

# POLICY MAPPING ON eHEALTH POLICIES AND INITIATIVES (INCLUDING ON CANCER CARE) IN BELGIUM

This Country Factsheet was first prepared for the eCAN Joint Action and updated for the eCAN+ Joint Action. It is prefilled with publicly available information and was sent for review to country experts on eHealth and cancer care. The Country Factsheet serves as the basis for the preparation of an overview of eCAN relevant policies and initiatives in all EU and EEA countries.

The Joint Action ‘**Enhancing digital capabilities of cancer centres in Europe to improve prevention and care**’ (eCAN Plus) aims to bring the benefits of digital health to all citizens, patients and health care professionals to improve cancer prevention and care across Europe. The rising use of telemedicine and innovative legal framework of European Health Data Space offer opportunity to better address population health needs. Built on the experience of the eCAN JA, this project contributes to integrating digital tools and improving health data use for the benefit of cancer patients. The JA foresees to bring lasting impact to different targeted audiences. The project’s expected outputs pave the way for a wider rollout of **eHealth in oncology** but also supports decision-makers by providing recommendations and guidelines.

This country factsheet was originally **pre-filled in 2023/2024** with publicly available information by

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The country factsheet includes chapters on:

- 1 definitions**
- 2 governance**
- 3 strategies/policies**
- 4 legislation**
- 5 cancer specific eHealth solutions**

Any questions? – Please get in touch via [ecan@goeg.at](mailto:ecan@goeg.at).

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## 1 DEFINITIONS

Table 1 : Deviations in the use of international definitions for eHealth terms - Belgium

Term	Definition	Deviation
eHealth	The WHO defines eHealth as « cost-effective and secure use of information and communications technologies in support of health and health-related fields, including health-care services, health surveillance, health literature, and health education, knowledge and research ». <sup>1</sup>	No deviation from definition, but term used in a more specific way as “the use of ICT to improve the quality of healthcare services, the continuity and coordination of care, the safety of patients, the efficiency of the health system, and to strengthen patient empowerment.”.
mHealth	« Mobile health (mHealth) is defined by the World Health Organization’s (WHO) Global Observatory for eHealth as « medical and public health practice supported by mobile devices, such as mobile phones, patient monitoring devices, personal digital assistants (PDAs), and other wireless devices ». <sup>2</sup>	Belgium does not have a separate legal definition for mHealth distinct from eHealth, but RIZIV/INAMI defines what they mean by mobile medical application: <i>‘By mobile medical application, we mean a software application that:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>has a CE marking as a medical device and is notified to the FAMHP,</i></li> <li>• <i>allows a patient to share health-related information (whether or not via sensors) with a healthcare provider from their own environment,</i></li> <li>• <i>allows a healthcare provider to remotely diagnose a patient, administer therapy or monitor him/her via a medical device designed for use by the patient in his/her own environment.</i> <sup>3</sup></li> </ul>
dHealth	The EU defines digital health (dHealth) and care as referring to « tools and services that use information and communication technologies (ICTs) to improve prevention, diagnosis, treatment, monitoring and management of health-related issues and to monitor and manage lifestyle-habits that impact health ». <sup>4</sup> The WHO defines digital health as « the field of knowledge and practice associated with the development and use of digital technologies to improve health. Digital health expands the concept of eHealth to include digital consumers, with a wider range of smart-devices and connected equipment. It also encompasses other uses of digital technologies for health such as the Internet of things, artificial intelligence, big data, and robotics. » <sup>5</sup>	The term is not used in official documents.

<sup>1</sup> [WHO EMRO - eHealth](#)

<sup>2</sup> [mHealth Assessment: Conceptualization of a Global Framework - PMC \(nih.gov\)](#), [mHealth](#)

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.riziv.fgov.be/nl/professionals/andere-professionals/fabrikanten-en-verdelers-van-medische-hulpmiddelen/mobiele-medische-toepassingen-uw-aanvraag-indienen>

<sup>4</sup> [Events - Smart4Health](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Digital health EURO \(who.int\)](#)

