



eHealth Acceptance Conference 2012

Pēteris Zilgalvis, J.D.
DG Communications Networks, Content and Technology
European Commission
Head of Unit, Health and Well-being
5 November, 2012



eHealth Action Plan Update

A New e-Health Action Plan: Why?

- *To reflect the progress made so far*
- *To ensure more coherence between health policy developments and eHealth deployment*
- *To scale up eHealth for empowerment, efficiency and innovation in healthcare*
- *To contribute to more jobs and growth*
- *Requested in Council Conclusions (December 2009)*

Addressing the issues that count:

New action plan will address the key issues considered to be important in public consultation:*

- *Increase awareness of the benefits and opportunities of eHealth, and empower citizens, patients and healthcare professionals*
- *Address issues currently impeding eHealth interoperability*
- *Improve legal certainty for eHealth*
- *Support research and innovation in eHealth and development of a competitive European market*

** over 90% agreed / partially agreed*

eHealth Action Plan: vision

Tackle eHealth challenges related to:

- 1. **Personal Health** (Chronic Disease Management, prevention and health promotion)*
- 2. **Health systems** (unlocking innovation, enhancing patient-centric care, encouraging organisational changes)*
- 3. **Health security and universality** (cross-border healthcare)*
- 4. **Legal and market conditions** (development of products and services)*

Operational objectives

- 1. Achieving wider interoperability of eHealth services*
- 2. Supporting Research, Development and Innovation*
- 3. Facilitating uptake and ensuring wider deployment*
- 4. Promoting international cooperation*

Achieving Wider Interoperability

- *New framework should build on results of research projects and studies*

Supporting this:

- *Standards, interoperability testing and certification (to be endorsed by eH network)*
- *Maintenance of assets under CEF*

Legal Clarity

- *Staff Working Paper on legal issues in telemedicine*
- *Support for legal work linking eHealth and ICT-led innovation*
- *Guidance on how to apply EU **data protection law** in the area of health data (following adoption of DP regulation)*
- *Examination of Legal Framework applicable to mHealth and Health & Wellbeing Apps*

Research & Innovation

Focus on competitiveness

- ***Research:***
- *Health & Wellbeing solutions (user-centric focus)*
- *Longer-term focus: VPH...*

- ***Innovation:***
- *User-driven innovation*
- *PCP / PPI*

Ensuring Wider Deployment

- *Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) from 2014*
- *Cohesion policy: bringing broadband access and supporting ICT applications and services*
- *European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing*

Facilitating Uptake

- *Focus on Digital Health Literacy for professionals and citizens*
- *Clinical Practice Guidelines for telemedicine services*

International Cooperation

- *Benchmarking and data collection (WHO, OECD ...)*
- *Policy discussions: building on the Memorandum of Understanding with the US on eHealth on interoperable eHealth systems and ICT skills*

Conclusion

- *Action Plan responds to climate of budgetary constraints of health systems; ageing population; citizens' expectations*
- *Promoting innovation for: better health and care; transparency and empowerment; more skilled workforce; more efficient and sustainable health and care systems; new business opportunities in Europe and beyond*

Next steps:

Scheduled adoption by the EC: November 2012

Contact us

eHealth[®]

ec.europa.eu/ehealth



[@EU_ehealth](https://twitter.com/EU_ehealth)

[@EU_ehealthweek](https://twitter.com/EU_ehealthweek)



[EU.ehealth](https://www.facebook.com/EU.ehealth)

Ehealthweek.eu