Cosa si intende per eHealth in letteratura. Le nuove sfide all'informatica sanitaria portate da eHealth

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eHealth: reti e tecnologie per la sanità

What is eHealth?

- The term eHealth only came into use in the year 2000, but has since become widely prevalent. The scope of the topic was not immediately discernable from that of the wider health informatics field, for which over 320000 publications are listed in Medline alone, and it is not explicitly represented within the existing Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) taxonomy . Applying eHealth as narrative search term to multiple databases yielded 387 relevant articles, distributed across 154 different journals, most commonly related to information technology and telemedicine, but extending to such areas as law.
  - Pagliari, Sloan, et alt. What Is eHealth (4): A Scoping Exercise to Map the Field. J Med Internet Res. 2005 Jan–Mar; 7(1): e9

- National strategies aimed at developing health information infrastructures and "infostructures" are emerging across North America, Australia, Europe and elsewhere. These are united by a vision to improve the safety, quality and efficiency of patient care by enabling access to electronic health records and by supporting clinical practice, service management, research and policy though availability of appropriate evidence and data. In addition, these strategies emphasize the importance of standards and policies for ensuring interoperability and data security, and many incorporate a commitment to facilitate consumer empowerment and patient self-care through provision of electronic information and/or telemedicine facilities.

What is eHealth? A national emergency

- Institute of Medicine. Crossing the Quality Chasm: A New Health System for the 21st Century. Washington, DC: National Academies Press; Jun 1, 2001.   URL: http://www.nap.edu/books/0309072808/html/

- National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics. Information for Health: A Strategy for Building the National Health Information Infrastructure. Washington, DC: US Department of Health and Human Services; Nov 15, 2001.   URL: http://aspe.hhs.gov/sp/nhii/Documents/NHIIReport2001/default.htm

- Office of Health and the Information Highway. Canada Health Infoway: Paths to Better Health. Ottawa, Canada: Health Canada; Feb 1999.   URL: http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ohih-bsi/pubs/1999_pathsvoies/info_e.html

- Australian Health Information Council. Strategic Plan for Information Management and Information and Communication Technology (IM&ICT) in Health. Canberra: Australia; 2004.   URL: http://www.ahic.org.au/strategy/index.html

- Department of Health and Children. Health Information: A National Strategy. Dublin, Ireland   URL: http://www.dohc.ie/publications/pdf/nhis.pdf?direct=1

- UK Department of Health. Information for Health Strategy Document. 1999.   URL: http:/ /www.dh.gov.uk/PolicyAndGuidance/InformationPolicy/ InformationForHealth/ExecutiveSummaryArticle/fs/ en?CONTENT_ID=4015309&chk=NBKLfo

- UK Department of Health. National Programme for IT.   URL: http://www.npfit.nhs.uk/

References from Italian situation is completely missing in literature

In the United Kingdom, these principles are reflected in the National Information Strategy for Health and are being addressed via the UK National Programme for Information Technology (NPfIT, now called Connecting for Health) and related initiatives .

What is eHealth? Definitions

- "Internet technology may rank with antibiotics, genetics and computers as among the most important changes for medical care delivery." Coile R C. The digital transformation of health care. Physician Exec. 2000 Jan;26(1):8–15

- **e-health is the use of emerging information and communications technology, especially the Internet, to improve or enable health and healthcare. [**Eng T. The e-Health Landscape – a terrain map of emerging information and communication technologies in health and health care. Princeton NJ: The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; 2001**]**

