eHealth in Sweden

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The democratic system in Sweden

**National level**
- Elections to the Riksdag (Swedish parliament)
- The Riksdag elects the Prime Minister, who forms a government

**Regional level**
- Elections to the County Council Assembly
- The County Council Assembly elects the County Council Executive Board

**Local level**
- Elections to the Municipal Council
- The Municipal Council elects the Municipal Executive Board

21 Counties
290 Municipalities
Healthcare Services in Sweden

Three political and administrative levels:

**State, National**
- Ministry of Health and Social Affairs
- Central government agencies / Authorities

**Regional, County Councils (21)**
- Legislation
- Supervision
- Evaluation, follow-up
- (Financing)
- Responsible for organising, financing and providing health care services to all residents. Impose taxes

**Local authorities (290)** (municipalities)
- Responsible for care of elderly and disabled.
- Support for people suffering from long-term mental illness.
- Impose taxes
eHealth – an integrated part of Swedish healthcare

- **Electronic Healthcare Records:**
  - 100 percent of all documentation in primary care is electronic;
  - 88 percent EHR’s in specialized hospital care.
  - 90 percent EHR’s in psychiatric care.
- **ePrescriptions:**
  - over 95 percent of all pharmaceutical prescriptions in Sweden are issued and transferred electronically.
- **National healthcare broadband network since 1999.**
- **National Patient Summary, starting 2009.**
- **National eID for health professionals**
- **Information structure and terminology (Snomed CT).**
Sweden’s National Strategy for eHealth

- The National Strategy for eHealth aims to:
  - improve patient safety, accessibility and quality of care;
  - enable patient mobility nationally and internationally;
  - meet the increasing demands from citizens and healthcare professionals for modern healthcare;
  - encourage healthcare politicians and decision makers to use eHealth as the main tool for renewal and improvement of the healthcare sector.

- Target groups: Citizens, Healthcare Professionals and Decision Makers at all levels.
Defining a common agenda for all stakeholders in healthcare

Six Action Areas identified:

National government

1. Bringing laws and regulations into line with an increased use of ICT.
2. Information structure and terminology.
3. Enhance the technical infrastructure.
4. Facilitating interoperable, supportive ICT systems.
5. Facilitating access to information across organisational boundaries.

Health care regions
Ministry of Health and Social Affairs Sweden

**Strategy targets**

- **PATIENT EMPOWERMENT**
  - Personal e-services for all citizens
  - Interactive services for patient participation
  - Web based support for free choice of care provider

- **INFRASTRUCTURE**
  - Laws and Regulations
  - Information Structure
  - Technical Infrastructure

- Support for **HEALTH PROFESSIONALS**
  - Decision support Systems
  - Structured Documentation
  - User friendly EHR systems
  - Patient Summary Service
  - Alert information
  - Education and eLearning

- Support for **POLICY MAKERS**
  - Open comparisons of quality and outcomes
  - Development of Quality Registries
  - Follow-up and monitoring

**PATIENT EMPOWERMENT**

**INFRASTRUCTURE** Laws and Regulations Information Structure Technical Infrastructure
Main challenges

- Care data to be at the right place, with the right person at the right time
- Empowering the patient
- Implementation and usage
- Improving patient safety
- Shorter waiting times and better access
- Developing IT-services to support healthcare
- Population group over 65 will increase with 28 % before year 2020.
- Healthcare expenditure is expected to increase by 20 % before year 2030.
Short term goals

Strategic level:
• Work plan for the next upcoming 3 years
• Describe eHealth in terms of concrete value for citizens and health professionals!
• Measure results and benefits
• 2 new national boards: Inspection and Infrastructure

Concrete level:
• Health account for all citizens
• National medication database
• Coding system for reason for prescribing
• Health library
• Ongoing review of the law
Thank you!

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