POLICY MAPPING ON EHEALTH POLICIES AND INITIATIVES (INCLUDING ON CANCER CARE) IN LITHUANIA

This Country Factsheet was prepared for the eCAN Joint Action. It is prefilled with publicly available information and was sent for review to country experts on eHealth and cancer care. The Country Factsheet serves as the basis for the preparation of an overview of eCAN relevant policies and initiatives in all EU and EEA countries.

eCAN is a Joint Action (JA) of 16 partners in EU-Member States on 'Strengthening eHealth including telemedicine and remote monitoring for health care systems for cancer prevention and care'. eCAN aims to bring the benefits of eHealth to all citizens and patients across EU-Member States (MS) focusing on cancer prevention and care. There is a need to harmonize telemedicine regulations and to explore the efficacy of teleconsultation programs and telemonitoring in the cancer field.

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The country factsheet includes chapters on:

1 definition

2 governance

3 strategies/policies

4 legislation

5 cancer specific eHealth solutions

Any questions? – Please get in touch via ecan@goeg.at.

POLICY MAPPING ON EHEALTH POLICIES AND INITIATIVES (INCLUDING ON CANCER CARE) IN **LITHUANIA**

1 DEFINITIONS

Table 1 : Deviations in the use of international definitions for eHealth terms - Lithuania

Term	Definition	Deviation
eHealth	The WHO defines eHealth as « the use of information and communication technologies (ICT) for health ». It also says that « eHealth is the transfer of health resources and healthcare by electronic means. »[1]	No deviation from definition. Reference to the definition *Elektroninė sveikatos sistema* in Lithuanian legislation.[2]
mHealth	« Mobile health (mHealth) is defined by the World Health Organization's (WHO) Global Observatory for eHealth as « medical and public health practice supported by mobile devices, such as mobile phones, patient monitoring devices, personal digital assistants (PDAs), and other wireless devices ».[3]	No deviation from definition. Note that definition is in line with the approach in Lithuania, but it is not legislated yet.
dHealth	The EU defines digital health (dHealth) and care as referring to « tools and services that use information and communication technologies (ICTs) to improve prevention, diagnosis, treatment, monitoring and management of health-related issues and to monitor and manage lifestyle-habits that impact health ». [4] The WHO defines digital health as « the field of knowledge and practice associated with the development and use of digital technologies to improve health. Digital health expands the concept of eHealth to include digital consumers, with a wider range of smart-devices and connected equipment. It also encompasses other uses of digital technologies for health such as the Internet of things, artificial intelligence, big data and robotics. »[5]	No deviation from definition. Note that definition is in line with the approach in Lithuania, but it is not legislated yet.
telehealth	The WHO defines telehealth broader than telemedicine « as it includes computer-assisted telecommunications to support management, surveillance, literature and access to medical knowledge. »[6]	Yes, the term telehealth is not broadly used. In Lithuania, telehealth is commonly referred to as 'telemedicina' (telemedicine) or 'telemedicinos paslaugos' in Lithuanian.

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[1] 6. eHealth, Factsheet for European Parliament (who.int)

[2] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.E2B2957B9182/asr

[3] World Health Organization *Frequently asked questions on Global Task Force on digital health for TB and its work.* [2017-02-27]. http://www.who.int/tb/areas-of-work/digital-health/faq/en/ *webcite*. In mHealth Assessment: Conceptualization of a Global Framework - PMC (nih.gov)

[4] Events - Smart4Health

[5] Digital health EURO (who.int)

