

January 31, 2017  
Webinar for INWHE

# DIGITAL SKILLS FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Martyna Giedrojc, MPH

Communications Officer and Member of the European Health Parliament (EHP)  
Policy Officer for Health Systems at the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA)

Johnson & Johnson

Google

POLITICO

EU40<sup>®</sup>

College of Europe  
College d'Europe

OCCUPY  
HEALTH  
STREET



# WHAT?

The European Health Parliament is a platform of 55 top young professionals from across Europe, who work together with the aim of changing the **future of healthcare in Europe.**

The EHP is a think-tank of partners

- **College of Europe**
- **EU40**
- **POLITICO**
- **GOOGLE**
- **J&J**



# HOW?

We meet with key stakeholders in Brussels and share our ideas with

- **Politicians**
- **Civil Society**
- **Media**
- **Academia**
- **Companies**



# DIGITAL SKILLS FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS



## WHY THIS TOPIC?

- A gap between the increasing number of patients and the decreasing number of doctors.
- A paradigm shift from traditional to digital healthcare.
- New technologies are developing very fast, but policy makers can't keep up with the pace.
- Without digital technology incorporated into national health policies, it will stay a fashionable trend.

# eSURVEY ON THE STATE OF DIGITAL SKILLS FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONS

## Aim:

Our goal was to research physicians, nurses, midwives, dentists, health assistants, technicians, students and all others involved in European healthcare delivery, experience of digital health usage and in digital health education uptake.

## Method:

- Collaboration with the University of Antwerp, Belgium.
- Launched on April 4 2016, closed on May 1 2016.
- Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Google+ and blogs displayed as a link or QR code.

## Goal:

- Identify health professionals experience with digital health and in digital health education.

