

Healthcare Prescriptions

E-health solutions ensure that health insurers, hospitals and doctors are networked better and can reduce costs without needing to cut back on quality of care.

Over the past ten years German healthcare spending has risen by around a third and currently totals EUR 263 billion a year. Due to demographic trends there will be more and more beneficiaries and fewer and fewer contributors in the decades to come. The healthcare sector will need to respond to these changes and devise new processes and structures.

One approach is to improve networking of doctors, clinics, patients, and health insurers by means of modern information and communication technologies (ICT). All of a patient's medical data can be filed away in a patient's folder, for example, and people authorized by the patient, such as family doctors and medical specialists, will have fast access to key data. In an emergency, doctors will have immediate access to vital information, while hospitals will send their findings digitally to the patient's personal physician and nursing carers will be able to look after patients even in areas with poor or limited infrastructure by means of telemedicine.

Online cardiac or blood monitoring, for example, will enable older people or the chronically ill to stay at home in their accustomed surroundings under medical supervision. ICT helps people to lead self-determined lives for longer. Deutsche Telekom has developed a service terminal to help people who are restricted by age, ill health or disability to cope better with their everyday lives. At CeBIT 2011, Telekom is showcasing its DT Health Platform (DTHP), which provides medical services and state-of-the-art connectivity with due consideration for the high level of statutory security requirements for handling healthcare data.