Belgrade Declaration

The delegates, present at the Regional Conference on Quality Labelling and Certification of Electronic Health Record (EHR) systems (Belgrade, Serbia, November 21-22, 2011) recognise the potential of e-Health and more specifically EHR systems to improve quality, accessibility and efficiency of care. This potential requires effective and meaningful use by the healthcare professionals of high standard interoperable applications, meeting well-specified functional, content-related, interoperability and other requirements.

The delegates confirm the importance of quality assessment and certification of EHR systems in order to ensure safe and cross-border provision of care to citizens across Europe. The delegates advise the competent authorities in the European countries to define a minimum set of quality criteria applicable to advanced EHR systems and to ensure effective procedures for quality labelling and certification in Europe.

The delegates advise the competent authorities in the European countries to stimulate the effective use of such quality labelled or certified EHR systems by the health professionals (and by patients in case of personal health records).

The delegates advise the European Commission and the individual countries to invest in continuous quality assessment and to further support the harmonisation of EHR products across Europe, improving portability, interoperability and availability of patient related information.

Delegates are from Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia and Turkey.