



# HPRO Card

## *Health Professional Card*

**Giuramento professionale e celebrazione  
del centenario della istituzione degli  
ordini dei medici**

**Patrick FORTUIT**  
French Council of Pharmacists  
Coordinator of the HPro Card Consortium

**Latina, 20 Marzo 2010**





# Contents

1. Background
2. Towards interoperability of HPC
3. Philosophy of the project
4. Study
5. Future works





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## Objectives

- To ensure safety of patients all around Europe
- To facilitate mobility of health professionals in all EU State Members



# The European Directive on professional qualifications

- Directive published in the official journal in September 2005
- ➡ Transposition foreseen for the autumn 2007
- ➡ Objective : facilitate recognition of professional qualifications
- ➡ New: Free provision of services. A professional established in a member state is allowed to provide his/her services in an other member state on a temporary and occasional basis more easily



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## Creation of the working group HPRO card

- 2007 creation of a European working group (doctors, dentists, midwives, pharmacists, nurses)
- Meetings in several European MS
- July 2007 presentation to the European Commission (DG Empl)
- October 2007 Presentation to the EP and agreement on the design of the cards
- February 2008 subvention of the EC (interoperability)
- November 2009 Presentation of the results



## Phase 1 : The agreement of Brussels Specifications of the card

- Credit card format
- 2 sides :
  - ★ National side (specific to every profession and MS)
  - ★ European **harmonized side**





## Phase 1: The agreement of Brussels - presentation to the EP October 2007

- Face européenne :



