Kanta services at your disposal

- ✓ **My Kanta Pages**
- ✓ **Electronic prescription**
- ✓ **Pharmaceutical Database**
- ✓ **Patient Data Repository and Patient Data Management Service**
- ✓ **Testing services**
- ✓ **Submission of medical certificates to Kela**
- ✓ **Kelain – a web interface for physicians and dentists**

My Kanta Pages, electronic prescription, Pharmaceutical Database, Patient Data Repository and Patient Data Management Service are Finnish public services known as the Kanta services. Other services for the benefit of citizens and social welfare and healthcare professionals are also being developed around these basic services. They form a unique service entity based on legislation.

Kanta services promote continuity of care and patient safety

With the Kanta services, the patient's information is always up-to-date and available in a treatment situation. Fluent flow of information ensures better care. Moreover, transparency in healthcare is also improved when citizens can check their own information in My Kanta Pages.

Electronic prescription and Pharmaceutical Database

Electronic prescriptions are issued and signed electronically and then saved it in the centralised database, the Prescription Centre. The database includes electronic prescriptions and records of the dispensing events made by pharmacies.

The issuer of the prescription can verify the patient's electronic prescriptions and dispensed medications and that way prevent harmful interactions and duplication. The patient is given a set of patient instructions, which includes key information about the medicines prescribed electronically at any one time. In the pharmacy, a pharmacist or chemist retrieves the prescription data from the Prescription Centre on the basis of the patient's personal details or the identifier on the patient instructions. They then save the dispensing data of the medication in the Prescription Centre. The dispensing data is also printed out and enclosed with the dose instructions of the medicine package.
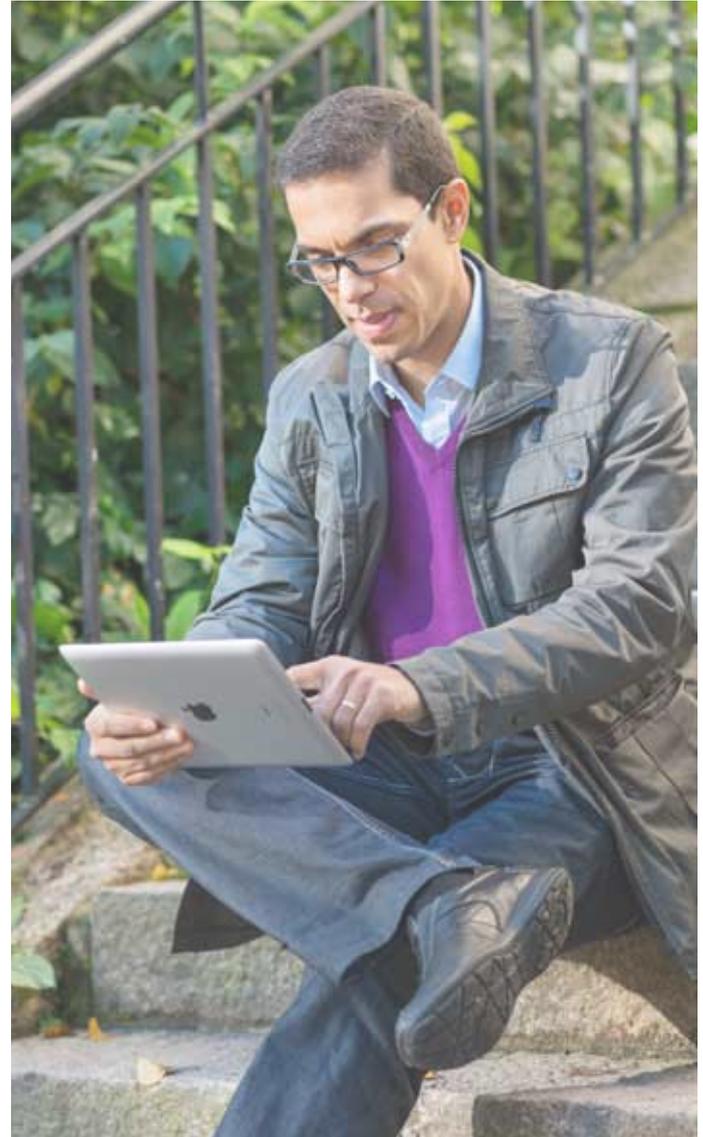
✔ ✔ transparency and harmonised practices > increased patient safety