[6] Telehealth – DigitalHealthEurope

Term	Definition	Deviation
telemedicine	The EU Commission defines telemedicine as follows (EU Commission definition, COM(2008)689) : « Telemedicine is the provision of health care services, through the use of ICT, in situations where the health professional and the patient (or two health professionals) are not in the same location. It involves the secure transmission of medical data and information, through text, sound, images or other forms needed for the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and follow-up of patients. »[7]	No deviation from definition.[8] For information: Reference to the definition *Telemedicina* in Lithuanian legislation.[9]
teleconsultation	PAHO describes teleconsultation (also sometimes referred to as remote consultation or telehealth), as « interactions that happen between a clinician and a patient for the purpose of providing diagnostic or therapeutic advice through electronic means. »[10]	No deviation from definition. For information: Reference to the definition *Nuotolinė gydytojo ir šeimos gydytojo komandos nario konsultacija, Nuotolinė gydytojo konsultacija gydytojui* in Lithuanian legislation.[11]
health app	Essén et al. 2022 define health apps as « a computer program or software application (designed to run on a mobile device) "intended to be used specifically for managing, maintaining, or improving the health of individual persons, or the delivery of care" (ISO https://www.iso.org/standard/78182.html (2021), p 5). »	No deviation from definition. Note that definition is in line with the approach in Lithuania, but it is not legislated yet.

2 GOVERNANCE

Table 2 : Overview on eHealth governance - Lithuania

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
Is there a Ministry or State Secretariat explicitly in charge of eHealth/dHealth? If so, which Ministry?	Yes	Managing the electronic health system of the Republic of Lithuania: The Ministry of Health coordinates and supervises the implementation of the Electronic Health System. The Electronic Health Services and Cooperation Infrastructure Information System (hereinafter referred as "ESPBI IS") was developed and put into use in 2015. It was the main instrument for the implementation of the eHealth system. The Ministry of Health is the main manager (supervisor) of this information system.[12] The Electronic Health Services and Cooperation Infrastructure Information System (ESPBI IS) is a national system of organisational, technical, and software measures that developed a centralised database of health data and enables the exchange of such data among patients, healthcare professionals, and institutions. Soon the system (ESPBI IS) can store patient information from various HCI in one e-health history (One Resident

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[7] Telemedicine – DigitalHealthEurope
[8] 1057 Dėl Elektroninės sveikatos paslaugų ir bendradarbiavimo infrastruktūros informacinės sistemos nuo…
[9] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.A5AD03F7C95C/asr
[10] https://www3.paho.org/ish/images/docs/covid-19-teleconsultations-en.pdf?ua=1
[11] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/8e152850234c11eb932eb1ed7f923910/asr
[12] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.E2B2957B9182/asr

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
		– One EHR). This makes it possible to re-use health records, to avoid duplication of diagnostics procedures and provide health care services to patients more efficiently, safer and better quality. This system is useful for doctors and patients. Central e. health system (ESPBI IS) stores patient information about cancer treatment. In the near future, information will be collected on the first diagnosed cancer. The central e. health system development project, which will include the invitation of preventive programs and monitoring.
Does the Ministry who oversees health care also have a specific Department or Unit in charge of eHealth/dHealth?	Yes	Health System Information Resources Development Division.
Is there a national eHealth governance board?	Yes	The Board (*E. sveikatos valdyba*) is a collegial advisory body to the Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania on issues related to the management and development of the Lithuanian eHealth system. The board is composed of representatives from various healthcare stakeholders, including • The Government, • the Ministry of Health, • the Lithuanian National Health Insurance Fund, • the Ministry of the Economy and Innovation, • the State Data Agency, • the Lithuanian Medical Association, and others[13] The main task of the Board is to make proposals to the Ministry of Health, as the ESPBI IS manager, on the management of the Lithuanian eHealth system and its development, modernisation, maintenance and control. The Board performs a variety of functions[14] in carrying out its task.
Is there a public eHealth agency such as Elga GmbH in Austria or ANS in France? At which level (national, regional)? Which functions does this agency cover?	No	There does not seem to be a single public eHealth agency in Lithuania that could be compared to Elga GmbH in Austria or ANS in France. Rather, the functions of the Agency are performed by the State Enterprise Centre of Registers, which is the main processor (administrator) of ESPBI IS[15] and of the Online Patient Registration Information System (hereinafter referred to as "IPR IS")[16].
Are dHealth / eHealth tools in the outpatient sector publicly paid or covered in your benefits package (e.g. by sickness fund or national health service). If yes, please describe how.	Yes	dHealth/eHealth tools in the Lithuanian outpatient sector are publicly covered by the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) under the Ministry of Health The NHIF is a mandatory health insurance system in Lithuania, which provides coverage for a range of healthcare services, including outpatient care. Patients can log in to ESPBI IS via the E.sveikata.lt portal (https://www.esveikata.lt/). In the system, the doctor can provide and the patient can view the health data provided by the doctor: diagnoses, treatment information, electronic prescriptions, laboratory test referrals

