



EMISPHER and its initiative for the Virtual Euro-Mediterranean Hospital VEMH presented at the eHealth High Level Conference 2006

EMISPHER Press release, May 29, 2006

This year's eHealth High Level Conference and Exhibition had its mission on "eHealth and Health Policies: Synergies for better Health in a Europe of Regions" (see <http://www.ehealthconference2006.org/>) and took place from May 10-12 in Málaga (Spain). This meeting, organised on behalf of the European Commission by Spanish health authorities and the Austrian EU-Presidency, brought together over 900 international experts, representatives from industry and authorities in the field of health, innovation and information technologies, among them 7 Ministers, 4 Secretaries of State, 4 Vice-Ministers and high-ranking officials representing 30 European countries (see enclosed pictures).

On behalf of the German Federal Ministry of Health, the Surgical Research Unit (SRU) OP 2000 from the Robert-Roessle-Klinik at the Max-Delbrueck-Center for Molecular Medicine, Charité – University Medicine Berlin, as EMISPHER Coordinator presented at the official German booth and during a live presentation its concepts for e-Health and u-Health to Avoid the Digital Divide of the World. Various international networks were presented for e-Health and u-Health over satellite, among them DELTASS, MEDASHIP (<http://www.medaship.com>) and EMISPHER (<http://www.emispher.org>), all serving Real-time Telemedicine for Remote, Equal and Ubiquitous Access to Improved Healthcare – Anytime and Anywhere (see also <http://www.rrk-berlin.de/op2000/Englisch/projekte.html>).

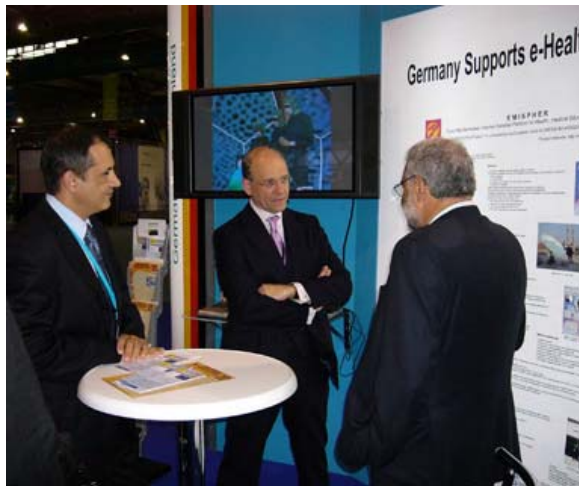
To come to the required real integration and interoperability, concepts for Virtual Hospitals for the various regions of the world, are proposed by an international open consortium. The Virtual Euro-Mediterranean Hospital VEMH will integrate the best-practices implemented in various successful EUMEDIS Pilot Projects (<http://www.eumedis.net>), like EMISPHER, EMPHIS (<http://www.emphis.org>) and ODISEAME (<http://www.odiseame.org>). Health authorities and experts from various countries showed great interest in this VEMH initiative (see enclosed pictures).

The VEMH will be the key structure for lasting and sustainable international cooperation for the improvement and globalisation of Health care. It will establish and integrate satellite- and terrestrial-communication links and Grid infrastructures (based on EMISPHER (<http://www.emispher.org>), GÉANT(2) <http://www.geant2.net/>, EUMEDCONNECT <http://www.eumedconnect.net/>, EGEE-Grid: <http://public.eu-egee.org/>, etc.) required for the deployment and implementation of Evidence-Based Medicine as basis for equal and ubiquitous access to best medical expertise (e-Health and u-Health). This will also boost the establishment and spread of best medical practise throughout the EU and its neighbours, not only in the South (Mediterranean, Adriatic and Black Sea) but also in the East.

The VEMH and similar Virtual Hospital initiatives for other regions are intended to be implemented in the framework of the new European Neighbourhood Policy Instruments (ENPI) of the European Commission.

For further information:

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Picture 1



Picture 2



Picture 3

Picture 1:
Secretary of State of the German Federal Ministry of Health Dr. K.T. Schröder (center) and Deputy Minister of Health of Bulgaria Dr. V. Tzekov (left) at the German booth discussing with Dr. G. Graschew, Scientific Coordinator of SRU OP 2000 and EMISPHER Project Coordinator.

Picture 2:
Secretary of State of the German Federal Ministry of Health Dr. K.T. Schröder (left) at the German booth in discussion with Dr. G. Graschew, Scientific Coordinator of SRU OP 2000 and EMISPHER Project Coordinator.

Picture 3:
Official Exhibition booth of Germany.