European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing

Newsletter - Issue 28 - November 2015

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4th Conference of Partners of the EIP on AHA, 9 and 10 December 2015

The 4th Conference of Partners of the European Innovation Partnership on Active & Healthy Ageing (EIP on AHA) will be held in Brussels on the 9th (from 15:00 CET) and 10th December 2015 (all day). This year’s Conference of Partners is dedicated to the theme "Accelerating market uptake of innovation for active and healthy ageing across Europe".

Achievements as well as the future vision for the Partnership, including the Reference Sites, will be discussed with concrete steps to grow the momentum towards deployment and reaching the set goals.

We also want to recognise and showcase those organisations that have excelled in deploying innovative solutions for active and healthy ageing. Regional and local organisations, academia, health and care organisations who have made significant contributions to large-scale deployment of innovation will present their experiences and share the outcomes of their investments.

In particular, discussion will take place on the best use of the strategies, services and tools such as the implementation of the Scaling up Strategy, the call for Reference Sites and commitments, the Support Action (PROEIPAHA), the Monitoring and Assessment Framework (MAFEIP).

Please check the programme and the lineup of speakers.

The event is now fully booked but a detailed report on the conference will be made available and disseminated via this newsletter.
Monitoring and Assessment Framework for the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (MAFEIP-Project)

Christian Boehler is a Scientific Officer at the Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS), part of the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre (JRC).

The MAFEIP tool has been developed by DG JRC IPTS in order to monitor the impact of the EIP on AHA towards its objectives. The tool aims to achieve this by allowing stakeholders of the Partnership to perform their own assessment of their respective innovations, through an intuitive web-based user interface that is linked to a database of mortality data and a model that can estimate the lifetime impact of an innovation in terms of quality adjusted life expectancy and health and care expenditure.

This allows not just monitoring the impact of the EIP on AHA towards its overall objectives, which was the original aim of the MAFEIP project, but it enables stakeholders of the Partnership to perform an early and iterative assessment of innovations’ cost-effectiveness at various stages of the development process. With this information, the MAFEIP-tool can be useful for assessing the potential of a new technology, which is important information for developers to decide upon further design, investment, and evaluation; and the EIP on AHA to provide appropriate support for innovations to facilitate faster progress to the next stage of development and/or implementation.

Indeed, one of our case studies to test the MAFEIP tool in the field, conducted in collaboration with the Applied Biomedical Signal Processing and Intelligent Lab of the University of Warwick, UK, demonstrated the potential of an early innovation to predict falls of older people based on physiological monitoring. The results generated by the tool helped the developers to accelerate their discussion with manufacturers on how to translate their disruptive innovation into future clinical practice. Ultimately, this shows that the MAFEIP-tool can be useful not just within the EIP on AHA, but also in other contexts where early assessment of technology may help guiding further development and investment decisions, such as within the newly founded EIT Health.

For more details please check the Web page dedicated to the MAFEIP
ProFouND "Stay Strong Stay Steady" Campaign - EU Flash Mob

On International Older Person's Day (1st October 2015) the Prevention of Falls Network for Dissemination (ProFouND) consortium, led by Professor Chris Todd at the University of Manchester, with members throughout Europe, delivered flash mobs and/or took part in strength and balance exercise classes to raise awareness of falls prevention. The "Stay Strong Stay Steady Campaign" involved over 500 older and younger people from across 9 EU countries (England, Germany, Greece, Norway, Portugal, Scotland, Spain, Sweden, Wales) plus special guest contribution from our advisory partner in Australia.

Professor Chris Todd stated, "we are really pleased by the response from across Europe to this initiative. The enthusiasm and commitment of the older people who took part shows the value of keeping active in older age ".

A Must-Watch is the EU Flash Mob montage.

PROFOUND is a project co-funded by the EU's Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme.

Friuli Venezia Giulia – One of the first Italian Regions to implement a Law on Active and Healthy Ageing

The implementation plan of the Regional Law on Active and healthy ageing was presented on 23rd November 2015 in Trieste, capital of the Friuli Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region (Italy), in the presence of the four Regional Ministers the competences of which reside within the sphere of the mentioned law: Ms. Maria Sandra Telesca (health), Mr. Gianni Torrenti (culture), Ms. Maria Grazia Santoro (transport), Ms. Loredana Panariti (employment, research and innovation) and the Regional Councillor who promoted it, Ms. Renata Bagatin.

