

# Health WG Meeting- June 13

## Skills to Support Innovation in Hospitals

### Scope

One of the key challenges facing the European society, is the demographic change and the ageing society, and the effect that this change will have on the European health care systems. The demographic changes will increase demands from elderly people that need health and social care, at a time where there is a reluctance to increase spending on healthcare.

As a consequence, the health care sector has changed and will change further during the years to come. The major changes that affect healthcare professionals' work life and the competences they are required to have (in both primary and secondary care sectors) are the following:

- A massive application of new technologies in the healthcare sector.
- Hasty release of patients from hospitals, and therefore there is a huge need for good integrated care structures.
- The requirement of a more holistic view on the patient
- Empowering patients and better use of relatives' resources

All these changes require more resources than are available. Therefore, there is a need for the healthcare systems to be more efficient, which is why we see a demand for INNOVATION within communication, coordination among staff, collaboration between disciplines, dialogue with patients and relatives etc. These demands require NEW SKILLS from the healthcare staff; skills that require continuous education of staff, which are not always acknowledged as a necessity by the relevant actors in the healthcare sector.



### Purpose of event

The purpose of the event is to highlight this need for innovation in hospitals and discuss the need for continuous skill development of healthcare professionals.

The speakers will present digital skill uptake strategies, barriers for implementation of innovation and why there's a need for continuous education and training of healthcare professionals. The panel will discuss how to work with innovation and competence development in the healthcare sector.

## Take home message

What changes are necessary to ensure the full potential of digital solutions and to make skill development of healthcare professionals a natural part of innovation in hospitals.