

Experiences in eMedic-Project

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Background: The goal of the eMedic – Developing New Practices for Teleconsultation and Diabetes project is to accelerate and ease the treatment of diabetes with an aid of telemedicine by applying the existing technological solutions and evaluating their effect on the treatment of diabetes. Service models that enable the use of the virtual medicine in different health care environments to be cost-saving and effective are developed in the projects. The purpose of the developing service models is to help the person suffering from diabetes and the healthcare organizations of the cities.

One service model includes blood glucose meter and blood pressure meter adaptable to the remote care of the diabetes and for transmitting the data. In practice, the patient performs the normal measurement and after that system automatically receives results from devices and sends them automatically to the database where data is available to the healthcare organization or to the patient. Other service model includes two different wound care remote consultation packages. One package (A) is intended for home visits of the home healthcare patients while other is meant for the healthcare unit. Package A is intended use by home nurse. Home nurse photographs patient's wound at the patient's home visit. Video or still image is sent with portable device to diabetes caretaker / doctor in the health care centre, where it is possible to consult simultaneously with the aid of the home nurse's equipment with device. Another package (B) is intended for remote wound care consultation between two or more health care specialists as well as for consultation between health care specialists and home nurse.

Discussion: Aim of this talk is to present the current state in eMedic-project and what challenges we have faced during piloting process and in collaboration between project participants. Additionally, the potential of this kind of services are also discussed, based on the positive experiences we've gathered in project. This presentation is aimed to the discussion how important it's to define roles and functions but also responsibilities in similar projects.

Keywords: cost-efficiency, diabetic, diagnostics, telemedicine