The abovementioned law, which was approved in November 2014, is key to the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region as its over 65 citizens represent 25.1% of its entire population, whilst the national average is 21.7%. The adoption of said law and its implementation plan fit well into the framework of the initiatives promoted at European level by means of the European innovation partnership for active and healthy ageing. For this reason also a Skype link-up was organized with the European Commission – DG CONNECT and the Friuli Venezia Giulia Liaison Office in Brussels. Said encounter was an opportunity for Ms. Lucilla SIOLI to give an update on what the next steps of the EIP-AHA and Silver Economy will be, while the Liaison Office in Brussels illustrated how the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region is in line with the activities promoted by EIP-AHA mentioning some European projects in which it takes part (CASA, SMART CARE, HELPS). The Friuli Venezia Giulia Region also highlighted the importance of working within both European networks such as CORAL and ERRIN, and Italian ones such as Progetto Mattone Internazionale. At the end of the event, the Regional Minister for Health - Ms. Telesca - announced that a website that will showcase all the information and the initiatives with regards to Healthy and Active Ageing within the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region will be activated soon.
A Selection of News from the Marketplace

The Freebird Club is one for the three winners of the European Social Innovation Competition

The Freebird Club is a peer-to-peer social travel and homestay platform specifically designed for the over 50s. Established in Ireland, the idea applies collaborative economy’ principles to address practical issues such as loneliness and financial sustainability for older people. The Freebird Club offers a new world of social travelling for older adults, with a membership-based model. The European Social Innovation Competition invited Europeans to come up with game changing ideas that could advance Europe's growth model. Selected out of 1,400 applications from over 40 countries, the three winners represent this year's theme, "New Ways to Grow".

Integrated care "critically important" for older people with social care needs and multiple long-term conditions

In its latest social care guidance, UK's National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) calls for care to be integrated so that better, more person-centre care can be provided for the growing number of older people with social care needs and multiple long-term conditions. Many long-term conditions such as dementia, diabetes, heart disease, and cancer are linked with age. Since the population is ageing, the number of people with long-term conditions is set to rise by about 1 million in the next 3 to 5 years.

The best outcomes for older people with social care needs and multiple long-term conditions are improved quality of life, and increased independence, choice, dignity and control. These can be achieved through coordinated care that is person-centred. However recent reports suggest that care is often fragmented and hard to access, and that some people are being treated as a collection of conditions or symptoms rather than as a whole person.

To help tackle these issues NICE has published a new guideline on older people with social care needs and multiple chronic conditions. The guideline provides services with a framework for acting more effectively so that they can offer appropriate care to those who most need it.

The Alliance for Internet of Things Innovation has published recommendations on SmartLiving for Ageing

The report focuses on the Internet of Things (IoT) support to the continuously growing population of elderly people in living longer, staying active, independent and out of institutional care settings, while at the same time reducing the costs for care systems and providing a better quality of life for vulnerable categories of citizens.

The report includes the points of views of the end-users and the stakeholders involved in healthcare. The analysis and recommendations are centred on the individual end-user, taking into account the physical, emotional and cultural specificities of the end-users helping to adapt and change self-perception, and shift cultural norms. The group of stakeholders that have presented their views in the report are IoT technology providers and enablers (i.e. sensor/actuators, monitoring devices, communication solutions, IoT platforms, service providers, software developers and silicon vendors), IoT applications providers, IoT integration solutions providers as well as institutions representing the end users.

European Commission launches the European Core Health Indicators (ECHI) data tool

The European Core Health Indicators (ECHI) data tool replaces the existing Heidi data tool. The new tool presents relevant and comparable information on health at European level in an interactive way, covering five groups of indicators: 1) demographic and socio-economic factors, 2) health status, 3) health determinants (smoking, alcohol, etc.), 4) health interventions/health services, and 5) health promotion. The major improvement is that more than one indicator can be selected at the same time in order to make further comparisons and/or analyses of data. The new version of the ECHI data tool
keeps the main features of the previous version: line chart, bar chart, map, table, metadata and different possibilities of exports.

