DigiSanté: Vision for a digital healthcare system in Switzerland

From Technology to Treatment, PHRT & SPHN Symposium 2025

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The vision

Electronic Health Records

Health data from apps and medical devices

Health data in registries

Empower individuals to have control over their health data

Assist policy maker and regulators in accessing relevant health data

Better prevention, diagnosis and treatment:

- Improved patient safety
- Continuity of care
- Improved healthcare efficiency

Enable health professionals to have access to relevant health data
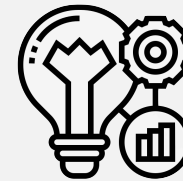
Facilitate access to health data for research and innovators

Better health policy, greater opportunities for research and innovation

Based on: https://www.european-health-data-space.com/

The underlying challenges

Hardly any transformation in the health sector for decades:

- Grown, unconnected silo solutions

- Business models to bridge the existing gaps between those silos

- Gains in transparency are (also) feared

- Proprietary systems aim at customer loyalty, not at national interoperability

- Thinking data still means focus on data we have, not that data we need

Source: Der Spiegel (2023). Photo: Chris Windsor / Getty Images

'Digitisation is actually a reform of the administration; it's just that not everyone has realised this yet.'

Walter Thurnherr, former Swiss Federal Chancellor

https://www.swico.ch/de/news/detail/verliert-die-schweiz-ihren-digitalminister (2023)

The DigiSanté programme

Standard requirements and data specifications for a seamless and nationwide data exchange will be set

Establishment and operation of a secure **Swiss Health Data Space**

Enabling a systematic and responsible **secondary use of health data for research**
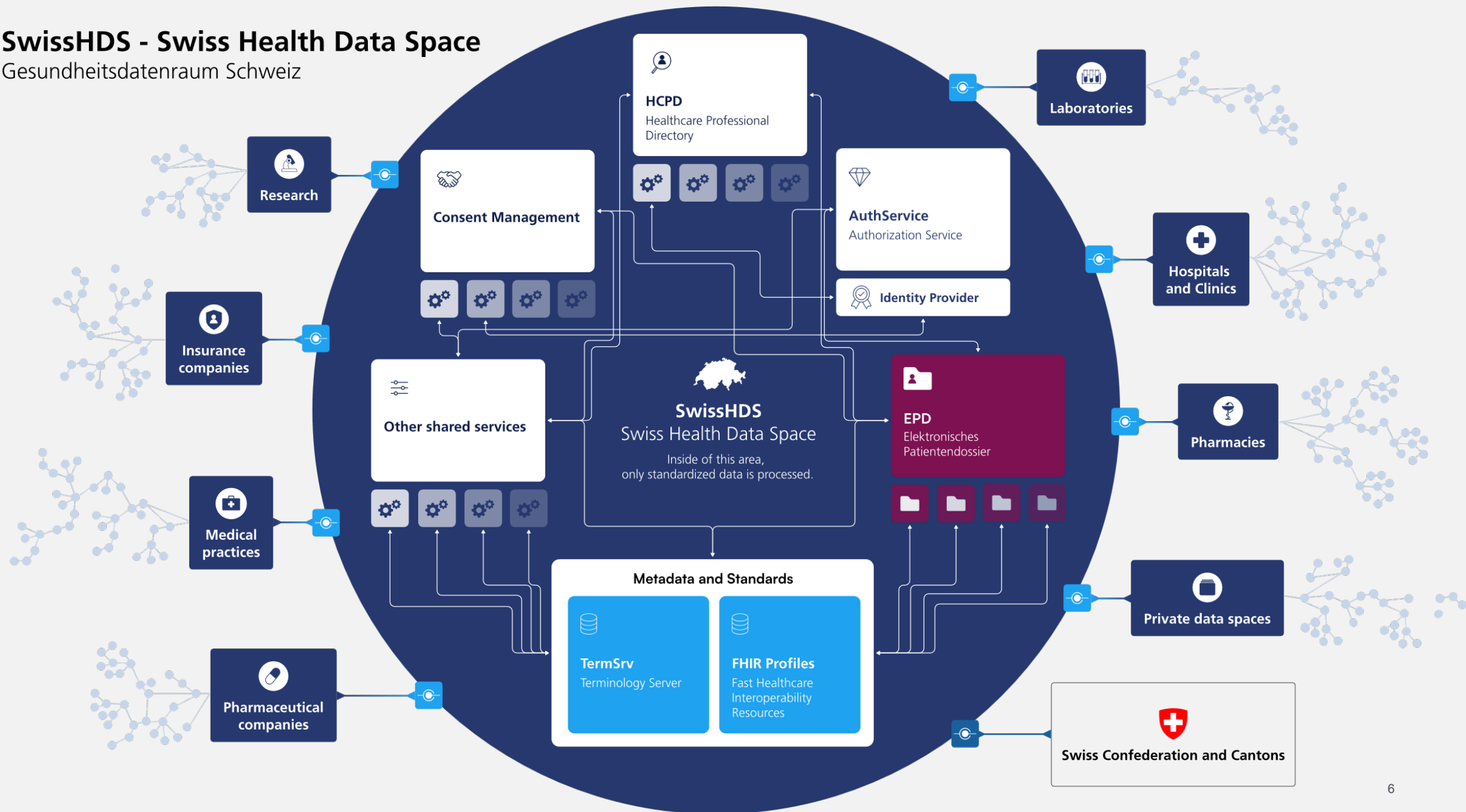

