

Interoperability: The role of Member States

MedTech Europe pitch at the eHAction workshop
“Common governance principals for the re-use of health data”
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Interoperability challenge long recognized

Council conclusions, 2017

Lack of interoperability inhibits digital health

Barriers to scaling up the potential in digital health and connected care, such as

- dominance of data silos,
 - lack of interoperability
 - [lack] of common standards for measuring clinical and patient reported outcomes,
 - limited access and use of large databases for research and innovation purposes,
 - lack of funding and financial incentives,
 - fragmented markets across the EU and across the spectrum of services,
- still exist and progress in implementing the data-driven digital solutions in the health sector remains limited.

*Council conclusions on Health in the Digital Society
— making progress in data-driven innovation
in the field of health, (2017/C 440/05)*

Opportunities to do better:

Use the potential of data to elevate efficiency and quality of care

- Enable meaningful use of all relevant data at any point in any workflow and care context
- Diagnosis and treatment will benefit from the use of a patient-centric, longitudinal view of the patient and best of breed data enabled clinical decision support

Example: Portal in NL to transfer patient dossiers for COVID-19 ICU patients moving between hospitals

Industry views and recommendations

Member states to orchestrate standards deployment

Standards are the solution, but there is much to choose from

- Align between EC and Member States to foster data interoperability
- Set rules and guidelines for data semantics and standards use, and incentivize through procurement
- Actively support standards development and adoption (IHE, HL7, DICOM, SNOMED, LOINC ...)

Industry views and recommendations

We are seeing increasingly national healthcare systems requiring developers of medical technology solutions to deliver data along certain specifications. There is a **risk of fragmentation**. The EU could take a coordinating role to avoid multiple and inconsistent national recommendations or strategies to fully accomplish the potential of data and AI. In this regard, we urge the European Commission to further develop the European EHR Exchange Format recommendation to cover specifications for data from medical/IVD devices and services.

from [Medtech Europe statement on the European data strategy](#)

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 MedTech Europe
from diagnosis to cure

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