**Health investments in the EU: Commission launches mapping report showing use of European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF)**

In the context of the project Effective use of European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for health investments in the programming period 2014-2020, co-financed by the EU Health Programme, the Commission has launched a mapping report providing an overview of actions that Member States envisage for support from ESIF in the health sector in the programming period 2014-2020. It consists of two inseparable parts - the analytical part (covering the whole of the EU) and individual country sheets, presenting information on what each EU country will spend for health using the ESIF 2014-2020. It reveals, for example, that the use of ESIF for health-related investments has been foreseen in all EU Member States and that over EUR 3.891 billion will be spent on health infrastructure and EUR 954 million for the use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) in health and more than EUR 4 billion will be invested in access to healthcare (health care and social services combined) and Active and Healthy Ageing. In addition to ESIF 2014-2020, the mapping report summarizes health investments from Structural Funds in 2007-2013 programming period.

**Public consultation on the preliminary opinion on "Disruptive Innovation. Considerations for health and health care in Europe"**

The European Commission and the Expert Panel on Effective Ways of Investing in Health (EXPH) have launched a public consultation on the preliminary opinion on "Disruptive Innovation. Considerations for health and health care in Europe".

All interested parties are invited to submit by 16 December 2015 COB in writing, specific comments, suggestions, explanations or contributions on the scientific basis of the opinion, as well as any other scientific information regarding the questions addressed. These will enable the Expert Panel to formulate its final views on the matter.

**Health literacy in the older population central to improving health and sustainability of health systems**

In the framework of the 3rd European Health Literacy Conference held in Brussels early November, Princess Laurentien of the Netherlands received the IROHLA evidence-based guidelines to improve health literacy in the older population. The IROHLA pre-conference saw representatives of the European Commission, health services and elected politicians discuss the importance of health literacy for sustainable health systems. It also saw the inauguration of Health Literacy Centre Europe, which aims to act as a central portal of information and exchange of knowledge and experience beyond the lifetime of the project.

Funded by the European Union's 7th Framework Programme, the three-year IROHLA project sought-out solutions to address the low levels of health literacy observed in most European member states.

**'Cookbook' for large-scale deployment of coordinated care and telehealth**

After monitoring care coordination and telehealth initiatives in five EU healthcare regions Lombardy (IT), Basque Country (ES), Catalonia (ES), Northern Netherlands (NL), and Scotland (UK) the ACT project has produced this 'cookbook' for large-scale deployment of coordinated care and telehealth. This 'cookbook' of good practices identifies best-in-class processes, structures and ways of working from these five partner European regions. Their insights, conclusions and recommendations, presented here, can be used to build a blueprint for large-scale care coordination and telehealth deployment across Europe. This project was financed under the 2nd Health Programme of the European Union.
**VLC-HEALTH: Valencia, a European city committed to innovation in healthy living and active ageing**

The University of Valencia, the Health research Institute INCLIVA, the University of Valencia Science Park, the Polytechnics University and the Valencia Hospitals launch the Valencia Health Ecosystem initiative, as a stable platform for fostering collaboration between all key factors of Valencia innovating for health and social care and wellbeing and invite all the related organisations and companies to join this initiative, part of the ECHAlliance International Network of Ecosystems.

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**Upcoming events**

**DECEMBER**

1-2  
*Our Daily Digital Health: is everyone ready?*  
EHTEL and the EU Large Scale Telehealth Project United4Health (co-funded by CIP ICT PSP) partnering with the European Parliament Science and Technology Options Assessment (STOA).  
Brussels, Belgium

7-9  
*Launch of the Convenant on Demographic Change and Innovation for age-friendly environments in Europe: joint AFE-INNOVNET and AFEE workshops for policy makers*  
AFE-INNOVNET, AFEE, European Commission  
Brussels, Belgium

7-10  
*7th European Innovation Summit*  
Knowledge4Innovation  
Brussels, Belgium

9-10  
*4th Conference of Partners of the European Innovation Partnership on Active & Healthy Ageing*  
European Commission  
Brussels, Belgium

7-10  
*"Impact of nutrition for rehabilitation of older patients" - Training course*  
EICA (European Interdisciplinary Council on Ageing), EUGMS (European Union Geriatric Medicine Society), ESPRM (European Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine) and VIU (Venice International University), San Servolo campus  
San Servolo Island, Italy

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*EUREGHA High Level Conference Linking Chronic Diseases and Frailty*  
EUREGHA - European Regional and Local Health Authorities  
Brussels, Belgium

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**More events on the Marketplace**

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