DigiSanté
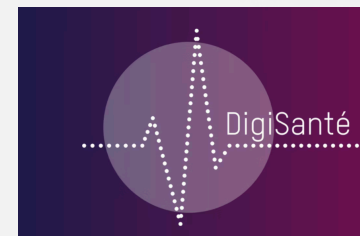
Duration: 10 years – 2025 bis 2034

Start of the programme: 2025

Commitment credit: 392 MCHF

SwissHDS - Swiss Health Data Space
Gesundheitsdatenraum Schweiz

HCPD
Healthcare Professional Directory

Consent Management

AuthService
Authorization Service

Identity Provider

SwissHDS
Swiss Health Data Space
Inside of this area,
only standardized data is processed.

Other shared services

EPD
Elektronisches Patientendossier

Metadata and Standards

TermSrv
Terminology Server

FHIR Profiles
Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources

Laboratories

Hospitals and Clinics

Pharmacies

Private data spaces

Swiss Confederation and Cantons

Research

Insurance companies

Medical practices

Pharmaceutical companies

6

Federal Admin Services

- Surveillance Plattform
- II4Y
- UPI Register
- Identity Provider

Personalized Health Care

Citizen/Patient

Clinical Data
- Clinical Data repository
- Data Access Policy
- Data Registry

National Health Services Infrastructure

- HCP Directory
- Data Access Management
- Consent Management
- Master Patient Index
- Accounting Service
- HDS Repository
- Service Catalog
- Health Data Registry
- Signature Service
- Notification Service
- A & P Services
- Message Broker

MDI Terminology Server

Public Health
- Zugangsportal
- Primary Systems

Data Intelligence & Research
- Research Projects

EPD
- Audit & System Repository
- Data Access Policy
- Document Registry
- Document Repository

