

2017 PCNE Workshop 4: eHealth in pharmacy practice

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Introduction

EHealth (also written **e-Health**) is a relatively recent term for healthcare practices supported by electronic information and communication technology (ICT), dating back to at least 1999. Usage of the term varies. Some argue that it is interchangeable with health informatics with a broad definition that covers numerous digital processes in healthcare while others use it in the narrower sense of healthcare practice using the Internet. It also includes the use of digital media, including the internet, social media health applications and links on mobile phones and tablets, referred to as m-health or mHealth, in order to improve health related outcomes. EHealth is also becoming an important element in pharmacy and pharmaceutical care practice

Aim

To present an overview of the use of eHealth and mHealth in healthcare for patients, and to assess the role of eHealth in pharmacy and pharmaceutical care. To explore criteria, formats and means for data-transfer between healthcare professionals and the digital interaction between healthcare professionals and their patients.

Learning objectives

To get more insight into opportunities offered by using eHealth and mHealth in daily pharmacy practice and provide an overview of the various ICT applications that can be used to exchange information between healthcare professionals and between healthcare providers and patients.

Activities in the workshop

Participants will discuss a variety of subjects concerning the use of eHealth and mHealth in pharmacy practice. Subjects include: how can eHealth be used to address patients' specific needs, how can eHealth support both pharmacists and patients in solving drug-related problems, and more generally, how can eHealth be used to increase patient empowerment. Participants will also discuss the use of eHealth channels in the relationship of pharmacists with other healthcare professionals. Some time will also be dedicated to the moral/ethical aspects of data-exchange between professions.

Content for eHealth to support a medication review will be developed according to the needs of pharmacists in different countries.
