

ICT and Health policy in France

How does France cope with e-Health

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Venezia 5 October 2007

France and health system

- 540 000 Km² 60 M inhabitants
- life expectancy : 75,2 M 82,7 W
- Global Expenditure per capita +2000 €
- 1,7 M jobs in Healthcare

A complex system

- **A multitude of actors**
 - health insurance (compulsory complementary)
 - 300 000 professionals (120 000 doctors), 24 000 pharmacies ,
4 000 laboratories
 - 4000 hospitals, 1,1 million employees (50 000 doctors)
- **...with a very large autonomy**

1- A system that deserves its appreciative rating ...

- **The first in the world according to WHO (2000)...**
- **... but with important internal inequalities**
 - **social**
 - **geographical**

2- a high cost

- The national expenditure of health
 - 148 billion €uros, 8.8% of GDP , 10%...
- A growth regularly stronger than the GDP
 - ↳ + 5,2 % in 2001, ...
- Presumptions of inefficiencies
 - adequacy of the offer compared to the needs

The main goal of the government

- **Make use of the Internet to rationalize the healthcare system**

for a healthier population

- => to improve the level and quality of care
- => by controlling the costs

Three types of projects

- **a first stage : SESAM-Vitale**
 - administrative simplification for refunding health expenses
- **a « corner stone » project to improve the doctor-patient relationship : DMP**
 - electronic health record (EHR)
- **public health issue**
 - to manage the consequences of the availability of the information to public (education, protection)

Four main objectives

- **To facilitate the continuity and the coordination of the health care :**
 - electronic health records :
with protected access, transmission, storage
 - telemedicine
- **To improve access to knowledge :**
 - online state of the art for the professionals
 - quality of e-health sites

Four main objectives (2)

- **better know the reasons for recourse and evaluate the expenditure**
 - piloting information systems
- **better and quicker refunding**
 - administrative simplification : SESAM-Vitale

A voluntarist strategy

- important investments
- an impact on the whole population
 - 55 million smart cards handed over

The roll-out scenario

- **Starting point**

administrative simplification

with SESAM-Vitale,

- **... but investments need to serve the other more general goals**

**Structural role of technical tools : CPS,
Vitale cards, Internet standards, Security,...**

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Confidence requirement is key

Health is not a product like others

Confidentiality requirements

- **Key issues to deal with,**
for the French Government
- legislative :
 - the Act of March 4th, 2002
 - the Act of August 13th, 2004
- technical : smartcards, secure infrastructure, PKI
- **Internet sites on e-health**
 - support self-regulation between bodies involved (users, professionals, economic actors)

A specific status for health information

- **The European Legislation 24 October 1995 (art 8)**

- prohibits any data processing without the consent of the person
- except for the data absolutely necessary to the health professional
- or those related to the management of health services, required by people exercising under professional secrecy

- **The french Medical Privacy Act (4 february 2002)**

- transmission of personal information is authorized only between health professionals treating their mutual patients, and only with their prior consent (**article L1110-4**)

New orientations

adopted by the Parlement

- **13 August 2004 law**
- **reform of the health insurance**
- **decision of the creation of a personal EHR**
 - **coordination of care**
 - quality**
 - continuity**
 - prevention**

13 August 2004 Act DMP (EHR, EPR,...)

- **Applicable on July 2007**
- **Strongly linked to the « patient act »**
 - **strict security policy & mechanisms**
 - **patient control on the access**
 - **adapted authorised access only for HCP habilitated**
 - **direct access to medical data by patient**
 - **mandatory labellisation of the storage places**

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The current situation

A technical federator

- **The Health Professional Card (CPS)**
 - authenticate, sign, coding (over 577 000)
- **The recipient insurance card :**
 - carte Vitale (over 55 Millions)
- **The choice of Internet standard technologies, but secured**

SESAM-Vitale

- **An increasing use :**
 - **>77 million electronic invoices issued every month**
 - **more than 60% of invoices**
 - **180 000 Professionals using the system**
 - **a smooth and steady implementation**

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A main objective : DMP

The Personal Electronic Health Record

The personal electronic health record (EHR)

- An effective way to manage patient's continuity of health care...
- ... but which must offer all the guarantees of privacy

To enhance their development

- **The objective:**

- to support the development of EHR**

- **information** is produced by health professionals

- reviewed on line with *strict conditions on the rights of access*

- of which the use (and contents?) are controled by the patients

- which are stored in places *under very strict conditions*

The role of the Government

- To support the development of the consensus
 - é finalities, contents, control of the uses
- To encourage experiments
- To build up the legislative framework
- To develop incentives, if necessary

Five question marks

??????

- Optimal level of confidentiality
- Identification of the patient
- Control of the access by the patients
- Respective Responsibilities
- Technical options

A way to progress

- design an iterative process
 - existing adopted roadmap & context evolution
- do not forget to nominate *A pilot*
 - strong coordination & clear decisions
- be precise in respective roles & responsibilities

Clear objectives in an evolving world

- **Integrate the regional & national evolutions**
- **avoid to focus too much on technical issues**
- **anticipate negative consequences of a new system or changing in the existing forces balance**

We are part of Europe

- **Take into account the evolution of the other M.S. and other countries**
- **... to support citizen & patient mobility**
- **... to be « compliant » with other systems**
- **... to anticipate their potential impact on national HC system**

Keep European and open on the world

- improve & facilitate the use of european & international standards
- give no long term agreement to proprietary products
- be present on international arena to anticipate changes

Thank you for your time

- Think globally
- Act locally

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