New initiatives for coding and classifications in Norway

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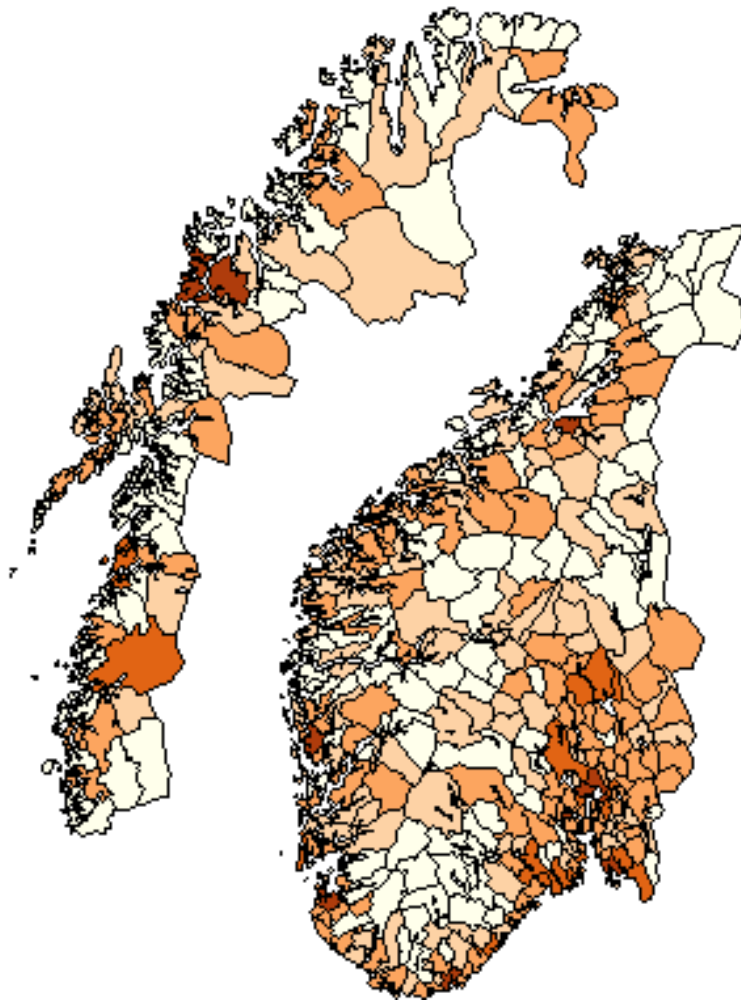Norwegian Directorate of eHealth

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Agenda

- Presentation of the new Directorate of eHealth and its tasks
- The national program for classifications and terminologies
- Quality in coding and the initiative for education in coding

Health care in the municipalities in Norway

2016: 428 municipalities

Health services
- GP doctor
- Professionals in rehabilitation

Classification ICPC-2

- Institutions for health care
- Home care services

Classification IPLOS

- Preventive medicine for children and young
- Preventive medicine in schools

SYSVAK

Dental services (County)