# HPRO Card

European Health Professional Card



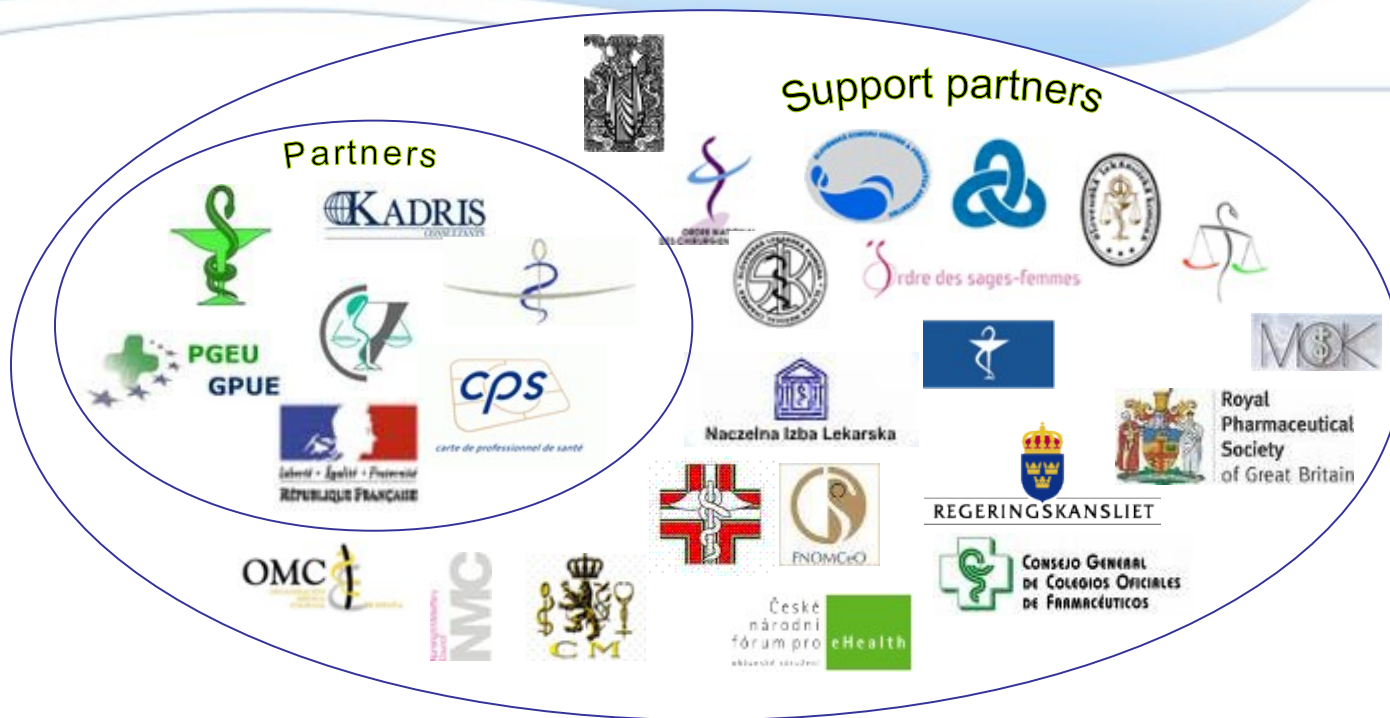


## Phase 2 : Work on interoperability issues

<b>NAME</b>	: HPRO Card - Health Professional Card
<b>START DATE</b>	: March 1, 2008
<b>DURATION</b>	: 18 months
<b>BUDGET</b>	: 408,339.70 euros
<b>FUNDING</b>	: 296,254.70 euros



## Partners



7 partners + 20 support partners = 13 States Members  
(AT, BE, BG, CZ, ES, FR, HU, IT, LU, PL, SK, SE, UK)  
+ other countries in working groups (CH, DE, EE, GR, MT, NO, RO, SI)





## Work packages list

- ✓ **WP1** : Identification of the competent authorities and the authorized organisations in charge of validating continuing education and training for health professionals in the European Union Member States
- ✓ **WP2** : Knowledge of the progress of Health Professionals Cards in Europe
- ✓ **WP3** : Conditions for the implementation of strong authentication of health professionals
- ✓ **WP4** : Interoperability of different health professionals authentication systems
- ✓ **WP5** : Project management
- ✓ **WP6** : Dissemination





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## Who will use the card ?

- Every health professional covered by the directive 2005/36/EC and which benefit from automatic recognition of their diploma : **doctors, dentists, midwives, nurses and pharmacists.**



## Who will issue the card ?

- Competent authorities as defined in the directive 2005/36/EC.
- *“any authority or body empowered by a Member State specifically to issue or receive training diplomas and other documents or information and to receive the applications, and take the decisions, referred to in this Directive”.*



