Newsletter 3 from EKTG for eHealth   View this email in your browser

European Knowledge Tree Group for eHealth

Dear <<First Name>>

Welcome to our third Newsletter.

The EKTG held a **Symposium** at the House of Lords on 25 October 2016 with the title **'Making the Grade - eHealth, better education and understanding; what every citizen deserves'.** Download a summary here. Full slide presentations are on our website.

We also welcome two new Members of our Leadership Group, which undertakes the responsibilities of a Board. They are Michael Gordon, Chairman of Touchpoint, and Ian Winter CBE, Chair of a transitions board for learning disability services in Oxfordshire

If you want to know more about us you can download a document that outlines the background and history of EKTG.

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EU DG CONNECT Blueprint – Digital Transformation of health and Care for an Ageing Society
Published asking for comments from interested parties. This can be found on the DG CONNECT website but can be downloaded from here.

In December 2015 at the 4th Conference of Partners of the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (EIP on AHA), European Commissioner Günther Oettinger (Digital Economy and Society) outlined how digital innovation, enabled by a functioning Digital Single Market, can transform demographic change into an opportunity for Europe's economy and society.

Commissioner Oettinger invited all stakeholders to work together with the European Commission in the development of a blueprint, a "shared vision" on how innovation enabled by a Digital Single Market can transform Europe's ageing society in the 21st century and contribute to the European Silver Economy.

EKTG submitted a response to the resultant Blueprint, including commenting on the questions raised. Maggie Ellis was able to have a meeting with Gail Kent, Acting Deputy Directorate General, DG CONNECT, and Peter Wintlev-Jensen, to discuss this, prior to the Summit. Download a copy of the EKTG Blueprint response here.

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Open consultation - State Pension age independent review: interim report with questions
From: Department for Work and Pensions

Independent review of the State Pension age: interim report
PDF, 2.81MB, 100 pages

This consultation closes at 31 December 2016 5:00pm

The Pensions Act 2014 requires the government to review the State Pension age during each Parliament. The State Pension age independent review is gathering evidence and will consider a broad range of factors before making recommendations to the government in 2017.
The independent review will note existing arrangements already in law. However, it is forward looking and keen to consider the changing demographic, economic and behavioural landscape of the future. These changes, rather than the present context, will be at the heart of its recommendations on setting the right State Pension age. It is hoped, that this interim report and the questions it asks, will stimulate wider discussion. The independent review welcomes any research, insights or supporting evidence.

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We have mentioned the need for people to press for use of the GP Records. In the UK there is now a raft of information about doing this. Click here to download the document It's Your Record: A Guide to Accessing Health Records Online from the NHS website.

There is now an increasing push for this and you should be encouraging your family and friends to do this for themselves. Such services include making a GP appointment, getting repeat prescriptions, reading hospital reports, latest test reports. This can also be enhanced in some places where patients can use technology to test their own blood pressure, sugar levels, etc. The results can be seen by the patient and the GP, thereby saving wasted effort where results are satisfactory, but alerting both sides where results are dodgy. There are now quite a few documents about doing this. People should apply to their own GP Surgery.

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EU DG CONNECT EU eHealth, Wellbeing & Ageing Survey eHealth Hub on support for eHealth SMEs

The new eHealth Hub project aims to support European eHealth SMEs with targeted, business oriented services and guidance. The project would like to hear from you through their survey in order to build its integrated support the best way possible. Read more...

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Smart Sensor Systems for Self-Care

sponsored by the Institute of Measurement and Control and co-sponsored by the Royal College of General Practitioners, the Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers, the European Knowledge Tree Group for e-Health, the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and City, University of London.

The event will consider the developing role of self-care in the UK's health provision, showcasing new developments in non-invasive sensing and the role of genomics, while also exploring the barriers impeding the uptake of near-patient testing, including the need for education. Economics, including the role of insurance, will also be discussed. Read more . . .

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Four Must-Knows Before Adopting Cloud Technology

The cloud is the future of enterprise IT. According to a study by Rightscale, 88 percent of enterprise organizations are using public cloud and 63 percent are using private cloud. Click here to read the full article.

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Meeting European Data Protection and Security Requirements with CipherCloud Solutions

This white paper investigates how encryption and tokenisation of data can help companies that are subject both to EU data protection and general security laws to adopt cloud-based solutions and remain in legal compliance.

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Innovation in health and care. A paradigm shift to eco-system centricity in policy and R&I

Europe needs to innovate and scale-up both health and care services and businesses so that the complexity of challenges in health, well-being and demographic change are being met.
Read more...

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A new organisation forms to streamline mobile app development

Three of the biggest US healthcare trade groups are forming a new alliance to streamline and integrate the development of mobile health apps.

Medical Association and the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society won't have any enforcement power. Instead the group's new collaborative organization —Xcertia—will be dedicated to "establish and promote best practices for mobile health apps."

Xcertia will be open to a wide variety of organizations that represent consumers, developers, payers, clinicians, academics and others with an interest in the development of guidelines for mobile health apps, the organization says.

The initiative comes at a time when healthcare mobile apps are proliferating. In just the past year, publishers of mobile health apps have brought to market 100,000 apps, a 57% increase over 2015. This brings the total to 259,000 health apps globally available to consumers, according to the new study, "mHealth App Developer Economics 2016" conducted by health research group Research 2 Guidance. Read more here . . .

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Work, health and disability Green Paper: improving lives

On the 31st October, the Department for Work and Pensions and Department of Health in the UK published "Work, health and disability Green Paper: improving lives."
The Green Paper is wide-ranging and will be of interest to health professionals.
A big theme throughout is halving the disability employment gap (48% of disabled people are in employment compared with 80% of the non-disabled population).
There is a strong emphasis throughout on the role of the employer and, in particular, how SMEs can be supported better to return people to or keep people in work.
Responses to the consultation should be sent to
workandhealth@dwp.gsi.gov.uk
Or in writing to:
The Work, Health and Disability consultation,
Ground Floor,
Caxton House,
6-12 Tothill Street,
London,
SW1H 9NA
The consultation runs until Friday 17 February 2017.

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The Long-Term and Post-Acute Care (LTPAC) Providers and Health Information Exchange (HIE) Report

This report explains the current state of health information exchange with LTPAC facilities, the value of health IT to LTPAC facilities, patients, and residents, as well as issues that challenge the interoperable exchange of information. This report captures many of lessons learned to support exchange of health information with LTPAC facilities and identifies engagement opportunities within LTPAC health exchange activities and initiatives.

Check out the NEW Health Information Exchange Factsheet that was developed in collaboration with the Advance Interoperable Health Information Exchange (HIE) Long Term Post-Acute Care (LTPAC) Community of Practice (CoP). The factsheet describes the value of exchanging health information for Long Term Post-Acute Care providers. This fact sheet is tailored for providers and health care administrators who are interested in adopting HIE and are seeking more information about ways in which to connect. Read more about the HIE Bright Spots.

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Population Health: Sharing Data Across Sectors to Build Healthy Environments

ONC's Community Health Peer (CHP) Learning Program strives to identify population-level health challenges and develop strategies to address those challenges through a collaborative peer learning program. As part of CHP, AcademyHealth and Data Across Sectors for Health (DASH) co-authored a blog post, Sharing Data Across Sectors to Build Healthy Environments, featuring four grantees and their data-driven collaborations that are creating healthier environment.

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The **Spring EKTG Newsletter** will include similar material. If you would like to suggest material for the next Newsletter please email *R.Summers@lboro.ac.uk* before 10 February 2016.

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