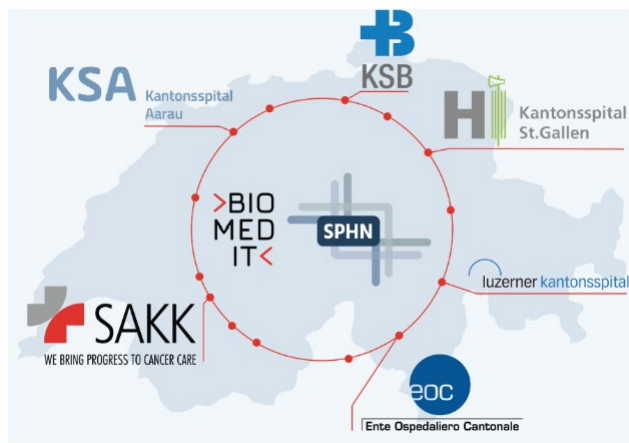# Press release: SAKK becomes a partner of SPHN

SAKK becomes a partner of SPHN and its nationwide BioMedIT network

SPHN has launched a new program to integrate cantonal hospitals into its network. The tools provided by SPHN/BioMedIT enable the hospitals to securely transfer interoperable data, paving the way for future research projects.

The Swiss Group for Clinical Cancer Research (SAKK) is proud to be a key partner in contributing to a dataset of oncology patients from many hospitals across Switzerland. We are pleased that the following members are participating in this program: Cantonal Hospital Lucerne (LUKS), Cantonal Hospital Aarau (KSA), Ente Ospedaliero Cantonale (EOC), Cantonal Hospital Baden (KSB), and Cantonal Hospital St. Gallen (KSSG).

In addition, SAKK's existing infrastructure for oncology registries enables hospitals outside of the university clinics and all its members to participate in SPHN/BioMedIT projects. SAKK's standardized data set and database enables secure and interoperable data exchange with the BioMedIT infrastructure through the implementation of the SPHN Connector.

This is a significant step forward for the SPHN network to share data in standardized and efficient ways across Swiss healthcare institutions. This initiative will help improve healthcare outcomes through personalized medicine research.

Source: sphn

The SPHN and BioMedIT network
The SPHN announced that the hospitals and SAKK will map their internal data to international standards such as SNOMED CT (Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine -- Clinical Terms) and LOINC (Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes). SNOMED CT and LOINC are globally recognized standards that ensure the consistent and accurate exchange of clinical data.

By participating in the initiative, the cantonal hospitals are also setting up the IT infrastructure needed for further collaboration. Along with the SPHN Connector, to transform the data, they also set up the Secure Encryption and Transfer Tool (sett) allowing for encryption and secure transfer of the data from the hospital to the trusted IT environment BioMedIT.

In a collaborative effort to enhance oncology patient data delivery, the program will also involve the Swiss Group for Clinical Cancer Research. It will be onboarded to provide a minimal dataset for oncology patients originating from many different hospitals across Switzerland in the SPHN format.

This program represents a significant step towards enlarging the SPHN network to standardized and efficient data sharing across Swiss healthcare institutions, promoting better healthcare outcomes through personalized medicine research.

About the Swiss Personalized Health Network

The Swiss Personalized Health Network is a national initiative under the leadership of the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences (SAMS). In collaboration with the SIB Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics it contributes to the development, implementation and validation of coordinated data infrastructures in order to make health-relevant data interoperable and shareable for research in Switzerland.

About the Swiss Group for Clinical Cancer Research (SAKK)

The Swiss Group for Clinical Cancer Research (SAKK) is a non-profit organization, which has been conducting patient-oriented clinical cancer trials since 1965. Its primary objective is to research new cancer therapies, to develop existing treatments further and to improve the chances of a cure for patients with cancer. The regular members of SAKK are the main clinical-oncology sites at the cantonal and private hospitals and university hospitals. They work with other hospitals and physicians, and together form the SAKK network. The Competence Center of SAKK in Bern helps researching physicians develop and conduct multicenter and interdisciplinary trials independently of the pharmaceutical industry.

Contact

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Jens Schulenburg, Head of Clinical Data Management, at +41 31 389 91 91 or media@sakk.ch.

Further information on SAKK can be found at www.sakk.ch.