Towards Cloud-Based Integrated Socio-Sanitary Care e-Services in Croatia

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Abstract. Providing health and social care services across Europe is becoming increasingly complex and costly. An aging population, a multitude of public, private and informal actors, together with a myriad of ehealth systems and technologies create numerous hurdles to offering efficient and cost-effective care. In order to tackle these issues, collaboration on multiple levels is needed between actors from healthcare and social care services - from private doctors to public hospitals and from home carers to emergency centers for the elderly. This, so-called Integrated e-care has to be structured efficiently, so the actors are aware of their specific roles in the value chain, and, most significantly, able to effectively share information between them. Serving content from the cloud allows access anywhere at any time. In order to validate the implementation of the model and its impact as well as its market replication potential in other countries, all pilots will run for more than a year, followed by evaluation of the results. Croatia has been running the pilot site in Psychiatric hospital “Lopača”, in cooperation of the City of Rijeka and Croatian Health Insurance Fund. The Croatian pilot gathers stakeholders from various levels of medical services (primary, secondary, tertiary) and social services (national, regional, local) and serves as baseline for creating circle of care for patient/care user is a link between doctors – community nurses – social workers. The pilot currently involves 12 health care providers and 150 patients, with good perspectives to replicate this model to other target groups (various diseases and various social needs).

Keywords: Integrated e-care, Cloud-based services, Care pathways, Integrated care plans, Mental health, ICT

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