



Become a member of sundhedsITnet – a research-based knowledge service network for the needs-driven development of new possibilities that aim to increase quality, flexibility and efficiency in health activities involving IT.

Collaboration and innovation among universities, health services, businesses and patients. That is the aim of sundhedsITnet, the network for the exchange of knowledge about healthcare IT, supported by the Danish Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation. The network brings actors in the field together, in a holistic approach to healthcare IT.

The treatment opportunities in the health sector, and the population's expectations and wishes, are increasing significantly, which is resulting in a considerable pressure on resources. The technological development also means that more and more IT is being embedded in our tools and surroundings. This radically increases the opportunities for communication and integration.

This potential is not exploited well enough in the health sector, which is still characterised by administrative systems and isolated appliances.

There will be a dramatic development in possibilities as we are able to follow up the introduction of the EPJ (Electronic Patient Journal) with applications and services that utilise EPJ, and that can function across sectors, e.g. between the hospital and the patient's home.

sundhedsITnet wants to establish a permanent, multi-disciplinary and inter-regional research-based knowledge service network for the needs-driven development of new possibilities that aim to increase quality, flexibility and efficiency in health activities involving IT.

sundhedsITnet has been founded on the experience that has been amassed in Copenhagen (The ITU, CBS and Copenhagen University Hospital), Aarhus (The Alexandra Institute, the Aarhus School of Business, The University of Aarhus, Skejby Hospital and Aarhus University Hospital) and Aalborg (Aalborg University and Aalborg Hospital).

sundhedsITnet wants to create a connection between the greatly increasing introduction of IT in everything, the need for a coherent patient follow-up and the need for common IT infrastructures with common standards and architectures. Efficient tools are also needed to implement, control quality and measure the effect of the introduction of new technology in the health sector.

Key actors in sundhedsITnet

The Alexandra Institute
The Aarhus School of Business
The Copenhagen Business School
The IT University of Copenhagen
Aalborg University
The University of Aarhus
Aarhus University Hospital
Funen Hospital
Copenhagen University Hospital

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www.sundhedsITnet.dk

Subscription

Annual subscription fee (exc. VAT):
Small companies/organisations
(max. 10 employees): DKK 5,000
Others: DKK 9,000

Events in the network will either be free for members, or members will be given a 50% discount in relation to non-members.

The network is partly financed by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation.



sundhedsITnet focuses on four subject areas

Pervasive healthcare

Pervasive healthcare is all about supplying health services when and where people want them, and giving the individual and his/her family a far more active role in looking after their own health. The subject area of pervasive healthcare works with new forms of hardware and software technology designed for health work, sensor networks for biological monitoring in and outside of the hospital, new network-based services and telemedicine for collaboration between patients-doctors-relatives, alarm and monitoring technology and technology for self-care and self-treatment.

Area manager: Morten Kyng, mkyng@daimi.au.dk, Datalogisk Institut, Aarhus University

Management and effect measurement

Effect measurement plays an important role for decision makers in the health sector and for companies that develop technology for this sector. Effect measurement can bring considerations concerning the usefulness and the application of the technology at an early stage in the process where new technology is to be developed. In this way, effect measurement supports the management of both development, implementation, and operation. Denmark is at the forefront when it comes to collaboration between the health sector and IT suppliers, and there are good opportunities for significantly improving exports with more focus on effect measurement.

Area manager: Poul Erik Rostgaard Andersen, ros@asb.dk, the Aarhus School of Business

Shared care

A coherent patient follow-up (shared care) focuses on improving communication and collaboration in networks comprising health personnel and patients/citizens. Shared care includes access to relevant information about the patient at all relevant times in the treatment process. The design and implementation of IT applications that support this kind of network pose great challenges on both the theoretical and the practical levels, and these challenges are of a technical, health scientific and organisational nature. As Denmark is in the forefront when it comes to shared care, we have a good starting point from which to develop innovative IT applications and services that can also become export products.

Area manager: Finn Kensing, kensing@itu.dk, the IT University of Copenhagen

Software and information architecture

The health sector has an increasing need for innovative IT. Both the numerous complex IT systems and the numerous medico-technical appliances in the sector need to be developed with the aim of achieving greater integration between information and functions. The EPJ, which is currently in the process of being introduced, is one innovation that is creating considerable possibilities for new applications and services embracing multiple appliances and systems. In order to realise these possibilities, a common understanding, and architectural principles that support inter-operability, security, openness, flexibility, scalability and user-friendliness, need to be developed.

Area manager: Stig Kjær Andersen, ska@v-chi.dk, Aalborg University

Activities in the network

Strategy development

- A description of all public research and knowledge environments that are relevant for sundITnet's subject profile.
- Preparation of a research strategy for health informatics, as a supplement to the national IT strategy for the Danish health services.

Matchmaking

- Development of well-functioning models that create a dynamic collaboration among research and development environments, companies, clinical environments and public authorities.
- Linking up public research and development groups with companies, clinical environments and public authorities, with the aim of solving specific technological challenges in products and services.

Company-oriented services

- Company guide for relevant research groups, clinical environments and public authorities
- Seminars/workshops/subject-specific theme days
- Calendar of events
- Electronic newsletter
- Network homepage and portal for research environments
- Support for project formulation in connection with R&D/EU research funds
- Increased Danish participation in Nordic and European networks, including the EU's framework programmes
- Analysis of the corporate sector's need for training in this area
- Identification of foreign partners and relevant international networks, conferences, exhibitions, etc.

Dissemination

- In the short-term, dissemination will take place via the homepage, newsletters, exhibitions, conferences, etc.
- In the longer-term, dissemination will take place via Master's level and doctorate degree courses.