FIGURE 1: **OCCUPATION (LEFT) AND GEOGRAPHICAL (RIGHT) DISTRIBUTION OF THE PARTICIPANTS**

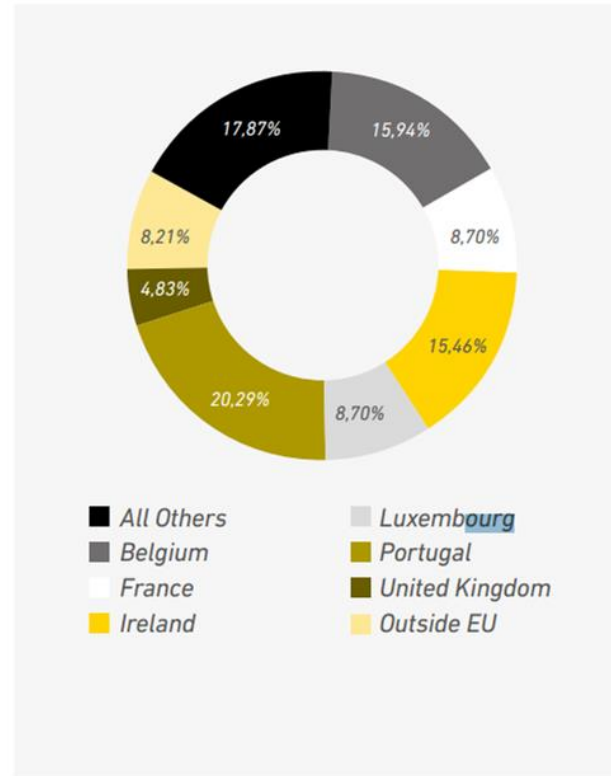
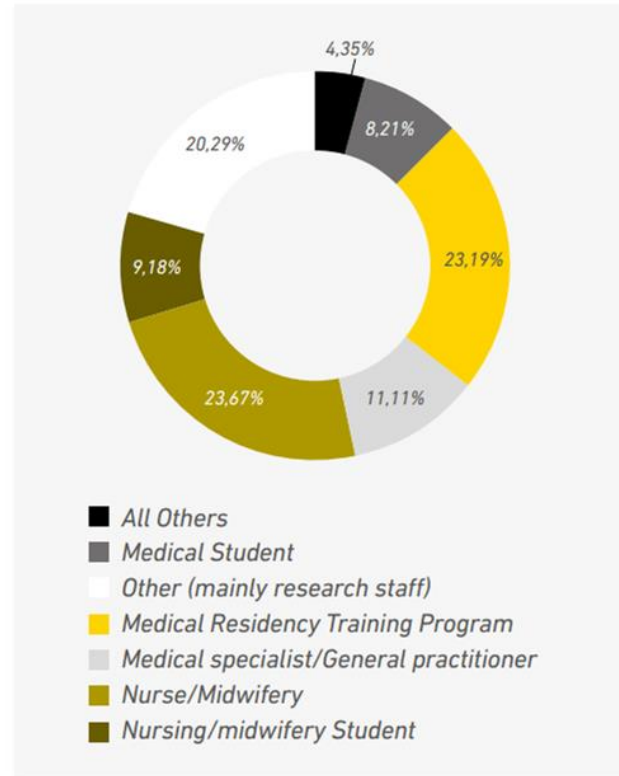
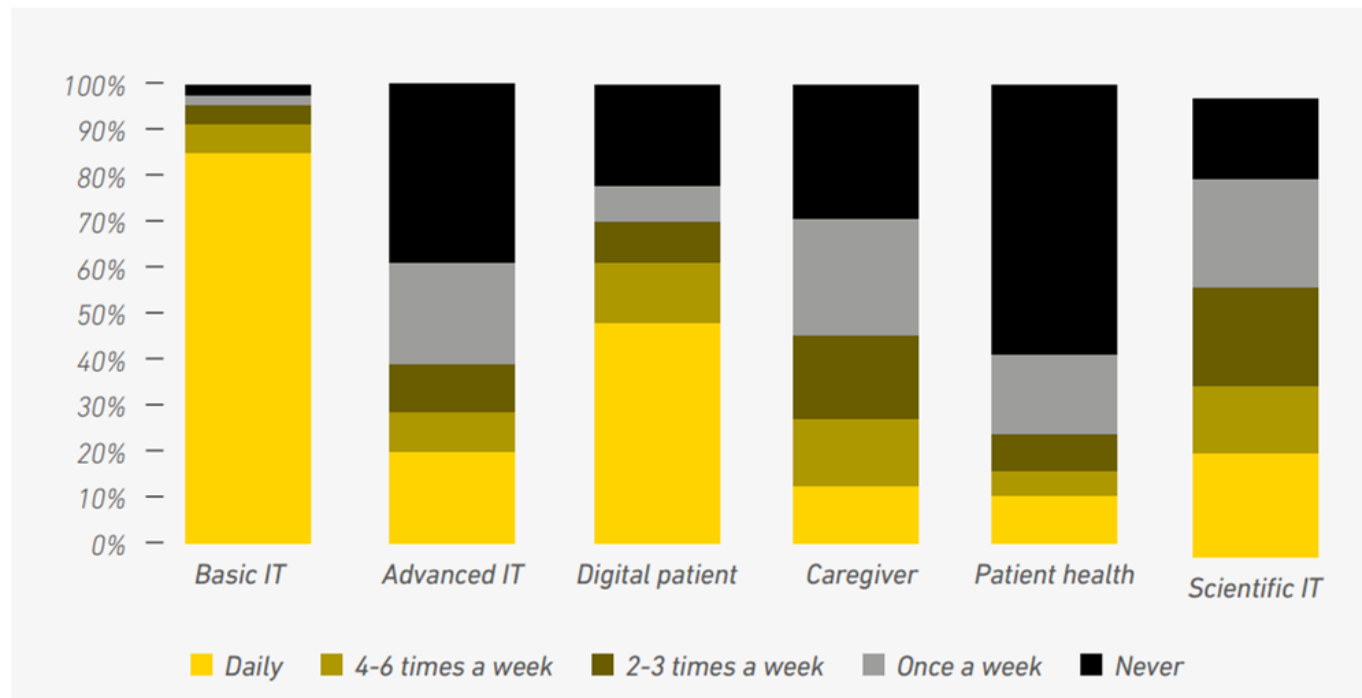


