

Transfer of information from one unit to another - future scenarios

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Oy Apotti Ab

Information is an essential tool for health care professionals when taking care of the patients and evaluating the quality of care. Good quality information in a right place at a right time brings safety, resolves uncertainty, and leads to right, justifiable decisions.

It has been estimated that up to a third of doctors' work time is taken up by different systems that do not function or are unable to communicate with each other. At the moment, there are hundreds of different data systems in use in the Helsinki Metropolitan Area that do not communicate with each other. In the field of anesthesiology, many units still use paper forms for anesthesia and ICU documentation, and patient information, including history, problems, medication and allergies, has to be manually transferred repeatedly during a standard care process of a surgical emergency case.

Oy Apotti Ab's goal is to be the first in the world to create a shared client and patient information system and operations management system for social services and healthcare. The parties participating in Apotti are Helsinki, Vantaa, Kirkkonummi, Kauniainen and the Hospital District of Helsinki and Uusimaa (HUS), affecting more than 1,6 million Finns. The first implementations proceed in Vantaa and Peijas in 2018.

Having one, shared system for all breaks most of the obstacles with information transfer from one hospital, health center or social service unit to another. Mobile applications will decrease delays in entering notes during home visits or bed side rounds. Everyday life and work will be easier, improved usability will produce more time for clients and patients, up-to-date data will be available securely without delay, regardless of location. The professional can find patients in risk groups, social and health care administration can evaluate the functionality of their unit. The system will also produce work support by reminders and actions triggered by events. And the system will provide operations management, helping to improve care for patients and track quality measures.

The residents will have an effortless access to information about their own health, treatment and results, regardless of the time and location. They can make appointments electronically, enter possible home measurement and medication data and fill in the necessary forms.

And finally, different units around the world can share information with each other and when necessary copy and implement good practices from a shared Community Library.