Telemedicine in routine daily care: German-wide use cases

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Telemedicine initiatives, projects and services exist in Germany since more than 25 years. Yet the debate on if/when/how to use and reimburse Telemedicine for routine daily care is ongoing.

Task identified by the German Government/MoH

- Fee scales for physicians must be adjusted to include telemedicine applications by March 2014 (cf. Social Code 5)
- Barriers to implementing additional telemedicine applications to be removed (eHealth Initiative of the Ministry of Health)
- Update the basic, post-basic and continuing training of medical and paramedical professions – stakeholder coord.

Sophisticated “set of criteria” has been released
Mapping the projects/services
Multiple Iterations

• eHealth@home map is already outdated again.

• New telemedicine portal launched as element of the eHealth initiative of the German Government

• http://telemedizin.fokus.fraunhofer.de
Map Example:
Telemedicine services in Berlin-Brandenburg

Berlin (23)

1. BIOTRONIK Home Monitoring
2. Haemoassist
3. HDSonline
4. Helios Neuronet
5. Notfallrettung im Langstreckenjet
6. OnelT Plus
7. Partnership for the Heart
8. SELBST
9. Senth
10. SmartSenior
11. STADIWAMI
12. StrokeNET
13. Teleradiologie Unfallkrankenhaus Berlin (ukb)
14. TeleReha
15. TOSCA
16. Agfa HealthCare
17. Connected Living
18. CardioBBeat
19. Telemedincenterum Charité
20. ALARM
21. S.I.T.E.
22. STEM0
23. TCS
Map Example:
Telemedicine services in Saarland Region

- Homburg (1)
  1. Mobile Stroke Unit
Tele-services are established through all fields of clinical medicine

Tele-Cardiology

Tele-Radiology

Tele-Dermatology

Tele-Pneumology

Tele-Pathology

Tele-Psychiatry

...
Europe-wide use cases in Germany

- Teleradiology [physician to physician]
  >> Legislative update done (Röntgenverordnung)
  >> Larger hospitals offering image assessment for
     -- smaller hospitals without qualified staff
     -- small to medium hospitals for out of hour service

- Teleneurology/Telestroke [physician to phys./pat.]
  >> legislative update done (proc. coding for DRGs)
  >> certification (staff / infrastructure) in place

- Telemonitoring for chronic heart failure patients
  >> legislative update done (integrative care models)
  >> Large scale contracts by Statutory Health Insurances
  >> ongoing “evidence” controversy ➔ better targeting