Healthcare IT champions improve medicine

Digital healthcare is no longer to be found only in doctors' surgeries or in hospitals: Mobile applications, electronic patient records and telemedical care platforms present new challenges, as well as offering entirely new opportunities for healthcare that is not confined to the buildings housing medical facilities. With solutions covering the entire spectrum of healthcare, the seven Gold Partners of the DMEA 2020 are demonstrating what broadly based, digitally supported and no longer purely reactive healthcare in the 21st century should look like.

Telekom Healthcare Solutions: Interconnection, interconnection, interconnection

The main topic from Deutsche Telekom is interconnection between medical facilities and with patients. The company’s Telehealth 360 platform is an added value application for the telematics infrastructure that incorporates care processes via clinical pathways and allows the use of applications such as remote and video consultations: “At the DMEA we are also using TH360 to link a diabetes app with our hospital information system iMedOne. Integrated, interconnected solutions such as these are the future”, explains Mark Düsener, Head of Telekom Healthcare Solutions.

Other countries are already some way ahead of us in terms of interconnectedness. For example Deutsche Telekom has launched an Internet of Things and HIS rollout project in South Africa in collaboration with Netcare, a private chain of clinics. It enables doctors and nursing staff to have access to all of the clinic’s medical products by means of an iPad. This is particularly useful in intensive care, because staff can see in real time the information provided by a particular item of equipment. This means that they are then optimally informed even if they are not actually at the patient’s bedside.

Meierhofer AG: Next generation Hospital IT

For Meierhofer AG everything revolves around the question of how to structure hospital IT in a way that makes it as intelligent, future-proof and user-friendly as possible. At the DMEA 2020 the company is providing an initial insight into ‘M-KIS Next’, the latest generation of its well-established hospital information system M-KIS: “An HIS has to be future-proof and offer the maximum user-friendliness, as well as helping to improve the quality of care. M-KIS Next addresses these core demands by using a new technology platform that offers a more process-based view rather than one that is function-driven,” according to Matthias Meierhofer, founder and Chairman of the Board of Meierhofer AG. The DMEA provides an opportunity to take a first look at the completely new user interface of M-KIS Next, which is a central feature of the new generation of hospital information systems: “At times when there is a shortage of doctors and care staff an HIS is required to substantially ease the workload. Another aspect of the new HIS is that it offers intelligent process support and workflow automation.”

medatixx: Optimum support for practices, medical care centres and outpatient departments

Specialising in IT solutions for outpatient care, medatixx places the emphasis in its display at the DMEA 2020 on its x.vianova software for medical care centres and outpatient clinics. The range of functions of this software has been considerably expanded. Further improvements have been made to the order entry process and to accounting interfaces, a new communication interface has been created, and the entire business intelligence section and statistical functionalities have been greatly expanded. For the Chief Executive of medatixx, Jens Naumann, another highlight is the completely new medication management tool for use with all established medatixx programmes, i.e. x.isynet, x.vianova, x.comfort, x.concept and easymed.
The company will also be using the DMEA 2020 to show, for the first time, the future link between outpatient IT systems and digital health applications applied by patients themselves (DiGA): “At the present time it is still not clear exactly how the DiGAs will reach the patients, but we have already produced concepts from practice IT for issuing a prescription, whereby, depending on the particular context, the doctor is referred to possible DiGAs”, says Naumann.

**ID GmbH & Co KGaA: Introducing terminology, but doing it correctly**

If interconnected IT solutions are to function efficiently, then the IT systems also have to be mutually intelligible. This is where terminologies are of assistance, and the ID company is one of the specialists in this field. “Of course IT systems can also be interconnected without the use of terminologies, but in such cases they can no longer effectively exchange information because they do not speak a standardised language. The end result is one of spectacular inefficiency”, according to André Sander, Director of Software Development and a member of the board of ID.

Investigations have been carried out at university clinics showing that, in some cases, doctors spend 60 per cent of their time in front of a computer, and this can also be due to a lack of terminologies. Ways in which terminologies can be introduced to benefit everyone is one of the topics being dealt with by ID at the DMEA 2020. Instead of just relying on a terminology, the company is calling for a plurality of terminologies, harmonised with one another by means of a terminology server. The display by ID at the DMEA covers the entire range of terminology-based applications from case-associated coding to clinical identification of active ingredients and assistance for doctors in their decision-making.