[13] Chapter IV: https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/8f397270071011ebb74de75171d26d52/asr

[14] Chapter II: https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/8f397270071011ebb74de75171d26d52/asr

[15] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.A5AD03F7C95C/asr

[16] https://sam.lrv.lt/uploads/sam/documents/files/Veiklos_sritys/E.%20sveikata/El._sveikatos_paslaugu_ir_bendradarbiavimo_infrastrukturos_IS/SAM%20%C4%AFsakymas%20d%C4%97l%20IPR%20IS%20nuostat%C5%B3%20patvirtinimo%202020%20m_%20gegu%C5%BE%C4%97s%2020%20d_%2

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
		and answers, referrals for consultations, medical images, vaccination information, health certificates, etc. Patients can register with a doctor via the portal. The pharmacist uses the system to dispense medicines prescribed electronically.
		Patients can also use mobile health apps that are approved by the Lithuanian Ministry of Health. The NHIF covers the costs of using these apps for patients with chronic diseases, such as diabetes, hypertension, and asthma. The apps are designed to help patients manage their conditions and provide feedback to their healthcare providers. NHIF covers the cost of these medical services: telecardiology[17], teleradiology[18] and teleophthalmology[19].
		The Ministry of Health, having assessed the readiness of personal health care institutions to use the developed eHealth services and to ensure the use of already developed electronic tools, assessed and established the mandatory submission of forms to the ESPBI IS, i.e. it was gradually determined which medical records were required to be processed at ESPBI IS. Currently, data (excluding mental health data (mental health data does not include information related to prescribing via ePrescription)) related to the description of an outpatient visit, discharge letters, ePrescription, child's birth certificate, medical death certificate, driver's medical certificate, child's health certificate, referral for consultation, tests, treatment, response to referral for consultations, tests, treatment, diagnostic test description, vaccination record, personal health check card, laboratory test orders and responses regarding the diagnosis of COVID-19 disease in accordance with the procedure established by the Minister of Health, must be processed electronically in all personal health care institutions.
Are dHealth / eHealth tools in the inpatient sector automatically covered in your benefits package or do you need to pay extra (e.g. for telehealth consultations or telereha) compared to standard treatments?	Yes	The state electronic information system of health services and cooperation infrastructure is financed from the state budget, structural funds of the European Union, as well as other sources of financing established in legal acts.[20]
Are there any comprehensive cancer centres focussing on eHealth or telehealth treatments? If yes, which ones and for which specific fields?	No	In Lithuania there are no comprehensive cancer centres that were specifically focused on eHealth or telehealth treatments. However, there are several cancer treatment centres in Lithuania that offer various eHealth and telehealth services as part of their overall treatment approach. For example, the Kaunas Klinikos Hospital of the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences is the main executor of the pilot project for the provision of emergency telemedicine services in emergency

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[17] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.DBCCE584DC30

[18] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.30E354BD67B1/asr

[19] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/f11505a0514911e9975f9c35aedfe438

[20] THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA HEALTH SYSTEMS THE LAW: LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS SVEIKATOS SISTEMOS ĮSTATYMAS, Specification and range of functions: ESPBI IS specifikacija LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS SVEIKATOS APSAUGOS MINISTERIJA ELEKTRONINĖS SVEIKATOS PASLAUGŲ IR BENDRADARBIAVIMO

