



**6<sup>TH</sup> EHEALTH NETWORK 18 NOVEMBER 2014**

**COVER NOTE BY SECRETARIAT**

**Topic 7: Information points**

**Issue at stake**

The eHealth Network Secretariat would like to inform you about several items which are valuable for you to know, or will be placed on the agenda of the eHealth Network in May 2015.

**Summary of document**

*New eHealth Joint Action*

No document attached. The elected Project Coordinator will be asked to report back on the progress made concerning the Joint Action that will support the eHealth Network as from 2015 onwards.

*Letter on SNOMED CT*

Attached is a letter from IHTSDO concerning the usage of SNOMED CT in cross-border eHealth services. This letter explains the general idea behind the proposed agreement between IHTSDO and the European Commission concerning the possibility to use SNOMED CT for cross-border purposes.

*Study on use of big data in health*

DG SANCO will report on the proposal for a study concerning the use of big data in health. There are growing possibilities to use the huge amounts of data (stored in health data bases, electronic health records, etc). However, it is still not clear how this big data promise will be accomplished and how healthcare systems are preparing for deployment of Big Data.

DG SANCO services prepared a background document on the use of Big Data in Public Health Policy and Research. In this document some trends, challenges and international initiatives are identified. The document will be used as background material for the study on the use of big data. The call for tender is planned for the Health Programme 2015.

**Format of procedure in the eHN**

The Co-Chairs will introduce the topics, and will request the different authors to inform the eHealth Network about the information points. No discussion/decision necessary at this point. Please note that the time per information point is limited.