

Overview of the HINE project and new trends for the future

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This presentation will give an overview of the HINE (Health Information Network Europe) project in terms of targets, membership, schedule, extranet and dedicated website.

This presentation will also give some examples of results and reports included in this project for instance:

I. Citizens-patients:

The development of information and communication technologies, and especially the Internet, offers to individuals' possibilities to access potentially a tremendous mass of information of any kind. Looking specifically to the Health sector, e-Health may be defined as the use of these technologies to improve or enable Health and Healthcare. This term bridges both the clinical and the non-clinical sectors and include both individual and population health-oriented tools.

"Wellness, Prevention, Self-Care, including relations with GPs", and "After Care, Home Care" are areas in which the initiative and the responsibility of the Citizen-patient will be the most strongly solicited. A favourable circumstance in this perspective is that at present, the Citizen-patient takes increasingly an attitude of "empowered Healthcare consumer". But "reengineering" the behaviour of the Citizens-patients with regard to the Health Care issues and showing them that using the IC technologies to interact with the HC system is bringing them substantial benefits necessitate careful action.

II. General Practitioners:

General Practitioners suffer from an outdated business model and the ways they interact between them and with the citizens-patients is changing rapidly. They are overall slow in adopting new technologies and worried about the costs involved for infrastructure and learning. Technology does not exist in a vacuum. It must create real and sustainable economic value. Some new technologies are welcomed to save time and money, but the integration into the workflow is a key. Integration at the point of care is a key to create 'value' to GPs. During our presentation we will clarify the position of the General Practitioner, the current

status of eHealth with health care professionals at their level, and the on-going evolution foreseen.