

# Convention on Health Analysis and Management

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### Citizens: How to access to Open Data?

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#### ***1. Big data or open data: an as-yet unused source***

Within the space of two years, humanity has produced as much data as it had done since its origins up to 2003. The data is vast, sometimes free, but not always freely available. The health sector is the only economic sector not to use big data. Invaluable data remains unused. Analysis would make it possible to identify unnecessary prevention services below certain ages and to make significant savings. Open data would make it possible to respond to a desire for transparency.

In the field of health in France, a lot of data is used in research but not in everyday use. It is therefore essential to raise awareness among health researchers regarding the use and anonymisation of data. Open data in health is a concept that must yet be developed.

#### **2. Big data: the development of health democracy**

The development of publicly available data enables patients in particular to gain autonomy and chose their health provider on the basis of reliable data and not just word of mouth. The end result of this ever-increasing patient information is the development of health democracy, well-informed, the “citizen” patient can exert pressure of the health system.

#### **3. Big data: potential to shift medical power**

If the health sector does not react, power within the health system shall be won by private companies developing big data and decision algorithms. Physicians could become less important as many cultural industries have collapsed following the development of the digital economy. The health sector must invest to develop data and algorithms, in order to maintain its autonomy. It cannot win this war by acting alone and must join forces with engineering and university expertise.

#### **4. Big data: a collective challenge requiring mobilisation and a change of paradigm**

A real shift must take place in Europe, if administrations and political powers are not to remain on the side-lines. Such a position would demand numerous changes to remove obstacles and eliminate pockets of resistance. This change of paradigm cannot be established without combatting inertia and conservatism. Considerable energy and capital must be mobilised. The involvement of private players shall therefore be key. However, every attempt has been made to prevent those in a position to develop algorithms from coming forward. The key to this movement is not to refer to the data itself, but to its use by those with a considerable platform, in a position to compete with players with the power of Google. To face such a challenge, the public and the private sectors must join forces.

#### **5. Big data: health sector at a crossroads**

The health sector must revisit its position in a world where private players are developing algorithms. If they do not react, physicians in 2030 will sign prescriptions they did not write. The world of health must react and take part in this development of big data. This reaction is urgent.