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Norwegian Institute of Public Health

SPUHiN

FAIR Secure Provision and Use of Health data in Norway

Project number: 101128232

Deliverable number: D20/D91

Deliverable title: Annual report of status of new and updated metadata

Date: March 2024

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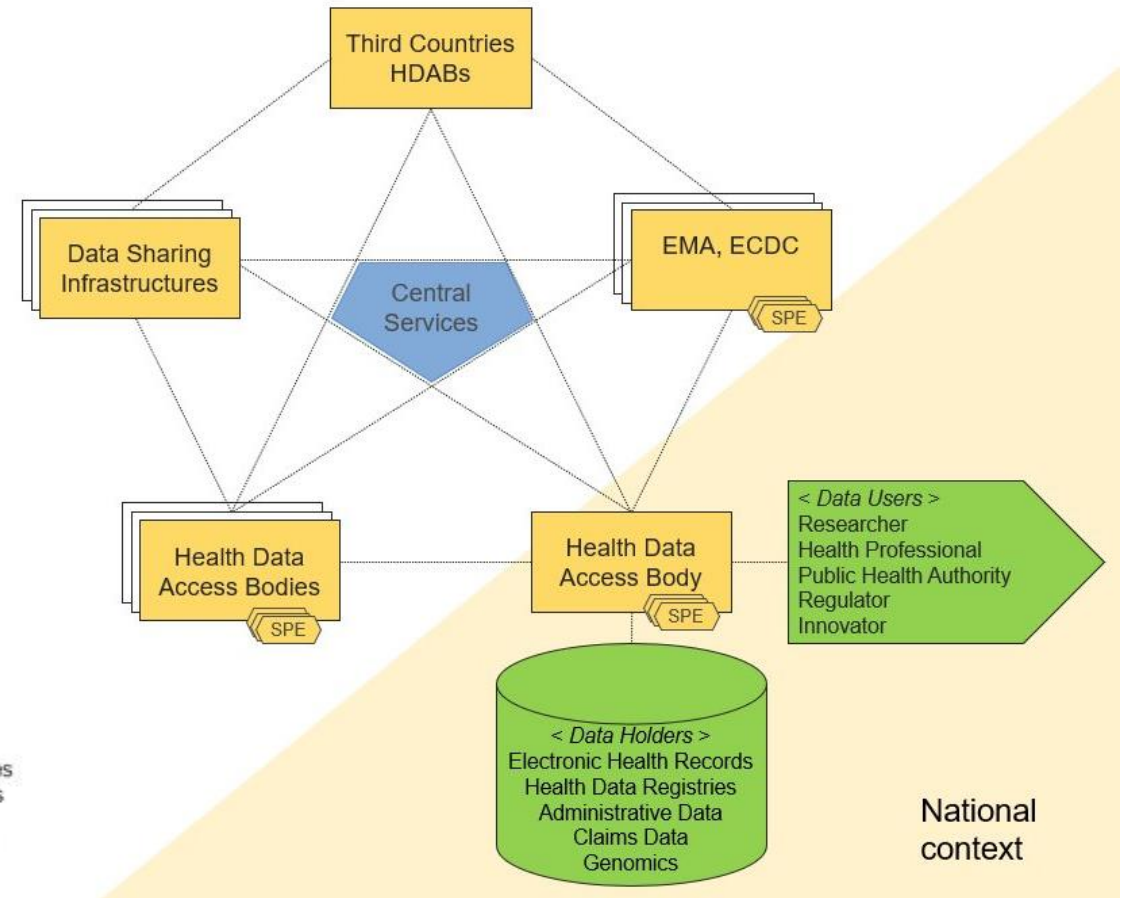
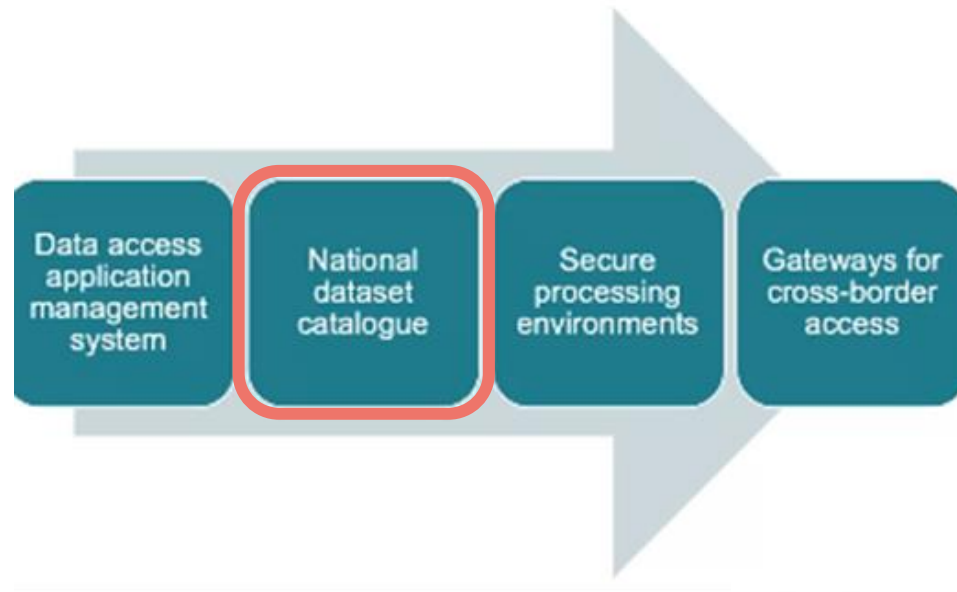
1. Background

