

Country Report Germany

Nursing Informatics Activities

2009

In the recent years, the German report always started with the activities around the European Nursing Informatics conference ENI. Last year we reported about the successful Münster conference. ENI 2009 was originally planned in Bern, Switzerland, in conjunction with the Bern eHealth-Summit 25/26th August. It proved impossible however to arrange conference facilities and dates in an appropriate way. After some discussion it was therefore decided to have the next ENI early in 2010. The Bern eHealth Summit will see a nursing informatics track organised by the swiss IG-Pflegeinformatik (Martin Lysser). Besides, many German colleagues will attend the NI 2009 in Helsinki.

WG „Nursing Informatics“ has coorganised a specialist forum “Nursing Management” within the congress IT-Trends in Medicine / Health Telematics Sept. 4th 2008 in Essen with a specific view to the nursing process. Due to good success this will be repeated again in September 2010. Another nursing informatics centered session was organised for the conhIT April 2009 in Berlin, the conference of the German association of IT-Providers in Helthcare VHitG, together with BVMi and GMDS. The actual conhIT provides a mixed concept of congress (in the morning), workshops and exhibition (in the afternoon) and included in 2009 the former well known KIS-Tagung of the GMDS as a user oriented congress program. Session 3 on Tuesday April 21st was centered around nursing oriented IT applications. In November 2009 there will be a workshop of the network “Continuity of Care Region Osnabrück” (Versorgungskontinuität Osnabrück) with the topic “eNursing: IT as driver of professionalization”.

Activities around the German HPC are progressing but the introduction of the electronic health cards has slowed down. North Rhine had been selected as the first region to introduce the Electronic Health Card (eGK) and together with it the HPC in routine use from January 2009 onwards. In the first step the health professional network in the background will not yet be part of the rollout. Distribution and rollout in North Rhine is delayed however and may only be finalised in 2011. As mentioned already, an HPC will also be needed for German nurses, midwives, physiotherapists and other professions. This in turn requires a central professional register for those professions to be established. Decisions about the register will be made end of June.

The development of an HL7 CDA based standard for the electronic Nurse Summary is nearly completed. The model had been presented at the International HL7 Interoperability Conference in Kyoto and is now being translated into XML.

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