

## **Digital Health**

Martin Dorazil
Deputy Head of Unit
European Reference Networks and
Digital Health Unit
European Commission (DG SANTE)



### **Digital Transformation of Health and Care**

2018 Communication on enabling the digital transformation of health and care (COM(2018)233)





## 1. Secure access to and sharing of citizens' health data

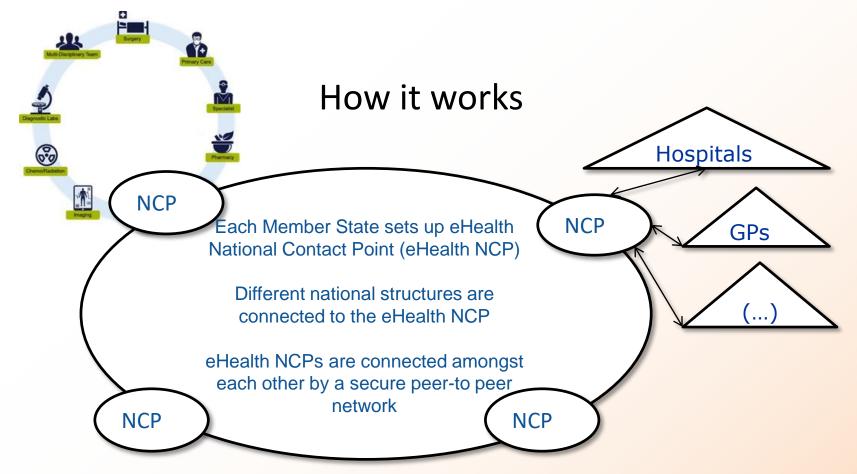
- Progressive exchange of e-prescriptions and patient summaries across EU Member States (eHDSI)
- Increased interoperability and exchange of electronic health records (Commission recommendation on EHRxF)
- new Commission Implementing Decision on eHealth Network
- Support MS collaboration on cross-border exchanges of health data



# The eHealth Digital Service Infrastructure enabling exchange of patient data across borders

- Patient Summaries give health professionals access to verified key health data of a patient during an unplanned care encounter while abroad.
- **ePrescriptions** enable patients to receive equivalent medication while abroad to what they would receive in their home country.







## 2. Better data for research, prevention and personalised health and care

- Mechanism for the voluntary coordination to share data for prevention and personalised medicine research ("1 Million Genomes Declaration")
- Pilot actions, pooling data and resources (ERN virtual panels)
- Support development of technical specifications for secure access and exchange of health data sets for research purposes (rare disease registries)



# **Declaration** for delivering cross-border access to **genomic database**

- 1 million genomes accessible in the EU by 2022
- Linking access to existing and future genomic database across the EU
- Providing a sufficient scale for new clinically impactful results in research



## Cross-Border Possibilities to Help Patients with a Rare Disease







#### The ERN

Networks of healthcare providers aiming at improving quality, and safety and access to highly specialised healthcare

Patients affected by rare or low prevalence and complex diseases

Multidisciplinary approach (different specialities/areas of knowledge)

#### Added value at EU level

European Reference

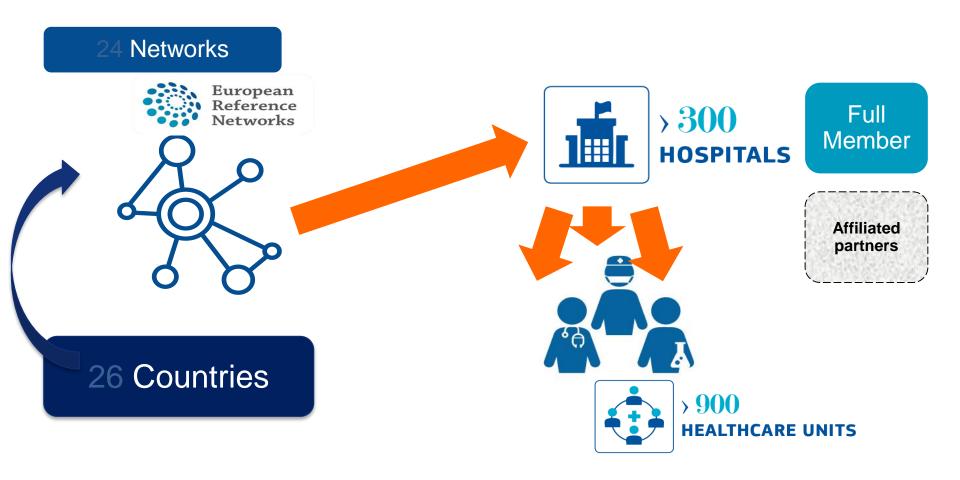
Networks

#### Need of cooperation:

- Scarcity knowledge
- Need education
- Complexity / high cost
- Effectiveness in the use of resources

"The knowledge travels, not the patient"











IT tools

EF funded

CLINICAL
Online patient
management
CPMS

Web/video conferencing , Virtual clinical meetings

Exchange of Images (Radiology), diagnostic tests & pictures (genetics, pathology etc., (PACS)

Exchange of clinical information and patient data



## 3. Strengthening citizen empowerment and person-centred care through digital tools

- Facilitate the wide deployment of digitally-enabled services
- Promote common principles for validating and certifying health technology
- Capacity building and technical assistance for health authorities
- Mobilising investment to support large-scale implementation of digitally enabled, integrated, person-centred care models
- Increased funding for digital health proposed under the new MFF (Digital Europe Programme, Horizon Europe, ESF, ERDF...)
- Investment Guidelines adopted by eHealth Network



# Towards the creation of a European Health Data Space

"We need to make the most of the potential of e-health to provide high-quality healthcare and reduce inequalities. I want you to work on the creation of a European Health Data Space to promote health-data exchange and support research on new preventive strategies, as well as on treatments, medicines, medical devices and outcomes. As part of this, you should ensure citizens have control over their own personal data."

(President-elect von der Leyen's Mission Letter to Commissioner Designate for Health, 10 September 2019)



### **The Way Forward**

Infrastructure

(Cyber-) security

Access to health data (incl. data protection compliance)

Prevent new health inequalities

Artificial Intelligence (ethical issues, safety, liability)

Address regulatory gaps and barriers

Interoperability

The active engagement of all parties is essential to succeed in creating a "triple win" that benefits people, health systems and the market.