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
		departments. IT offers teleconsultations for patients who are unable to travel to the institute for in-person consultations. The institute also provides ePrescriptions and maintains electronic medical records for patients.[21]

Comprehensive Cancer Centres are established since 17th February 2017 by order of Ministry of Health No. V-156 (updated by order No. V-551, 10 May 2023[22]) and their main task is to ensure timely, comprehensive, and high-quality integrated diagnosis and treatment services for cancer patients. There are six specialized health care hospitals which provide comprehensive cancer care. Cancer centres are established in Vilnius, Kaunas, Klaipėda, Šiauliai and Panevėžys. Appropriate health care facilities, human resources and innovative technologies are concentrated there, and health care services are provided according to the descriptions and standardized procedures. On 10 May 2023, the Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania signed Order No V-551 approving a new version of the Description of Requirements for Management of Flows of Patients with Oncological Diseases and Organisation of Services. The new description defines:

- a new procedure for organising patients visits to doctor – a patient with a first oncological diagnosis is sent by a family doctor to one of the defined institutions belonging to the oncology cluster via a green corridor, which ensures a smooth visit of a patient with oncological diseases during the treatment process.
- a case manager – a patient counsellor who coordinates the patient's medical procedures, controls the implementation of the patient's plan for the diagnostic tests and doctors counselling, helps ensure timely commencement of treatment provided to the patient by a multidisciplinary team of specialists. The case manager will also have to assess whether the patient has experienced stress syndrome, an unpleasant experience of a mental, physical, social or spiritual nature experienced by the patient. The case manager will advise on the need for psychosocial assistance and inform you where those services are provided.
- requirements for contact points of institutions belonging to the oncology cluster. Institutions will have to enable patients to access via e-Health, live or telephone, as well as other means of communication: e-mail, web-based inquiries, chat, social networks, etc. If the patient fails to call, the contact centre of the institution will have to call the patient no later than the next working day.

In Lithuania, six institutions provide specialized oncology services to patients who have been diagnosed with oncological disease for the first time:
- Vilnius University Hospital Santara Clinic,
- National Cancer Institute,

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[21] ĮSAKYMAS DĖL SKUBIOSIOS TELEMEDICINOS PASLAUGŲ TEIKIMO TVARKOS APRAŠO PATVIRTINIMO
[22] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/2ff45190efc511ed9978886e85107ab2

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
		• Hospital of the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences Kaunas Clinics, • Klaipėda University Hospital, • National Šiauliai Hospital • National Panevezys Hospital. The "green corridors" are opened in these institutions, which means that the case manager appointed to the patient will reserve time for the first specialist doctor consultation, register the prescribed studies and consultations of other specialists, organise and apply the "green corridor" principle, and provide services to the patient within the shortest possible time. The services provided to the patient will be assessed on the basis of approved accessibility and quality indicators. Indicators of Accessibility and Quality of Oncological health care services were established in 2017 by order of Ministry of Health such as: • for all primary cancer patients assessment of the multidisciplinary team is obligatory in order to create diagnosis and treatment strategy for each patient. • the limit on time period for diagnosis - defined as the time from the first visit to specialist to the date of cancer diagnosis confirmation. The target value is no longer than 28 calendar days. • the limit on time period from the diagnosis to the treatment - defined as the time from diagnosis to the initiation of therapy. The target value is no longer than 14 calendar days etc.