✔ improved continuity of care and medication management

✔ electronic prescriptions cannot be misplaced or forged

✔ patients can check their prescriptions and the medication dispensed with them in My Kanta Pages (omakanta.fi).

After an electronic prescription has been deployed, all healthcare units and pharmacies will use data based on the Pharmaceutical Database. This increases the pharmaceutical safety of patients. The Pharmaceutical Database includes the necessary and up-to-date information about medicines, their price and reimbursability, about mutually substitutable medicinal products, and about reimbursable basic topical ointments and clinical nutritional preparations with respect to prescribing and dispensing of medicines. The database is maintained by Kela.

Patient Data Repository and Patient Data Management Service

The Patient Data Repository is a healthcare service used with the patient data system on a daily basis. It enables transmission of information between healthcare organisations, offering a centralised archiving and long-term storage of electronic patient data. Patient data is archived in a technically uniform format, which enables transferability of data from one system to another and improves availability of data in the operating units taking part in patient care.

✔ The information is safe (secured data transfer, professional cards, monitoring of log data)

✔ previous study results can be utilized > overlapping examination and care procedures are avoided, which saves money

✔ patients can easily monitor their personal health information in My Kanta Pages (www.omakanta.fi)

✔ accessibility of patient data supports patients' options to choose their treatment units.

The Patient Data Management Service has been implemented as part of the archiving service. Consents and release refusals given by patients are saved in the service. In addition, information about the fact that the patient has been informed of the nationwide data system services is also recorded in the service.
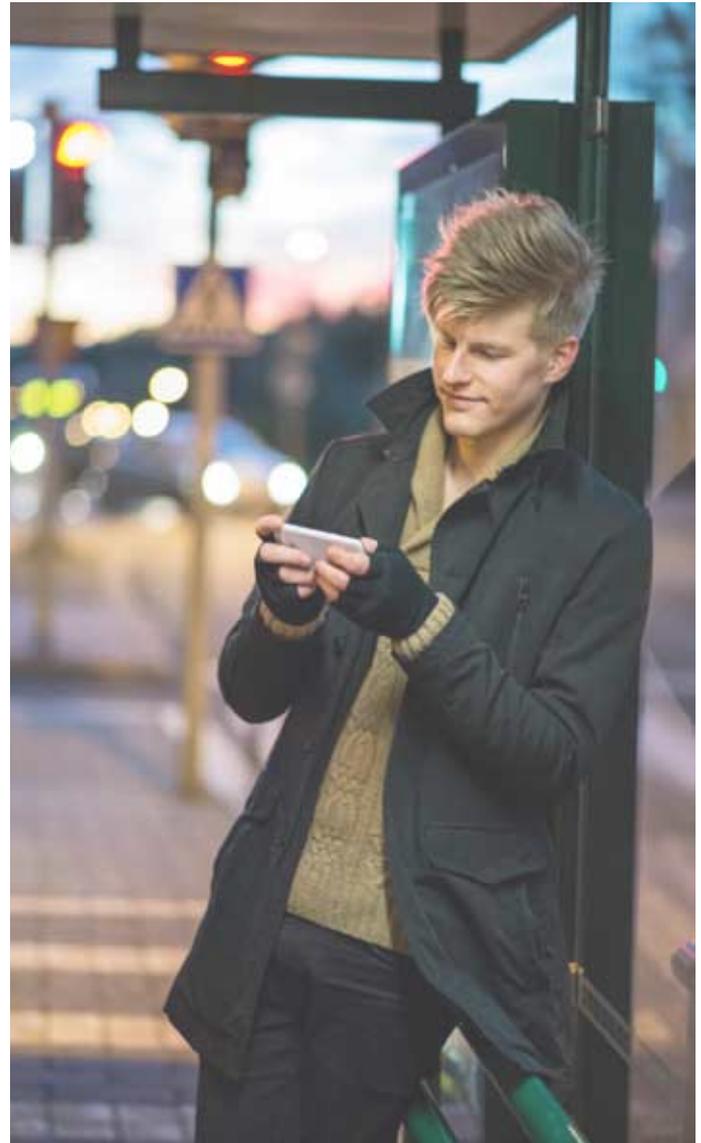
My Kanta Pages

