



## Harnessing technology for better health policies in countries: what will it take?

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# Harnessing technology for better health policies in countries



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https://www.futureshealth.org





## Pillars of UHC Agenda

### 1. Integrated Health Information Management ecosystem

- Health Financing
- Health Commodity Security
- Human Resources for Health



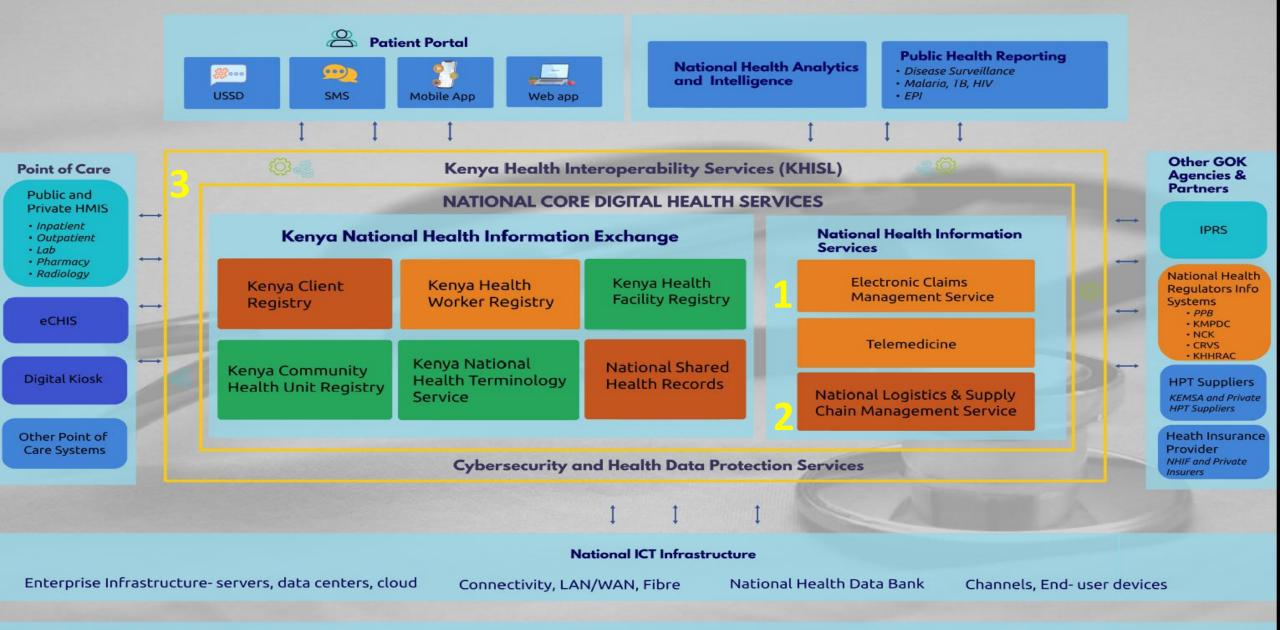
## As sweet as honey? Candy?...



- Boost efficiency in service provision- prevention, promotive, curative care based on the epidemiology data.
- . Robust referral system , patient data Portability
- . Administration of the Social Health Authority payment
- . Electronic claims management systems.
- . Fraud detection
- End to End tracking of commodities.
- . Telemedicine
- . AI, big data analytics, and M&E health-related targets



#### **KENYA DIGITAL HEALTH SUPERHIGHWAY**



**Enabling Environment** 

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

Standards, Compliance and Conformance

## Global scale issues and country-specific 🔩 challenges in digitization



- What is hindering the pace and quality of the digitization process and ability to utilize digital platforms.
  - lack of technical resources,
  - lack of human resources,
  - lack of financial resources.
  - robust health data infrastructure to power up new digital capabilities
- Geopolitical competition amongst the "great" powers in digital divide impacts on access, inclusion and representation driven by history, culture, and social inequalities.
- The donor community has huge effect on how/ which digital tools are adopted in the health sector for medical diagnosis, treatment, and digitalization cost
- Digitalization could increase inequity owing to different pace of digitalization, data proliferation and fragmentation, and the uneven distribution of digital tools, resources, knowledge and skills