Introduction to the SPUHiN project

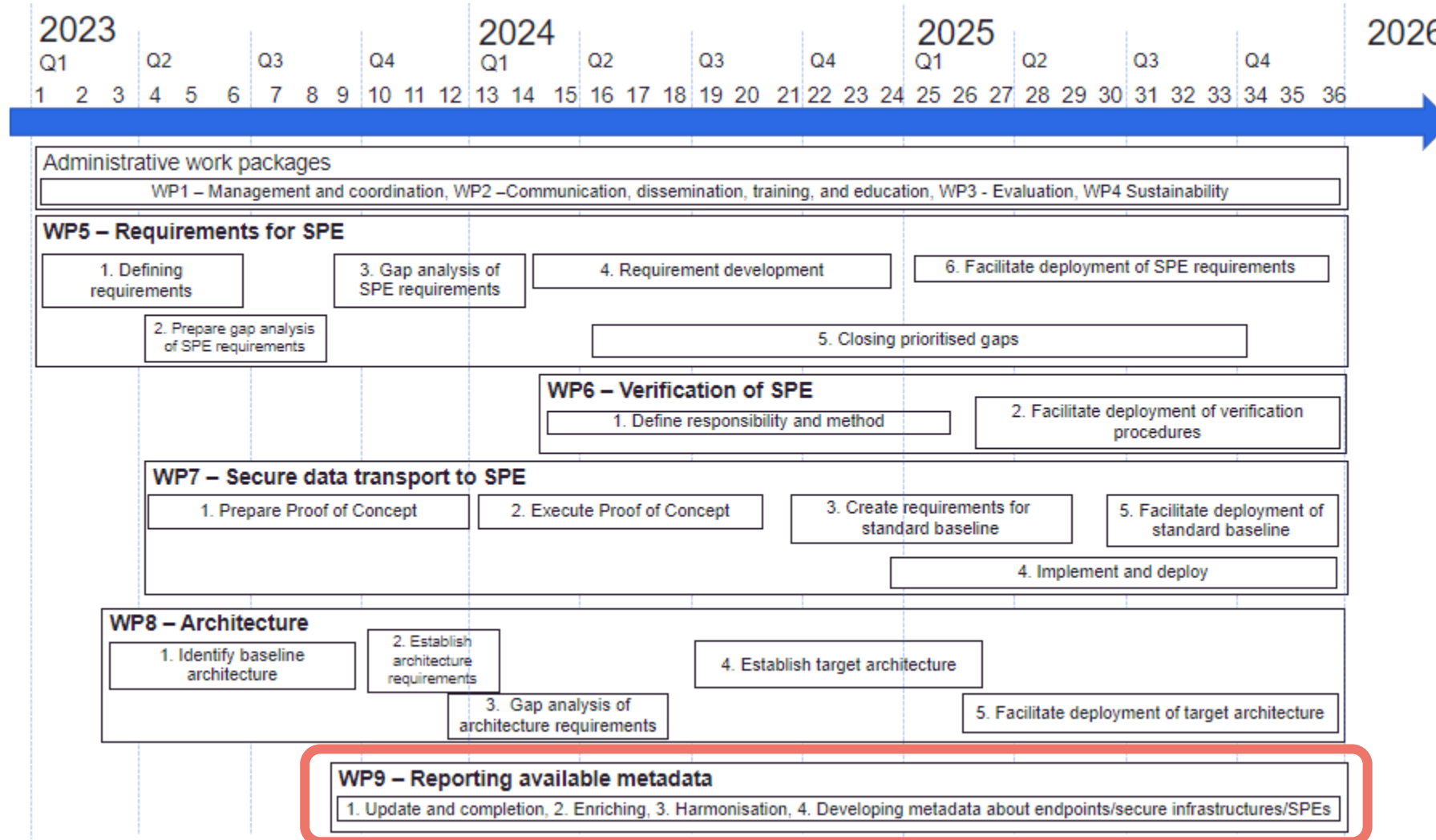
- The European Health Data Space (EHDS) proposes that Health Data Access Bodies (HDAB) are established in each EU/EEA country
- Health Data Service (HDS) in the Norwegian Institute of Public Health is established as the Norwegian HDAB
- Each HDAB is expected to implement a set of defined capabilities:
 - Data access application management system
 - National dataset catalogue
 - Secure processing environments
 - Gateways for cross-border access
- *See related illustration in the next page*
- The SPUHiN project has been granted funds via a Direct Grant from the EU4Health program to further develop the following capabilities:
 - Secure processing environments (SPE) – covered in WP5 and WP6
 - Gateway for cross-border access – covered in WP7 and WP8
 - National dataset catalogue – covered in WP9
- Article 50 in the proposed EHDS regulation is specifically relevant for Secure Processing Environments
- The development of a Data access application management system is part of the Norwegian HDAB activities, but not as scope of the SPUHiN project

