

## Zoom On: Henrique Martins, President of Shared Services of the Ministry of Health, Portugal (SPMS)



**Prof Henrique Martins, MD,  
MPhil, PhD**

Editorial Board member - IT  
\*\*\*\*\*@\*\*\*henriquemartins.eu

Associate Professor - ISCTE –  
University Institute of Lisbon,  
Portugal

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Prof. Henrique Martins is an Internal Medicine Specialist and a writer and speaker on the subject of eHealth and Leadership. He earned his PhD degree from the Judge Business School, University of Cambridge with a thesis on "The use of Mobile ICT in clinical Settings". eHealth being central to his work, he worked as the Chief Medical Information Officer at the Hospital Fernando Fonseca, a 730-bed hospital, between 2010 and 2013 where he set-up the new Electronic Health Record and created the Centre for Investigation and Creativity in Informatics. Here he supervised projects in robotics, mobile computing, database exploration and intelligence systems. From 2011 to 2013 he worked at the Ministry of Health as Adjunct for Health IT to the Health Secretary of State and was responsible for the new Health Information Sharing Platform for Electronic Health Records, electronic prescription and Clinical informatics. He is the representative for Portugal at the European eHealth Network established under the EU cross-border directive.

**What are your key areas of interest and research?**

Developing leadership skills in medical students and health care professionals in general and researching on National Health Systems design and how they use IT and Information.

**What are the major challenges in your field?**

Health policy and public health leading figures have not understood the need to strategically invest in clinical informatics as the leverage for leading change in healthcare.

**What is your top management tip?**

SPEED! Do it fast.

**What would you single out as a career highlight?**

Starting one of the first compulsory undergraduate courses on Medical Leadership at the age of 29 and leading one of the most dynamic EU eHealth National competence centres at the age of 36.

**If you had not chosen this career path what do you think you would have become?**

Theatre actor or director.

**What are your personal interests outside of work?**

Gardening and going to the gym

**Your favourite quote?**

"There is no 'impossible' in technology".

