



## Information Management for Hospital Laboratories in a Changing Health Care System

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The German healthcare system as many other European healthcare systems leads by many legal changes towards an integrated healthcare between different care providers. Special contracts between care providers on specific services and the possibility to run institutions as a profit oriented organisation aside to the budgeted healthcare system are only two recent examples. It also leads to a new way of information management for hospital labs. The lecture will explain the IT concept of the Dietrich-Bonhoeffer-Klinikum Neubrandenburg. As one of the biggest deaconry hospital institutions in Germany the Dietrich-Bonhoeffer-Klinikum Neubrandenburg is a highly specialised hospital of the maximum care category in the North-East region of Germany. The central laboratory "Institut für Laboratoriumsmedizin, Mikrobiologie und Transfusionsmedizin" headed by Primar PD Dr. med. Egon Werle has established a modern trans-sectoral information management solution considering the last changes in the German healthcare system based on the SYSMEX ECLAIR Software. The hospital lab acts as a integrated care provider, as a private lab for the region as well as the central lab for the Dietrich-Bonhoeffer-Klinikum Neubrandenburg and associated hospitals with satellite labs.

Legal agreements of the hospital with the health professionals in the region allow a sharing of patient data. One element is a flexible and highly parametrisable IT concept for the communication based on the SYSMEX ECLAIR communication software. Rapid and effective delivery of reports and an intelligent interactive electronic order entry allow an effective collaboration between all parties and the patients. It leads to a controlled diagnostic testing as being integral to the establishment of clinical practice pathways in the hospital and the region.

Today, starting with lab data, the solution proves every day within average 240 trans-sectoral transactions and with about 150 patient admissions and dismissals per day, the economic benefit.

Laboratory medicine is the pilot for trans-sectoral services but too often legal barriers, lack of investments and a lack of expertise in the management of a laboratory structure lead to difficulties in establishing trans-sectoral services.