Agenda

Finnish healthcare system – on-going & upcoming reforms

National eHealth architecture and implementation

National eHealth strategy 2020

Lessons learned
Health care in Finland

Key principle
• Residence-based, universal and equal right to health services

Provision
• Municipalities (320) are responsible for organising primary health care and specialised medical care
• 20 municipality owned hospital districts and appr 170 health care centres
• Employers organise preventive occupational health care
• Private health care appr 25%

=> Reform to be planned

Funding
• Public services by tax revenues collected by the state and municipalities plus client charges
• Private services are partly reimbursed under the national health insurance system
• Medication is partly reimbursed under the national health insurance system

=> Financing reform to be planned
Local and regional eHealth situation in Finland by 2015

Delights
Strong base for further development
• EHR coverage 100% (public prim and sec healthcare), 80% (private)
• EHR information exchange 90% (public, hospital districts)
• Electronical referrals and discharge letters 95%
• Wide use of national solutions (ePrescription, eArchive, eAccess)

EU comission eHealth Benchmarking 2012-2013:
• Nordic countries are the leading countries in EU

Drawbacks
• Forerunners dilemma: old EHR systems, usability
• Interoperability problems
• Slow adaptation of citizen eServices
Decisions

• Government decision in 2002: Finland should have a nation wide interoperable EHR system by end of 2007
• By 2005 agreement on the **National archive for health information** (KanTa) comprising three nation wide services
  – ePrescription
  – eAccess
  – eArchive
  – Based on structured documents (HL7 V3 CDA R2)
  – In co-operation with local systems to feed care documents and using them
• New legislation was needed to allow the new features
  – Placing the centralized service to Kela
  – Consent management, privacy & security aspects
Main standards
- HL7 V3: CDA R2 Level 3 and Medical Records
- IHE IT-I Profiles
- W3C XML DSig
- WS Addressing, WS-I
- TLS, X.509

Other national services
- National code server
  - Code lists and terminologies
- Healthcare and social care organizations register
- Pharmacies register
- Certification services
- Health care professionals register
Patient empowerment

- Patients can check the use and release of their personal health information.

- Through the eAccess portal, patients can monitor which organisations access or process their personal information and to which organisations the information is released.

- Patients can also request the register authority to detail who have accessed and processed the data.
Risks in implementation

• Specifications – clear enough?
• Timetables – software development and implementation?
• Usability issues?
• Acceptance of structured documentation?

Answers
• Clear testing plan and implementation plan
• Co-operation with users and vendors
• Guidelines and training
Implementation - IT-management perspective

- Good action plan and schedule
- Good national guidelines – but more and more are needed
- Do we have enough money and enough time?
- New ways of co-operation
- Culture of project work
- New services have been useful – and more use is to be expected
- Acceptance and use of national services and national specifications is growing
- Understanding and implementing the importance of data safety
- Importance of national architecture
Information to support well-being and service renewal
eHealth and eSocial strategy 2020

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The biggest challenge

- How to change the way health care providers and professionals are delivering care
- Incentives
- Our citizens are ready and demand change!
THANK YOU

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