HDAB role and capabilities

Four Digital Business Capabilities to be deployed:



SPUHiN project plan





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WP9

Reporting available metadata

Objectives

Work Package 9: Reporting available metadata

Duration: M8-M36 Lead Beneficiary: Directorate of e-health

Objectives

[This work package is related to the specific objective O5. through ensuring complete, translated and updated reporting of metadata from National health data sources according to the Norwegian Health Metadata Specification (DCAT compliant), developing metadata about endpoints/secure infrastructures/SPEs and strengthen the metadata capabilities both at data holder level and in the national HDAB

The activities in this work package will build on the work that has already been done related to meta data content from national health data holders and recommendations from TEHDAS and EHDS2. Dedicated resources from national health data holders will be assigned as part of the metadata team run by the Directorate of e-health. Based on previous experience, this will be an efficient way to improve meta data content from the essential data holders since it will allow for dedication, continuity and sustainability.

Guideline and evaluation tool FAIR principles



National Health Metadata Specification



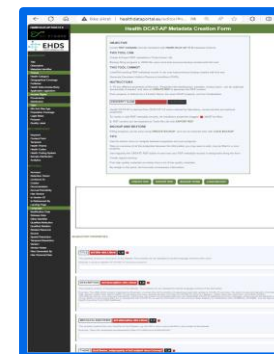
Fill the gap...and more

Prepare dataset description (Art. 41)

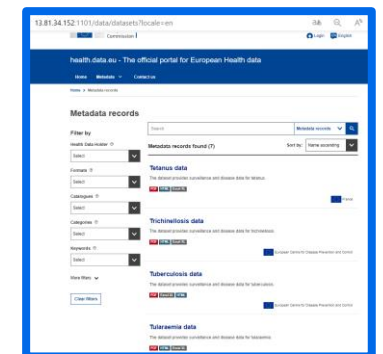
Provide data quality and utility label for datasets (Art. 56)

Make national datasets catalogue description publicly available (Art. 57)

