Child Health Informatics – a Neglected Area of European E-Health Activity

Models of Child Health Appraised

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- Children are an important and dependent section of society.
- Their health is important now, and a determinant of future population health.
- MOCHA studies primary care for children in the 30 EU/EEA countries, and has an informed Country Agent in each country to answer structured queries.
- The WHO and the ITU have issued guidance on writing E-Health strategies.

- E-health is a strongly advocated tool to support modern health care
- Children are not mini-adults; their health support has special requirements for data sets, functionality, communication, and analysis.
- The current situation regarding E-Health actions to support child health across Europe is so far are worrying.

- Only 11 of 27 national e-health strategies mention children; then often only minor
- 5 out of 28 countries have no Unique Record Identifier (3 have plans)
- Only 7 out of 22 countries issue the URI at birth, causing risk of for neonates
- In only 12 out of 20 countries are child primary care EHRs widespread
- 13 out of 20 countries have a child public health record, only 7 are proactive
- Very little use of international standards or data sets.

Use of National Unique Record Identifiers



Examples of National Innovation on Child E-Health

Hungary: Plan to set up cloud based vaccination registry

Latvia: Establish "My newborn children data"

Germany: Introduction of the electronic health card

Ireland: Establish a core digital service - Maternal & Newborn Clinical Management System

Mention of Children in National E-Health Strategies



Scale of Use of EHRs in Child Primary Care



National Use of Child Public Health Record Systems



Degree of Child Focus of EHRs in Child Primary Care



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