Term	Definition	Deviation
telehealth	The WHO defines telehealth broader than telemedicine « as it includes computer-assisted telecommunications to support management, surveillance, literature, and access to medical knowledge. » <sup>6</sup>	No deviation from definition.
telemedicine	The EU Commission defines telemedicine as follows (EU Commission definition, COM(2008)689) : « Telemedicine is the provision of health care services, through the use of ICT, in situations where the health professional and the patient (or two health professionals) are not in the same location. It involves the secure transmission of medical data and information, through text, sound, images, or other forms needed for the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up of patients. » <sup>7</sup>	No deviation from definition.
teleconsultation	PAHO describes teleconsultation (also sometimes referred to as remote consultation or telehealth), as « interactions that happen between a clinician and a patient for the purpose of providing diagnostic or therapeutic advice through electronic means. » <sup>8</sup>	No deviation from definition.
health app	Essén et al. 2022 define health apps as « a computer program or software application (designed to run on a mobile device) “intended to be used specifically for managing, maintaining, or improving the health of individual persons, or the delivery of care” (ISO <a href="https://www.iso.org/standard/78182.html">https://www.iso.org/standard/78182.html</a> (2021), p 5). »	Not explained directly in laws or regulations.

### Further information:

- Belgium has furthermore defined a clear framework other terms including telecare, teleconsultation (video and telephone), tele-advice, tele-expertise, remote multidisciplinary consultation, or tele monitoring.
- More definitions are available here:  
<https://www.ejustice.just.fgov.be/eli/arrete/2025/03/27/2025002802/moniteur>

## 2 GOVERNANCE

Table 2 : Overview on eHealth governance - Belgium

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
Is there a Ministry or State Secretariat explicitly in charge of eHealth/dHealth in place? If so, which Ministry?	Yes	The Federal Public Service (FPS) Public Health, Food Chain Safety, and Environment <sup>9</sup> is responsible for public health including eHealth. Responsibilities on eHealth are a joint responsibility of the federal state and the regional governments:

<sup>6</sup> [TeleHealth – DigitalHealthEurope](#)

<sup>7</sup> [Telemedicine – DigitalHealthEurope](#)

<sup>8</sup> <https://www3.paho.org/ish/images/docs/covid-19-teleconsultations-en.pdf?ua=1>

<sup>9</sup> [FPS Public Health \(belgium.be\)](#)

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flanders: Department Zorg is responsible for implementing regional health policies, including aspects of digital health.</li> <li>• Wallonia: The Walloon Health Agency (Agence Wallonne de la Santé, de la Protection sociale, du Handicap et des Familles / Agence pour une Vie de Qualité (AVIQ)) oversees health-related matters, including digital health initiatives.</li> <li>• Brussels-Capital Region: The Brussels Health and Social Integration Agency (Brusselse Gezondheids- en Sociale Integratieagentschap) manages health and social integration policies, encompassing digital health strategies.</li> </ul> <p>These regional bodies collaborate with the federal government to ensure a cohesive approach to eHealth across the country.</p>
Does the Ministry who oversees health care also have a specific Department or Unit in charge of eHealth/dHealth?	N/A	No further information available.
Is there a national eHealth governance board in place?	Yes	Belgium's digital health strategy is guided by the eHealth Action Plan 2025-2027 <sup>10</sup> through inter-federal coordination and collaboration.
Is there a public eHealth agency in place? At which level (national, regional)? Which functions does this agency cover?	Yes	The eHealth platform is a public institution and acts as the relevant forum of several actors engaged in eHealth in Belgium at both regional and federal level. <sup>11</sup> The eHealth platform promotes and supports secure electronic service delivery and information exchange among all healthcare actors, ensuring data security, privacy, and medical confidentiality. Its functions include improving the quality and continuity of care, enhancing patient safety, reducing administrative burden, and providing strong support for health policy implementation <sup>12</sup> .
If no, are there any other public institutions working in the field of eHealth?	N/A	
Are dHealth / eHealth tools in the outpatient sector publicly paid or covered in your benefits package (e.g. by sickness fund or national health service)? If yes, please describe how.	Yes, some	Certain dHealth/eHealth tools in the outpatient sector may be covered or reimbursed as part of the benefits package provided by health insurance funds or the national health service.
Are dHealth / eHealth tools in the inpatient sector automatically covered in your benefits package or do you need to pay extra (e.g. for telehealth consultations or telereha) compared to standard treatments?	Yes, some	It varies and depends on several factors. Within certain specific health care pathways (oncology, heart failure, diabetes) these tools are “automatically “ reimbursed by RIZIV/INAMI (for limited time and specific patient groups). Specific health insurance funds also cover tools. <sup>13</sup> Most insurance funds refer to mHealthBELGIUM, the Belgian platform for mobile applications that are CE-marked as a medical devices. This gives information on reimbursement phase specific applications are in. The platform is managed by sector federations beMedTech and Agoria <sup>14</sup> . Registration on mHealth Belgium

