

## The legal perspective of the epSOS Services

From a Legal and Regulatory (L&R) perspective, it is important to note that the epSOS Services are offered on a pilot basis.

As a pilot, the primary objective of the initiative is to gather information and evidence in order to facilitate subsequent full deployment. The mission of the L&R work area is to ensure that L&R challenges, which are critical to the realization of sustainable epSOS services, are appropriately recognized and addressed.

This work has supported and guided the epSOS Participating Nations in transferring this knowledge to a national level has fostered a close collaboration with the Data Protection Authorities of all Participating Nations as well as the European Commission.

### Data Protection

epSOS Services are subject to high data security and protection standards. All personal medical data is protected at all times, and most importantly, patient data can only be accessed with the informed, explicit and specific consent of the patient.

### Corporate Social Responsibility

The epSOS project is about people's cross-border healthcare and safety as well as all about trust. We, as project members, emphasize this fact by setting up a high level of ethical standards as part of our project culture. These standards are based upon integrity, respect, consent and transparency of information and behaviour according to national and European legal regulations. This aims at generating and maintaining confidence among all stakeholders and encouraging project participants to act in a fair and responsible way.

Read more: [www.epsos.eu](http://www.epsos.eu)

### Contact

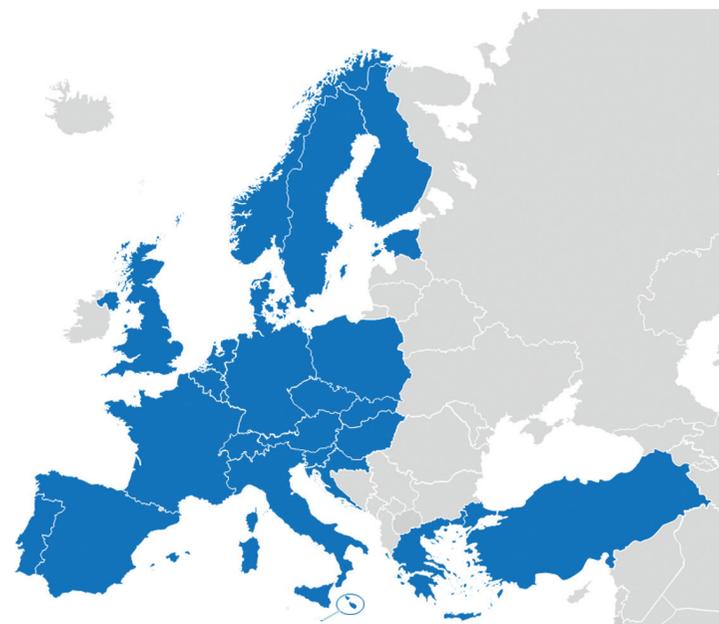
#### PROJECT COORDINATION

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18 82 Stockholm – Sweden  
[www.skl.se](http://www.skl.se)

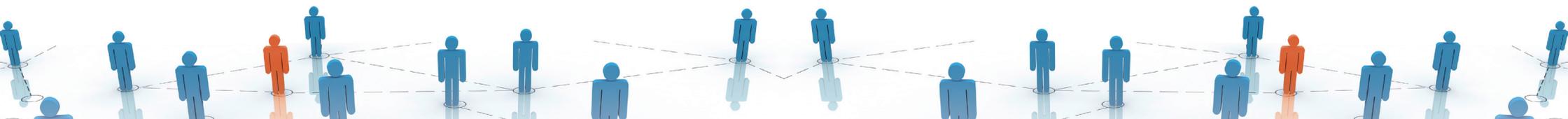
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## Smart Open Services for European Patients



The European eHealth Project



## General Information

epSOS is the European electronic Health (“eHealth”) interoperability project co-funded by the European Commission and partners.

It focuses on improving medical treatment of citizens while abroad by providing health professionals with the necessary patient data in a secure electronic format. In particular, epSOS aims to offer seamless healthcare to European citizens by building and evaluating a service infrastructure.

## epSOS in figures

<b>Duration</b>	<b>6 years:</b> 1st July 2008 – 30th June 2014
<b>Budget</b>	<b>€ 36,5 Million:</b> Co-funded by the European Commission
<b>Programme</b>	Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP) within the ICT Policy Support Programme
<b>Formation of the consortium</b>	<b>45 Beneficiaries:</b> Consisting of national and regional ministries of health and national / regional competence centers <b>Project Management Team:</b> Technical Project Management Leader (gematik), Administrative Project Management (empirica), Project Coordination (SALAR) <b>Industry Team:</b> Approximately 30 companies
<b>Number of countries</b>	<b>25 different European countries:</b> 22 EU countries and 3 non-EU countries + ongoing cooperation with USA and Canada

See [www.epsos.eu/poc\\_database](http://www.epsos.eu/poc_database) to find out which healthcare providers already participate in the epSOS pilot operation phase!

## epSOS Services

epSOS Services are tested in practice in a pilot operation phase which started on April 13th, 2012. The operational start varies from nation to nation and pilot site, and the overall operational phase is foreseen to last until the project end. For the first time, patients in Europe now have the opportunity to use cross-border eHealth services when seeking healthcare in participating epSOS pilot countries.

## PILOT OPERATION

- ▶ **Patient Summary**  
Access to important medical data from the patient’s home country when receiving treatment abroad
- ▶ **ePrescription and eDispensation services**
  - ▶ ePrescribing: Electronic prescribing of medicine using software to transmit the prescription data to the pharmacy
  - ▶ Dispensing: Electronic retrieval of an ePrescription, the dispensing of the medicine to the patient and the submission of an electronic report

## EXTENDED PILOT OPERATION

In the extended project phase the epSOS project team currently consolidates, scales up and operationalizes the epSOS Services for ID management, security, semantics and standards. Additional epSOS services like access of patients to their data or the Medication Related Overview (MRO) are analyzed and will be tested if feasible.

The epSOS architecture is mainly based on IHE (Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise) profiles. Further, epSOS has delivered in 2013 its components, commonly referred to as the OpenNCP, in Open Source format which are available online for the broad public.

How to use epSOS Services or work with them? Find out on:  
[www.epsos.eu](http://www.epsos.eu)

## Evaluation of epSOS Services

Evaluation is the key word for the improvement and customization of services to satisfy users. Patients and health professionals who used epSOS Services can help us to improve our services by filling out the questionnaires at the Points of Care or online on [www.epsos.eu](http://www.epsos.eu)

## epSOS results and outlook

Both a methodological process and durable implementations (termed “building blocks”) which form the basis for a longer term, pan-European approach to building interoperable solutions were delivered during the course of the project. As a next step the different countries and governments may take up the building blocks and deliverables provided by the project and other initiatives to approach the overall goal of establishing a joint European eHealth service community.

epSOS also supported the convergence of the eHealth progress in the EU by cooperating and providing the eHealth network with the epSOS data set of the Patient Summary and by working on the topic of semantic sustainability especially in the context of ePrescriptions. Thus, epSOS helped the process towards interoperable healthcare in Europe.

