering people
2. Innovative use of health data
3. Enhancing continuity of care
4. Overcoming implementation challenges

Under each priority area specific topics were defined followed with a description of the expected outcome. The MWP gives a good reflection of what the eHealth Network should be doing the forthcoming years. All topics mentioned under the priority areas are included in the actions of new Joint Action (eHAction) ensuring a follow-up of the eHealth Network's priority areas.

However, there are topics identified that are important in the field of digital health, for that reason still included in the MWP, but for which it was not clear to the sub-group as to what the role of the eHealth Network could be.

These topics are:

- A.3: Digital health literacy of patients
- D.2 eSkills for professionals

The sub-group wants to discuss these topics with the eHealth Network and poses the following questions:

- Does the eHealth Network see a role for itself in topics A.3 and D.2?
- Should these topics be included in the MWP?
- If included in the MWP, which instrument (Joint Action, eHN sub-group, stakeholders, and other relevant actions/initiatives) is best equipped to take these topics forward?

Furthermore, topic D.1 concerning interoperability, is only taken up by the Joint Action in part. The part of this topic that concerns the uptake of the most updated software by healthcare providers enabling them to exchange health data in an interoperable manner is not included as a task under the Joint Action (eHAction). Therefore, the sub-group wants to ask the eHealth Network the following question:

- Which instrument (eHN sub-group, stakeholders, and other relevant actions/initiatives) is best equipped to take this specific part of topic D.1 forward?

Format of procedure in the eHN

The Member State co-chair will introduce this agenda point and will then open the floor to the eHealth Network for discussion. After the discussion, the Member State co-chair will present the MWP for adoption to the eHealth Network.