FIGURE 2: **USE OF DIGITAL SKILLS IN CURRENT PRACTICE**



# CONCLUSION (ESURVEY)

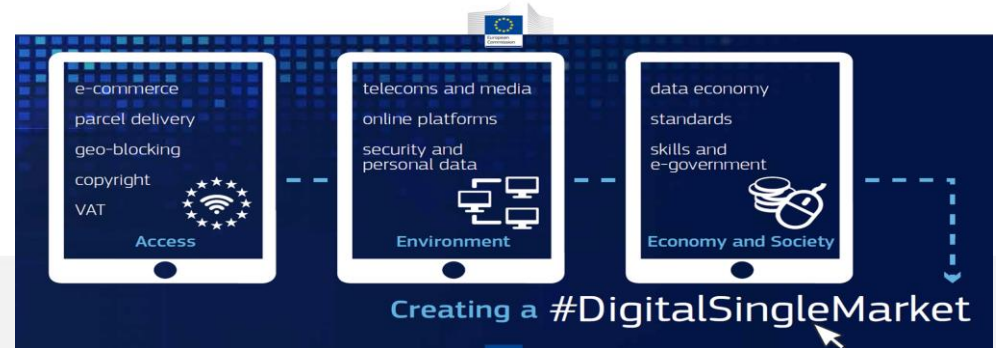
- eHealth and mHealth in various forms are already in use in daily practice
- Health professionals are insufficiently trained to deal with the digital revolution
- Training should continue throughout their careers



# WHAT'S ON THE EU POLITICAL AGENDA?

## DIGITAL SINGLE MARKET (DSM)

- Joint initiative DG SANTE and DG CNECT on digitizing health
- More attention to the potential benefits of Big Data in healthcare
- To make the EU's Single Market ready for the digital age
- One of the top priorities of the Juncker administration
- Covers a broad area (incl. health) and is built on 3 pillars



# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS



# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS



Our committee recommends that greater emphasis is placed on the needs of health professionals. This could be done through better incentives:

- ✓ Training programs on digital skills for health professionals from early education to PDP,
- ✓ Launch a joint action on digital skills for health professionals,
- ✓ Update medical guidelines with digital solutions,
- ✓ Make healthcare professionals co-developers of digital health solutions.

# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS



- The European Commission can facilitate the dialogue between EU countries and provide with a platform to share experience
- Digital agenda has to be implemented in EU health systems
- Digital agenda shouldn't replace traditional health systems, but complement them
- Wide and inclusive deployment of digital solutions in healthcare



# WHAT ARE THE ACTUAL DIGITAL SKILLS?

Health professionals such as physicians, nurses, midwives	Health informatics professionals	Non-clinical and administrative staff	IT professionals coming to work in the healthcare environment
communications, analyzing data, computer literacy, medical devices compatibility, data protections programs, mobile applications, cloud storage, surfing internet, ability to read, understand and forward information while using a smart device.	information security, interoperability, analyzing data, design and implementation of tools to measure data, software development, data-driven solutions development, 3D image processing, project management and communication facilitation.	project management, communications, computer literacy, information security, clinical software usage.	data privacy notions, information security, ethics, software engineering and database development

# CONCERNS OF HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

- Why some health professionals are careful or negative about changing existing procedures and using new technology in their everyday practice?
- Could they unwittingly pose a risk to patients' safety by using new “revolutionary” digital technology?
- Will industry shaped solutions consume our health budgets?



READ THE EHP16-  
PUBLICATION ON 'DIGITAL  
SKILLS FOR HEALTH  
PROFESSIONALS'







# THANK YOU!



---

**EUROPEAN  
HEALTH PARLIAMENT**

---

**@healthparl #healthparl**  
**Martyna Giedrojc @gimartyna**

[martyna.giedrojc@healthparliament.eu](mailto:martyna.giedrojc@healthparliament.eu)  
[www.healthparliament.eu](http://www.healthparliament.eu)