PRESS
RELEASE

eHAction Press Release
19th December 2018

| eHAction WP 6 Workshop |

Roadmap on Future eHDSI Use Cases and Features

eHAction
Joint Action supporting
the eHealth Network

ehaction.eu

FIGURE 1 | eHAction WP 6 Workshop, Berlin

Berlin, 30th November 2018

From November 27th to 30th, over 25 participants from 14 countries attended the eHAction's Work Package 6 Workshop, in order to discuss the proposed "Roadmap on Future eHDSI (eHealth Digital Service Infrastructure) Use Cases and Features", more specifically its methods and content as well as the feedback received so far from the eHealth Network and its stakeholders.

Many European citizens travel to or work in another Member State; however, their clinical information may not always be accessible where the need for healthcare arises. The increased mobility associated with the advancements of the most recent digital technologies requires both health policies and systems across the EU to be more interconnected. Cross-border healthcare services, such as Patient Summary and ePrescription address this need.

There is a need to ensure the standardisation of health data exchange to sustain high quality safe and trusted cross-border healthcare services by the Member States. This is, in line with planned recommendations on an Electronic Health Record exchange Format (EHRxF), that aims to facilitate cross-border interoperability and secure access to electronic health records for seamless exchange and use of health data in the EU.

Against the background of these facts/this reality, this 4-day workshop consisted of three parts with a joint agenda. The first two days were a formal meeting of eHAction's Task 6.1, that took place in Gematik, the German national eHealth competence centre. The third day was a workshop of the CEN/HL7 project 'International Patient Summary' (IPS). The IPS workshop addressed how the experience from IPS standard development can feed the process of developing a 'Roadmap for eHealth Digital Service Infrastructure (eHDSI) future use cases and features'.

The CEN IPS standard, which codifies in a European standard the functional requirements of the eHealth Network endorsed guidelines, was voted positively by 17 European countries and builds on the close collaboration and agreement with HL7, an international standard developing organisation that recently delivered the HL7 FHIR IPS. The need for education and dissemination material for the new CEN IPS standard was recognised.

A second deliverable with IPS implementation guidance is currently under review in the member states of TC 251, the CEN committee for Health Informatics.

On the last day, there was a meeting focused on EU-funded project Trillium II (www.trillium2.eu), hosted by HL7 Germany. The project invited members of the eHAction for an exchange of best practices on IPS governance at the global, European, and national level.

This format enabled experts from all groups to join all the available events, to gain insight about the work that has been done so far and to align their work, by giving and receiving insights about innovative work methods and valuable suggestions.

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FIGURE 2| eHAction WP 6 Workshop, Berlin

BACKGROUND

eHealth Action, the Joint Action supporting the eHealth Network, is a collaborative action between Member States/ Countries' national eHealth competences funded by the European Commission to act as the main preparatory body for the eHealth Network, the highest decision-making body of the European Union in the field of eHealth.

The eHDSI (eHealth Digital Service Infrastructure) is the initial deployment and operation of services for cross-border health data exchange under the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF). It sets up and starts deploying the core and generic services, as defined in the CEF, for Patient Summary and ePrescription. The generic services are the necessary implementation of data exchange at country level, the core services at EU level. These together enable the provision of Cross Border eHealth Information Services (CBeHIS).
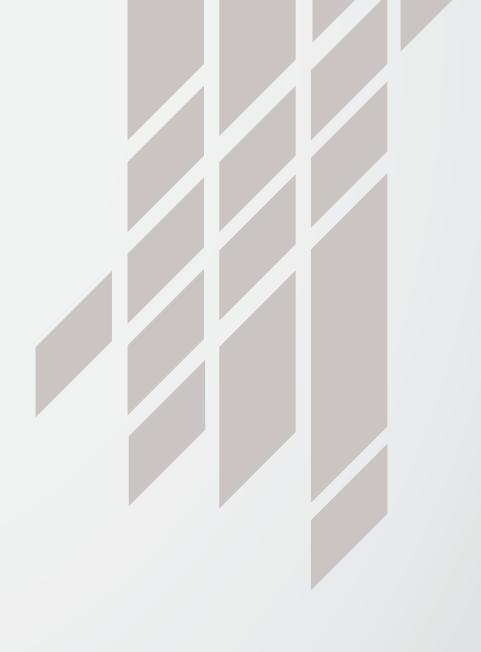
The overall objective of WP 6 is to prepare healthcare systems and providers to adopt and implement interoperable cross--border solutions, which is a key priority to ensure progress in eHealth.

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