The pilot HealthDCAT-AP Editor



The pilot live version of the EU Health Metadata Catalogue



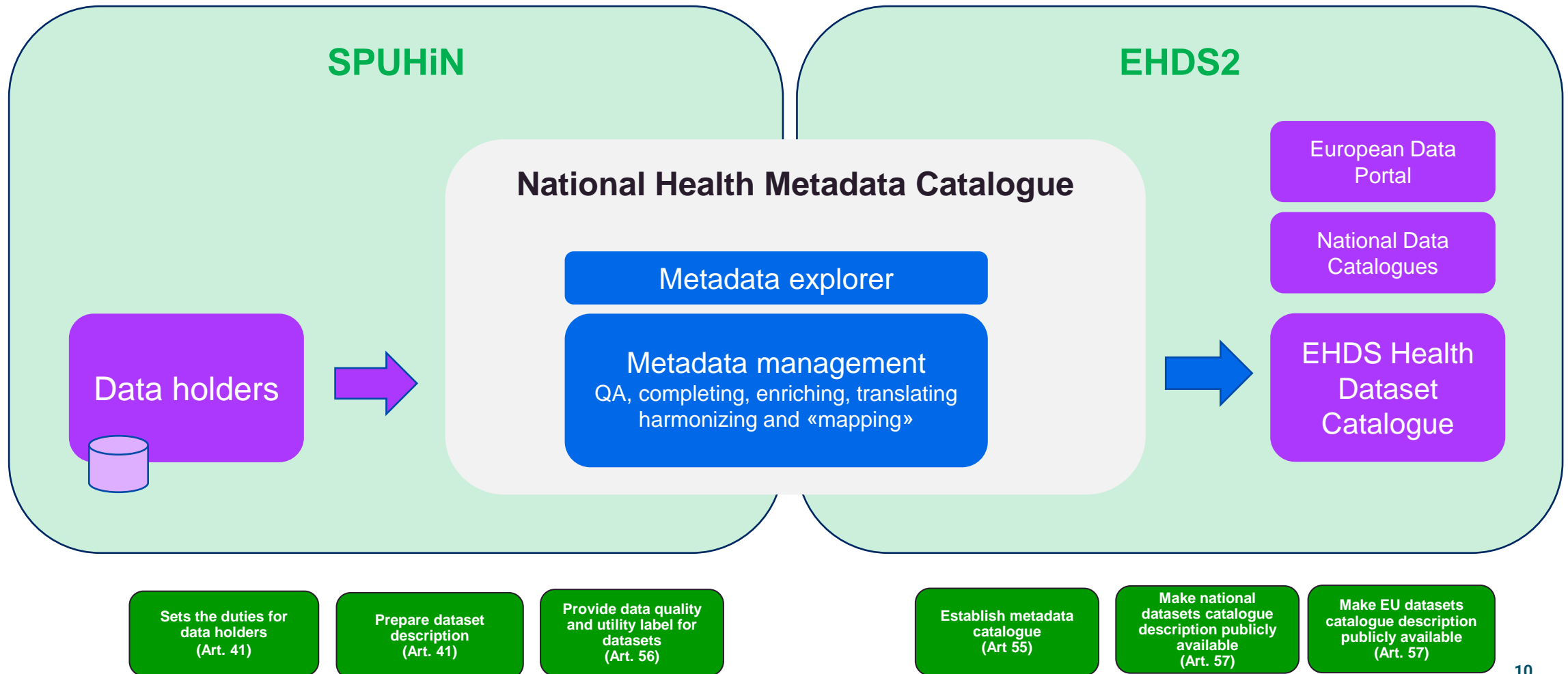
Activities and division of work (WP description)

Task Number	Task Name	Description	Comments
T9.1	Completion, translation and updating.	Completion, translation and updating mandatory metadata about data sources, belonging variables and code lists/value sets according to the Norwegian Health Metadata Specification and the upcoming HealthDCAT-AP.	Only for the National Health Registries in scope (Slide 15). To be completed in the data holders metadata management tools AND in the EHDS2/WP6 pilot HealthDCAT-AP editor.
T9.2	Enriching	Adding more metadata about Accessibility, Interoperability and Re-useability to make the data sources (datasets) more findable and discoverable.	Recommended properties according to the National Health Metadata Specification and the HealthDCAT-AP.
T9.3	Harmonization	Contribute to categorization and harmonization of themes and key variables across specific domains and data sources using for example OMOP as common information model.	Thematization according to the classes in the OMOP information model. Only the defined key variables.
T9.4	Developing metadata about endpoints/secure infrastructures/SPEs.	Define key properties for endpoints/secure infrastructures/SPEs based on DCAT, and publish this in the Norwegian Health Metadata Catalogue to make them more findable and discoverable.	

Related EU activities

- **The work in SPUHiN will be done coordinated and in close co-operation with the other ongoing initiatives in EHDS**
 - EHDS2/WP6 Metadata standards (Co-chair)
 - CoP/Subgroup Datasets Catalogue (Contributer)
 - TEHDAS2/WP5 Data Discover (Major contributor)
 - QUANTUM (Contributor)
 - European Open Science Cloud (EOSC)
- **Interface to EHDS2**
 - EHDS/WP6 is focusing on preparing and sharing metadata with the EU Dataset Catalogue according to the HealthDCAT-AP specification.
 - SPUHiN/WP9 is focusing on rising the FAIRness, the quality, of the metadata reported from the data holders to the National Health Metadata Catalogue according to the National Health metadata specification.

The Norwegian metadata value chain





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2. Methodology and considerations

Norwegian data sources and metadata management

- The [Norwegian Health Metadata Catalogue](#) has been operational for nearly 5 years and consist of a data source (datasets) explorer with «descriptive» metadata and a variable explorer with «structured» metadata, for example metadata about variables, value sets and statistics (Slide 14).
- The data source explorer contains information (metadata) about most data sources from which you can apply for data from. Most of the information is translated to English.
- The variable and value set explorer so far contains information (metadata) from many national health data registries, about 30% of national medical quality registries, three health surveys and a selection of metadata from Statiscs Norway.
- The variable explorer also contains a service where applicants can discuss, define and specify the variables and values they will apply for (their data model).