My Kanta Pages is an online service where citizens can view their own information saved in the Prescription Centre and the Patient Data Repository regardless of whether they have used public or private healthcare services. In the service, citizens can send a prescription renewal request to the healthcare service.

The person's information is shown in the service after an electronic prescription has been issued for them or their information has been saved in the Patient Data Repository.

It is also possible to save a living will or an organ donation testament in My Kanta Pages. The information is not automatically transferred to healthcare services until in 2017. Before that, we recommend that declarations of intent are printed out and delivered to healthcare services.

Other services

The **Kanta client test service** is meant for manufacturers of patient data and pharmacy data systems, as well as for healthcare organisations and pharmacies acting as their client testers. Data system manufacturers test the implementation of their systems in the test service against the Prescription Centre and the Patient Data Repository before certification and for subsequent product development. Joint testing included in system certification also takes place in the Kanta client test service.

Submission of healthcare certificates to Kela: Medical certificate A (and later also other healthcare certificates) is saved in the Patient Data Repository and it can be submitted to Kela directly from the surgery. In such a case, it is not necessary to enclose the certificate with a sickness allowance application. Certificates submitted to Kela can be viewed online at kela.fi /asiointi and omakanta.fi.

Kelain is an online prescription service for physicians and dentists, implemented by Kela. The service enables issuing and processing of electronic prescriptions.

Information is safe

Prescription and patient data is sensitive information. All transfer of data between healthcare services, pharmacies and the Kanta services is encrypted between identified parties. The identity of all users of the Prescription Centre and the Patient Data Repository is verified using strong electronic identification.

Patients are able to monitor the use and submission of their own information. In My Kanta Pages, patients can see which organisations have viewed and processed their prescription data or where their patient data has been submitted to. Patients can also ask healthcare services who has processed and viewed information concerning themselves.

What next

✔ The Kanta services will expand and become more versatile in compliance with the customers' needs and legislation.

✔ My Kanta Pages will be extended in 2017 with a personal health record (PHR), in which citizens can save their own health and welfare data.

✔ An archiving service for old patient data and imaging studies created before the introduction of the Patient Data Repository is currently being built.

✔ Preparedness for Kanta archiving of patient data in social welfare services is also being built up.

Finland ranks high in international comparisons

In international comparisons on information technology in healthcare, Finland repeatedly ranks among the top five together with the other Nordic countries. Conducted mainly by the EU and WHO, these comparisons focus on, e.g. electronic health records, exchange of information, telemonitoring and other similar availability of technologies. On the other hand, reports drawn up in Finland and in cooperation with the Nordic countries concentrate on assessing technologies and the maturity of their use instead of their availability, which has already been found to be extensive. This is carried out by assessing, e.g. their use on the basis of log data, user experience by professionals and citizens, and the cost/benefit ratio.

Anne Kallio
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Kanta is a joint effort

Kanta services will be available to the public and private healthcare services, pharmacies and citizens in stages. They are built in cooperation with several national actors: Kela, the National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL), the Population Register Centre, the National Supervisory Authority for Welfare and Health Valvira, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, which is responsible for the strategic direction, as well as healthcare service providers, pharmacies and system suppliers.

Kanta

kanta.fi/en

Kela

NATIONAL INSTITUTE
FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE

MINISTRY OF
SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND HEALTH
Finland