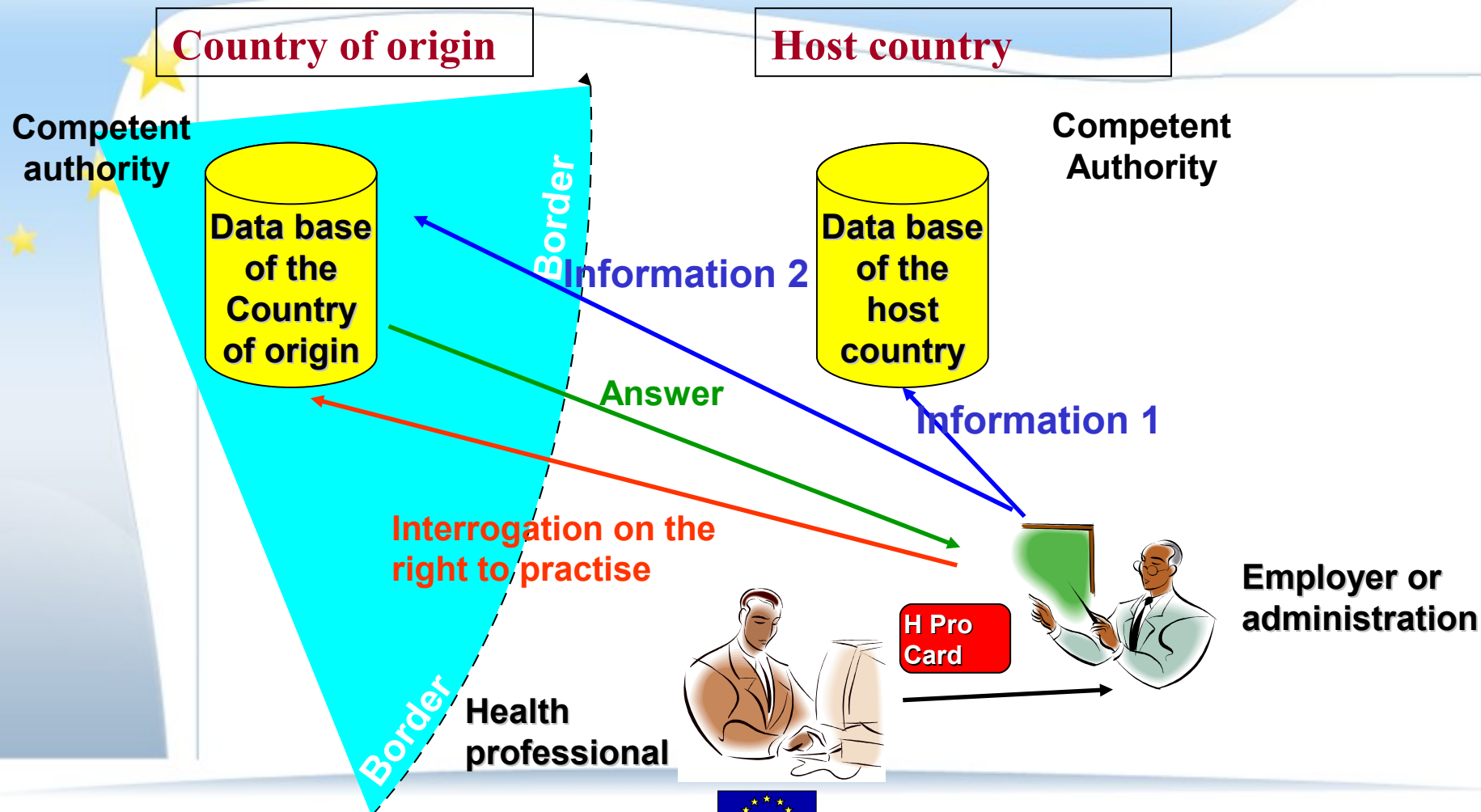


## How will this work ?

- Direct interrogation of the data base of the competent authority thanks to the chip
- Permanently up to date
- No need to create a new data base at European level



## Example of architecture





## Contents

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# WP1 and 2



*With the support of the European Commission*







## WP1 - Results

# Health professionals' competent authorities

How many competent authorities in EU ?

➡ about **893** competent authorities identified

★ They can be classified in two main categories :

- Professional organizations: Orders, Chambers, Associations ...
- State organizations: Ministry of Health, Agencies,
- Health insurance...

★ Depending on the administrative and political organization of each country , they can be organized at the:

- National level (Sweden ...)
- Regional level (Germany ...)
- Local level (Italy ...)



## WP1 - Results

### How many professionals in EU ?



#### *WHO's database*

- Physicians: 1 543 500
- Dental practitioners: 303 900
- Pharmacists: 341 000
- Nurses: 3 488 400
- Midwives: 100 900



**5 777 700 healthcare professionals in Europe**



#### *HPRO Card's database*

- 10 to 35% of discrepancies between WHO and HPRO databases  
e.g. this represents a difference of 24000 HCP in Belgium, 169000 HCP in Poland
- 52% of discrepancies for Spanish nurses (= 110000 nurses)
- 87 % of discrepancies for Swedish pharmacists (= 2500 pharmacists)

**Different dates, different definitions** (active/non active persons...)

## WP2 - Results

### Health professionals' identity documents

- Some countries have no card. For example, Poland issues a professional passport and Luxembourg has a paper certificate



