



PUBLIC HEALTH BENEFITS OF INTEGRATED HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEMS

IANPHI Meeting • 22/04/2021

Herman Van Oyen
Department of Epidemiology and public health

News

Covid-19: First doses of vaccines in Scotland led to a substantial fall in hospital admissions

BMJ 2021 ; 372 doi: <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.n523> (Published 22 February 2021)

Cite this as: *BMJ* 2021;372:n523

Methods

Study design and population

We constructed an open, real-time prospective observational cohort with national level coverage in Scotland using a unique dataset consisting of linked vaccination, primary care, laboratory testing, hospitalisation, and mortality data (see Figure 1 in Supplementary Material). Data were available for 5.4 million people in Scotland.[9] Primary care data derived from 940

Integrating health information systems in Belgium

Challenges

- Different sets of individual health data remain largely unconnected and unharmonized
- European requirements for data transfer
- Several successful linkage projects, but ad hoc

Opportunities

- Existence of a unique national register number
- Existence of technical platforms for data linkage and transfer
- Number of ambitious (technical) initiatives to harmonize and make data available

AHEAD project

Active push towards the development of a national health data platform

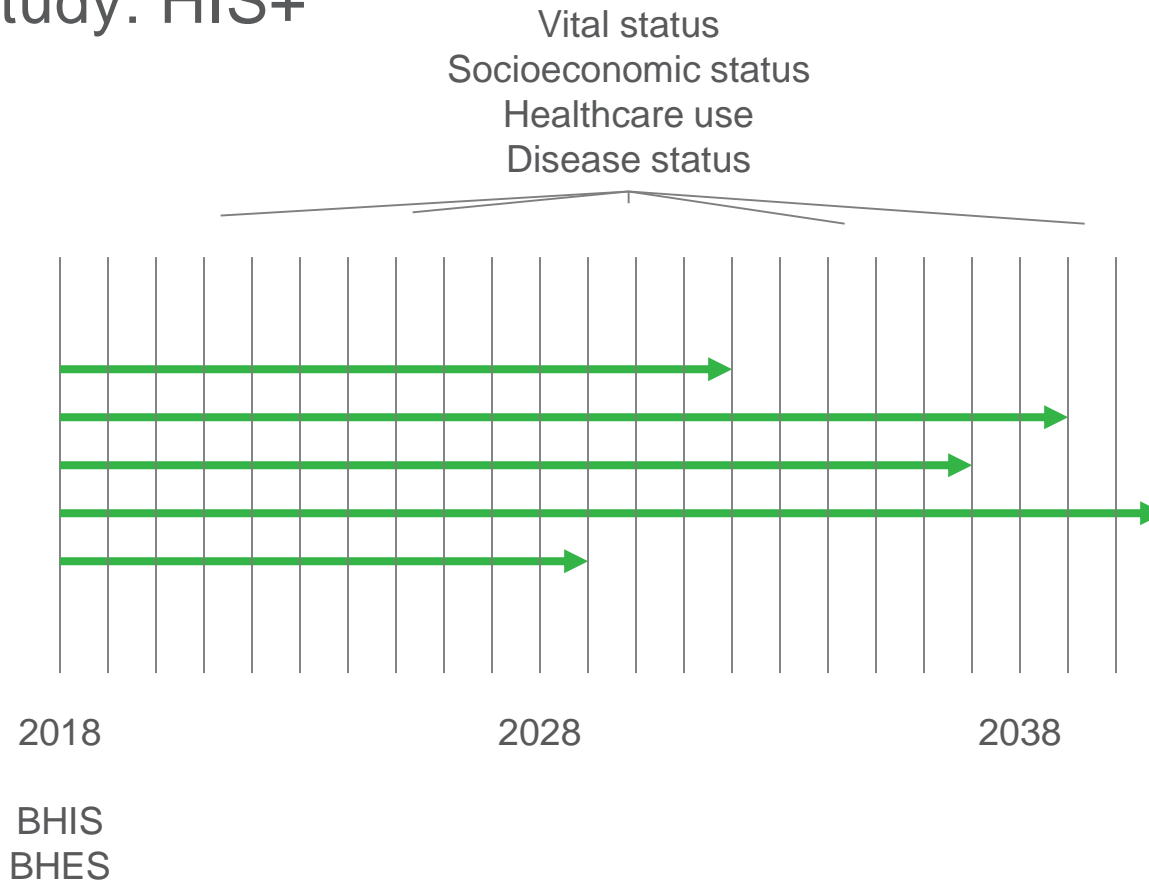
- ✓ **Integrate** currently scattered Belgian health information landscape
- ✓ Unravel **legal, ethical and technical bottlenecks**
- ✓ Prepare a **roadmap** for making health data accessible and harmonized

Integrating BE health information landscape

- Establish Belgian “national node” health information
 - focal point international data collection
 - + extend to other partners and stakeholders
- Document BE health information landscape
 - key data holders
 - health information and data linkages projects
 - tutorials on accessing health data
- Organize health information workshops
 - bring together key players
 - present new projects
 - discuss overarching issues

Unravelling legal, ethical and technical bottlenecks

- Case study: HIS+



Unravelling legal, ethical and technical bottlenecks

- Ethical issues of advanced and longitudinal data linkages
- Citizen panel
 - share values, opinions and questions
 - formulate advice
- Collaboration with TEHDAS

Preparing a roadmap for making health data accessible and harmonized

- Synthesis of activities and insights
 - desk research
 - stakeholder interviews
 - HIS+ case study
 - citizen panel
- Practical roadmaps with possible scenarios and a clear framework
- Co-created in close collaboration with the key stakeholders

Contact

Karin De Ridder : karinderidder@sciensano.be

Brecht Devleeshouwer : brecht.devleeshouwer@sciensano.be

Wannes Van Hoof : wannes.vanhoof@sciensano.be