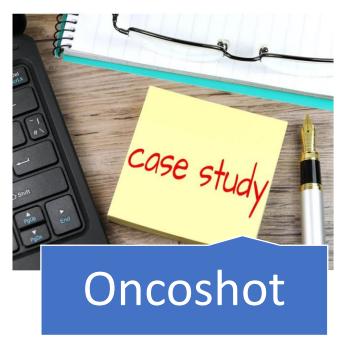
## THANK YOU.



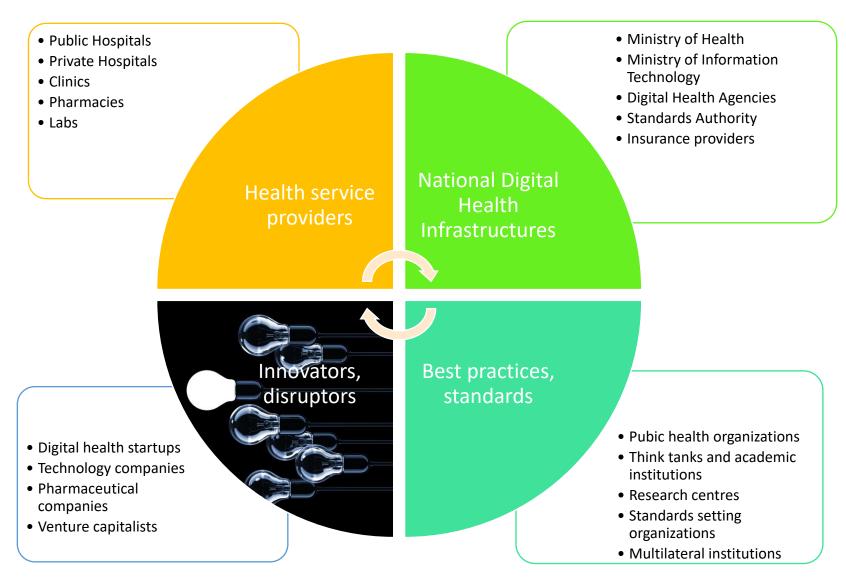
Ms. Aarthi Raghavan

Asia House Fellow, Digital Health Innovation in Asia, India











What can we learn from regional engagements to digitise the economy and what are the implications for the health system?

Dr. Toomas Palu

Adviser, Health Systems and Financing, WHO, Estonia



## A Europe Fit for the Digital Age

One of the 6 priorities for European Commission 2019-2024

Health sector included because

- Benefits to citizens
- Opportunities for business

Technology that works for people Digital skills

Ultrafast broadband, including for health care facilities
Super-computing capacity for innovative solutions, including medicines

Fair and competitive digital economy

Increase access to high-quality data while safeguarding personal and sensitive data

An open, democratic and sustainable society

"European health data space" to foster targeted research, diagnosis and treatment

## Digital Health and Care







TRANSFORMATION OF HEALTH AND CARE IN THE DIGITAL SINGLE MARKET - Harnessing the potential of data to empower citizens and build a healthier society

#### European health challenges

- Ageing population and chronic diseases putting pressure on health budgets
- Unequal quality and access to healthcare services
- Shortage of health professionals

#### Potential of digital applications and data to improve health

- Efficient and integrated healthcare systems
- Personalised health research, diagnosis and treatment
- Prevention and citizen-centred health services

#### What EU citizens expect...

90%

To access their own health data

(requiring interoperable and quality health data)

To share their health data (if privacy and security are ensured)

To provide feedback on quality of treatments

#### Support European Commission:



Secure access and exchange of health data





Ambition:

Citizens securely access their health data and health providers (doctors, pharmacies...) can exchange them across the EU.

