Worldwide front-runners in e-health

The Dutch are some of the happiest and healthiest people on earth. Why? Because we take care of each other. Because our country was built on cooperation. We are entrepreneurial, resourceful and highly educated. This has resulted in the best healthcare in Europe. And internationally leading e-health initiatives.

Knowledge economy boosts e-health
Dutch knowledge means high quality knowledge. Constant cross-pollination between science, business, government and knowledge institutes made the Netherlands a leading country in areas such as oncology, cardio-vascular research, immunology, regenerative medicine and neuroscience. Thanks to the extensive knowledge-infrastructure we also became a worldwide front-runner in e-health.

Cooperation drives leading e-health position
The Dutch work together closely and share their knowledge. A Dutch professional isn’t afraid to look beyond his own field of expertise. And this often leads to remarkable, innovative, effective and multidisciplinary partnerships. That deep-rooted willingness to work together and share knowledge has led to some impressive initiatives in e-health solutions.

Bursting with e-health innovations
Thanks to their innovative, creative and entrepreneurial spirit the Dutch are widely regarded as true innovators in e-health. Dutch medical and biotech companies, start-ups, research institutes and academic medical centres are bursting with ground-breaking research and new ideas. For everyone, everywhere. Public-private collaborations and investments have boosted e-health innovations over the past years.
Knowledge economy boosts e-health

Skinvision – Preventing skin cancer
Skinvision made it possible to track potential skin cancer using a smartphone. The company developed the first EC certified app for checking spots, birthmarks and moles on the skin, in order to track melanoma in the earliest possible stages. Because of the involvement of a Dutch investor, Skinvision is based in the Netherlands.

Return@Work – Faster reintegration
An e-health program that helps employees dealing with psychological problems to get back to work. The program also aids company doctors in their care. A doctoral research study (randomised trial) has shown that the tool leads to an accelerated return to work as well as a decrease in symptoms when compared to the previous standard of care.

Impressive IT adoption
Nowhere is the adoption of technology better than in the Netherlands. The use of clinical systems in Dutch hospitals is even more impressive. Virtually every hospital keeps electronic medical records. A considerable number of hospitals are on their way to becoming completely paperless. The Dutch even outperform the United States in both the adoption of IT and its meaningful use in hospitals.

“Employees with psychological problems return to work thanks to this effective e-tool.”

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IT Development Index
Knowledge economy boosts e-health

**Self-management in health**
Patients in the Netherlands can choose from a number of options to stay in control of their own health, whether online or through an app. Whether it’s postnatal care or about diabetes. A lot of practical matters can easily be arranged this way. Like setting up a doctor’s appointment, going through your personal medical file or getting your prescription renewed.

**Ambitious government**
The Dutch government is very ambitious where it concerns the health of its citizens. Here are just two examples. Within the next five years, 80% of the chronically ill will have online access to, for example, their own medical information, vital functions and test results. Every citizen who needs assistance in home care, will have access to on-screen communication with a healthcare professional 24/7 by the year 2021. Home automation, or domotics, will also have a considerable role to play.
Cooperation drives leading e-health position

**AbcdeSIM - Award winning e-learning simulation**
AbcdeSIM is an online simulated emergency department with virtual patients. AbcdeSIM, Erasmus University Medical Center, Technical University of Twente, IJsfontein and the Dutch national primary care residency program are improving training in emergency medicine in a cost-efficient manner, using gaming and simulation technology and a high fidelity model of human physiology. In 2013 abcdSIM won the Dutch national E-learning Award.

**ParkinsonNet – Connecting healthcare professionals and patients**
Parkinson’s patients need a large variety of medical specialists. To make sure these patients have access to the right specialist at the right time, ParkinsonNet was created. A national network of almost 3,000 healthcare professionals, including neurologists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, dieticians and nurses, distributed across 70 regions.