Classification for dental services

Child welfare
Social services
- Housing
- Economic support
- Individual rehabilitation plan
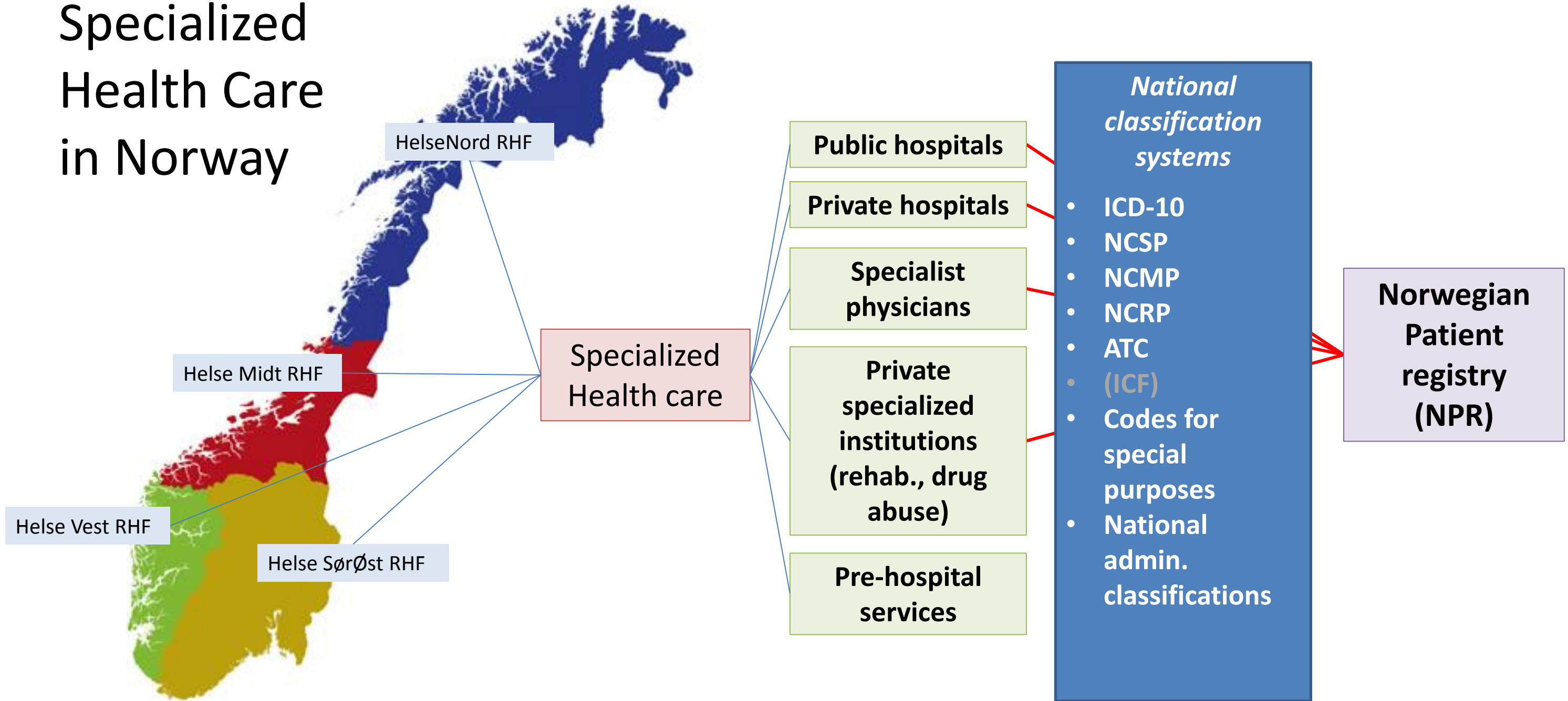- Vocational measures

Norwegian Patient Registry (NPR)

New registry for municipal health care services

Specialized Health Care in Norway

HelseNord RHF

Helse Midt RHF

Helse Vest RHF

Helse SørØst RHF

Specialized Health care

- Public hospitals
- Private hospitals
- Specialist physicians
- Private specialized institutions (rehab., drug abuse)
- Pre-hospital services

National classification systems

- ICD-10
- NCSP
- NCMP
- NCRP
- ATC
- (ICF)
- Codes for special purposes
- National admin. classifications

Norwegian Patient registry (NPR)

Ministry of Health and Care Services

Norwegian Directorate of eHealth

Classifications
Terminologies

Norwegian Directorate of Health

Registers
Funding

Two roles for the Directorate of eHealth

Authority

National steering and coordination of eHealth in close cooperation with
- regional health authorities
- local authorities
- technical organisations
- other

Establish national ICT-solutions

Develop and administrate digital solutions to improve and simplify the health care and welfare sector