**CompuGroup Medical SE: Digital interconnection as an overall strategy**

For the Chief Executive of CompuGroup Medical SE, Thomas Simon, the dominant theme at the DMEA 2020 is cross-sectoral interconnectedness: “If we succeed with the efficient digital implementation of cross-sectoral interconnectedness it will be a quantum leap in terms of the quality of medical care and thus for patients too.” What this will look like is illustrated by CGM, for example by means of its core product, CGM CLINICAL for acute clinics and rehabilitation clinics, which has been extensively developed for nursing and medication processes: “Its strengths lie in its seamless integration within other clinical processes”, according to Andreas Waldbrenner, General Manager for Clinic Business: “This releases many synergies and leads to an easing of the workload of staff, accompanied by a qualitative improvement.” Patients also want to be connected to the digital healthcare system. For them CGM with its electronic patient file CGM LIFE has already produced its own solution. The way towards a platform for patients is outlined by Michael Franz, Vice President Business Development: “At the DMEA we are presenting our Click-Doc platform, based on CGM LIFE. This is a comprehensive communication solution that puts patients and service providers on the same level and makes a wide range of partner apps accessible.”

**Cerner: Smart IT, smart care**

Anyone who wants to improve healthcare by means of digitalisation must exploit the opportunities offered by IT in healthcare, says Stefan Radatz, Regional General Manager Central and Eastern Europe and General Manager for Cerner in Germany and Austria: “At the present time hospitals in Germany mainly use HIS systems for documentation. In this case a whole new way of thinking must be introduced.” The prerequisites for this are modern, open architectures, the use of industry standards such as FHIR, and a stable, innovative platform as the foundation for organising compartmentalised services. At the DMEA 2020 Cerner is showing how a fully standardised HIS being operated for a hospital can be used to display individual customer requirements in the best possible way. What was purely a documentation system becomes a smart method of process support, easing workloads and improving patient care: “The IT can actively assist the medical personnel in their everyday work by planning ahead for processes, analysing data and supplying information in real time”, Radatz explains. “In this way IT can support decision-making processes and help to ease the workload for clinical personal, especially in their routine tasks.”
Agfa HealthCare: the continuing evolution of hospital IT

As one of the market leaders for hospital information systems (HIS) in Germany, the display by Agfa HealthCare at the DMEA 2020 shows how its own HIS, KIS ORBIS, is being developed further in the direction of a modular, web-based platform. The display features a completely redesigned nursing care cycle and wound management, enabling the mobile capture of images at the patient’s bed. “We are also presenting a genuine innovation in the form of a secure messenger which enables doctors and nursing staff to communicate with one another”, reports Michael Strüter, Agfa HealthCare General Manager and Sales Director IT for Germany, Austria and Switzerland. This messenger or “chat” is an extension to our mobile solution, ORBIS Info4U, which has until now has offered access to a clinical history in the form of a read-out, as well as functions for mobile dictation and scanning. Agfa HealthCare has some new developments for other user groups too. Medical controllers will welcome ORBIS MedCo, a dashboard giving rapid access to MDK (health insurers’ medical services) cases and for MDK risk assessment. Apart from its HIS innovations this company is also exhibiting a signature pad for patient signatures in its display at the DMEA.

About DMEA

DMEA is Europe’s leading event for health IT, which gathers decision-makers from every area of the healthcare sector – including IT specialists, physicians, hospital and nursing care executives as well as experts from politics, science and research. In 2019 a total of 11,000 trade visitors came to DMEA to find out about the latest developments and products, acquire qualifications and establish important industry contacts. DMEA 2020 will take place from 21 to 23 April 2020 in Berlin. Topics will include artificial intelligence, innovations in health IT and digitalisation of nursing care processes.

DMEA is held by the German Association of Healthcare IT Vendors (bvitg) and organised by Messe Berlin. DMEA is organised in cooperation with the following industry associations: the German Association of Healthcare IT Vendors (bvitg), the German Association for Medical Informatics, Biometry and Epidemiology (GMDS), the German Medical Informatics Professional Association (BVMi). The National Association of Hospital IT Managers (KH-IT) and the Chief Information Officers of University Hospitals (CIO-UK) provide contributions on the subject matter.

This press release can also be found on the internet: www.dmea.eu