eHealth Interoperability is one of the greatest challenges for the whole healthcare community— and not just for healthcare IT only. It is about bringing to life fruitful collaborations between different healthcare environments and actors, with digital means. Standards are essential in this context, yet much more is needed.

The Antilope Thematic Network supports any eHealth deployment throughout Europe with help in modelling, describing, testing and certifying interoperable solutions on different scales: patient-centred, local, regional, national and crossing borders.

Leveraging the joint expertise of key competence centres, standardisation bodies and expert partners, Antilope has worked since 2013 – building on and refining the European eHealth Interoperability Framework – to promote and drive adoption of recognised profiles and standards, testing guidelines & tools and conformity labelling. The ‘Handover’ Workshop on 29 January 2015 in Ghent, Belgium, mobilised decision makers, key stakeholders and eHealth experts for validation and wide adoption.
Antilope provides a tool kit of four closely related Enablers for eHealth Interoperability

**Key Enabler 1**

Successful deployment of the connected solutions should leverage the multiple views on the interoperability implementation from legal and organisational levels to semantic and technical specifications with the overarching objective to ensure safety and security of patients and citizens.

The main focus of ANTILOPE, as a European Thematic Network, is the adoption, take up and testing of existing and recognised profiles and standards as part of the eHealth Interoperability Framework (eEIF). Standards and profiles are now available and do cover a very large spectrum of use cases. They can be easily implemented by ICT solutions deployed within the European market.

**Key Enabler 2**

An Interoperability Quality Management System is a requirement for any entity that wants to test their interoperability environment of products.

The refined eHealth European Interoperability Framework (reEIF) using a case driven approach offers modelling of the interoperability world in order to create an environment to describe and discuss interoperability problems and solutions. The framework describes an initial set of use cases that can serve as the basis for national/regional deployment. Concrete realisation scenarios, based on available profiles and standards, are specified for each use case. Linking to standards and profiles in the realisation scenarios provides guidance to build localisation and interoperable implementations.

The Quality Management System (QMS) for Interoperability Testing and the processes building upon the HITCH QMS and ISO standards, is a customisable description and a set of templates with instructions that allow a Testing Entity to create its own, specific Interoperability Testing documentation in the form of a single Quality Manual for Interoperability Testing. End users and authorities may also use it to confirm or recognise the quality and competencies of their Interoperability Testing Entities.

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### Key Enabler 3

To meet regulatory requirements such as the directive 2007/47/EC on medical devices or just to ensure State of the Art of data exchange and quality of health information, interoperability testing process shall be one of the main requirements for the success of eHealth solution deployment.

The test tools inventory depicts the testing tools that would be sufficient for testing the recognised profiles that are selected for implementing the use cases described in the reEIF.

### Key Enabler 4

Promoting a quality label or certificate at the European level, will leverage the integration of solutions and offer good opportunities to industry to sell their products in Europe within one recognised testing process, avoiding redundancy among different testing processes that are not compliant.

This process will enhance the creation of one single large European eHealth market.

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Antilope’s beneficiaries are all aware of key interoperability challenges. Through the project’s core group and its expert partners, Antilope provides specific documentation of high quality that can be used by any stakeholder over Europe for their own deployments or developments. This has been enhanced by involving decision makers and opinion leaders into Summits where they could debate all deliverables and were encouraged to implement Antilope actions and roadmaps.

Supported by the adoption of Antilope’s refinements to the European eHealth Interoperability Framework, interoperability in eHealth becomes even more a priority for the deployment of eHealth solutions in Europe. As likewise endorsed by the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (EIP on AHA), eHealth interoperability will be a key challenge to be addressed by many stakeholders in forthcoming years.

At the occasion of ten regional workshops around Europe, Antilope has already successfully provided regional, national and international projects with practical guidance on how to converge eHealth platforms and practices by using international profiles and standards. The handover process delivers Antilope’s final results and demonstrates how countries, EU-projects and initiatives as well as leading experts carry forward the Antilope approach. The handover also addresses the impact of Antilope’s recommendations from the perspective of Member States and how recommendations will be used, refined, and further disseminated to advance eHealth interoperability. This process integrates and benefits from contributions by all participating stakeholders.

For further information and document downloads visit the project homepage at www.antilope-project.eu

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