B2B/B2C Clinical Monitoring
- Health Portal
- Medical Apps

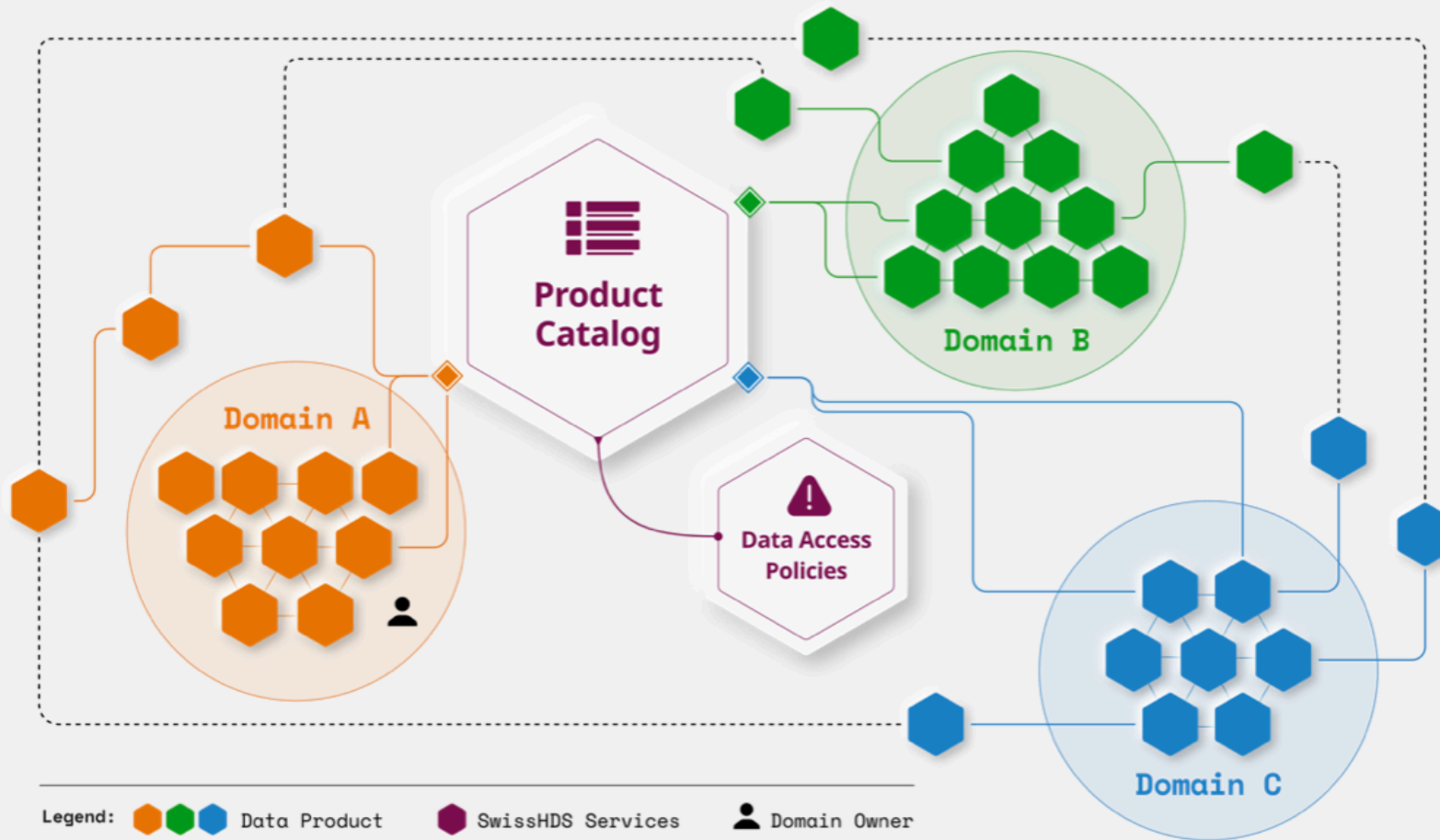## Fitness & mHealth Data
- Data Repository
- Data Access Policy

