

eHealth

priorities and strategies
in European countries



Fact sheet

Slovenia

March 2007

Towards the Establishment
of a European eHealth
Research Area





Slovenia

Strategic perspective

The six health programme priorities of the Slovenian Ministry of Health are: health improvement and preventive activities; the formulation of national policies and strategies for enabling and promoting healthy lifestyles; healthcare; organisation of the healthcare system; healthcare financing and development of a model for monitoring and assessing quality in the healthcare system.

The eHealth objectives and activities are derived from the “Action plan for a European eHealth Area” and from experiences and current status of health informatics in Slovenia. The strategic goal is to exploit the use of efficient, flexible informatics to support the objectives of the national healthcare system which are to serve the needs and best interests of the citizens, healthcare professionals, healthcare organisation management, healthcare service purchasers and healthcare system administrators. It is thus intended to facilitate interlinking of existing information system islands in order to facilitate access to information and direct communication across the administrative and organisational barriers to and from both the citizens and the healthcare professionals.

In December 2005 “eHealth2010 – Strategic plan for the Slovenian health sector informatisation” was published. It has three main activity lines:

- establish the basic informatics infrastructure and define the basic health and social databases as a basis for the implementation of the national electronic health record by the end of 2007,
- inter-connect health and social information systems on the national level through the development of the national health portal, which will provide safe and reliable exchange of data between the relevant parties in the health system, will ensure eServices and transparent information to all relevant parties and could be connected to other similar systems across Europe by the end of 2010,
- establish eBusiness as a common way of work in the Slovenian health sector by the end of 2010.



In accordance with the start-up tasks in the eHealth2010 strategic plan, the National Health Informatics Council was established in June 2006 followed by establishment of the Health Informatics Standardisation Board. The Health Informatics Council is the governing body that will ensure informatics is optimally applied in support of national health system goals. The Health Informatics Standards Board is the body that will lead the establishment of informatics standards required by the Slovenian health system.

Implementation perspective

There are a number of projects ongoing and completed at the country level. The National Insurance Card System is implemented and it is the main important experience in eHealth. This Insurance Card System is based on the network of databases maintained by the Health Insurance Institute of Slovenia (HIIS). The targeted objectives are:

- to improve the quality of services provided by the Institute and by other health care service providers;
- to simplify and improve communication between the



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- Institute, the physicians and healthcare institutions,
- to reduce the number and variety of unnecessary procedures,
 - to improve the security of personal data within the information processing systems,
 - to reduce the burden of administrative tasks and thereby to achieve a higher efficiency of operations at the Institute and within the health care service.

A planned Card System upgrade will be accomplished in the 2007 – 2009 period. Relevant examples of projects are:

- **NETC@RDS PROJECT**, between (among others) Czech Republic, Italy and Slovenia to improve mobile citizens' access to trans-European health services by using advanced web-oriented applications either based on IT systems, smart cards or combining both of them. It also aims to implement and evaluate technical solutions for electronic European Health Insurance Card and for improving additional services such as the inter-European health costs clearing and billing processing.
- **PRIMACOM PROJECT**, collaboration between Hungary and Slovenia on exchange of medical data and experience with Italy and Denmark. It aims to supply health care professionals with systems and infrastructure which enhance communication between primary and secondary care. Another initiative is the NANSI Project, which transfers distributed software technologies for open health, healthcare, hospital and insurance systems and adopted European Standards to the CEE/NIS countries. It includes the development of a prototype application on the top of DHE middle-ware.

Future activities

Electronic Health Record (EHR) – 2007: Basic information infrastructure, standard dataset, implementation.
National Health Information Portal – 2010: Interlinking of all healthcare stakeholders, security infrastructure, tools for communication between the citizen and the healthcare system.

Core resources

Ministry of Health

<http://www.mz.gov.si/index.php?id=713&L=1>

eHealth2010 – Strategic plan for the Slovenian health sector informatisation, Ministry of Health of Republic of Slovenia, December 2005

Action Plan eGovernment

http://e-uprava.gov.si/eud/e-uprava/en/akcijski_nacrt_e-uprave_do_leta_2004_1_4.pdf

eHealth in Slovenia (Presentation Nov. 2004):

[http://www.kuopio.fi/attachments.nsf/Files/091104155400210/\\$FILE/Aleksandra%20Jercinovic.PPT](http://www.kuopio.fi/attachments.nsf/Files/091104155400210/$FILE/Aleksandra%20Jercinovic.PPT)

Health Insurance Card

http://www.zzs.si/kzz/ang/hic_indx.htm

Netcards project

<http://www.netcards-project.com>

About eHealth ERA

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