3 STRATEGIES/POLICIES

Table 3 : Overview on strategies and policies for eHealth and cancer care - Lithuania

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
Is there a national eHealth strategy?	Yes	Lithuania has a national eHealth strategy, which is called the eHealth Development Programme 2017-2025[23] The national eHealth strategy was approved by the Minister for Health in 2017 and covers the period from 2017 to 2025. The plan[24] for the implementation measures of the Lithuanian eHealth Development Programme 2018-2025 has also been approved. The Action Plan for the Development of the Digital Health System 2023-2027 is currently being coordinated with stakeholders, as the current Lithuanian eHealth System Development Programme 2017-2025 does not address some of the problems of the digital health system, does not respond to the new needs, and does not fully comply with the provisions of key strategic documents. The main objectives of the national eHealth strategy include: • Improving the quality of healthcare services

[23] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/34297cd06af711e7827cd63159af616c/asr
[24] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/07410ae0335511e881f2ba995b003ed2

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
		• Enhancing patient safety • Improving the efficiency of healthcare services • Promoting the use of digital technologies in healthcare • Ensuring the interoperability of healthcare systems, etc. Several further documents are available[25]: • Order on the approval of the 2017-2025 development program of the eHealth system of Lithuania[26] • Resolution regarding the approval of the provisions of the information system for electronic health services and collaboration infrastructure[27] • Order on the approval of the implementation measures plan of the development program of the eHealth system of Lithuania 2018-2025[28] • Law on the health system of the Republic of Lithuania[29] • Legal acts of the information system of electronic health services and cooperation infrastructure[30]
If yes, which stakeholder groups have been included in drafting the national eHealth strategy?	Several	The Lithuanian eHealth strategy has been developed through a collaborative process involving various stakeholders from the public and private sectors. The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania has played a leading role in the development of the strategy, with input from other governmental agencies, healthcare providers, professional associations, patient organisations, and other interested parties.[31] The draft Action Plan for the Development of the Digital Health System 2023-2027, which is currently under preparation, has been made public and is being coordinated with all stakeholders, including the eHealth Board.
Are there regional eHealth strategies? If so, can you indicate whether in all regions or only some? Can you provide some (exemplary) documents ?	No	No further information available.
If yes, which stakeholder groups have been included in drafting such regional strategy/ies?	N/A	No further information available.
Are there strategy/ies explicitly referring to / including eHealth cancer care?	No	No further information available.
If not, are there discussions ongoing to develop a national eHealth strategy?	No	No further information available.

[25] https://sam.lrv.lt/lt/veiklos-sritys/elektronine-sveikatos-sistema/strateginiai-ir-kiti-e-sveikatos-sistemos-dokumentai

[26] V-878 Dėl Lietuvos e. sveikatos sistemos 2017–2025 metų plėtros programos tvirtinimo

[27] 1057 Dėl Elektroninės sveikatos paslaugų ir bendradarbiavimo infrastruktūros informacinės sistemos nuo…

[28] V-362 Dėl Lietuvos e. sveikatos sistemos 2018–2025 metų plėtros programos įgyvendinimo priemonių plano …

[29] LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS SVEIKATOS SISTEMOS ĮSTATYMAS

[30] Elektroninės sveikatos paslaugų ir bendradarbiavimo infrastruktūros informacinės sistemos teisės aktai | VĮ Registrų centras

[31] THE E-HEALTH BOARD (CHAPTER IV PROCEDURE FOR FORMATION OF THE BOARD), and The organizational structure of ESPBI IS