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.inami.fgov.be/fr/themes/esante/plan-d-action-interfederal-esante-2025-2027#gouvernance--importance-de-la-cooperation-interfederale>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.eHealth.fgov.be/eHealthplatform/fr/loi-du-21-aout-2008-relative-a-l-institution-et-a-l-organisation-de-la-plate-forme-eHealth>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.eHealth.fgov.be/eHealthplatform/fr/mission>

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.eHealth.fgov.be/>

<sup>14</sup> <https://mhealthbelgium.be/>

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
		platform is not a requirement anymore. It is a website managed by the sector federations to inform health care providers and patients.
Are there any comprehensive cancer centres focussing on eHealth or telehealth treatments? If yes, which ones and for which specific fields?	Yes	Yes, the UZA, UZLeuven, UZGent, Saint Luc, Institut Jules Bordet and Erasme. All work in different fields. Since January 2026, telemonitoring is integrated in the reimbursed care pathways of RIZIV/INAMI for a specific group of cancer patients for a limited time period. Therefore, telemonitoring is offered in many more hospitals (and not only in comprehensive cancer centres). <sup>15</sup>

### Further information:

- No further information identified.

## 3 STRATEGIES/POLICIES

Table 3 : Overview on strategies and policies for eHealth and cancer care - Belgium

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
Is there a national eHealth strategy in place?	Yes	<p>Belgium has a national eHealth strategy in the form of the 2025-2027 action plan for eHealth (Plan d’action interfédéral eSanté 2025-2027) following the previous one for 2022 to 2024. This plan sets out the major lines of development for eHealth, supporting a sustainable ecosystem for prevention, well-being and care, through digital tools and services. An updated plan is in development in early 2026 but not published yet. The strategy/roadmap<sup>16</sup> (as of 2021 for 2022 to 2024) encompasses the following key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interoperability: Promoting the interoperability of different healthcare systems and data exchange standards to enable seamless sharing of health information among healthcare providers, hospitals, and other stakeholders.</li> <li>• Electronic Health Records (EHRs): Encouraging the adoption and use of electronic health records to enhance care coordination, improve patient safety, and facilitate the exchange of patient information across healthcare settings.</li> <li>• telehealth and Telemedicine: Supporting the integration of telehealth and telemedicine services, including remote consultations, telemonitoring, and telecare, to increase access to healthcare, especially in remote areas and for vulnerable populations.</li> <li>• Patient Empowerment: Empowering patients by providing them with access to their health records, promoting patient engagement, and supporting the use of digital tools for self-management and health promotion.</li> <li>• Data Security and Privacy: Ensuring the protection of personal health information and complying with relevant data security and privacy regulations in the implementation of eHealth solutions.</li> </ul>

<sup>15</sup> [https://www.riziv.fgov.be/SiteCollectionDocuments/omzendbrief\\_ziekenhuizen\\_2026\\_04.pdf](https://www.riziv.fgov.be/SiteCollectionDocuments/omzendbrief_ziekenhuizen_2026_04.pdf)

<sup>16</sup> [https://www.eHealth.fgov.be; Actieplan eGezondheid 2022-2024 protocolakkoord.pdf \(fgov.be\); Roadmap 4.0 | eHealth \(fgov.be\)](https://www.eHealth.fgov.be; Actieplan eGezondheid 2022-2024 protocolakkoord.pdf (fgov.be); Roadmap 4.0 | eHealth (fgov.be))