Norwegian data sources and metadata management

- The metadata management process starts at data holder level and ends in different external metadata catalogues like the [National Common Data Catalogue](#) and the official [European Open Datasets Catalogue](#) (slide 14, 16).
 - The process starts at dataholder level with their internal metadata- and data management («[Order in own house](#)»).
 - The data holders report their metadata according to the National Health Metadata Specification and the duties in their assignment documents.
 - The National HDAB manage the metadata reported by the dataholders in a national metadata repository.
 - The metadata are shared and loaded into an EPI-server and customized for the presentation in the [National Health Metadata Catalogue](#).
 - The «descriptive metadata» are transformed to [DCAT-AP-NO](#) and shared with the [Norwegian Common Data Catalogue](#) and from there to the official [European Data Portal](#).
 - SPUHiN/WP9 will enable the National Health Registries to provide high quality metadata to meet the expectations of both the National Health Metadata Specification and the standard HealthDCAT-AP (in process) and improve the FAIRness of the Norwegian National Health Registries (within the scope) in both the Norwegian Health Metadata Catalogue and the EU Health Dataset Catalogue (in process).
- The national Norwegian «Metadata-team» work closely together with the data holders and has over the years established national health metadata community that has regularly meetings and workshops.
- Additionally, the «Metadata-team» has been, and is, a major and engaged contributor in a number of Nordic and European initiatives:
 - National Initiatives Network
 - Nordic Commons
 - EHDS2/QUANTUM
 - TEHDAS 1 and 2
 - EHDS CoP

Norwegian National Health Metadata Catalogue

Data sources

Explore the different types of data sources: health registries, medical quality registries, health studies, biobanks, open data, and statistics.

Explore data sources

Data sources

Overview of the different types of data sources: health registries, medical quality registries, health studies, biobanks, open data, and statistics.

Search data sources

Showing 97 results

Access level

- Application required (88)
- Open data (14)

Type of data source

- Administrative registry (2)
- National medical quality registry (8)
- National and regional health studies (15)
- Other registries (3)

Category

- Admissible diseases (2)
- Cardiovascular diseases (8)
- Cancer (8)
- Children (8)
- Diabetes (1)

Data custodian

- Bergen Hospital Trust (8)
- Cancer Registry of Norway (17)
- National Archives of Norway (1)
- Nordland Hospital Trust (1)
- Norwegian Directorate of Health (8)

Cancer Registry of Norway

Cancer Registry of Norway • 1953 ...

The Cancer Registry of Norway contains data on all cases of cancer diagnoses from 1953 to the present day.

Cerebral Palsy Registry of Norway (CPRN)

Westfold Hospital Trust • 1996 ...

The registry contains information on children and adolescents born with cerebral palsy (CP), starting from 1996.

Individual-based Statistics for Nursing and Care Services (IPOS)

Norwegian Directorate of Health • 2007-2023

Individual-based Statistics for Nursing and Care Services (IPOS) is a pseudonymized registry with individual information about applicants and recipients of nursing and care in Norwegian municipalities. Since 2007, it is the main data source for Norwegian health and care statistics. Since 2011, this information has been included in the Norwegian Registry for Primary Health Care (BPH).

Mass miniature X-ray screening programme for tuberculosis

Norwegian Institute of Public Health • 1943-1999

Data from the mass miniature X-ray screening programme for tuberculosis include height and weight (1965-1995) with the assessment of the miniature X-ray for tuberculosis and other conditions (1965-75) and additional vaccination status (SBC) and response to the Adrenaline-Pragmat (AP) tuberculosis tests is also available.

Medical Birth Registry of Norway (MBRN)

Norwegian Institute of Public Health • 1967 ...

The MBRN contains information from 1967 to the present day about medical conditions during pregnancy and newborns in Norway.

Norhealth Statistics

Norwegian Institute of Public Health

The cause of death register (DAR)

The cause of death register contains information on deaths and causes of death in Norway from 1951 until today. The cause of death register is an important source of information on the state of health and mortality in the population, and changes in cause of death over time.

Variables

When you apply for access to data, you must specify which variables are to be included from DAR and which, if any, are to be returned from other sources.

Go to the variable overview to create variable lists and see detailed information about the data source variables.

