AmCham Healthcare Work Group Projects 2021

In 2020 the AmCham Healthcare work group published a vision statement on Latvian healthcare and carried out several pilot projects addressing some of the identified issues in helping create more efficient and sustainable healthcare system contributing to improved patient outcomes.

This year the work group will focus on five shortlisted projects, each of which will be led by a smaller work group. Members from other industries are welcome to sign up to support any of the below listed projects. Feel free to contact Ieva Melngaile at ieva.melngaile@amcham.lv or each work group leader directly.

Below is more information on all healthcare projects submitted for review of the Healthcare work group.

Five shortlisted Healthcare projects supported by HCWG

1. Oncology Data Registry

The aim of this project is to support public authorities: Ministry of Health and National Health Service in the next steps to improve quality and quantity of data available for the oncology data registry. The Design Thinking workshop conducted in 2010 was the 1st step that provided recommendations and aligned stakeholders, incl. key opinion leaders and hospitals. Continued support is needed to provide the necessary roadmap/ICT and other expertise for the public authorities. In order to implement it cooperation partners within pharma and ICT sectors should be involved.

Results:
- Technical solution for National Cancer Registry established;
- Solution and budget proposed to RAKUS & PSKUS;
- Prototype demonstrated and implementation budget estimated.

Co-chairs of this Subgroup:
Dita Erna Sile, Novartis Baltics: Dita.Sile@novartis.com
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2. Digital Health Strategy

Digital Health Strategy will include IT development of Latvian healthcare, build on the strengths of the current digital solutions and next stage digital developments, e.g. electronic medical records and information accessibility through tablets and smartphones. It will also include data security, patient empowerment, prevention and assisted living technology to help elderly people stay healthy in their own homes and to increase their quality of life. The aim of the project is to deepen the connections between healthcare system, physicians, patients and other stakeholders in order to make care more affordable and accessible and to make communities safer and healthier.

Results:
- Latvian Digital health strategy for 2021-2025;
- KPIs & Memorandum of cooperation signed;
- Operating model designed.

Chair of this Subgroup:
Kristaps Krafte: kristaps.krafte@gmail.com

3. Legal Framework for Secondary Use of Health and Social Data

To support establishing a legal framework for secondary use of health and social data in Latvia. The aim of this project is to develop a legal framework with a special focus on secondary data use in research and clinical decisions. It is particularly needed for researchers and data-based service providers in order to obtain a broad enough consent from the data subjects to allow later use of the data while also complying with the GDPR. If the consent is not wide enough, there may be a repeated necessity to receive consent from the data subjects. Project implementation requires cooperation among partners within pharma and ICT sectors.

Results:
- Vision: Development of a legal framework for secondary use of health and social data with a focus on application in research and support of clinical decisions.
- Result for 2021: The draft of the law on the secondary use of health and social data and its annotation have been submitted to the parliament.

Co-chairs of this Subgroup:
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4. Health Data Summit Baltics

The aim of this project is to continue efforts in driving health data topic, based on success of the first Health Data Summit Riga held on November 26, 2020. It is also intended to expand the Summit by collaboration with AmCham Healthcare WG's across the Baltics. Healthcare work group of AmCham Lithuania has already expressed an interest to contribute.

Project results:
- Results should be aligned across Baltic AmChams, based on common topics to drive through the Summit content;
- Possibility to drive change in mindsets of key healthcare stakeholders on selected topics, provide expert opinions, create platform for networking and new cooperation opportunities, possibility to share and learn from best practice;
- Strengthening reputation, credibility and visibility of AmChams in healthcare sector.

Chair of this Subgroup:
Dita Erna Sile, Novartis Baltics, Dita.Sile@novartis.com

5. Value based healthcare approach

Value Based Healthcare (VBHC) means to remunerate healthcare providers for value delivered to patient and society. It focuses on outcomes relevant from a patient perspective. Costs directly reflect the expenditure need to achieve meaningful changes in the pathway of care (e.g., side-effects of interventions, disease specific health care questionnaires, re-hospitalizations, etc.). Current healthcare funding and health technology assessment do not have approach to evaluate value for patient delivered

by healthcare. The project aims to organize a summit with speakers presenting experience and best practices when VBHC implemented.

