Digital transformation changes healthcare in Poland

Interview with Dr. MARCIN WĘGRZYNIAK, a health expert at Pentacomp Systemy Informatyczne SA

What is important is that an IT tool should be comprehensive and keep pace with changes in central systems. It should provide ongoing access to the patient’s medical history and enable electronic prescriptions, electronic referrals, and electronic sick notes. What is also important is an ability to retrieve medical records, such as prescription histories, from other medical facilities.

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- Clinics definitely need holistic, modern solutions. But what if a facility, a chain of clinics, or an insurer already has an IT system? Does it need to be replaced or is there any other solution?

- The progressive digitization of healthcare requires some changes in the systems used by medical entities, but definitely does not force their replacement. The market offer includes ready-made tools to integrate multiple facilities and to communicate with central solutions. Pentacomp has a number of proven solutions for both service providers and software companies. Our tools use the HL7 and IHE international integration standards, which are widely accepted in Poland, and enable, among other things, a simple connection to the P1 system and the Social Security Institution’s system. Thanks to the ready-made connectors to the electronic prescription system, the electronic referral system, the primary healthcare provider selection declarations (hardly anyone knows that patients already have the possibility to submit the declarations via the Patient Internet Account), and the electronic sick note system, a comprehensive tool can be created from almost every system used by clinics. Thanks to such “integration suites,” it is much easier and cheaper to standardize medical software used in clinic chains and to adapt it to new regulations.