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
Is there a National Cancer Plan? And does it refer to eHealth?	Yes	The National cancer control 2014-2025 programme[32] refers to improving the quality of healthcare services, increasing efficiency, and ensuring accessibility for all citizens. It includes a section specifically dedicated to cancer care, which emphasises the importance of using eHealth technologies to improve cancer prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up care. The National Cancer Control Program for 2014-2025 was established by order of Ministry of Health in 2014. Actions plans for each three years is being implemented. The aim of the program is to reduce mortality rates from cancer in the Lithuanian population.[33] The National Council for Monitoring the Implementation of the Cancer Control Program was established in 2014 to improve the management and coordination of oncology care. Evaluation of situation of oncological care and program implementation is being made on annual basis. The evaluation criteria of oncology care structure, process and results are used. Every year the Report on annual results is publicised on the internet page of the Ministry of Health.[34] One of the key initiatives under the plan is the development of a National Cancer Registry, which will collect data on cancer cases, treatment outcomes, and other important information to help inform cancer care policies and practices. The registry will also be used to monitor the effectiveness of cancer prevention and control measures. Create ESPBI IS functionalities necessary for the organised and coordinated implementation of early diagnosis programs for cervical cancer, colon cancer and breast cancer and to ensure the possibility of monitoring the patient's path and performing data analysis.[35] Introduction of the form 090/a "Notification of the first diagnosis of oncological disease" in ESPBI IS.
In the light of the EU „Beating Cancer Plan" – are there any recent plans to update or modify existing plans? If yes, what is the timeline?	Yes	Lithuania is participating in the implementation of the EU 'Beating Cancer Plan'. Lithuania has responded to the call and approved the project for direct grants to Member States' authorities, with a focus on strengthening eHealth, integrating telemedicine and remote monitoring in health and care systems for cancer prevention and care. This plan is expected to run from 2023 to 2025. While it is not yet clear what specific modifications or updates will be made to existing plans in Lithuania, it is likely that the country will align its eHealth cancer care strategies with the initiatives outlined in the EU plan to improve cancer prevention, treatment, and care. [36]
Are there any indicators in eHealth policy or national programmes on cancer care measuring the progress of the use of eHealth in cancer care?	Yes	The eHealth System in Lithuania sets out several key performance indicators (KPIs) to measure the progress of eHealth initiatives in the country.[37] While the document does not specifically identify KPIs related to the use of eHealth in cancer care, it does include some indicators that are relevant e.g. percentage of patients who received personal healthcare services.

[32] V-814 Dėl Nacionalinės vėžio profilaktikos ir kontrolės 2014–2025 metų programos patvirtinimo

[33] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/4e5e6800770111e49710918558376243 , https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/ce54a27095d111ed8df094f359a60216

[34] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/21c805a090b311e4bb408baba2bdddf3/asr

[35] PLAN OF MEASURES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL CANCER PREVENTION AND CONTROL PROGRAM FOR 2014-2025 IN 2023-2025 or here

[36] NACIONALINĖS VĖŽIO PROFILAKTIKOS IR KONTROLĖS 2014–2025 METŲ PROGRAMOS ĮGYVENDINIMO 2023–2025 METAIS PRIEMONIŲ PLANAS) PLAN OF MEASURES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL CANCER PREVENTION AND CONTROL PROGRAM FOR 2014-2025 IN 2023-2025 or here

[37] THE APPROVAL OF THE 2017-2025 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM OF THE E-HEALTH SYSTEM OF LITHUANIA

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
		In addition, the Plan of Measures for the Implementation of the National Cancer Prevention and Control Program for 2014-2025 plans to measure progress of the use of eHealth in cancer care but it is not specific.[38]
Are there any other cancer care specific eHealth initiatives, f.ex. by other stakeholders than policy makers / public authorities?	Yes	There is a private sector, private initiatives on mobile application and special teleprogram building up.

4 LEGISLATION

Table 4 : Overview on eHealth and cancer legislation - Lithuania

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
How would you evaluate the current state of legislation of eHealth in your country in general?		No formal assessment has been carried out. The National Cancer Institute evaluates that even though there are regulations, and doctors are allowed to do the remote consultations (psychologists, etc.), Lithuania has room for improvement as compared to countries like Germany.
Is there legislation on how to use telemedicine in general?	Yes	The Lithuanian law defines telemedicine[39] and sets out the requirements for the use of telemedicine in clinical practice.[40] However, this Order shall apply to personal healthcare institutions implementing the pilot project for the provision of emergency telemedicine services in emergency departments. There is no separate legislation for telemedicine in general. On November 10 2020, the Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania signed Order No V- V-2569 with the description of the procedure for providing advice to the patient and doctor to a remote consultations of doctor and a member of the family doctor's team and for reimbursing their expenses from the compulsory health insurance fund budget.41 On october 19 2012, the Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania signed Order No V- 944 with the description of description of the procedure for the provision of personal health care services using teleradiological means and the payment of their expenses from the budget of the Compulsory Health Insurance Fund , requirements for the provision of personal health care services using teleradiological means equipment, premises, specialists and services of personal health care institutions.[42]

