



CALLIOPE

Creating a European coordination network for eHealth interoperability implementation



The CALLIOPE Network is part of the Open eHealth Initiative, which is driven by Member States health administrations. It represents a targeted effort aiming to establish an appropriately governed, composed and structured open forum, with the focal goal to support Member States to implement interoperable eHealth solutions, in close collaboration with the key stakeholders, including users, industry and payers.

At a Glance

Project:

Call for Interoperability (CALLIOPE) - Thematic Network

Project coordinator:

Institute of Communication and Computer Systems (ICCS)

Partners:

Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Luxemburg, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden, the Netherlands, United Kingdom

Duration: 30 months

Total cost: € 500.000,--

Programme: ICT Policy Support programme under the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP)

Further information:

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http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/ehealth/policy

CIP: http://ec.europa.eu/cip/index_en.htm

ICT-PSP: http://ec.europa.eu/ict_psp

The new European Commission portal on social affairs:

<http://ec.europa.eu/social>

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Interoperability – the major challenge in connecting eHealth

Health services are knowledge intensive and technology dependant environments. While the rapid growth of knowledge and technology presents excellent potential for making healthcare better, more effective and efficient, at the same time it creates specific challenges for service continuity, organization and management.

Europe's eHealth landscape is characterized by heterogeneous systems. In the past there was a clear focus on the IT-support of different organizations such as hospitals and health insurances. However, this perspective is rapidly changing as centralized patient documentation (e.g. HCR-Systems) as well as the exchange of knowledge and experience become more and more important. This leads to the need of establishing well organized networking systems such as the CALLIOPE Thematic Network.

In the course of European integration process citizen and patient mobility gain more importance and call for Interoperability in eHealth – especially in semantic terms.

As a result of an ageing population and the empowerment of citizens, demands on health and social care are continuously rising. Interoperable eHealth applications provide significant advantages, for instance, enhanced information to providers and citizens, including accessibility and timely availability of medical data, improved workflow, etc. All ultimately lead to improved quality and efficiency of care, reduction of adverse events including errors and therefore containment of costs. The transformation of the delivery of healthcare through information and communication technologies can of course provide better care.

Objective

The objective of the CALLIOPE project is to aim at the establishment of an appropriately governed, composed and structured open forum, with the focal goal to support Member States to implement interoperable eHealth solutions, in close collaboration with the key actors. The network is expected to deliver a Roadmap to achieve eHealth Interoperability and a proposal for updating the recently adopted Commission Recommendation on Interoperability of Electronic Health Records systems. CALLIOPE will therefore operate in synergy with cross border eHealth initiatives in Europe, in terms of supporting exchanges within a much broader community and will also be one of the major mechanisms for dissemination and propagation of EU level activities in this area.

The approach

The Network will contribute to standardization activities through close liaison with relevant standardisation bodies, as well as providing input to CIP ICT PSP, towards better focusing of future programme funded activities in cross border eHealth.

Initially, the network governance and the knowledge infrastructures will be developed and the CALLIOPE Network will be set to operation. As part of its work program, CALLIOPE will then serve a first set of operational objectives, i.e. elaboration of a proposal for a common "Interoperability Road Map", review and advancement of the EU interoperability recommendation, and facilitation of pre-standardisation processes through liaison with SDOs.

Furthermore, it will offer a portfolio of targeted support services to be provided on request and by mobilising external resources, thus setting the network on track to sustainability. The results will comprise part of the independent evaluation at the end of the project.

Participants

The project has been initiated by the eHealth initiative and is promoted by 28 beneficiaries representing 8 Competence Centers, 9 National Authorities and 11 professional organisations such as Industry, Doctors, Pharmacists, Health Insurers and Patients.

The CALLIOPE project has a total budget of approx. 500.000 Euro for the next 3 years; half of it is funded by the European Commission's Competitiveness and Innovation Programme, Programme to Support Policy (CIP PSP).

Dissemination and awareness raising

During the lifetime of the project, the project will work in close cooperation with other ICT-PSP projects such as the epSOS project (Smart Open Services for European Patients) and the STORK project (Secure Identity Across Borders Linked) to ensure that benefits can be shared with non-participant countries.

The CALLIOPE Thematic Network will take part in specific events and conferences and will contribute to raise awareness and create consensus around the overall issue of interoperability of eHealth services.