Norwegian Directorate of eHealth

National board for eHealth
- Members: Appointed by the Directorate.
- Arena for national management and coordination; advisory for the Directorate

Priority committee (NUIT)
- Members: Technicians.
- Strategic advises
- Recommends annual prioritization of national e-health portfolio, and actions related to discrepancies in national e-health portfolio

Subject committee (NUFA)
- Members: Health, IT and administrative professionals.
- Professional judgement and advice on national e-health strategy , national e-health portfolio, national solutions and selected national projects
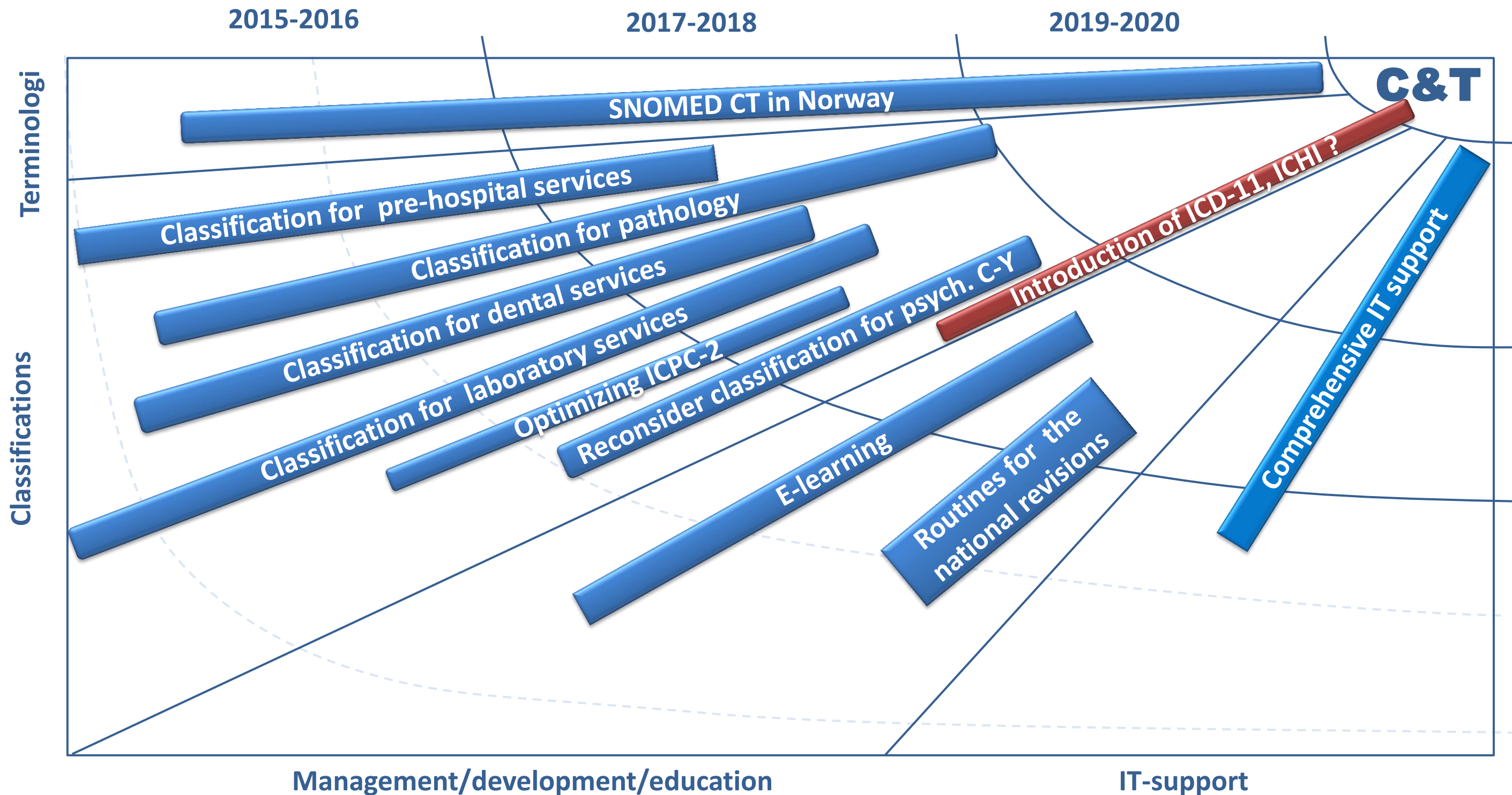- Assesses the needs in the health sector and suggest priorities

