



Newsletter



Health Care Network



What's Inside:

- Telehealth Training Program in Finland
- Evaluation of the social impact of the e-Projects in Belo Horizonte
- Telehealth conference in San Paolo
- Labour Health and Security: helping the inter-institutional dialogue
- Medical Librarianship Congress in Salvador
- European Commission seminar in Salvador

Editorial

Brazilian IT potential is enormous with 32 million citizens already connected to the internet. Infrastructure and human resources are present and always increasing. Inside that context the Health Care Network Project brings what is missing: getting in touch with different international e-Health experiences as an opportunity

to learn and increase the robustness of the e-Health services. Thanks to the excellent work of Brazilian technicians, the international experience exchange and the European Union economic support the HCN Project is making the difference developing sustainable, robust and efficient e-Health services with a particu-

lar attention on evaluating the social impact of these new IT opportunities being developed in the city of Belo Horizonte.

Tarcisio Arrighini

Project Progress Overview

The Health Care Network Project is developing four e-Projects in Belo Horizonte.

Telehealth: it's ready and working. We have already set up national and international video conferences. The software is stable.

Electronic Medical Records: Almost all modules are being implemented. We started with a pilot phase implementing the project in two of the poorest and most problematic city areas. We are now ready to expand in other neighbor-

hoods.

Appointment Scheduling System : after an initial testing phase we are now growing the number of health centers connected to that service. All the results are extremely positive and we are concentrating to solve some performance delay. At the moment we are covering only the ophthalmology area that represents 10% of all appointments in the city. We are now ready to expand in other health fields.

Labour Health and Security: After a difficult

beginning, we focused on a different strategy: getting involved in the inter-institutional dialogue. With that approach we are now able to access important statistical information otherwise impossible to get. Side by side with main National Institutions we are helping to define a new labour health and security national policy. We've also uploaded our site with free and precious documentation on that topic. All the information is collected by our health and security specialists.

Telehealth Training Program in Finland

The GVC, applicant of the @LIS Health Care Network Project is going to organize in September 2005 in Finland a Telehealth training program in order to increase and exchange knowledge of the Brazilians and Finnish partners on that e-Health field. This exchange opportunity is offered by the North Karelian

Hospital District (city of Joensuu) a partner of the HCN project. In that event will be involved Telehealth specialists from the city of Belo Horizonte, Aracaju, Porto Alegre and Recife. The aim is to create and exchange opportunities between the Brazilian and Finnish worlds. Finland has produced so far a high

quality Telehealth service especially because of its geographical condition. For that reason we think that the Brazilian partners of the @LIS project will highly benefit from that event.



Evaluation of the e-Projects in Belo Horizonte

The @lis Health Care Network Project is getting ready for an important phase: the evaluation process of the technological projects in Belo Horizonte. This evaluation is performed by the city Hall of Trento (Italy) the NESCON (Brazil) and the Roskilde University

(Denmark), between the months of August–December 2005. The aim is to analyze the social impact of the new e-Health services being implemented so far in the city of Belo Horizonte by the HCN project, and to discover if there is an effective increase

in the quality of service offered by the city health system to its citizens.



Telehealth conference in San Paulo (October 23-26)

The @lis Health Care Network Project will get involved in the 10th Congress of the International Society for Telemedicine. Organized by the Brazilian College of Telemedicine and Tele-

health. The event will happen in the Reboças Convention Center from the 23rd to the 26th of October. The HCN Project will present its Telemedicine model that can count on several

Health Centers already connected to that infrastructure and a long series of successful teleconferences (some of them international thanks to the ALICE Project).



Reboças Convention Center
www.cbttms.com.br/

Medical Librarianship Congress in Salvador (September 20th)

The @lis Health Care Network Project will participate in the 9th International Congress on Medical Librarianship, to be held in September 2005 in the city of Salvador, state of Bahia, Brazil. This is a further opportunity to increase the

project visibility as well as getting in touch with other analogous e-Health experiences in Latin America. The city of Belo Horizonte will present “BH Telemed”, the Telemedicine module of the HCN project, focusing on human impact and international

teleconferences.



Labour Health and Security

The GVC, applicant of the @LIS Health Care Network Project will participate in the next three important institutional meetings related to labor Health and Security in Brazil (between August and November 2005), where in cooperation with important partners

conditions are being created to establish a Virtual Observatory that disposes of documentation and statistical information on health and security available free of charge on the web. These crucial events represent an important attempt of the Brazilian government to

face the problematic situation for health and security at work.



European Commission Seminary in Salvador

The @lis Health Care Network Project has been invited to the seminary organized by the delegation of the European Commission in Brazil, focusing on co-operation programs

and current initiatives in the country. Mr. Tarcisio Arrighini, responsible of the HCN project will personally present a progress report. We consider this event a further opportunity to

get in touch with the whole co-operation environment acting in Brazil.

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The group of civil volunteers- GVC was formed on May twenty-first in 1971 in the city of Bologna Italy. It's a non-profitable association recognised by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Relations as a reliable organism that promotes and establishes co-operation projects with developing countries.

In 2005 GVC is responsible for co-ordinating 80 co-operation programs, co-sponsored by 15 different financing sources, and is participating in many micro-projects that derive from solidarity and social awareness activities in Italy, and in other places financed directly by local sponsors that happen to integrate and complete the activities established by its main projects.

www.healthcarenetwork.it

The GVC in Brazil

The first participation of the GVC in Brazil happened between the years of 1972 and 1977, in Jussara/Go, when a military dictatorship was in power in the country. The project was well succeeded and had initiated an important agricultural co-operative. However, the political situation in Brazil at the time made GVC and all the other NGOs leave

the country.

Recently, through the law 1.285, of 7.05.04, the ministry of State Justice, in the use of its competence, authorised the *GRUPPO DI VOLONTARIATO CIVILE - G.V.C* to move in for definite to Brazil.



The @LIS Program

The co-operation program @LIS, an information society alliance, was born after a political dialogue, established in June/99 in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), between the heads of state of the European Union and Latin America.

Through the @LIS, the European Commission wishes to reduce the digital gap, extend the advantages

of the information society to Latin American citizens and contribute to the social cohesion in both regions.

The @LIS was created by a decision of the European Commission in December 6 2001. It disposes of a total funding of 77,5 million Euros, of which 63,5 millions are subsidised by the European Commission, the rest comes from program associates.

