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Newsletter 1 from EKTG for eHealth

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# European Knowledge Tree Group for eHealth



Dear &lt;&lt;First Name&gt;&gt;

**Welcome from Peter Saraga, Chair of the EKTG Leadership Group.**

**This Quarterly Newsletter is a new venture for EKTG which was proposed following our very successful symposium in January. We are extremely grateful to Royal Bank of Scotland for their support without which the Symposium would not have been possible. This first edition has information about the Symposium, as well as other relevant information which we believe will be of interest to you. We are sending this to you in an endeavour to maintain your links with EKTG and to ask for your contributions to future issues of the 'EKTG Newsletter'.**

*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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## **EKTG e-Health Symposium 18 January 2016**

The programme of the EKTG e-Health Symposium can be [downloaded here](#) and the powerpoint slides used by the speakers are [available on our website](#).

When planning this Symposium we discussed the main issues with Officials from The EU Directorate CONNECT. They asked that several questions be included in this programme. Six Breakout Sessions addressed the questions including what individuals felt they could do personally. The groups summarised their responses and EKTG have made a collective response from those six which, can be [downloaded here](#). The questions were:

- Are decision makers responsible for health and care innovation sufficiently equipped to take difficult yet agile decisions with long-term implications and do they have the necessary information at hand?

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health and care innovation at scale?

- What are practical suggestions for overcoming barriers?
- What will you contribute, how, and when?
- What will your organisation contribute, how, and when?
- What other topics are essential?

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### **Article published EUROHEALTH December 2015**

Why has there been very variable implementation of eHealth services within the EU? [Download the article](#), written by our very own Maggie Ellis, with Tony Cornford and Sofia Moreno-Perez. They found that the levels and speeds of adoption are very variable. Some of the variables can be linked to the education and understanding of eHealth opportunities by some Health Professionals and Policy Makers.

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### **AAL Forum - 26-28 September 2016**

EKTG Group for eHealth will be participating in the 2016 AAL Forum running Sessions on Tuesday 27 and Weds 28 entitled 'Technology to assist better living - time to create awareness for both professionals and citizens alike'. The full programme can be [downloaded here](#).

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### **Financial Services and Digital Health**

[A short article](#) from Ron Wheatcroft of EKTG outlining the growing opportunities for financial services companies to work more closely with digital health to support and build on what is offered to consumers.

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### **SEHTA Review of Technology and Innovation in Care Homes**

The South East Health Technologies Alliance have produced a timely report into the technologies available for the Care Home sector. Their report can be [downloaded here](#).

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[This link](#) provides a forecast for assistive technologies in the not too distant future, as well as discussing the likelihood of the future according to the 'Humans' TV show!

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### **Technology Forecast from the *Chicago Tribune* in the USA**

Can telehealth keep nursing-home patients out of hospitals? [A link](#) to the inevitable use of *Google Glass* in the USA.

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### **Digitising European Industry**

The European Commission has published its strategy for preparing European industry for further digitisation priorities – including standards for five priority areas: 5G, cloud computing, internet of things, data technologies, and cybersecurity. Information (and much more) can be [found here](#).

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### **EU Movement on Age-friendly Environments**

The organisation [HealthManagement.org](#) has produced [a thought-provoking article](#) on the response to demographic trends in Europe by considering the empowerment of older patients and their use of telehealth.

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### **Heads-up Announcement of an e-Health Evaluation in Denmark**

The [European Commission reports](#) that Denmark's Digital Welfare Strategy is about to be tested with funds released for an e-Health evaluation in three locations across the country.

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### **E-health – when, not if**

A new report on e-Health in the WHO European Region reveals that tangible progress has been made, with clear benefits for many countries. In most Member States, it has become commonplace for technology to be used to

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health records.

The report, entitled From innovation to implementation – e-Health in the WHO European Region, indicates a trend towards strategic engagement, although some countries have weak or no governance, legislation and legal protection in e-Health. This can lead to missed opportunities and inefficiencies that put lives at risk and can also leave e-Health open to commercial exploitation, while public health authorities miss out on the benefits. The report can be [downloaded here](#).

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### **New advice from the EU on Personal Data Protection**

[Download this file](#) for breaking news on EU Regulations with respect to personal data protection. This information is important to anybody using personal data and considering sharing the data with others.

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The **Autumn EKTG Newsletter** will include similar material. If you would like to suggest material for the next Newsletter please email [R.Summers@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:R.Summers@lboro.ac.uk) before 10 August 2016.

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