



# **Economic Benefits of EU-US Cooperation on eHealth**

**EU-US eHealth Marketplace  
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## Healthcare costs constantly growing component of public finances

**Total public & private  
health spending**

❖ **Up to 9.6% of GDP**

**Total public health spending**

❖ **7.4% of GDP**

❖ **Up to 15% of total government  
expenditure**

**Shrinking workforce in the care sector by 2020**

❖ **1 million doctors & nurses less, and 2 mio incl. ancillary staff**

❖ **15% of necessary care uncovered**



## Demographic Change in the EU 2010-60

❖ **65+ Population increasing from 17% to 30%**

❖ **Working age contingent (15-64) decreasing from 67% to 56%**

# Care of the Chronically Ill

## Example - Cardiovascular Disease - CVD

**80% of EU spending on healthcare goes on the chronically ill**

**CVD alone costs the EU Economy €192 billion annually and accounts for 57% of healthcare costs**

**Contributes to 21% of productivity losses and 42% of deaths in the EU**

## **Benefits of eHealth**

**eHealth and ICT for well-being have potential to deliver more efficient care:**

- help reduce errors**
- foster a citizen-centric approach**
- aid social inclusion**
- promote market growth**
- help to reduce waste**

# Benefits of eHealth

**Tele-health services and interoperable EHRs can play huge role in safer and better quality healthcare**

**Deployment of eHealth is an important part of implementation of the Digital Single Market in the EU**

**Economists consider health to be a component of human capital or *'health capital'***

# **Evidence of the cost-effectiveness of eHealth in several EU Member States**



# Italy

**Overall savings from eHealth are estimated at around 12,4 billion € (i.e. 11,7% of NHS expenditure).**

**Savings from digital prescriptions alone are estimated at around 2 billion € (i.e. 1,84% of NHS expenditure) with savings for each prescription between 1 and 1,5 €.**





# United Kingdom

**Whole System Demonstrator project (preliminary results): Telehealth can deliver a 14% reduction in bed days and an 8% reduction in tariff costs.**

**In 2010-2011, NHS Direct services, a 24 hour telephone advice line, saved 1.6 million unnecessary appointments with GPs as well as 1.6 million unnecessary ambulance journeys and visits to accident and emergency departments.**

**The gross value of the Scottish Telecare Development Programme funded efficiencies over the period 2006-10 is approximately 77.5 million €.**



**More than 80% of all prescriptions are transferred from the doctor to the pharmacy electronically via a health extranet, Sjunet, or through web-based prescribing.**

**The cumulative benefits were estimated at €330 (\$430) million, distributed between citizens (20%) and hospitals (80%).**



# Denmark

**Danish Health Data Network provides fast and efficient communication between patients, general practitioners and social care professionals.**

**This streamlined services for patients and healthcare workers leads to cumulative savings of €92 million per year.**

# Some other EU countries

**A recent study across the Netherlands, UK and Germany showed that introducing home tele-monitoring systems could bring a 26% reduction in hospital days per patient, make 10% overall cost savings through nurse telephone support while improving survival rates by 15%.**



## **EU and US Common Interest in eHealth/health IT**

**EU and US facing common challenges in  
delivery of healthcare**

**Both recognise the importance of health-  
related ICT in promoting individual and  
community health while promoting  
innovation and economic growth**

**Mutual economic interest in collaboration on  
eHealth/health IT**



# **EU-US MoU on eHealth**

**Aims to foster mutual understanding of challenges faced by both sides in advancing the effective use of eHealth/health IT**

**Initially collaboration will focus on interoperability and standards for EHRs and the development of skilled health IT workforces**

# Activities under the MoU – Road-Map

***Development of joint road-map with key milestones for MoU activities over the next 12 to 18 months***

**Detailed discussions underway**

**Published in the coming weeks**

**Full EU and US stakeholder involvement**



Thank you for your attention!