Introduction of the eHealth-Card and building up the national infrastructure in Germany

HL7 meeting in Berlin, June 19, 2013

Dr. Matthias von Schwanenflügel, LL.M.Eur.
Head of Directorate „Budget, Law, Telematics“, German Federal Ministry of Health
- Demographic trend is an increase in the number of chronically ill and multi-morbid people

- Increasing specialisation of care with increasingly fragmented information

- Change in care provision structures in rural areas
Aim: Modernising the health care system

better quality + greater cost-effectiveness + more practicability

more patient involvement
Attaining the aim through better networking

134 health insurance funds
2,045 hospitals
20,921 pharmacies
ca. 342,000 working doctors
of whom 139,000 panel doctors
ca. 67,800 dentists
ca. 70 million insured
Electronic Health Insurance Card
- access key to the telematics infrastructure
Two cards form the basis of the telematics infrastructure

- **eHealth Card**
  - photo
  - encryption of data
  - access to medical data

- **Health Professional Card**
  - access authorisation
  - qualified signature
  - professional ID card
### Intended Applications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electronic updates of master data of the insured</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct (safe) communication between doctors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency data set</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving ease and safety of medication</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic Patient Record</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Declaring organ donor willingness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Further applications e.g. DEMIS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Developments since 2011

- 2011 Basic nationwide rollout with new card readers completed

- Electronic health cards are being distributed nationally (issuance quotas of 10% in 2011 and 70% in 2012)

- Tests of the agreed applications will start in 2014 - first of all, online reviews and updates of the master data; second component is the qualified electronic signature

- Start of operations of the additional applications scheduled for 2015

- At the end of 2012 the “point of no return” has been achieved by basic nationwide rollout
Overarching goals

- Further development of eHealth applications to be consistently needs-based and user-oriented
- Addressing determinants of successful technology use in a targeted and structured way
- Overcoming technological focus of eHealth applications
Additional governmental Measures

- Fee scales for physicians must be adjusted to include telemedicine applications by March 2013

- Removing practical barriers to implementing additional telemedicine applications (eHealth Initiative of the Federal Ministry of Health)

- Long-term development steps (such as updating the basic, post-basic and continuing training of medical and paramedical professions) to be coordinated with the stakeholders
Questions?

matthias.schwanenfluegel@bmg.bund.de