



Sopot, 18 – 19 September 2018

III e-Health Forum – Conclusions and Recommendations

The third e-Health Forum was held on September 18 – 19, 2018 in Sopot and brought together nearly 400 participants – leaders of digital transformation: representatives of patients, medical professionals, healthcare providers, Ministry of Health, Centre for Healthcare Information Systems, local governments, ICT solution providers and healthcare scientists. During the Forum, examples of international experience and best practices were presented by global e-health leaders: Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise (IHE), NHS Digital (UK), Nictiz (NL) and European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) as well as the representatives of leading entities in ICT sector and broadly understood medical sector; ideas in e-health were also presented by numerous start-ups.

We observe that the digital transformation in various areas of everyday life has a different intensity, but where it occurs, it significantly changes the world and generates new models for value creation and new modes of providing benefits for end users. As a result we have new opportunities. The knowledge-based economy, where data /information is the key asset, is becoming a reality. In healthcare system we would like to benefit from these opportunities as well.

We want the digital transformation in Poland to be performed effectively and efficiently, based on best practices applied in many parts of the world in a long time. We should, as soon as possible, reduce the distance to the leaders within e-health infrastructure, and at the same time implement new innovative solutions. Patients and citizens who use digital solutions every day in many areas of their lives, want to benefit from them also in the field to their health.

In the center of our discussion and approach is the person/patient-centric concept of healthcare system and integration care. The introduction of digital health solutions should focus on benefits for patients and their carers, medical professionals and other stakeholders.

During this e-Health Forum, aiming at building patient-centric and efficient healthcare system, we were looking for means for effective and efficient implementation of digital transformation in healthcare sector. In our discussions we identified priorities and actions.

(1) Quick and effective delivery of basic e-health solutions, services and infrastructure

In this area we should aspire to reach the European level of e-health service availability as soon as possible.

The actions should be based on best international practices and standards which shall be implemented in Poland taking account of national specificity.

(2) Taking advantage of new opportunities provided by digital health solutions

In this area we should aspire to:

- use digital solutions effectively to address key challenges and improve the efficiency of healthcare system,
- build digital health as the sector of economy.

In this area it is necessary to:

- (a) restructure, gradually but consistently, the healthcare system so that it could use the opportunities available in the digital world,
- (b) use in healthcare system the synergy with digital environment, including as broadly as possible use of digital solutions created and implemented in other contexts,
- (c) build digital maturity of healthcare providers, including organizational and technological maturity and personnel competence,
- (d) take advantage of ground-breaking opportunities related to the new digital solutions, including AI and blockchain,
- (e) build patient-centric e-health ecosystem architecture, where system (technology) architecture is based on business architecture,
- (f) create mechanisms for using Polish digital health solutions in Poland and promote them on global markets.

(3) Meeting the demands requires common and coordinated actions of all e-health ecosystem stakeholders, therefore it is necessary to:

- (a) define the vision of digital transformation which clearly indicates the main goals and helps to develop detailed objectives by particular stakeholders,
- (b) develop action plan for digital transformation which helps to synchronize and coordinate actions taken by particular stakeholders,
- (c) define sources and mechanisms for providing resources, including motivation and award mechanisms for providing benefits and achieving subsequent levels of digital maturity,
- (d) build new concepts regarding e-health,
- (e) monitor the achieved results (benefits), occurring risks and barriers and modify the adopted goals and plans in response to the progress of work and changing conditions.

To achieve success in digital transformation of healthcare system we need leaders and partnership-based debate between the representatives of public institutions, healthcare institutions, technology companies and representatives of patients. We believe that III e-Health Forum has become an important stage in this process.

The participants of e-Health Forum hope that the observations, conclusions and suggestion formulated during e-Health Forum will be included in the activities of government and local authority institutions as well as wide circle of e-Health ecosystem stakeholders. After this meeting we begin another year convinced that we are all ready for change and ready to face the challenges of digital transformation.

We invite all participants to continue close cooperation within e-Health Forum.