

Issues and concerns regarding EEHRxF adoption on national and regional levels

Introduction by Roman Radomski
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Myths about EEHRxF implementation

- European specifications will replace the existing national/regional/local specifications?
 - No. Existing national/regional specs need to be developed/modified and harmonized with EEHRxF.
- Industry should implement EEHRxF directly into their EHR systems?
 - No. IT vendors should get the harmonized specs as part of the new national/regional regulations.
- EHDS will create one common healthcare system in Europe?
 - No. It will just create a common space for data exchange (which is a good step in the right direction), but all national or regional healthcare systems will remain.

One data space for many healthcare systems?

- The European specifications do not cover all rules needed to smooth, secure and safe exchange of data across a particular healthcare system.
- They do cover some of them - those that can be defined as common for all European healthcare systems.
- European formats should stay open for defining country specific rules and those rules must be specified in – still needed – national or regional specifications.
- The EEHRxF is not meant to replace the national and regional specifications when EHDS is implemented.
- The current attempts to implement parts of European specifications **directly** in local EHR systems have great exploratory value, but it's not the right way to achieve a common data space across different countries.

How to implement EEHRxF on large scale?

- HL7 standards are designed to allow hierarchical specifications. To implement EEHRxF we need a whole set of specifications that are properly aligned to each other.
- The best (but not easy) way to ensure common implementation of EEHRxF is to harmonize the existing national/regional specifications with the European ones. Only the harmonized specifications will ensure that both European and country-specific rules are properly implemented.
- If you do not have your own specifications, you still need to develop them in harmony with the European ones.

Role of national/regional bodies

- The key role in the successful implementation of EHDS belongs to national or regional bodies, both governmental and non-governmental.
- Development of national/regional specs is even more complicated and extensive than development of the European specification itself.
- Each country/region should develop its own strategy for EHDS implementation, based on properly developed and maintained set of specifications conformant to global interoperability standards and profiles.
- The strategy should cover regulatory, technical and organizational aspects of the implementation.

One problem, but many solutions

- Because of the differences between healthcare systems and different levels of maturity of the national eHealth solutions the task cannot be done as “one strategy for all”.
- The development of the EEHRxF adoption strategies should include also modelling the national architectures of eHealth solutions as well as preparing an input to national regulations regarding EHDS implementation.
- There is a need for international exchange of experiences to help national bodies to develop and realize their strategies. Such a cooperation is needed not only on intergovernmental level, but also between SDOs and other non-government organizations.

Affiliate short presentations

- Expected content:
 - Current status of national/regional/local specs
 - Approach to EEHRxF adoption
 - Thoughts, concerns, ideas to share with other affiliates
- Format: 3-4 slides, 5-7 min
- Discussion after all presentations