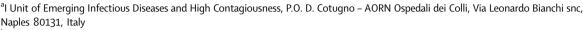
The strength and resilience of Italy's health data system

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Beyond Campania, Lombardy has also developed an advanced health information exchange system, optimizing resource allocation.⁴ Similarly, Emilia-Romagna has made notable progress in digital health by implementing data-sharing mechanisms that enable real-time decision-making (https://digitale.regione.emilia-romagna. it). The Veneto Region has demonstrated effective interorganizational data sharing for emergency response and public health planning through Azienda Zero Veneto

(https://www.azero.veneto.it/en/home), particularly during the COVID-19 crisis. Indeed, the current critical step toward a nationwide integration involves adopting standardized interoperability frameworks to rule them all. Health Level Seven (HL7) standards, particularly the Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR), serve as effective bridges for unifying disparate data systems. HL7 provides a set of international standards for the exchange, integration, sharing, and retrieval of electronic health information, facilitating seamless communication between diverse healthcare systems. Additionally, the Clinical Document Architecture (CDA) plays a crucial role in standardizing health document exchange.5 These approaches will be crucial to ensuring the success of a truly interoperable and effective national health data infrastructure, in alignment with AGENAS procedures (https://www.agenas.gov.it/). In this perspective, while autonomia differenziata aims to grant regions greater legislative autonomy, it risks exacerbating disparities in healthcare access and data integration rather than fostering a cohesive national system. Certainly, Italy should now focus on harmonizing existing systems under centralized policies with appropriate policy coordination and technological adaptation.⁵ In fact while challenges persist, solutions are already being implemented at regional level as the success of SINfonia, Azienda zero and the other regional initiatives demonstrates.3,4 The key challenge remains ensuring a robust governance structures that enforce interoperability and equitable access. Italy's digital health progress should not be overlooked. Leveraging regional successes, standardizing interoperability, and adopting best practices will position Italy as a leader in health data integration, enhancing care and equity nationwide.

Contributors

Alessandro Perrella has been involved in conceptualization, writing, editing, revision, scientific references evaluation. Massimo Bisogno has been involved in editing, revision, scientific data.

Declaration of interests

No conflict of interest to declare, we disclose all relationships/activities/interests listed in the ICMJE disclosure form that are related to the content of manuscript.





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