

EUROREC '01

A European Vision on Electronic Health Care Records

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- 4th conference on this topic, organized in Aix-en-Provence, France
- 20 countries represented, 100 participants
- First 3 conferences in Paris (1997), Rotterdam (1998), and Seville (1999)
- 2001 EUROREC organized by PROREC- France, supported by other PROREC Centers and the European Commission (Information Society Technologies)
- PROREC is “Promotion Strategy for the Electronic Health Care Records”

EUROREC Objective: Provide an updated picture of European trends, projects, developments, and implementations.

PROREC Objective: Promote the use of Electronic Health Care Records to support delivery of good quality health care.

Conference Goals

- Initiate and strengthen partnerships between health care professionals
- Exchange ideas and experience and know better the market and policies
- Identify blockages in implementing the Electronic Health Care Records
- Cultural: changes in everyday process of health care delivery
- Economic: Business models for communicating the Electronic Health Care Records and for integrated care
- Ethical: Confidentiality and security issues
- Political: Communication of the Electronic Health Care Records between health care agents, and interest of pharmaceutical companies

Actors

- Health Professionals
- Public and Private Health Authorities
- Health Care Facilities Managers
- Health Information Systems Managers
- Health Informatics Experts
- Solutions Providers
- Academics and Researchers
- Standardization Bodies

Topics

Electronic Health Care Records in Use: the Cultural Gap

- Change in patient and doctor relationship and face to face dialogs
- Interference of Electronic Health Care Records with the face to face dialog with the patient
- Education programs

Business Models

- Business models in communicating the Electronic Health Care Records
- Business models for integrated health care
- Return of investments for industry, managers, and health care professionals

Ethics

- Protecting privacy
- Security and confidentiality issues
- Rights granted to patients over the storage, transfer, interchange, and use of personal data
- Concept of a virtual patient record
- Tracing clinical data
- Identifiers of professionals, organizations, and patients

Change Management

- Business redesign and continuity of care
- Enhance communication between health care agents
- Communicating the Electronic Health Care Records

Technology

- Standards, terminology, and security
- Software developers presented innovative and performing solutions
- Demonstration of communicating the Electronic Health Care Records between dissimilar systems

SECURITY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

1. **European vision:** Security is a combination of availability, confidentiality, and integrity. Involves attributes of software that bear on its ability to prevent unauthorized access, whether accidental or deliberate, to programs and data [2].

- Integrity > Prevention of unauthorized modification
- Availability > Prevention of unauthorized withholding
- Confidentiality > Prevention of unauthorized disclosure

2. **Norman J. Arnold School of Public Health:** The Human Subject Ethics Committee Approval is the base for assuring confidentiality [1]

(a) “Would the type of data you are collecting from each subject possibly be construed in an invasion of privacy?”

(b) How will subject’s privacy be protected? What are the procedures for safeguarding each subject’s rights with respect to the following:

- Safety and security of the individual;
- Privacy and confidentiality (including protection and anonymity of data);
- Embarrassment, discomfort, or harassment?

References

1. **Coker AL, Sanderson M.** *EPID 741: Epidemiologic methods I. Course materials.* Spring 1999. University of South Carolina

2. *Telemedicine glossary. Glossary of standards, concepts, technologies and users. Unit B1: Applications relating to health. 3rd Edition. 2001 working document.* April 2001. DG-INFSO B1, Version 3.10