



# EMPOWERING MIGRANT HEALTH THROUGH DIGITAL INNOVATION: ENHANCING GLOBAL ACCESS AND CONTINUITY OF CARE

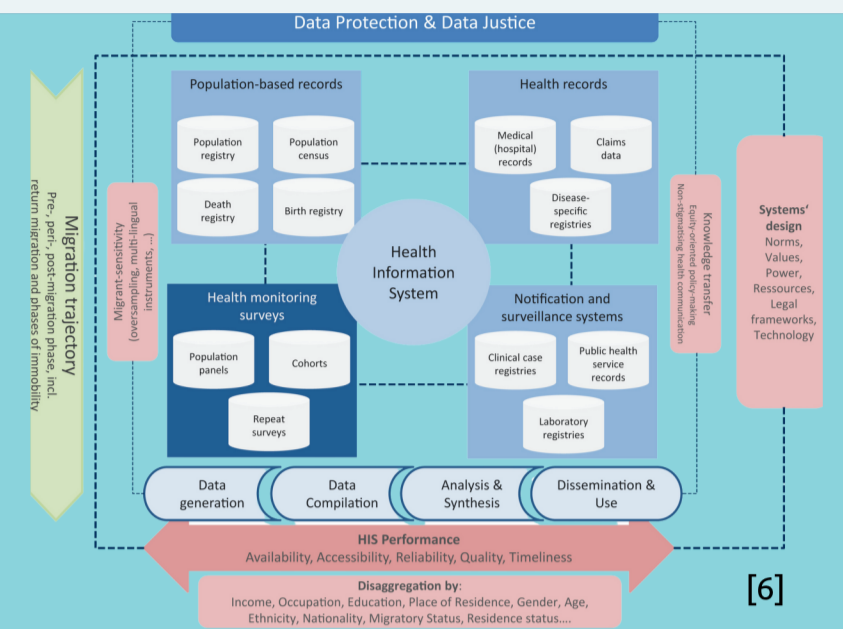
## As part of the Hub Communities' annual theme 2024: Global Health in Conflict Settings

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### INTRODUCTION

Over 280 million migrants globally face health risks at every stage of their journey [1]:

- **Pre-departure:** Limited access to accurate health information [2].
- **En Route:** Increased risk of violence, exploitation, and restricted healthcare access [3].
- **Border Entry:** Inconsistent screenings, leaving health needs unmet [3].
- **During Stay:** many face significant chronic illnesses and yet face access barriers [4].
- **Return:** Lack of treatment continuity, with misinformation impacting public health responses [5].
- **Data Limitation:** Lack of comprehensive data on migrant health outcomes [2].



### BEST PRACTICES & LESSONS LEARNED

#### Digitalization and Migration: Enhancing Mobility and Integration Through Digital Tools

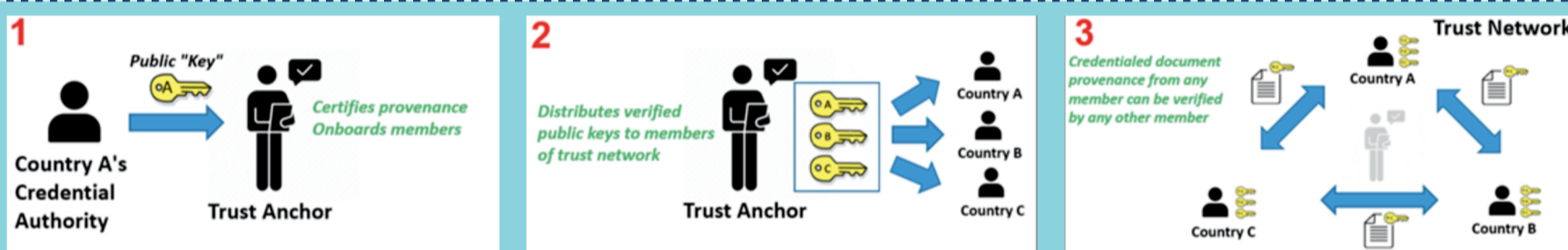
Digitalization can support migration processes by streamlining visa and residency applications, providing information on rights, supporting integration with language and job resources, and enabling networking. Digital tools may also help with data collection for policy-making and improve healthcare access via telehealth. These advancements benefit migrants and host countries by enhancing the migration experience [2,3,6].

#### Illustrations of Tools Driving Digital Migrant Health Empowerment

##### Global Digital Health Certification Network (GDHCN) [3]

Standardizes health certifications, enabling:

- Reliable international health certification standards.
- Seamless global health information exchange.
- Protection of personal health data while enabling necessary provider access.
- WHO partnership ensures certification: documents such as vaccination passes are globally recognized.

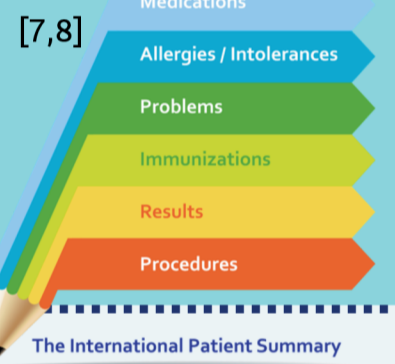


##### International Patient Summary (IPS) [7]

Enhances healthcare for travelers by providing:

- Quick access to essential health information (e.g., allergies, medications).
- Continuity of care through streamlined patient information transfer.
- Efficiency by reducing delays and minimizing medical errors.
- Ensures secure and accessible health data, supporting safe international travel and care.

#### Best Practice Case Study: IPS Implementation during Hajj 2024



##### Impact on Healthcare Delivery:

Implemented by WHO, the IPS standardized health data for over 1.5 million pilgrims.

##### Results:

- Enabled rapid data access across 200 healthcare facilities.
- Improved care coordination for over 2,000 consultations.
- Reduced medical errors, managed 300 potential health risks, and streamlined diagnoses.

**Conclusion:** IPS demonstrated significant benefits for healthcare in large-scale, high-density settings

### CONCLUSIONS & POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Leveraging Digital Solutions for Migrant Health

**Role of Digital Technology:** Digital tools can offer critical support by providing information, navigation, and connectivity for migrants.

**WHO's Global Digital Health Network:** Provides a standardized approach to storing and sharing medical data across locations, improving healthcare access.

**Potential Expansion:** Integrate mobile payment systems to facilitate healthcare payments.

**AI-powered Information Platforms:** Multilingual, evidence-based platforms could bridge information gaps for migrants.

#### Broader Impact of Digitalization on Migration

**Enhanced Migration Processes:** Digital tools simplify applications for visas and residency, speeding up processes.

**Empowering Integration:** Platforms provide information on rights, support language and job training, and enable communication.

**Data Collection for Policy:** Digital tools support informed migration policy-making and expand healthcare access through telehealth.

Digital health initiatives like GDHCN and IPS can empower migrant communities, improving access to care, enhancing safety, and promoting health equity. Digitalization supports a humane migration process, aligning with the Digital Health Empowerment Community's goal to advance health in conflict and migration settings.

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