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
If yes, which stakeholder groups have been included in drafting the national eHealth strategy?	Several	The national eHealth strategy in Belgium involves inter-federal cooperation between various stakeholders, including government entities, healthcare providers, patient organizations, and technology vendors, to drive the adoption and advancement of digital health solutions throughout the country.
Are there regional eHealth strategies? If so, can you indicate whether in all regions or only some? Can you provide some (exemplary) documents ?	Yes	Flemish Region (Flanders): The Flemish Region has its own eHealth strategy called "eGezondheid Vlaanderen." This strategy focuses on digital health initiatives and the use of eHealth tools to improve healthcare delivery and patient outcomes in Flanders. You can find more information about eGezondheid Vlaanderen on the official website of the Flemish government's Department of Care <sup>17</sup> . Walloon Region (Wallonia): The Walloon Region has developed its eHealth strategy called "eSanté Wallonie." This strategy aims to promote the use of digital technologies in healthcare, enhance the exchange of health information, and improve patient care in Wallonia. Additional information about eSanté Wallonie can be found on the official website of the Walloon eHealth Agency <sup>18</sup> . Brussels-Capital Region: collaborates with the federal and regional authorities to implement national and regional eHealth initiatives.
If yes, which stakeholder groups have been included in drafting such regional strategy/ies?	Several	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Flemish Regional Government</li> <li>• Department of Welfare, Public Health, and Family (WVG)</li> <li>• eHealth and Information Systems (eGezondheid Vlaanderen)</li> <li>• AVIQ – Agence pour une Vie de Qualité, public agency in Wallonia</li> <li>• Healthcare Providers</li> <li>• Patient Organizations</li> <li>• Industry and Technology Partners</li> <li>• Research and Academic Institutions</li> </ul>
Are there strategy/ies explicitly referring to / including eHealth cancer care?	No	There is no explicit reference to a dedicated eHealth cancer-care strategy. However, some strategies are under discussion at NIHDI (National Institute for Health and Disability Insurance) level.
If not, are there discussions ongoing to develop a national eHealth strategy?	Yes	
Is there a National Cancer Plan in place?	Yes	The National Cancer Plan is under development and will be available in early 2026.
If yes, does the National Cancer Plan refer to eHealth?	Yes	Yes probably, under discussion.
In the light of the EU „Beating Cancer Plan” – are there any recent plans to update or modify existing plans? If yes, what is the timeline?	No	The unmet needs identified at Belgium level are to a large extent also taken up in the EBCP. Belgium installed an EBCP-Mirror Group to align between both.
Are there any indicators in eHealth policy or national programmes on cancer care measuring the progress of the use of eHealth in cancer care?	No	There are general indicators on health and cancer that are regularly monitored. <sup>19</sup> In addition, indicator on number of remote consultation is also monitored. And, the 2025 digital decade eHealth indicator study performed for the European Commission provides information about Belgium's maturity level in regard to eHealth. <sup>20</sup>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.zorg-en-gezondheid.be/>

<sup>18</sup> <https://esante.wallonie.be/>

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.healthibelgium.be/en/health-status/non-communicable-diseases/cancer>

<sup>20</sup> <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/digital-decade-2025-eHealth-indicator-study>

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
Are there any other cancer care specific eHealth initiatives, f.e. by other stakeholders than policy makers / public authorities?	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cancer Centres<sup>21</sup></li> <li>• Research Projects</li> <li>• Non-profit Organizations and Patient Advocacy Groups</li> <li>• Industry and Technology Partners</li> </ul>

### Further information:

- No further information identified.

## 4 LEGISLATION

Table 4 : Overview on eHealth and cancer legislation - Belgium

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
Is there a general legal framework covering eHealth related topics in your country?	Yes	Belgium has a general eHealth policy and a “plan d’action esanté” updated every 2 years since 2013.
Is there specific legislation on the use of telemedicine?	Yes	A royal decree establishing a legal framework for remote patient care was officially published on March 2025 <sup>22</sup>
Is there specific legislation explicitly referring to cancer prevention?	No	There was no specific legislation identified that exclusively focuses on cancer prevention. However, cancer prevention is addressed through various laws, regulations, and policies related to public health, environmental protection, occupational health and safety, and healthcare.
Is there specific legislation explicitly referring to / including eHealth in cancer care?	No	Belgium has a general eHealth policy. In addition, the national cancer plan is under development and could have policy recommendations on eHealth in cancer care.

### Further information:

- Although telemonitoring is currently reimbursed for a specific group of patients, the professional field continues to advocate for the expansion of this eligible population. Furthermore, the limited duration of reimbursement, restricted to a maximum of five months, is considered insufficient.