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[38] PLAN OF MEASURES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL CANCER PREVENTION AND CONTROL PROGRAM FOR 2014-2025 IN 2023-2025 (or here)

[39] THE PROVISIONS OF THE INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR ELECTRONIC HEALTH SERVICES AND COLLABORATION INFRASTRUCTURE: 1057 Dėl Elektroninės sveikatos paslaugų ir bendradarbiavimo infrastruktūros informacinės sistemos nuo…

[40] THE DESCRIPTION OF THE PROCEDURE FOR THE PROVISION OF EMERGENCY TELEMEDICINE SERVICES: ĮSAKYMAS DĖL SKUBIOSIOS TELEMEDICINOS PASLAUGŲ TEIKIMO TVARKOS APRAŠO PATVIRTINIMO

[41] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/8e152850234c11eb932eb1ed7f923910/asr

[42] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.30E354BD67B1/asr

Is there legislation explicitly referring to cancer prevention?	Yes	The National cancer control 2014-2025 programme[43] also refers to cancer prevention. To develop preventive health care services since 1998 several vaccination programs were launched: vaccination (up to 1 year age) against hepatitis B (HBV) (on 2019 96,30 % of target population was vaccinated),) and vaccination against Human Papillomavirus (HPV) of 11-year-old girls was started in 2016. In 2020 Vaccination rate of target population was 61,6 %. There are 4 cancer screening programs in Lithuania, which are financed from the budget of the Compulsory Health Insurance Fund: • Screening program for breast cancer, running since 2004, for 50-69-year-old age women who can check once every 2 years for free. Participation rate is 44 % of target population[44]. • screening program for cervical cancer, running since 2004, for 25-59-year-old age women who can check once every 3 years for free. In 2022 will HPV test for women of 30-59 years old in the screening program be implemented. Participation rate is 42 %.[45] • screening program for colorectal cancer, implemented since 2009, throughout Lithuania since 2014 for 50-74-year-old age women and men who can check once every 2 years for free. Participation rate is 44 %.[46] • screening program for early diagnosis of prostate cancer, running since 2005, for 50-74- year-old men and men over the age of 45 if their brothers or parents had prostate cancer, which can be tested once every 5 or 2 years for free according to the PSA results. Participation rate is 47 %.[47]
Is there legislation explicitly referring to / including eHealth cancer care?	Yes	National cancer control 2014-2025 programme[48].
If yes, which of these legislation(s) do you consider most important in the context of eHealth and cancer care? And why?	The National Cancer Institute considers new technologies for gathering and spreading the information on risk factors for cancer and prevention most important as well as invitations for participation in the screening programs.	
If no, are there any reasons or barriers to the fact that there is no or only limited cancer specific eHealth legislation (i.e., discussions still ongoing, conflicting opinions or other).	N/A	No further information available.
What could be improved or would need to be done to improve these legislation for eHealth in cancer care in your country?	The National Cancer Institute emphasized the need to first increase computer literacy, secondly, establish a working eHealth system and thirdly, implement nationwide registries. This includes a working cancer registry as well as a broader spectrum of indicators to be included.	

