

Pop-Up Ecosystem - 2nd Webinar

What our ecosystems are doing about COVID-19



Tuesday, 7 APRIL at 13:00 CET



Andy Bleaden

Director
Ecosystems and
Membership at
ECHAlliance
(UK)



Cornelia Röper

CEO & Co-
Founder at
Mitunsleben
GmbH H
(DE)



Zivojin Sekulic

SDK
(RS)



Alexia J. Zurkuhlen

Project Manager
and Researcher at
HealthRegion
Cologne Bonn
(DE)



Vuk Devrnja

Chief
Executive
Officer at
Doktorijum
(RS)



James Champion

Business
Development
Director Tunstall
Healthcare
(UK)



Gisela Garcia-
Alvarez

Managing
Director at
Cluster Saúde
(ES)

Opening the 2nd webinar in the pop-up webinar series, **Andy Bleaden, Director Ecosystems and Membership, ECHAlliance**, highlighted the purpose of ecosystems in bringing together stakeholders and players in health and social care, so vital at this current time of crisis. He reiterated the basis from which ecosystems are developed in breaking down silos, transforming health and social care and creating opportunities for economic growth. He explained the purpose of the pop up webinars in leading with a need and having patients at the centre of progress; in disseminating opportunities for adaptation, change, collaboration and development, in being open to all ecosystems including those about to launch, in being recorded and available to share so that all parties can continue to engage, connect and collaborate on a virtual basis. Andy noted the pop up webinar as an agile, lean and rapid way to share best practice, hear of demand requirements, collaborate and scale up. He communicated the ECHAlliance member to member newsletters which are being sent on a weekly basis and include funding opportunities, understanding demand and highlighting solutions.

The first speaker, from the **Rheinland, Germany** ecosystem, **Alexia Zurkuhlenn (Health Region Cologne Bonn)** took the audience through the geography, stakeholders and partners of Health Region Cologne Bonn and the wider Rheinland ecosystem, including its background and principles. She commented on the development of an IT platform for sharing data; noted the collaboration between different stakeholders e.g. in ensuring fit-for-purpose masks for medical use; gave examples of a bio-chemical company supporting China during February 2020 now supporting domestic needs, Shell changing production to enable sanitizer production

and the use of 3D printers being used to make protective masks. She outlined the work being carried out by researchers in the development of a vaccination and the flexibility of the procurement process so that organisations in need could obtain essential equipment as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Gisela Garcia Alvarez from the **Cluster Saúde de Galicia, Spain** spoke of the fast response facility set up to cater for the urgent need for PPE equipment and which also includes information for citizens on economic activity such as economic support available. She shared that a web page within their website is dedicated to Covid-19 where information on funding, opportunities and collaborations is gathered and where people with queries on day-to-day living can gain clarity. Gisela outlined that this enables information to be filtered so that it is clear, accurate and concise and highlighted that, given the Cluster's link to the ministries, the webpage provides educational information to be shared and updates to be in real time (as the cluster are advised prior to general publication). She described how the procurement of PPE changed on the 2nd day of crisis with the government giving the Cluster the power to buy PPE equipment and distribute this among those service users with a need including nursing and residential homes, Cluster members and even fishermen who are at the front line providing food to the region. She made mention of the twice weekly calls with 3 ministries to enable needs and requirements to be discussed in areas such as PPE, benefits, unemployment and taxation and that all equipment was being funded by the government. She explained the next issue of testing and the adaption of protocol to ensure sufficient and reliable tests are available as soon as possible. Gisela shared the donations received by the government which were redirected to the Cluster so that post Covid-19 issues could be addressed including prolonged confinement by vulnerable citizens, social care problems and she highlighted the government commitment to retain the secured funding until early 2021. Gisela summarised that they were:

- Trying to get a first response to cater for practical needs;
- A channel to regulators and users;
- Considering the economic care of Cluster companies;
- Activating the wider economy;
- Getting the right stakeholders and partners together.

Gisela concluded by advising that the annual event taking place 21-22 October 2020 is still going ahead.

Next a 2 person presentation from Belgrade, Serbia.