Results:
- Vision: State Healthcare System transformed based on VBHC principle
- Result for 2021: Summit explicitly devoted to Value Based Healthcare (main Summit hosts/partners: Parliament, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economics, Bank of Latvia)

Chair of this Subgroup:
Kaspars Losans, Roche Latvija: Kaspars.Losans@roche.com

Other healthcare projects proposed by HCWG members

1. Procedure for new services and technology assessment and inclusion into reimbursement list

Knowledge transfer from more developed systems by implementing design thinking workshops and set of articles. Steps can be taken to make the evaluation process smoother and prevent confusion within the physician and patient community in case of committee decision being negative or intervention being assessed as a low priority. Practical guidelines and detailed procedure description (visualized by a decision tree, as an option) would promote understanding and trust. Published committee protocols could help, as well.

Results:
- Procedure is designed
- Implementation into Regulation has started

Project proposed by:
Edgars Labsvirs: edgars.labsvirs@medtronic.com

2. Innovation fund & risk-sharing agreements

The aim of this project is participating in creation of Latvia's first innovation fund for healthcare technologies as well as promoting the risk-sharing agreements. In many developed countries this problem is addressed by introducing specific funding programs, sometimes called Value-Based Access Programs VBAPs. Rather than focusing only on expenditure or patient quantity cap it would be necessary to invest into developing outcome measurement mechanisms, as a prerequisite for personalized, patient-centric and value-based care. Patient outcome measurements enable paying for patient value instead of technology item.

Project initiated by:
Edgars Labsvirs: edgars.labsvirs@medtronic.com

3. A bridge between State of Washington and Republic of Latvia

The aim of this project is to develop a digital health related knowledge exchange bridge between Seattle, WA, USA and Latvia. It will facilitate Latvian and American collaboration by exchange of perspectives and experiences in healthcare through dialogue between people in academia, business and government. The objective is to strengthen relationship between Americans and Latvians in healthcare related sector.

Results:
- To synchronize related information for increased efficiency, modernization and innovation in the healthcare system both in Republic of Latvia and State of Washington.

Project initiated by:
Sandis Kondrats: sandis.kondrats@exonicus.com

4. Patient health monitoring for chronic state and hospitalization prevention

The aim of the project is to give a clear vision on patient health long-term monitoring and centralized data accessibility, which would make patient centered care effective and reduce overall costs on chronic disease treatment by helping medical multidisciplinary teams on transparency and data access. The main driving force for effective system would be patients` standardized data collection, evaluation protocol and improvements development. The next step can be centralized patient data system requiring patient evaluation, health state monitoring and medical history summary available to all functional team members. In order to implement the above mentioned, a new regulation needs to be developed defining the order of medical decision making, communication and data centralization.
Results:
- A new regulation which defines the order of patient health evaluation and long term monitoring order with mandatory electronic data centralized storage and access to that;
- Efficient and precise decision making procedure;
- Highly reduced waiting time to the doctors and functional specialists;
- Reduced chronic state treatment and hospitalized patient expenses;
- The family doctor, medical specialist and the citizens have the full picture about his overall health state.

Project initiated by:
Linda Lancere, linda.lancere@gmail.com

5. Infomed – patient-centric health record system

To develop a patient health record, controlled by patients (PT) and supported by health care provider (HCP) that works on any digital device with internet connectivity. Access will be granted by the PT via eID, mobile app or infomed card. It can be used for regular care and emergency situations in Latvia and abroad. The aim of this project is to create a real patient centric and integrated care approach of healthcare by empowering patients and solve many of the health data challenges.

Results:
- Support by stakeholders via letter of intent
- Project description for EU funding request
- Minimal: Bundle 1, 2 and one pilot project in bundle 3 (e.g. Oncology Registry)

Project initiated by:
Rudi Tielemans: rudi.tielemans@uniweb.eu

If you are interested in supporting any of the above listed projects, please contact AmCham Office and Communication Manager Ieva Melngaile at ieva.melngaile@amcham.lv or feel free to reach out to each group leader or project initiator directly.