- Some have plastic cards. For example, Ireland





## Projects of health professionals' cards

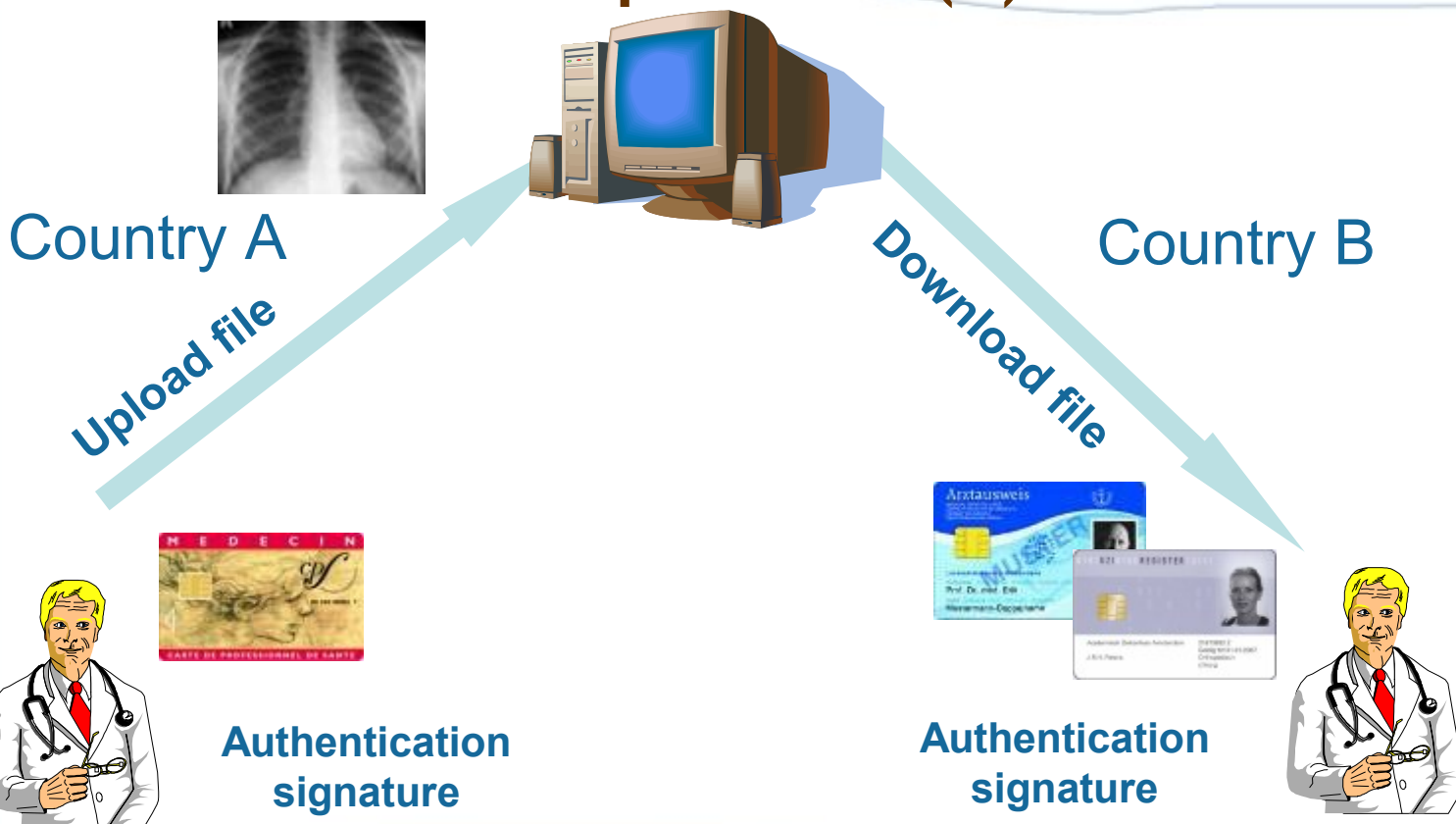
- Belgium (2010)
  - ★ Pharmacists
- **Italy (2010)**
  - ★ **Doctors**
- Finland (2011)
  - ★ All professions
- Hungary (2011)
  - ★ Doctors
  - ★ Dentists
  - ★ Pharmacists
- Ireland
  - ★ Pharmacists
- Luxemburg
  - ★ All professions
- Slovakia (2010)
  - ★ All professions
- Spain
  - ★ Pharmacists
- Switzerland
  - ★ Doctors
- ...







## WP4: Demonstrators developed: German cooperation (1)





## WP4 Demonstrators: Belgian cooperation (3)

- A pharmacist has to access medical data of a foreign patient in the patient's country of origin
- Studied issue : at which conditions he can authenticate himself and receive the access rights ?



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## Further works

- To develop and use these results
  - ★ Resolution of Athens
  - ★ Works with WHO
  - ★ Works with our partners in order to identify a suitable European call
- To continue to work on complementary with other European projects
  - ★ epSOS, Calliope, IMI, STORK, Netc@rds, ...



## Conclusion (1)

[www.hprocard.eu](http://www.hprocard.eu)

A unique identity card for health professionals

- Continuing education and training
- Access to electronic health record
- Telemedicine
- Access to scientific data bases
- Electronic signature...



## Conclusion (2)

- Facilitate and promote patient safety and coordination of care
- Protect patients from the small number of health professionals that are at risk
- Facilitate and promote free movement of health professionals
- Better communication between competent authorities





Patrick FORTUIT  
HPRO Card Coordinator  
[patrick.fortuit@gmail.fr](mailto:patrick.fortuit@gmail.fr)

[www.hprocard.eu](http://www.hprocard.eu)

