I2M MATCHMAKING: SELECTED NEEDS

INTEGRA2

Patient-centred Integrated Care for Managing and Preventing health and care risks factors

FundeSalud Government of Extremadura (Spain)

Context

Integrated care focuses on reducing fragmentation in healthcare by reducing silos and providing patient-centred care.

There is a greater need for care coordination, particularly due to trends such as:

   i.   the ageing population,
   ii. the increasing number of patients with co-morbidities,
   iii. the growing number of medical specialities,
   iv. the need for changes in the financing mechanisms of hospitals and health and care institutions,
   v.   technological advancement, and
   vi. increased healthcare costs and expenditure.

The integration of care is one of the solutions that will enable care systems to address this new landscape, by increasing communication between care providers, reducing the unnecessary costs of duplication of tests and services, and enhancing continuity of care for patients moving from one care setting to another.

A literature review highlighted that typical barriers to the implementation of integrated care include lack of cooperation between organisations, teams or professions is a recurrent barrier, together with lack of resources or knowledge. Strong commitment to a vision for integrated care and collaborative networks, as well as good communication and leadership were highlighted are key facilitators.

Extremadura's population ages 65 and above is around 20%, showing also a lot of comorbidities and aging-related diseases. In fact, 80% of the primary care appointments are because of chronic diseases and 65+ years patients account for around 42% of the admissions at the hospital. On the other hand, around 32% of the population older than 64 years old is on a government-recognized situation of dependency, consuming resources from the social care system but most of the time with no effective coordination with the healthcare system and duplicating available resources.

Need description

Extremadura Health (SES) and Social care (SEPAD) systems are coordinated and share some services, though they have different levels of technological maturity.

The SES Healthcare Information System (an Electronic Health Record called Jara) is quite advanced and includes an integrated medical record between primary and specialised care, single medical record per patient, including lab test, images, prescription, treatments, etc. and other information regarding management and administration.

However, the Social management system is not as advanced and SEPAD is now investigating the adoption of new solutions to manage the delivery of social care from the regional public administration.

Common challenges of high interest include:

- Increase prevention within the health and social care settings,
- Reduce breakdown of continuity of care as patients move from one care setting to another,
- Avoid duplication of tests and services,
- Minimize the possible interference between concurrent treatment plans prescribed by different providers for patients with multi-morbidities.

Specially for a target population of fragile patients and the elderly.

The public health and social care providers of Extremadura are looking for:

- A state-of-the-art Information System to manage the delivery of social care.
- Tools to integrate both information systems, ensuring privacy and security in the data sharing.
- Solutions that provide analytical capabilities to give an answer to the above challenges by analysing data from both Information systems.

About us

FundeSalud is the Public Foundation (non-profit) ascribed to the Regional Ministry of Health and Social Services at the Government of Extremadura that manages both research and training programs at the Regional Healthcare (SES) and Dependency/Sociosanitary System (SEPAD). In addition, FundeSalud works in collaboration with University of Extremadura (UEx) and other public or private research centers, providing resources, staff and facilities to develop any biomedical research activity in the autonomous region of Extremadura (Spain).

Extremadura's Healthcare Service (SES) is the Healthcare System in Extremadura that involves 14 hospitals with around 3000 beds, 113 Community Health Centers, 420 Primary care Centers and over 18000 professionals. SES is managed by a powerful Healthcare Information System (JARA) that provides 100% electronic prescription and an integrated medical record (primary and specialized care).

Extremadura's Sociosanitary System (SEPAD) provides more than 10,000 elder population in Government-dependent Nursing Homes. SEPAD supports and manages Nursing Homes, Day Care Centers, Senior Centers and other aged-friendly resources. SEPAD also collaborates with private institutions in order to guarantee a correct care for aged people. SEPAD assists also the elders by providing domiciliary services and other assistance to promote autonomous living and healthy lifestyle for senior people. It also manages different programs in tele-care and health.

Commitment to fund this innovation

It is very likely that Extremadura adopts in the short-term any solution focused on integration of care and any tool for preventing potential risks for frailty and dependency, like frequently present in older people. We are not planning to have any barrier to implement potential solutions that address this challenge, since integrated care is already under the Extremadura health and care plan.

In fact, we may have extensive funding from the national program on PCP and PPI (https://www.mscbs.gob.es/profesionales/innovacionSanitaria/compraPubInn.htm) to acquire and implement this solution at regional level.