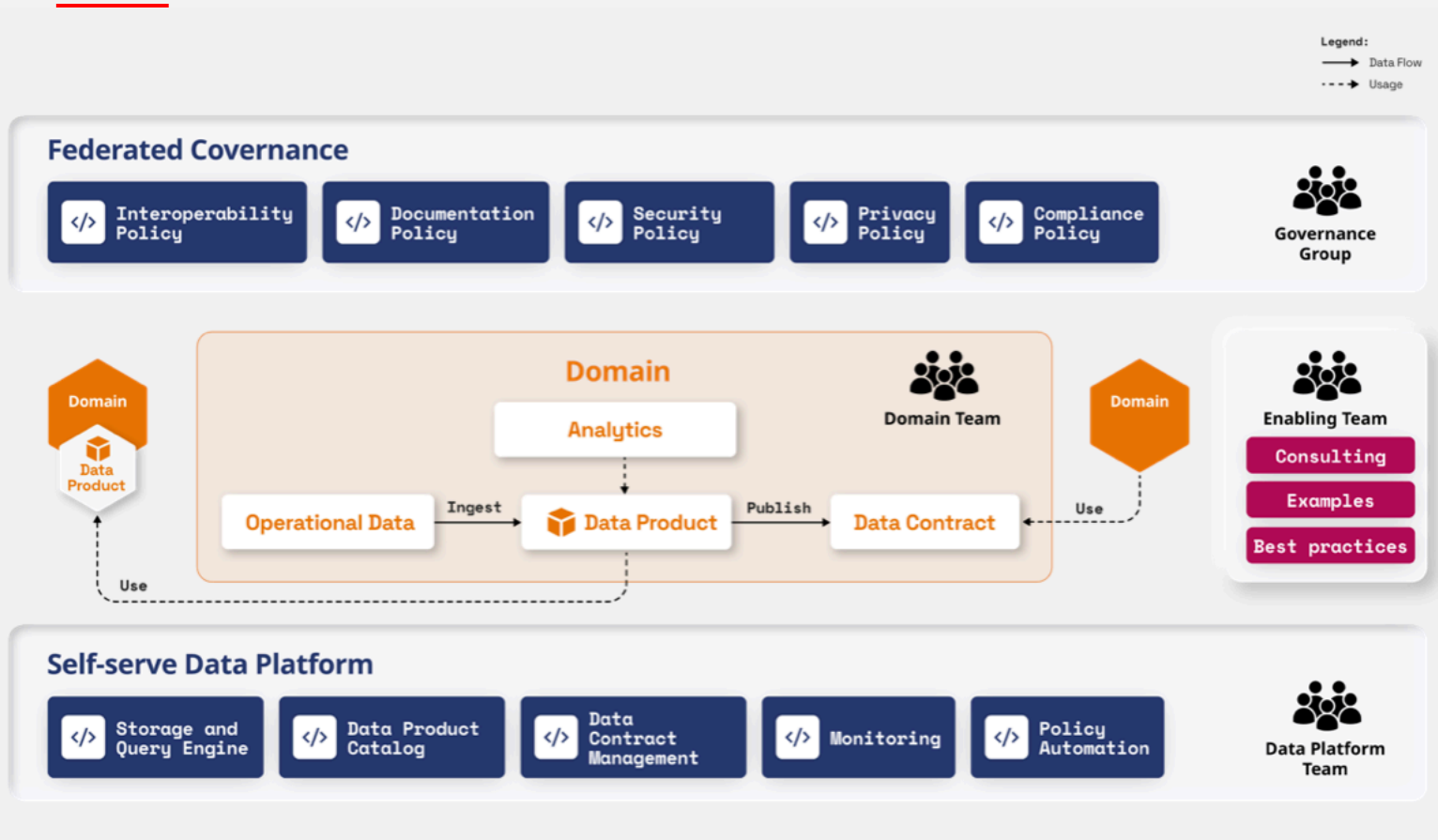eMedication Laboratory Radiology

Data Mesh I/II

Domain-oriented data responsibility: Domains take responsibility for their own data

Data as a product: Data is treated like a product, with a focus on reusability, quality, and user orientation.

Data Mesh II/II

Self-service data infrastructure: Provision of platforms and services that enable domains to work with data independently

Federated data governance: A common framework for data standards and policies across all domains.

Standards: Proposal (approval pending)

Technical layer:

The personal data products exchanged (offered) within the SwissHDS comply with the FHIR standard

The format for data exchange in the healthcare sector, including government processes, is generally FHIR

Data products and exchange formats in the areas of:

- eMedication (ePrescription, eMedication plan)
- International Patient Summary (IPS)
- eVaccination
- allergies and intolerances

- laboratory/radiology: orders and findings
- discharge report
- service billing and cost approval§
- eReferrals

Knowledge advantage through data

Efficient reuse of data for planning, monitoring, policy making and data-driven research