Firstly, **Vuk Devrnja** spoke of the **Doktorijum** platform and application which is a 2 component system delivering remote triage and appointment bookings, has 3 straightforward steps for patient use, enables electronic records to be used and which has been adapted to assist with the needs of the pandemic . Vuk noted its adaption has included information on prevention steps, direction and guidance on next steps where

possible symptoms are being displayed and that it will be available in other languages at the end of April. The benefit to doctors of using the systems during the pandemic is that they can see what symptoms patients are experiencing before they arrive so they can be appropriately prepared with PPE and other possible equipment. He drew attention to the slow take up of clinician interest.

Next **Živojin Sekulić, SDK**, described how Serbia is tackling corona. He took attendees through his own journey in wanting to support the Covid-19 crisis by research, reaching out to others to combine their knowledge, understanding the need and from his knowledge and expertise in non-healthcare industries. Ideas were brainstormed to speed up delivering key equipment such as PPE and ventilators, using 3D printing and laser machine techniques and models from across the world to scale up production from 100's per day to several thousand each day. Živojin reiterated the initial reluctance by some clinicians to use such equipment and the change in approach as the pandemic spread across other European countries. Živojin concluded by sharing the hybrid hackathon approach which they have taken, the outcome of which has been the identification of 5 key areas for development in order to support the Serbian health and social care system. These included 5 different face mask models, back up ventilators, sterilisation devices and software solutions, sharing that 100 applications had been received with teams being set up to start intense development from tomorrow, 8th April.

Representing **Berlin, Germany, Eleanora Frati** told webinar attendees of how a matching platform for nursing skills had been built in record time. She outlined the ripple effect of the coronavirus in reduced staffing in nursing care due to self-isolation and Covid-19 symptom management which has exacerbated an already stretched care industry. Eleanora described that Covid-19 was still to hit its peak in Germany and the increasing number of nursing staff getting either exhausted or infected. She explained that an untapped opportunity was identified in the form of 350k nurses qualified working in other industries and 225k geriatric nurses working in other professions and underlined the challenge was to match skills, location and need to optimise the supply-demand requirements. Eleanora said that a matching platform was developed to enable this matchmaking using a hackathon at the end of March and that since then the platform has been developed and launched in 5 days which facilitates the exchange of information between supplier and nurse from which the 2 parties take over to agree contracts. She outlined the need to reach out as far as possible using social media, job portals, government departments and public relations to ensure the pool of skills was identified to meet the growing demand.

The final speaker of the webinar was **James Champion, Tunstall Healthcare, UK** on their response and solutions to COVID-19. James started his presentation by highlighting 2 Tunstall telecare platforms which have been adapted to meet the needs of those with Covid-19, stressing that 1.5 million UK citizens are in the 'high risk' category, explaining how its Wellbeing Call Service is operated by Tunstall's response centres and which is proactive in contacting vulnerable people (50% of whom have no next of kin) and sharing that the facility is available 24/7. James next took the audience through Tunstall Connect which enables duty of care calls to be booked at certain times, its flexibility with a 'Turn on/Turn off' option and the GPS

functionality. He highlighted the need for NHS England to free up 30,000 beds and the ICP Triage Manager and myMOBILE Tunstall offerings which, initially set up to support those with chronic illnesses, has been adapted to the current Covid-19 situation allowing for the safe discharge of patients with the support at home it offers. He noted that ICP Triage Manager has pre-populated questionnaires for clinicians to use (although these can also be tailored to individual use). James explained the ability of the system to facilitate educational material to patients and described the capacity of Tunstall's monitoring centres to support other businesses who may have staffing issues as a result of the virus, offering 1-6 month contracts so that customer queries could be handled by the Tunstall team.

In concluding the webinar, Andy reiterated the message made throughout the webinar by asking speakers and attendees to let ECHAlliance know how we can help in sharing needs, collaborations, funding options, best practice etc.

He thanked speakers, organisers and attendees and advised those present that the next pop-up ecosystem webinar will take place at 13.00 (CEST) on Tuesday 21st April 2020.

The recording of the webinar can be found [here](#)