National program for classifications and terminologies (C&T)

Aims for 2020:

- Prioritized disciplins have their needed classifications and terminologies
- National classifications are updated
- Classifications and terminologies, and their manuals, are available for use directly from the operative systemes
- The quality in the coded information is sufficient
- The standard terms in the ICT-systems for professionals are correctly and consistantly used

2015-2016   2017-2018   2019-2020

Terminologi

Classifications

SNOMED CT in Norway

C&T

Classification for pre-hospital services

Classification for pathology

Classification for dental services

Classification for laboratory services

Optimizing ICPC-2

Reconsider classification for psych. C-Y

Introduction of ICD-11, ICHI ?

Comprehensive IT support

E-learning

Routines for the national revisions

Management/development/education   IT-support

Quality in coding

- Several studies of quality in coding in Norway over the last 10 years
- Conclusion: quality is not as good as desired
  - 30% mismatch when comparing patient records to the conducted coding
- Poor coding quality has consequences for
  - National statistics on activity in health care services
  - Financing
  - Registers of health care quality
  - Statistics on morbidity and mortality

Education in coding

- Project i Program C&T
- Aim: Make e-learning modules for different clinical specialities
- Purpose: Develop freely available learning material for local education in coding

Indicators of coding quality

- Prepared in cooperation with NPR
- Set of about 20 indicators elaborated based on the encoding rules
- Indicators are run by NPR against the regular reports from the specialized health care
- Results are analyzed in our department
  - Publishing in progress: comparisons between treatment centers
- Deviations will indicate
  - increased need for training, both locally and nationally
  - need for change in EHR-software

Indicator ID 4	Portion of reported conditions, respectively procedures, containing void codes (except ATC-codes)
Purpose	Expose level of update in the patient administrative system's code classifications.
Error severity	Serious
Can be identified by the sender of data	Simple
Most likely cause	Misregistration, or defective update of the classifications at the reporting location
Rule	Only valid codes are to be used. ICD-10: The code is to be valid for the day of the patients discharge. Procedure codes: The codes are to be valid for the day the procedyre is performed. • When the ICD-10 code for the main condition is void: episode is automatically placed in DRG 470 (not classifiable) • When the procedure code is void, the episode is discarded for financial purposes.

Results from 2015

- Several coding rules are not satisfactory followed
- Several EHRs allow the operator to register void codes
- The EHRs do not support multiple coding
- The EHRs do not support some elementary coding rules
  - Exemple: Coding according to age

Main challenges in medical coding

- Technical support for correct coding in the EHRs is scarce
- Coding is time-consuming and hence unpopular among doctors
  - «Less is better» or «all in?»
- Comprehension of the coding purpose is biased towards funding
  - purpose of health care statistics is less well accepted and understood
- Coding and classification is a demanding discipline
  - Recruiting personell for the national management is a challenge
  - No national education programme for coders

Summary

- Norway has a new Directorate of eHealth with tasks in both governance and management
- A programe for classifications and terminology in the Directorate has many ongoing projects
  - New classifications, standardization and quality of coding are areas of commitment
- Use of the medical classifications has been and will, for a long time, probably be a challenge

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Thank you for
your attention!

Direktoratet for
e-helse