

What is MEDTEL

- "MEDTEL" means "telematics in health care". The definition of health telematics published by WHO follows:
- "Health telematics is a complex term covering health related activities, services and remote data transfer systems operating via information and communication technologies, which are realized in order to support health, illness control, and health care from a general point of view, as well as to support education, management, and research in health care."

Why Is It Being Established?

In 1999, EHTEL (European Health Telematics Association), a non-profit European association, was established. EHTEL was founded with the aim of organizing a continuous democratic and neutral platform, where actors of different categories could meet and formulate together constructive approaches useful for all of them. The actors are considered:

- Authorities dealing with health care (the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, schools, research establishments);
- Health care providers;
- Health insurance companies;
- Associations of patients, citizens, and interest groups;
- Business companies operating in the field of health care.

MEDTEL would like to become a similar platform in the Czech Republic

Visions and Strategies

Based on MEDTEL's experience with the development, management, and provision of telematics in Czech health care and with regard to the trends in this field in the countries of the European Union, MEDTEL can become a basis of the national network of health telematics and, consequently, a partner of European organizations, particularly of the ETHEL network of health telematics.

Principles of MEDTEL Initiative

- Emphasize the orientation of health care to patients, fully respecting their rights
- Support health organizations and employees in their aim to gain responsibility, achieve economical results, and provide quality treatment
- Support the provision of health telematics, which is an integral part and a prerequisite of quality professional activities, as a tool used for the development of health institutions
- Promote rational integration at a local, regional, national, and European level, fully respecting cultural traditions and independence of persons, as well as organizations

For Whom Is It

For everybody – organizations, institutions, companies, and individuals – who is active in the fields related to health telematics.

MEDTEL would like to be a platform, a forum, a club, which is open for everybody who is interested.

MEDTEL Activities 1

- Profile itself as a permanent and continuous information source in the field
- Enable meetings and discussions on the MEDTEL premises
- Organize telematics seminars
- Organize courses, trainings, and workshops in the field
- Provide consultancy and advisory services in the field
- Regularly update www.medtel.cz so that it becomes a permanent source of up-to-date information

MEDTEL Activities 2

- Maintain active contacts with the ETHEL association and with the eEuro Smart Card Charter activity, especially with its eHealth work group
- Once a year, organize an international health informatics conference with the focus placed on the transfer of information about European and World activities in the field
- Prepare suggestions, proposals, and initiatives aiming at the development of health telematics in the Czech
 Republic, particularly within the context of European trends in the field

Material Support

The basic technical and organizational background consists of:

- www.medtel.cz web page, established and operated by the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic; and
- Premises at Lékařský dům (Physicians' House),
 Sokolská 31, Prague 2, used as a base for negotiations and meetings.

Contributions

- Permanent source of up-to-date information
- Contribution towards the harmonization of Czech telematics with the European Union
- Opportunity to formulate new suggestions
- Opportunity to exchange information, formulate requests and suggestions among healthcare actors: a health care provider – a specialist in informatics – an institution – a patient – a state/regional administration authority

Web pages of the Medtel:

www.medtel.cz