

Cross-border data transfer of eHealth data in the BSR Summary

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Date/Venue | 14/06/2017, 13:45 – 15:15, Stresemann-Saal |
| Organiser | Anna-Winona Struck (struck@lifesciencenord.de, Baltic Fracture Competence Centre - BFCC, Life Science Nord Management GmbH) |
| Panel | <p>Piret Hirv (Advisor for E-services and Innovation, Ministry of Social Affairs, Republic of Estonia)</p> <p>Wolfgang Hoffmann (BFCC-Partner, Institute for Community Medicine, Section Epidemiology of Health Care and Community Health, University Medicine Greifswald, Germany)</p> <p>Jaanus Pikani (Chairman of Scanbalt fmba, Tartu Biotechnology Park, Estonia)</p> <p>Thomas Karopka (BioCon Valley GmbH, Greifswald, Germany)</p> <p>Lars Lindsköld (eHealth Unit, Department of Region Health, Region Västra Götaland, Sweden)</p> |
| Speakers | <p>Gudrun Mernitz (BioCon Valley GmbH, Greifswald, Germany)</p> <p>Marek Maciejowski (NDPHS Secretariat)</p> <p>Joakim Wernberg (Lund University, Sweden)</p> |
| Moderation | Roland Trill (eHealth for Regions Network, Flensburg University of Applied Sciences, Germany) |

Summary and Key Findings:

- The seminar opened with four short presentations. Joakim Wernberg talked about the importance of open data and that the more data we have, the more innovation we'll get. Marek Maciejowski talked about the policy area 'Health' and how it helps to raise strategic issues to policy level. Wolfgang Hoffman introduced the Flagship Interreg BSR project BFCC und explained how it is facing the challenge of EU data protection conformance. Finally, Gudrun Mernitz talked about the risk of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and how cross-border Electronic Surveillance could contribute to prevent the spread of AMR.
- The panel discussion opened with the question about problems of cross-border data sharing. The panel explained that there are issues with standardisation and very strict safety regulations. Furthermore, data alone is not enough. It needs to be transformed in-to information. Currently patients are not enough involved in the process of data sharing. The front runner role of Estonia regarding data sharing was highlighted and the big potential for businesses in the field of data sharing. A strong business model for handling eHealth data is still lacking and needs to be developed.
- Another topic which has been addressed is that we should switch from "patients" to "citizens" as not only ill people provide eHealth data. The digital culture in the BSR countries differs a lot and the behaviour towards eHealth would improve if the patients/citizens would be more involved.
- An EU-wide solution (a common EU regulation) has been considered as not realistic in the near future. The BSR as a frontrunner in the area of eHealth can yield as a test-bed for cross-border data sharing and push the topic on EU-level. A strategy is needed to overcome the lack of visibility and also legal clarity in this context. The Estonian EU presidency will push the politician level with the Estonian eHealth declaration which will be published in October 2017.