- **e-health is an emerging field of medical informatics, referring to the organization and delivery of health services and information using the Internet and related technologies. In a broader sense, the term characterizes not only a technical development, but also a new way of working, an attitude, and a commitment for networked, global thinking, to improve health care locally, regionally, and worldwide by using information and communication technology. (adapted from Eysenbach [**Eysenbach G. What is e-health? J Med Internet Res. 2001 Jun 18;3(2):e20. doi: 10.2196/jmir.3.2.e20**])**

eHealth emerging topics (1)
EHR, EPR, PHR

- The *Connecting for Health* Personal Health Working Group sponsored by the Markle Foundation defines PHRs as follows: **The Personal Health Record (PHR) is an Internet-based set of tools that allows people to access and coordinate their lifelong health information and make appropriate parts of it available to those who need it. PHRs offer an integrated and comprehensive view of health information, including information people generate themselves such as symptoms and medication use, information from doctors such as diagnoses and test results, and information from their pharmacies and insurance companies.** Markle Foundation, authors. Connecting for Health: A Public-Private Collaborative (July 2003). Connecting for Health. [2008 Sep 22]. *webcite* http://www.connectingforhealth.org/resources/final_phwg_report1.pdf

- The definition promoted by the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) is similar, but it stresses that the PHR is not simply a patient view on EHR data: **The personal health record (PHR) is an electronic, universally available, lifelong resource of health information needed by individuals to make health decisions. Individuals own and manage the information in the PHR, which comes from the health care provider and the individual. The PHR is maintained in a secure and private environment, with the individual determining the rights of access. The PHR is separate from and does not replace the legal record of the provider.** AHIMA e-HIM Personal Health Record Work Group. Practice brief. The role of the personal health record in the EHR. J AHIMA. 2005 Jul;76(7):64A–64D.

eHealth emerging topics (1)
EHR, EPR, PHR

- Tang and colleagues defined personal health records more broadly:

  An electronic application through which individuals can access, manage, and share their health information and that of others for whom they are authorized, in a private, secure and confidential environment. In the same article, the authors distinguished a "tethered" PHR (bound to a certain organization) from a "stand-alone" PHR and the ideal "interconnected" PHR. Tang Paul C, Ash Joan S, Bates David W, Overhage J Marc, Sands Daniel Z. Personal health records: definitions, benefits, and strategies for overcoming barriers to adoption. J Am Med Inform Assoc. 2006;13(2):121–6.

  http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/articlerender.fcgi?tool=pubmed&pubmedid=16357345

eHealth emerging topics (2)
user involving in care process

- Patients' and caregivers' expectations did not correspond with their experiences of the use of the Internet-based applications for self-care. Patients thought that the applications would support them in solving their health problems. Caregivers were more reserved about the applications because of medico-legal concerns about misuse. However, the applications failed to support self-care because eHealth is more than just a technological intervention. The design of the applications should include a way of thinking about how to deliver health care with the aid of technology. The most powerful application for self-care was secure email consultation, combined with a suitable triage mechanism to empower patients' self-awareness. Future research should focus on the effectiveness of such Web-based triage mechanisms for medical complaints and on the development of interactive features to enhance patients' self-care. – This is the outcome of an analysis conducted with 48 family physicians practising in Toronto
    - Are Physicians Ready for Patients With Internet-Based Health Information? J Med Internet Res. 2006 Jul–Sep; 8(3): e22
    - Evaluation of Internet-Based Technology for Supporting Self-Care: Problems Encountered by Patients and Caregivers When Using Self-Care Applications J Med Internet Res. 2008 Apr–Jun; 10(2): e13

eHealth emerging topics (1 &2) SummaryCareRecord and Health Space

- The Summary Care Record (SCR) is a centrally stored health summary created (currently) from a person's general practitioner (GP) record. It contains details of medication, allergies and adverse reactions and is accessible on a secured Extranet – known as N3 – which will offer connectivity to a wide range of National Health Service (NHS) staff. It is intended to support care when other records are unavailable or incomplete (e.g. emergency and unscheduled care). HealthSpace is a separate, Internet-accessible technology that allows patients to record and organise their own health data, and via which they will be able to view their SCR. People do not have to have a SCR but if they do not want one, they must actively opt out. HealthSpace is also voluntary but people must opt in. People with no Internet access may ask their GP for a printout of their SCR.

- Summary Care Record Early Adopter Programme: an indipendent evaluation by University College London