#### Actions:

- eHealth Digital Service Infrastructure will deliver initial cross-border services (patient summaries and ePrescriptions) and cooperation between participating countries will be strengthened.
- Proposals to extend scope of eHealth cross-border services to additional cases, e.g. full electronic health records.
- Recommended exchange format for interoperability of existing electronic health records in Europe.



Health data pooled for research and personalised medicine



#### Ambition:

Shared health resources (data, infrastructure, expertise...) allowing targeted and faster research, diagnosis and treatment.

#### Actions:

- Voluntary collaboration mechanisms for health research and clinical practice (starting with "one million genomes by 2022" target).
- Specifications for secure access and exchange of health data.
- Pilot actions on rare diseases, infectious diseases and impact data.



Digital tools and data for citizen empowerment and person-centred healthcare



#### Ambition:

Citizens can monitor their health, adapt their lifestyle and interact with their doctors and carers (receiving and providing feedback).

#### Actions:

- Facilitate supply of innovative digital-based solutions for health, also by SMEs, with common principles and certification.

- Support demand uptake of innovative digital-based solutions for health, notably by healthcare authorities and providers, with exchange of practices and technical assistance.

- Mobilise more efficiently public funding for innovative digital-based solutions for health, including EU funding.



## Digital Health and Care in the EU

#### Subsidiarity Principle and Health Systems in EU

 27 different health financing, organization, data, digital maturity systems, work in 24 languages

#### EU legislation to protect people

- patients' rights in cross-border healthcare
- medicines and medical devices
- serious cross-border health threats
- cancer, tobacco and promotion of good health
- organs, blood, tissues and cells



#### Cross-border health care

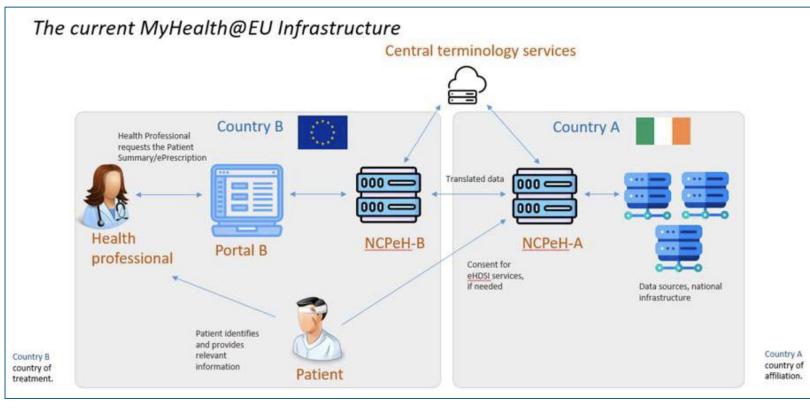
- Free movement of people and right to access health care
- European Health Insurance Card eHealth Digital Infrastructure ensuring continuity of across members states
- Prescription and eDispensation
- Patient summaries

#### Up and coming

- Hospital discharge reports
- Digital imaging and reports
- Lab results and reports

## My Health @ EU at Work

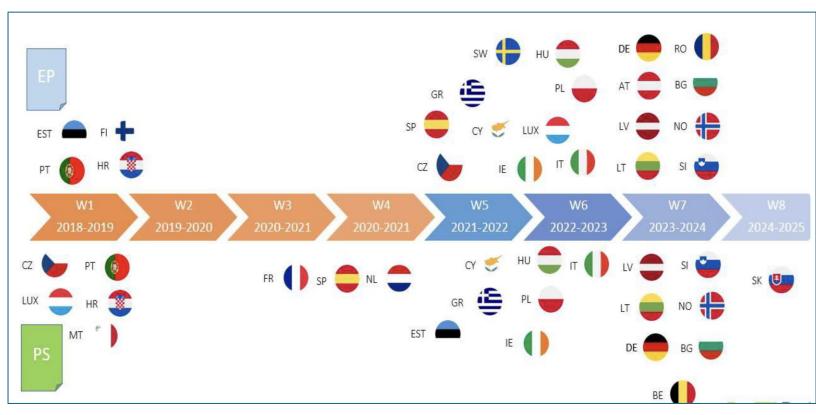




IHE, Europe; Experience Day 2022, Klara Jirakova

## My Health @ EU at Work





IHE, Europe; Experience Day 2022, Klara Jirakova

## Next Milestone: European Health Data Space

- 2022 European Commision's proposal to create EHDS
- 2023 European Council's position on a new law to facilitate exchange and access to health data
- Objectives
  - Primary use support health services delivery
  - Secondary use inform health research and innovation
- Negotiations with European Parliament to reach provisional agreement

