



Realising the potential of digital health transformation in Europe:

A focus on the role and experiences of Regional and Local Health Authorities

12th October 2022, 11:30 – 13:00 CET

High-level Workshop (Hybrid)

Digital technology is increasingly changing the way we design and deliver health and care services. From simple online registration systems to robotics, artificial intelligence and sophisticated algorithms, digital solutions are facilitating person-centered care provision and accelerating diagnosis and treatment. This transformation has been pushed further by the COVID-19 pandemic, which gave an impetus to speed up digitalisation in the health sector but also highlighted existing issues.

Indeed, despite many European initiatives and good practices at national, regional and local level, a full digital health transformation is still hampered by a series of challenges and obstacles. These are linked, for instance, to skills and literacy, lack of interoperability and infrastructures, and different levels of 'digital readiness' across Europe. In this complex environment, the war in Ukraine further opened additional scenarios, highlighting for instance how Electronic Health Records and health data portability, could prove essential to support Member States' and local health systems coping with exceptional challenges and with the need to ensure the right of access to healthcare.

In this context, the EU has devoted much energy over the past two years to trace a common path towards digitalisation as a cornerstone of the European Health Union

project and linked to Europe Digital Decade's objectives. This centrality is reflected, for instance, in the Recovery and Resilience Facility instrument and the Horizon Europe partnership on Transforming Health and Care Systems. The creation of a European Health Data Space, the new EU Care Strategy and other European initiatives will further enhance the digital transition of health and care delivery and help Member States strengthen their health and care systems.

By taking stock of the current state of play, focusing on key initiatives, exploring current experiences and challenges, the CoR, the Commission, and EUREGHA join forces to discuss how digital health transformation can nurture quality and efficiency of health and care provision, empower citizens and boost resilience and sustainability and what is truly needed to achieve it across Europe, putting a particular focus on the role of regional and local health authorities in driving this change forward.

AGENDA

Moderator: Giovanni Gorgoni, Chair, European Regional and Local Health Authorities

Welcome

11:30

Birgitta Sacrédeus, Chair, Interregional Group on Health and Well-being, European Committee of the Regions

Speech

The European Health Data Space: how to make it a reality?

11:40

Marco Marsella, Head of Unit, eHealth, Well-Being and Ageing, DG CONNECT, European Commission

Speech

The Recovery and Resilience Facility and the digitalisation of the health sector: the Italian experience

11:50

Fidelia Cascini, Digital Health Expert at the DG for the Digitalisation of Italy's Ministry of Health

Speech

At the forefront of digital transformation: what challenges and what opportunities for European regions and cities?



12:00

Birgitta Sacrédeus, *Chair, Interregional Group on Health and Well-being, European Committee of the Regions*

Speech

Access to care and patients' mobility in Europe, also in light of the Ukraine crisis: how to exploit the potential of digital transformation?

12:10

Mike Morrissey, *Chief Executive of the European Cancer Organisation*

Video testimonials

Digital health transformation: examples and challenges from regions and beyond

12:20

Flanders (BE) – The ZorgAtlas

Scotland (UK) - Scotland's Approach to Innovation in Health and Care

THALEA – Telemedicine system to meet the demands of Hospitals concerning early warning Assisted by innovative ICT for Life Saving co-morbid patients in Europe As part of patients personalized care program

Q&A

Open debate: reactions and reflections from previous contributions

12:30/12:55

Closing remarks

12:50/13:00

Giovanni Gorgoni, *Chair, European Regional and Local Health Authorities (EUREGHA)*