- Unique person ID for data linkage

- Trust centre for national data coordination and linkage

- Consent management on a national level

- New legal framework for secondary use of health data

www.sphn.ch; www.biomedit.ch
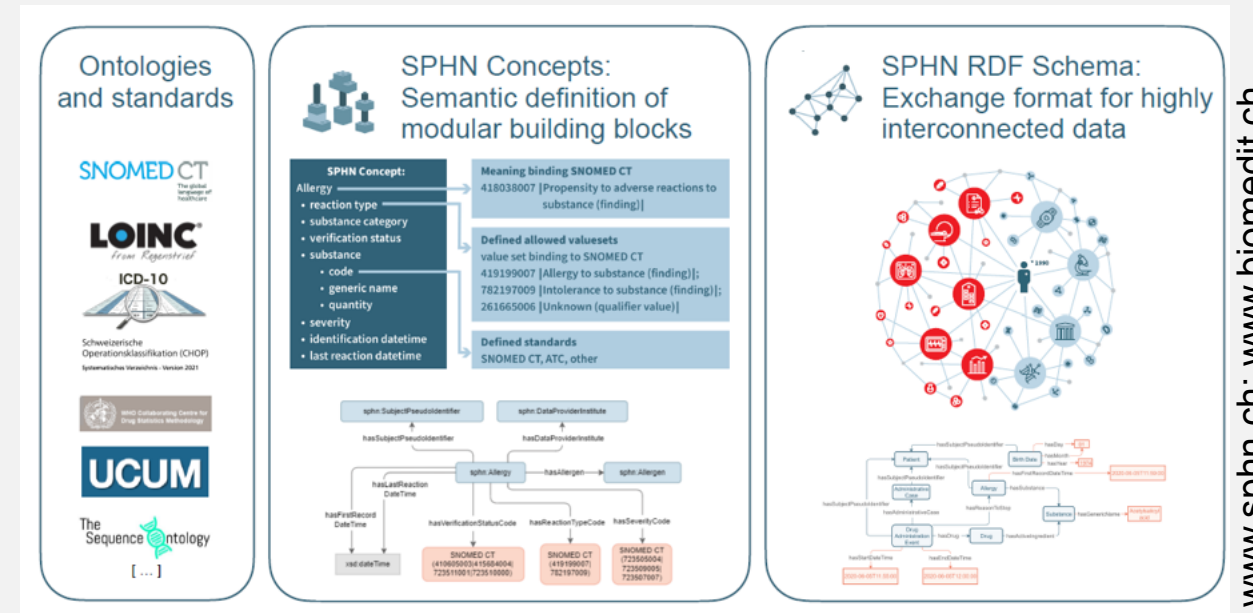
DigiSanté: Current status

- 21 Projekts up and running

- Standards: 1st package in review (collaboration with SPHN)

- Collaboration with the stakeholder organizations in health care established (Branchengremium DigiSanté)

- Planning phase of the SwissHDS successfully running

- Legislation project „Federal Act on the Digital Health Data Space" started

- Legislation project „Secondary use of data" started: Extension of the data scope beyond the Human Research Act, and of the purpose to secondary use, not just research

DigiSanté projects defined in the dispatch

Projektname	Amt	Grösse	Phase 1: Standards und Systemaufbau			Phase 2: Dienste und Schnittstellen			Phase 3: Optimierung und Verstetigung			
			2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034
Paket 1												
Semantische Standards	BFS	L										
Projekt Standards DigiSanté (SDS)	BAG	M										
Paket 2												
Spitalregister (SpiReg)	BFS	S										
Leistungserbringerregister (LeReg)	BAG	M										
Swiss Health Dataspace (SwissHDS)	BAG	XL										
Organ- und Gewebespenderegister (OGReg)	BAG	L										
Paket 3												
Autorisations Stupéfiants (AutoStup)	BAG	S										
Digitalisierung Gesuchseinreichung VGB	BAG	S										
Elektronische Plattform Leistungen (ePL)	BAG	L										
ePortale Gesundheit und Umwelt (ePGU)	BAG	L										
ISAK Relaunch (ISAKR)	BAG	L										
NASURE (National Surveillance & Response)	BAG	XL										
Swiss Organ Allocation System 4.0 (SOAS 4.0)	BAG	L										
Spitalstationäre Gesundheitsversorgung (SpiGes)	BFS	L										
Vigilanzmeldesystem in der Transplantation (VMS)	BAG	S										
Paket 4												
Datenraum für die gesundheitsbezogene Forschung (DgF)	BAG	S										
Infoportal übertragbare Krankheiten (IDD)	BAG	M										
Dashboard Krankenversicherung 2.0	BAG	S										
Sekundärnutzung: Microdata Center (MDC)	BFS	XL										
Umsetzungsrahmen												
Common Services	BAG	L										
Programmmanagement DigiSanté (PMDS)	BAG	L										

Initialisierung
Umsetzung

How can we help you?

Despite consistent efforts in the digital transformation of standardizing health data for primary use, significant challenges remain for data-driven research:

- Semantic gaps persist

- Standards optimized for clinical or administrative needs often misalign with research requirements (granularity mismatches and potential bias)

- Data we have versus data research needs: Underlying processes would need rethinking and harmonisation

- Data quality issues

- Even the best conditions for efficient secondary use do not lead to data actually being shared

Thank you for your attention

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DigiSanté

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Eidgenössisches Departement des Innern EDI
Bundesamt für Gesundheit BAG
Bundesamt für Statistik BFS