#### Cross-border access to healt data

- More control over data for individuals
- My health @ EU will be expanded
- Interoperability European EHR data exchange format
- EU countries to set up a digital health authority

#### Research

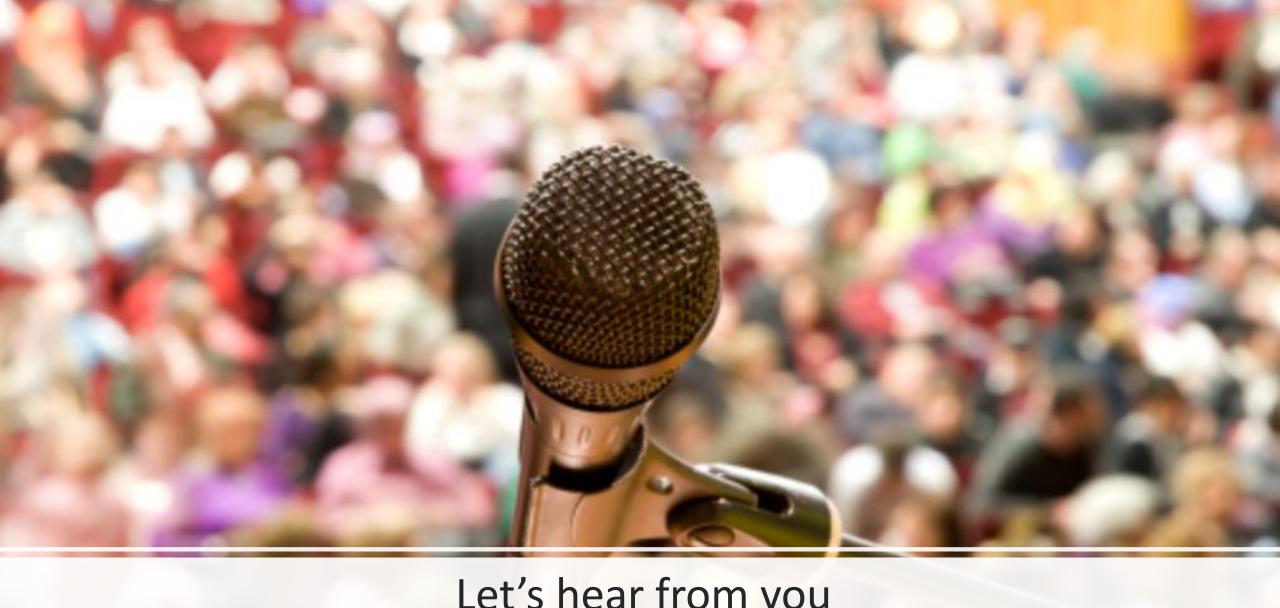
- New platform HealthData@EU for cross-border access
- National health data access bodies (HDABs) to be established

## Where is geopolitics in all that?



## Competition, collaboration, knowledge and technology transfer

- A lot of politics to be navigated among EU member state to reach consensus
- Opportunities for knowledge transfer among member states
- Access to standardized big data important in global competition for research, Al applications, biotech industry
- A case study for other regional entities to learn from



Let's hear from you

How can we maintain the integrity of technology in the global context and what are the implications for the health sector?

Mr. Low Jia-Rong

Vice President Stakeholder Engagement and Managing Director - Asia Pacific, Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers ICANN,
Singapore

### PMAC 2024 - ICANN



Jia-Rong Low
VP, Stakeholder Engagement &
Managing Director, ICANN APAC





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## What is Internet?