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[43] V-814 Dėl Nacionalinės vėžio profilaktikos ir kontrolės 2014–2025 metų programos patvirtinimo
[44] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/ddce9890a0d011eea5a28c81c82193a8
[45] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/7f05288098ae11eea5a28c81c82193a8
[46] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/6f7ec240a0bf11eea5a28c81c82193a8
[47] https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.62EC76ABAC7D/asr
[48] V-814 Dėl Nacionalinės vėžio profilaktikos ir kontrolės 2014–2025 metų programos patvirtinimo

5 CANCER SPECIFIC EHEALTH SOLUTIONS

Table 5 : Overview on cancer specific eHealth solutions in use – Lithuania

Area of application/ type of solutions	Login Websites	Apps	Webinars	Multi-disciplinary teleconferences (HCP-HPC)	Teleconsultation (HCP-patient)	Telemonitoring via devices	Other, please specify
Ecosystem	Yes Esveikata	Yes e-citizen	Yes (conferences for GP and specialists few times a year) https://www.nvi.lt/renginiai/	Yes (NCI still uses this approach for some tumor boards)	Yes/ (the results of studies are discussed used mobile phone or skype)	No	-
Prevention of Cancer	No single page. Every institution has separate for registration www.nvi.lt	No	Yes https://www.nvi.lt/renginiai/	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes website Nerukysiu.lt- quitting smoking Prevencinės programos - Nacionalinis vėžio institutas
Treatment of Cancer	Yes www.nvi.lt	Yes Pagalba sau | Pagalbos onkologiniams ligoniams asociacija (POLA)	Yes https://www.nvi.lt/renginiai/	Yes (tumor boards)	Yes	Yes (body function monitoring via watches, steps calculations as a prehab)	Yes www.chirurgas.com www.nvi.lt
'Living with cancer'	Yes Patient school at www.nvi.lt other institutions has similar	Yes Pagalba sau | Pagalbos onkologiniams ligoniams asociacija (POLA)	Yes https://www.nvi.lt/renginiai/	Yes Late sequel clinic at National Cancer Institute	Yes	Yes (body function monitoring via watches, steps calculations as a prehab)	Yes website Gyvenimas su vėžiu - Nacionalinis vėžio institutas
Rehabilitation from Cancer	Yes https://www.nvi.lt/aprasymas-15/	No	Yes	No	Yes https://www.nvi.lt/aprasymas-15/	Yes (body function monitoring via watches, steps calculations as a prehab)	Yes https://www.nvi.lt/aprasymas-15/
Palliative Cancer Care	Yes https://www.nvi.lt/paliatyvi-pagalba/	Yes https://www.nvi.lt/paliatyvi-pagalba/	Yes https://www.nvi.lt/paliatyvi-pagalba/	Yes Tumor board	Yes	Yes (body function monitoring via watches, steps calculations as a prehab)	Yes website Paliatyvi pagalba - Nacionalinis vėžio institutas

Table 6 : Number of eHealth solutions available and in use – Lithuania

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
How many eHealth solutions (in the sense of medical devices and thus 'authority approved/certified') solutions are existing currently in your country in the context of cancer care/treatment?	N/A	No further information available.
Is there a website or other information on solutions that are recommended to the public for use (e.g. a selection of health apps that are recommended to cancer patients or in general)?	Yes	In Lithuania, there are a lot of public or commercial websites or other resources that are recommended to cancer patients or the general population, including https://priesvezi.lt/; https://ligoniukasa.lrv.lt/lt/veiklos-sritys/informacija-gyventojams/ligu-prevencijos-programos/ and others.
Can you give an estimation on how the split between private and public apps are available? Give an estimate percentage of public solutions.	100% private	Only private app are available so far (100%).
How can providers and patients assess if the apps are reliable? Is there a certification or quality approval procedure in place? If yes, which kind of procedure?	No	No further information available.
How many Health Care Providers use such solutions? Which sector uses rather which types of solutions?	N/A	Increasingly used in radiology and pathology. Started to use in cancer surgery

Further information:

- At the National Cancer Institute patient follow-up apps are started to be used following radiotherapy to brain metastases and colorectal cancer patients.