<sup>21</sup> <https://www.uzleuven.be/en> and <https://www.uza.be/english>

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.ejustice.just.fgov.be/eli/arrete/2025/03/27/2025002802/moniteur>; <https://www.inami.fgov.be/fr/themes/esante/plan-d-action-interfederal-esante-2025-2027#gouvernance--importance-de-la-cooperation-interfederale>

## 5 CANCER SPECIFIC eHEALTH SOLUTIONS

Table 5 : Overview on cancer specific eHealth solutions in use – Belgium

Area of application/ type of solutions	Login Websites	Apps	Webinars	Multi-disciplinary teleconferences (HCP-HPC)	Teleconsultation (HCP-patient)	Telemonitoring via devices	Other, please specify
<b>Ecosystem</b>	Yes, esanté system <sup>23</sup> and eHealth platform <sup>24</sup> specialising in health care, offers services to facilitate exchanges between the players in the health ecosystem. All Belgian residents have an electronic identity with which they can access their eHealth space. <sup>25</sup> This interface gives them control over their data'. <sup>26</sup>	Yes	-	-	Yes	-	Yes, e.g. mHealth Belgium, a platform with CE marked mobile applications <sup>27</sup> ; Healthdata.be a platform gathering individual health data collected from authorities <sup>28</sup>
<b>Prevention of Cancer</b>	-	Yes, SkinVision	-	No	No	Yes	Yes, Skin Vision offers an assessment of suspicious skin spots, helping early detection of skin cancer
<b>Treatment of Cancer</b>	-	Yes, for example Resilience PRO, Remecare	-	Yes, molecular tumour boards	Yes	Yes partially, reimbursed for specific group of patients since January 2026 (during 5 months)	Yes, Resilience is a solution dedicated to remote monitoring and support for oncology patients. Remecare provides care pathway management and remote patient monitoring to support health care professionals in understanding the patient's experience beyond the hospital walls. Patient reported data guides care decisions more efficiently to improve patient's quality of life and outcomes.
<b>'Living with cancer'</b>	-	Yes, Resilience PRO; Remecare	-	No	Yes	Yes	See above
<b>Rehabilitation from Cancer</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

<sup>23</sup> [Homepage | eHealth | eSanté \(fgov.be\)](#)

<sup>24</sup> [eHealth - Mission \(fgov.be\)](#)

<sup>25</sup> <https://masante.belgique.be/#/>

<sup>26</sup> [eHealth in Belgium | G NIUS \(esante.gouv.fr\)](#)

<sup>27</sup> <https://mhealthbelgium.be/>

<sup>28</sup> [eHealth in Belgium | G NIUS \(esante.gouv.fr\)](#) and [healthdata.be | data we care for \(sciensano.be\)](#)

Area of application/ type of solutions	Login Websites	Apps	Webinars	Multi-disciplinary teleconferences (HCP-HPC)	Teleconsultation (HCP-patient)	Telemonitoring via devices	Other, please specify
Palliative Cancer Care	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**Further information:**

- No further information identified.

Table 6 : Number of eHealth solutions available and in use – Belgium

Question	Answer	Comments/Experience
How many eHealth solutions (in the sense of medical devices and thus ‘authority approved/certified’) solutions are existing currently in your country in the context of cancer care/treatment?	At least 13 as of February 2026	On mHealthBelgium, there are 13 health apps registered and certified as medical device when filtering for « cancer » as pathology. However, only some of those have a specific focus on cancer (i.e. SkinVision, Resilience PRO, Remecare). It is possible that additional tools are available, of whose existence is not publicly known as they are not registered on mHealthBelgium.
Is there a website or other information on solutions that are recommended to the public for use (e.g. a selection of health apps that are recommended to cancer patients or in general)?	Yes	mHealthBelgium, also known as mobile health Belgium, is the Belgian platform for mobile apps that are CE-marked as a medical device. <sup>29</sup> This informative website is maintained by sector federations beMedTech and Agoria. This unique platform centralizes all relevant and necessary information about mobile medical applications that meet criteria imposed by the federal government. Its main goal is to guide citizens, healthcare providers and healthcare institutions through the high number of applications that exist within healthcare, for all kinds of purposes (diagnostics, therapy, monitoring, prognosis, prediction, prevention, ...) and in all kinds of pathology or therapeutic domains.
Can you give an estimation on how the split between private and public apps are available? Give an estimate percentage of public solutions.	No	No data available.
How can providers and patients assess if the apps are reliable? Is there a certification or quality approval procedure in place? If yes, which kind of procedure?	Via webpage and CE certification	The information is related to CE marking, data protection, communication security, interoperability with other IT systems and the way in which the app is financed. mHealthBelgium consists of a validation pyramid with three levels. An app always enters at the lower level, M1, and can climb in hierarchy via M2 to the top level, M3.
How many Health Care Providers use such solutions? Which sector uses rather which types of solutions?	No	No data available.

### Further information:

- No further information identified.

<sup>29</sup> <https://mhealthbelgium.be/>