See further variable documentation on FHIR variables [Cause of death - Norwegian Cause of Death Register](#)

Open data

Data from the Cause of Death Register are published in the statistics books at the Norwegian Institute of Public Health. Data from the Cause of Death Register is available released several months after the end of the year.

Criteria for access to data

The types of approvals and documents you must submit to gain access to information about all and not just applying to, what you will use the information for and how you will protect it. The healthcare professional who sends you the application must be a healthcare professional who has the necessary competence to handle the application process.

The purpose of the Cause of Death Register

The purpose of the Cause of Death Register is to collect information on the cause of death of all persons who die in Norway.

Application for access to data

When you apply for information from the data source, your application is processed by the data processor. The information will be available directly from the Institute of Public Health.

Data processor and data processing manager

FHI is responsible for data processing and data processing.

Legal authority

The register is a central health register. It is authorized by [Section 1-10 of the Health Act of 2017](#) and [Section 1-10 of the Health Act of 2017](#).

Prices for making information available

There are no direct costs for you when you request health information. However, there are indirect costs for the data processor. These costs are covered by the data processor. The data processor will inform you about the costs for making information available.

Prices at FHI

FHI can decide that the applicant must pay a certain cost in connection with handling, entering and registering health information that is made available.

Contact

datamanager@fhi.no

Variables

Get an overview of variables and create a variable list. The variable overview shows you which variables you can apply for from Norwegian national health registers. Information in Norwegian

Explore variables

Variables

Here you can create variable lists, download them and use them in applications. Information about variables is currently only available in Norwegian.

Search for variables

Reset all filters

Type of data source

- Central health registers (64)
- The side effects register (23)
- The cause of death register (64)
- The Norwegian Armed Forces' health register (5)
- The health archive register (15)

Find variables

Log in to save variables

New column selector

You can now add a column for time period and get a faster overview of the time period the data collections have data from.

Variable	Variable group
Age in days	Analysis
Age in years	The deceased
Age groups according to Eurostat	The deceased
Alcohol-related deaths (categoriz...	Statistics
All diagnoses	Death
Resident status	The deceased
County of residence at time of de...	Geography
County of residence at the time o...	Geography
Municipality of residence at the ti...	Geography
Municipality of residence at time ...	Geography
Municipality of residence at the ti...	Geography
County of residence at the time ...	Geography
Diagnosis code for underlying ca...	Death
Diagnostic Code Work	THERE

Overview

Applications Variable lists Profile

Variable lists

- WS_270123**
4 variables • Last modified: 28.03.23, 11:09
[Open variable list](#)
- EHD52_UC4_Evaluating trajectories cardiometabolic diseases**
32 variables • Last modified: 14.08.23, 16:57
[Open variable list](#)
- Hjerneslagregisteret**
1 variable • Last modified: 28.03.23, 11:11
[Open variable list](#)
- Iskemisk hjertesykdom_I20-I25_Levetid_Siste 10 år**
1 variable • Last modified: 03.10.23, 12:45
[Open variable list](#)
- Opplering**
2 variables • Last modified: 20.03.23, 09:37
[Open variable list](#)

Shared on the European Data Portal

European data

The official portal for European data

Datasets

Norwegian Cause of Death Registry

The Norwegian Cause of Death Registry covers deaths amongst those registered as residents of Norway, and includes history from 1951. Deaths of non-residents is covered after 1985. The registry is the...

National health registries in scope

Norwegian Patient Registry (NPR)

- Norwegian Directorate of Health
- 1997 →

The Norwegian Patient Registry contains information on everyone who is referred for or has received specialized healthcare at a hospital, outpatients' clinic or from contract specialists.

Norwegian Prescription Database (NorPD)

- Norwegian Institute of Public Health
- 2004 →

The Medicines Register has replaced The Norwegian Prescription Database (NorPD) and it is no longer possible to apply for data from the NorPD. For access to information on medicines that have been dispensed at pharmacies based on prescriptions, see [the Norwegian Prescribed Drug Registry](#).

Norwegian Registry of Pregnancy Termination

- Norwegian Institute of Public Health
- 1979 →

The registry contains information on abortions in Norway from 1979 until today.

Norwegian Cause of Death Registry

- Norwegian Institute of Public Health
- 1951 →

The Norwegian Cause of Death Registry contains information on deaths and causes of death in Norway from 1951 until today. The registry is an important source of information about the state of health and mortality in the population, and about the changes in causes of death over time.

Norwegian Registry for Primary Health Care (KPR)

- Norwegian Directorate of Health
- 2016 →

The Norwegian Registry for Primary Health Care is a collection of registries with personally identifiable information. It contains information on applicants and recipients of healthcare in Norwegian municipalities.