**Chipsoft Keten-EPD – Group access to electronic medical records**
The region healthcare organisation Ketenzorg West-Friesland uses the chain-PHR made by software company Chipsoft. It is a portal where healthcare providers can share information with each other and with the patient. Every practitioner – from family doctor, nurse practitioner and dietician to internist and podiatrist – has direct access to the patient’s file. All the current information and complete patient history will be available 24/7 to every authorised practitioner.
Cooperation drives leading e-health position

Landelijk schakelpunt (LSP) – Sharing medical information made simple
The LSP (National Switchboard) facilitates all messages between health providers and records where patient information is available, what information was accessed and by whom. Medical information is not stored in the LSP, but remains with the source: the patient file at the family doctor’s office or pharmacy. Healthcare providers can use the LSP to request medical information, necessary when patients go to an unfamiliar doctor, clinic or pharmacy.

"Medical information remains at the source: the family doctor’s office or pharmacy."

ZorgInnovatie.nl – Accelerating innovation in healthcare
A great number of players in the field of healthcare are looking for ideas and innovations to improve care in all sorts of ways. On their end, entrepreneurs and start-ups are looking for partners. ZorgInnovatie.nl connects supply and demand through an online platform and community. The community currently has 2318 members and lists 423 innovations in various stages of development.
Bursting with e-health innovations

**Thuisarts.nl – Learn what you need to know**
Thuisarts.nl is an online health forum for those looking for information on health and illnesses. Thuisarts.nl is an NHG initiative, the academic society for Dutch general practitioners. The NHG develops national guidelines, continued education for family doctors and provides information for patients and to the public at Thuisarts.nl.

**Scyfer – E-support, detection and analysis**
Scyfer provides e-support and big data. Images are combined with the patient’s data to detect diseases in an early stage, perform risk analysis to avoid complications and help determine the right treatment. For pharmaceutical companies, Scyfer also provides data and image analysis in drug development.

**Pacmed - E-support and big data**
Pacmed is a decision support system for general practitioners based on the analysis of anonymous medical data. Thanks to Pacmed, patients will only receive treatment that is effective for patients like them.

**Philips – E-care for young diabetics**
Together with Radboud UMC, Philips is developing an app for young people with type 1 diabetes. The app is connected to a number of medical devices that collects these young patients’ data. In this way, they’re allowed to personally collect the information that goes in their electronic medical record, which is accessible to their doctor.
Bursting with e-health innovations

**KSYOS TeleMedisch Centrum – E-support and telemedicine**
KSYOS TeleMedisch Centrum focusses on studying, developing and launching telemedical services: care, consultation and support that is continuously accessible online. With telemedicine, KYSOS means to improve the efficiency of the healthcare process. To make sure that, despite a strong increase in demand, healthcare will remain accessible and affordable.

**Rockstart – Kickstarting e-health initiatives**
Rockstart supports digital health startups with a 'Digital Health Accelerator programme'. Rockstart targets digital health start-ups that need funding to develop their ideas. Start-ups participating in the programme receive support to develop their business model, product design and marketing. Office space is also provided, as well as legal and financial support.

**Zelfhulpwijzer.nl – Online psychological screening**
Zelfhulpwijzer.nl is an online screening tool for psychological problems that has been used by more than 200,000 people. By using an online questionnaire, the tool anonymously determines whether or not preventive online measures are necessary and, if they are, which ones are required.

**FocusCura – E-care at home**
FocusCura, the leading player in the field of homecare innovation, developed applications to be able to monitor and report heart rate and blood pressure from the home. The company has also created solutions like screen calls, remote medication supervision and personal alarm systems in case of emergency.

"The Dutch government has a clear objective: The Netherlands should become the undisputed testing ground for e-health companies and their innovations. Leading the field of e-health by example."
Let's join forces in e-health

Working with a Dutch partner in the field of e-health is a smart choice. But it works both ways. Dutch companies and organisations can learn a lot from international experts. There are plenty of e-health challenges for us to tackle together, so let’s join forces!

Are you interested?

Are you interested in working with a Dutch partner? Contact us to find out more and go over your options.

www.health-holland.com