- The technology that enables my device to connect to your device
- 3 'things' are required to do so:
  - Protocols
  - IP Addresses
  - Domain Names
- Unique Identifiers

Model of volunteer-based global cooperation:

Multistakeholder Internet Governance



Domain Names - ICANN



IP addresses –

Regional Internet Registries



Protocol Parameters –

Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)



## Implications





TECH-RELATED GOVERNANCE ISSUES
BECOME ISSUES FOR HEALTH SECTOR
AND VICE VERSA

WHAT WILL THE FUTURE BE LIKE?
MULTISTAKEHOLDER MODEL AS A
REFERENCE POINT

## Thank you

jiarong.low@icann.org



## Generative AI, health, and global AI policy

Prof. Gary Marcus

Emeritus Professor of Psychology and Neural Science, New York
University, United States of America

Governance of digital technology for health and the use of evidence:

A perspective from Al

**ChatGPT** 

The question "How should digital health tech be governed or regulated for global health?" touches on a complex and multi-faceted issue that intersects technology, healthcare, and policy. Here are some key points that can be considered in the governance and regulation of digital health technology for global health:

- **1. Privacy and Security**: Given the sensitive nature of health data, strong privacy protections and security protocols need to be in place to prevent unauthorized access and breaches.
- **2. Standardization**: To facilitate interoperability between different systems and devices, there should be standardized formats and protocols for health data.
- **3. Evidence-based Approaches**: Digital health solutions should be validated through rigorous testing to ensure they are safe and effective before being widely implemented.
- **4. Accessibility and Equity**: Regulation should ensure that digital health technologies are accessible to all populations, including marginalized and under-resourced communities.
- **5. Ethical Considerations**: The development and deployment of digital health technologies must adhere to ethical standards, including informed consent and the avoidance of biases.
- **6. International Collaboration**: As health challenges often cross borders, international cooperation is essential for setting global standards and sharing best practices.
- **7. Adaptability**: Regulations should be adaptable to keep pace with the rapid evolution of technology, ensuring that they remain relevant and effective.
- **8. Transparency**: Companies and organizations involved in digital health should operate with a high degree of transparency, especially concerning data handling and algorithm functionality.
- **9. Patient-Centered Approach**: Regulations should prioritize patient outcomes and experiences, ensuring that technologies add value to patient care.
- **10.Accountability**: There should be clear lines of accountability for the performance and outcomes of digital health technologies.

The governance and regulation of digital health tech are dynamic and require ongoing dialogue among stakeholders, including policymakers, healthcare providers, patients, technologists, and researchers, to ensure that the digital transformation of healthcare benefits all and safeguards against risks.

## How evidence based are (my) responses?

My responses are based on a large dataset of diverse and comprehensive information sources, including textbooks, academic papers, websites, and other educational materials. This dataset was current up to my last training cut-off in April 2023. However, it's important to note a few key aspects:

- **1. Scope of Knowledge**: While my training includes a wide range of topics, I am more informed in some areas than others. In fields like healthcare, economics, and technology, where I have been trained on a substantial amount of specialized content, my responses tend to be more informed and evidence-based.
- **2. Accuracy and Reliability**: I strive for accuracy, but I can sometimes provide information that is outdated, incomplete, or in need of further context. For the most current or specialized inquiries, especially in fast-evolving fields like healthcare and technology, consulting the latest research or a subject matter expert is advisable.
- 3. No Personal Experience or Opinions: Unlike human experts, I don't have personal experiences or opinions. My responses are generated based on patterns in the data I was trained on, aiming for objectivity and neutrality.
- **4. Ethical and Policy Considerations**: In areas involving ethics, policy, or subjective judgment, my responses are based on a synthesis of various perspectives present in my training data, rather than any form of personal moral reasoning.

### Discussants

Ms. Cecilia Oh, Programme Advisor at the HIV, Health and Development Group of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Thailand Dr. Basant Garg

Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Additional CEO, National Health Authority (NHA), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, India