Norwegian Cardiovascular Disease Registry

- Norwegian Institute of Public Health
- 2012 →

The Norwegian Cardiovascular Disease Registry contains information from 2012 until today about people with diseases of the heart and blood vessels, and about the treatment of these diseases.

Norwegian Immunisation Registry (SYSVAK)

- Norwegian Institute of Public Health
- 1976 →

SYSVAK is a national, electronic immunisation registry that records an individual's vaccination status and vaccination coverage in Norway.

Cancer Registry of Norway

- Cancer Registry of Norway
- 1953 →

The Cancer Registry of Norway contains data on all cases of cancer diagnoses from 1953 to the present day.

Medical Birth Registry of Norway (MBRN)

- Norwegian Institute of Public Health
- 1967 →

The MBRN contains information from 1967 to the present day about medical conditions during pregnancies, births and newborns in Norway.

Norwegian Surveillance System for Communicable Diseases (MSIS)

- Norwegian Institute of Public Health
- 1977 →

MSIS contains information about infectious diseases in humans in Norway, from 1977 until today.

The Norwegian metadata management process

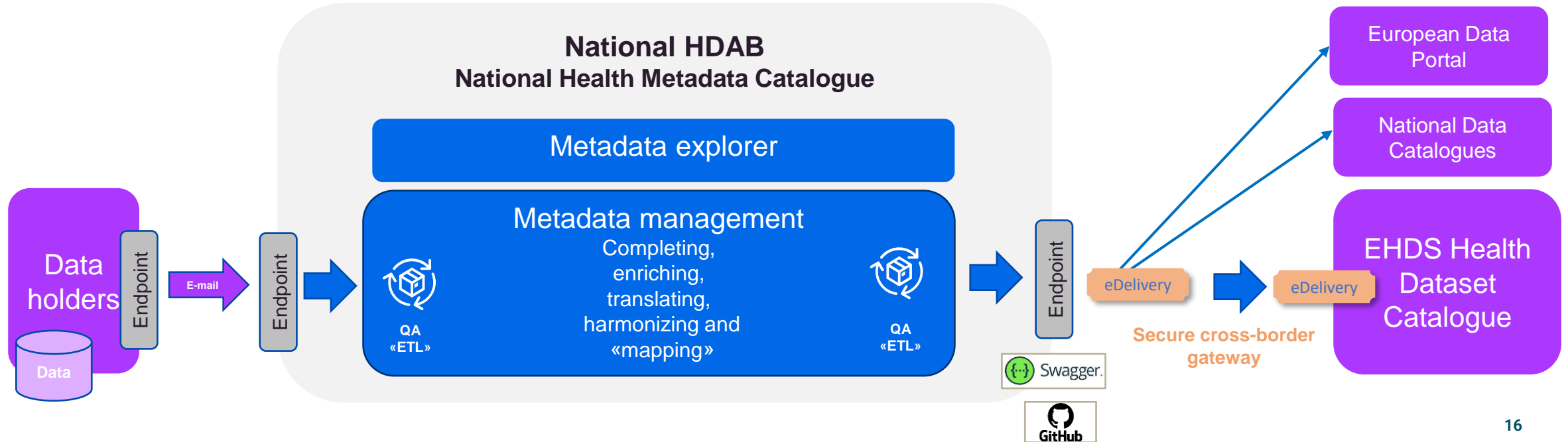
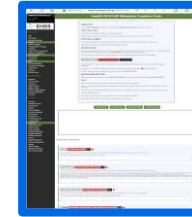
Normed National Health Metadata Specification (v.1.1)



Normed FAIR guideline and self evaluation tool



HealthDCAT-AP Extension





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3. Results and outcomes

Assessment of status – Task 9.1-9.3

- Due to the upcoming re-organization and limited resources, HDIR and NIPH have not been able to provide resources for task 1-3 as planned to start up in August 2023.
- Re-planning has been performed with the following outline:
 - All relevant resources were gathered in the same organization from 1.1.2024.
 - Q1-Q2 in 2024 will be used to mobilize and train relevant meta data resources.
 - The main activities of task 1-3 will start in Q2-3 2024.
 - Limited work will be done prior to start-up with a selection of registers that are behind.
- The project expect to be able to work more focused with task 1-3 in the new organization and budget revision will not be considered until end of 2024 despite later start-up.
- See updated detailed plan for task 1-3 on the next pages (Slide 19).

Outcome:

- Overview of completeness of reported data finalized.
- Limited DCAT-based metadata of 9 National Health Registries are shared at data.europa.eu and will be shared at the EU Health Metadata Catalogue when this is ready for testing spring 2024.

