

Joint Statement

In accordance with the government policies of both sides and the European policies and regulations:

the Director of the Information Policy Directorate of the Dutch Ministry for Health, Welfare and Sports, Mr. ir. R. Roozendaal,

and

the Director General of the Directorate on Digitalisation and Innovation of the German Federal Ministry of Health, Mr. Dr. G. Ludewig,

and

the Chief Executive Officer of gematik GmbH, Mr. Dr. med. M. Leyck Dieken,

and

the Chief Executive Officer of NICTIZ, Mrs. drs. L.M. Niessen,

announced today to further intensify the Dutch-German cooperation between their Ministries of Health and institutions (eHealth expertise centers) to strengthen the cross-border digital exchange of healthcare information and to improve the healthcare of people, in particular in the common border area.

For the treatment of patients, national borders should not be an obstacle. Based on European policy and regulations, collaboration is already common practice. Healthcare providers and health insurances on both sides already work closely together and benefit from this experience. The challenge is to remove cross-border obstacles by sharing healthcare data.

The partners express the strong desire to improve the digital exchange of healthcare information between healthcare providers in the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Federal Republic of Germany to contribute and improve cross-border healthcare services and the safety of our patients.

By using the Refined eHealth European Interoperability Framework (ReEIF) and infrastructure components of the European eHealth Network, the Dutch-German digital healthcare project will also provide constructive feedback on the concrete

implementation of the European infrastructure and the Patient Summary (PS) data set. Thus aiming to showcase the added value of cross-border digital sharing of health data.

The partners commit to:

1. improving healthcare by the exchange of patients' health data, to start with the Patient Summary in the border region between Germany and the Netherlands;
2. making use of the Patient Summary (or other patients' data) and its evaluation in terms of user-friendliness and clinical benefit, accompanied by targeted further development for efficient integration into the processes of hospitals, providers and practices;
3. promoting the technical and organisational development of the National Contact Point for eHealth and;
4. promoting the cross-border use of the Dutch and German telematics infrastructure and contributing to the Europe-wide development of eHealth services.

26 November 2020