

FAQ^s

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING PROGRAMME

INFORMATION SYSTEMS FOR HEALTH (IS4H)

What is a health information system?

A health information system (HIS) refers to a system designed to manage healthcare data. This includes systems that collect, store, manage and transmit a patient's electronic medical record (EMR), a hospital's operational management or a system supporting healthcare policy decisions. Health information systems also include those systems that handle data related to the activities of providers and health organisations. As an integrated effort, these may be leveraged to improve patient outcomes, inform research, and influence policy-making and decision-making.

What are some examples of health information systems?

- Electronic Medical Record (EMR)
- Electronic Health Record (EHR)
- Patient Health Record
- E-prescription
- Telemedicine
- Remote Patient Monitoring
- Clinical decision support
- Epidemiological surveillance systems

Why is a health information system important for Jamaica?

Collaborative care: Patients often need treatments from different healthcare providers. Health information systems — such as health information exchanges (HIEs) — allow healthcare facilities to access common health records.

Cost control: Using digital networks to exchange healthcare data creates efficiencies and cost savings. When regional markets use health information exchanges to share data, healthcare providers see reduced costs. On a smaller scale, hospitals aim for the same efficiencies with electronic health records.

Population health management: Health information systems can aggregate patient data, analyse it and identify trends in populations. The technology also works in reverse. Clinical decision support systems can use big data to help diagnose individual patients and treat them.





INFORMATION SYSTEMS FOR HEALTH (IS4H)

What is the health information system(s) proposed for Jamaica?

Jamaica is using the PAHO IS4H approach:
<http://www.paho.org/ish/index.php/en/>

What is necessary for an efficient health information system for Jamaica?

Improved Internet connectivity.
 Improved IT infrastructure.
 Following IS4H framework best practices.
 Focus on sustainability.

What are the individual benefits to Jamaicans?

Having personal access to their health information.
 Getting a more efficient service.
 The ability to make appointments from their cell phones.
 Getting notifications and health promotion information to their phones.

Should Jamaicans be concerned about the security of their personal information?

No. The risk of violation of data is still a lot bigger with paper records than with electronic ones. Health Information Systems have built-in security measures like data encryption and user access audit control to prevent attacks, whereas a physical record simply has to be left in the wrong place to be a violation.

How is personal information to be protected with the health information?

Using international standards like ISO 27017 and training health professional about the data protection act for health.

Toolkit_HSS_InformationSystems.pdf [Internet]. [cited 2020 Jan 10]. Available from: https://www.who.int/healthinfo/statistics/toolkit_hss/EN_PDF_Toolkit_HSS_InformationSystems.pdf

What is a Health Information System? [Internet]. Digital Guardian. 2018 [cited 2020 Jan 10]. Available from: <https://digitalguardian.com/blog/what-health-information-system>

Governance Outcomes

Data Protection	Interoperability	Digital Health
-Personal Health information protection regulatory framework	-Interoperability and standards Policy	-National Digital Health Blueprint
-Secondary use of data policy	-E-prescription Policy	-National Strategic Plan - IS4H manpower
-Personal health information Code of Practice	-Regulation for Health information exchange	-National IS4H Committee
-Information Security Strategy	-National Health catalogs	-Sustainability model
		-EHR and Tele-Health Policy

Digital Health Outcomes