Progress plan

- Deliverables Task 9.1 – 9.3

Definition/start up

Production

	2023 Q4	2024 Q1	2024 Q2	2024 Q3	2024 Q4	2024 Q1	2025 Q2	2025 Q3	2025 Q4
Create overview of the completeness of reported meta data									
Mobilise and train meta data resources		Advertisement	Employ Train	Produce					
Complement properties with status «Mandatory»			MSIS						
Complement properties with status «Recommended»			MSIS						
Translate mandatory meta data for key variables to English			MSIS						
Translate remaining mandatory meta data to English			MSIS						
(Test and evaluate to implement automatic translation on helsedata.no)						?			
Define and specify content in the classes «Variable groups», «Filter» and «Instrument»									
Complement the classes «Variable groups», «Filter» and «Instrument» and related map set									
Define (key registres) and key variables		V.0.3	V.0.7	V.0.9					
Map key variables to a common information model (OMOP)									
Enrich metadata to make sources and variables that are mapped to OMOP «Findable» and «Reusable» (Define «OMOP-properties»)									
Recommendations about the way forward									

Assessment of status – Task 9.4

Outcome:

- First version (V.0.3) logical model based on DCAT described for meta data on SPE/infrastructures/end point.
- Draft definition of key variables from key registries prepared (V.0.3).
- Proof of Concept (V.0.3) harvesting metadata from the Secure Processing Environment (SPE) provider TSD (University of Oslo) in the demo version of the National Data Catalogue (DCAT-based cross sectorial data catalogues).
- See updated detailed plan for task 4 on the next page (Slide 21).

Progress plan

- Deliverables Task 9.4

Definition/start up

Production

T9.4 Developing meta data about endpoints/secure infrastructures/SPEs

	2023 Q4	2024 Q1	2024 Q2	2024 Q3	2024 Q4	2025 Q1	2025 Q2	2025 Q3	2025 Q4
Describe a logical model based on DCAT-AP-NO 3.0		V.0.3	V.0.5	V.0.7	V.0.9				
Define and specify metadata properties about SPE's		V.0.3	V.0.5	V.0.7	V.0.9				
Publish initial mandatory properties of the SPE's in scope in the demo environment of the Norwegian Common Data Catalogue (DCAT-based)		V.0.3	V.0.5	V.0.7	V.0.9				
Workshop with WP8									
Plan and execute demo day in April									
Plan and execute demo day in October									
Propose a specification based on V.0.9 and send on a hearing (In ASCIdoc)?									
Norm and distribute the V.1.0 of the specification?									



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4. Next steps

Executive Summary

What has been done:

- A detailed overview of metadata properties to be completed per registry has been prepared.
- Limited metadata about 9 National Health Registries is updated and shared with [European Open Datasets Catalogue](#).
- Identified need for capacity in the registries to maintain and complete their metadata.
- A first draft of DCAT-based properties for SPE's has been developed.
- Identified need of an extended editor the EHDS2/WP6 pilot editor for completing, enriching translation and harmonise meta data.

Outcome and next steps:

- Initiated hiring process for more resources to maintain and complete meta data from the different registries.
- Annual report for 2023 describing the baseline (D9.1)(March).
- Mobilisation and training of resources.
- The editing of metadata for the Norwegian Surveillance System for Communicable Diseases (MSIS) will start within April/May.
- Completion of metadata from the other registries will start in September 2024 when newly hired employee is operative.

Appendix

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Glossary and abbreviations

Phrase/Abbreviation	Description
SPE	Secure Processing Environment as specified in the EHDS regulation, article 50.
TRE	Trusted Research Environment. Term that is used for environments with similar use as an SPE but more generally for all type research.
Analysis infrastructure	Term used in this report for providers of secure services to process health data for secondary use. Research infrastructure is a similar term that is also used elsewhere. When an analysis infrastructure complies with the minimum requirements of an SPE they can be referred to as an SPE.
EHDS	European Health Data Space
TEHDAS	The European Health Data Space project
HDAB	Health Data Access Bodies
SPUHiN	Abbreviation of the project FAIR Secure Procurement and Use of Health data in Norway, co-funded by the EU4Health program
ISMS	Information Security Management System
Project owner	The person responsible for the project that is using an analysis infrastructure. They are also data responsible according to GDPR. This role is in practice referred to as project responsible, principal investigator etc. but we in this report we have decided to use project owner to describe this role.
Review access	Possibility to check who has access at this moment
Access log	Possibility to see who has logged on and when
Machine to machine transfer	Possibility to transfer data without users having to do a manual operation