



WORKSHOP OUTCOMES: SUMMARY DOCUMENT

During a workshop in October 2020 SAPHIRe brought together some of the leading figures in personalised health from across Europe. It was a chance to exchange experiences, to provide a forum for discussion of best practices, lessons learned, and to identify and assess approaches to improve implementation of personalised health. There were a number of recurring themes on how best practice can be achieved in personalised health.

eHEALTH APPS

The integration of data from multiple sources in order to try and maximise the power and usefulness of ehealth apps; these apps are also empowering citizens to take control of their own health, promoting a move towards preventative healthcare.

SKILLS TRAINING FOR THE FUTURE

As the number of patients with co-morbidities increase and our ageing population expands a more holistic patient view is required, which will require more interdisciplinary collaboration, communication and coordination between staff and departments. There has also been a surge in the use of new technologies in recent years within the healthcare sector, this requires new ways of working together with both colleagues and patients and their families.

CROSS COLLABORATION

Personalised health initiatives are generally more successful when a multidisciplinary, cross-sectorial approach is undertaken. The value of communication between clinicians, scientists, patients, public and private sector cannot be understated.



CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

To ensure a holistic approach and successful outcome in any personalised health programme, the engagement of patients and the public is an important step. Patients should not just be consulted, but should work collaboratively with scientists and clinicians to better understand unmet needs.

DATA

- Data can only be useful if it is of sufficient quality.
- Data needs to be well characterised and compatible with the systems it is being used.
- Personal data should be managed sensitively and appropriately – this includes ethical, legal, security and governance aspects.
- Clinical decision-making needs complex data to be presented in a quick and easily interpretable form

POLICY

- Long-term success requires a ‘whole system’ view and working better together across the country/region(s)
- Decisions should be taken at policy level to help with the integration of health data as this is a key asset and it is vital there is a connected, interoperable network if data is to be used in a meaningful way.
- It is essential to fully utilise existing infrastructure investments for the adoption of new technologies to demonstrate the economic value of personalised medicine, the benefit to patients, and the potential to make savings for the health service.
- There is a need to enhance genomic medicine in (for example) the NHS, for diagnosis of rare diseases and to ensure that personalised medicine can be utilised in cancer treatment (and other chronic disease areas) as soon as possible.