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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto
on behalf of the European Commission
(13.4.2026)

1. The European Regional Development Fund supports telemedicine through cohesion programmes by financing infrastructure and technology necessary for digital health services, enhancing accessibility and quality of healthcare in the EU, including in islands, mountainous and remote areas. The EU4HEALTH programme funds, for example, the project COMPASS-AI¹ with the main objective to accelerate the safe and effective deployment of the artificial intelligence in healthcare, with focus on cancer and healthcare delivery in remote areas, including islands.

2. The Commission proposal for the 2028-2034 Multiannual Financial Framework² will provide support for strengthening digital health infrastructure and digital skills of health professionals. In particular, digital tools and the broader digital transformation of healthcare aimed at improving access to health services, as well as support for digital infrastructures in the public sector across the EU, are among the specific activities listed under Articles 37(1)(b) and 39 of the proposal for a Regulation establishing the European Competitiveness Fund³. Under the Commission proposal for a Regulation establishing a European Fund for economic, social and territorial cohesion, agriculture and rural, fisheries and maritime, prosperity and security⁴, Member States, through National and Regional Partnership Plans, will be able to support, among other things, investments in the health sector addressing challenges identified in the European Semester and facilitate access to services and associated infrastructure, including modernising, digitalising, and strengthening the quality and resilience of healthcare systems.

¹ <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/EU4H-2024-PJ-03-6>.

² COM(2025) 570 final.

³ COM(2025) 555 final.

⁴ COM (2025) 565 final.