



UNICOM

Towards Medicinal Products Data Global Interoperability Why should we strive for it?

UNICOM online Webinar
Wednesday 21 April 2021 (10:00 – 11:30 am CET)

- 10:00 : IDMP: What is the issue at stake?
Karl Stroetmann- Empirica (Germany)
- 10:15: The General Practitioner story:
Robert Vander Stichele UGent (Belgium) & I~HD
- 10:30: The Pharmacist story
Jack Shanahan, Irish Pharmacy Union (Ireland))
- 10:40 : The Specialist (Internist) story
George Dafoulas (Larisa (Greece), EHTEL):
- 10:50: The Patient story
Lucia Commes, Pharmawizard (Italy)
- 11:00 Moderated debate
Dipak Kalra (I~HD) With representatives of the 4
main stakeholders
- 11:25: Closing remarks
Dipak Kalra (I~HD)

Who should participate ?

All individuals and organisations interested and involved in the daily management of medicinal products such as healthcare organisations, healthcare professionals and patients.



The webinar language is English. Participation is **free** but **registration is compulsory**. You will receive the link to the online conference room a few days prior to the event

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What is the problem UNICOM wants to help in solving?

Interventions involving medicinal products are a central, if not a dominant, element of healthcare.

UNICOM is a major European health innovation project started in December 2019 which helps to ensure that any medicine and what it contains can be **accurately identified anywhere in the world**.

UNICOM focuses on further development of the **IDMP suite** (IDentification of Medicinal Products) of **ISO standards**, their testing, implementation and diffusion for regulatory purposes by National Medicines Agencies. IDMP implementation is needed for a wide range of purposes. These include global pharmacovigilance; advancing European cross-border ePrescription services; improved patient safety and better healthcare; public health services; clinical research; big data analytics; and artificial intelligence applications.

Most resource-rich countries maintain at least basic national (electronic) repositories and databases of medicinal products, which have gone through the stipulated regulatory national process to be marketed in that national healthcare system. These systems are not necessarily coordinated between countries. Unfortunately, **these uncoordinated national regulatory procedures have resulted in a host of unintended results and impacts**. These endanger patient safety and hinder improvements in healthcare service delivery, particularly in international contexts. Similar challenges apply to the electronic recording of medicinal products in other healthcare contexts, e.g. in electronic patient summaries, health records, clinical decision and ordering systems, and ePrescribing software.

Why should you participate?

The ongoing COVID-19 crisis provides convincing examples of the **urgent need to identify medicinal products correctly**. People, patients, and healthcare professionals need now to rely on globally comparable quality information for clinical safety; compare outcomes achieved with different kinds of interventions; and take sound decisions related to pharmacovigilance, drugs shortages, and dynamic clinical trials.

A solution is at hand with the IDMP suite of standards, but there are still many challenges and resistances. It is thus important that patients and healthcare professionals, and their respective representative organisations, are aware of the need to have IDMP implemented as soon as possible. They can also contribute in their own sphere of influence to take active steps in the right direction.

This workshop will **explain the issues at stake** via the use of **true-to-life stories**. It will highlight the **concrete benefits of IDMP implementation** for at least four stakeholder groups. It will **collect feedback from stakeholders' representatives** (citizens, patients, physicians, hospitals, pharmacists...). The result will be to inform the further development and European Union (EU)-wide implementation of **IDMP standards towards better and safer healthcare within the EU and globally**.

The workshop provides a welcome opportunity to hear stakeholders' voices, and to channel them to influence European policy development.
