# Introduction to Benefits & Challenges of Digital Health Processes

[glossary\_exclude]Digital transformation is the integration of digital technologies into all parts of a business, radically changing how to operate and offer value to consumers. The digital transformation in the health sector can offer a wide range of benefits, summarised in Figure 1. This transformation needs to incorporate software, hardware, and services.[/glossary exclude]

## [glossary\_exclude]Unraveling the Benefits of Digital Transformation[/glossary exclude]



### More effective, efficient, and people-centred services

faster access to critical information

more proactive approaches to preserving health and better patient involvement clinical process optimisation



### More accurate surveillance and enhanced resilience in the face of crisis

faster detection and better reponse to public health emergencies, e.g. the COVID-19 crisis better public health interventions



#### Better health system management

monitoring of health system performance better resource allocation enhanced planning and access to care



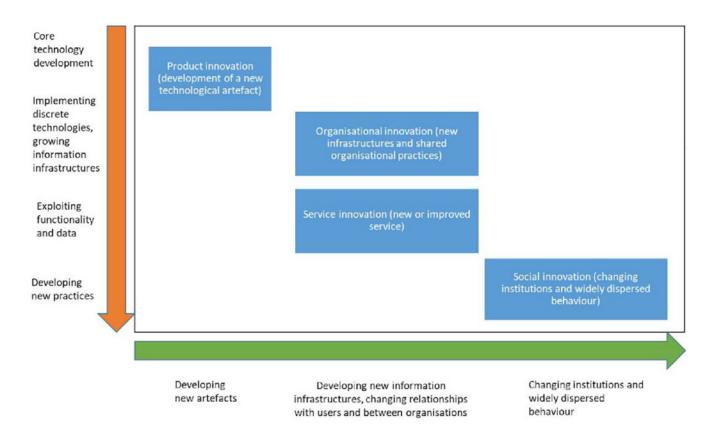
### Powered-up research & innovation

analysis of vast amounts of data for better diagnostics and treatments real-world evidence for assessing long-term effects of therapies

[glossary\_exclude]Figure 1: The potential benefit of digitally driven innovation in the health sector [1][/glossary exclude]

### Digital Transformation in Healthcare: A Multifaceted Approach

[glossary\_exclude]Digital transformation is a complex process that needs a wide range of innovative solutions, including technological (i.e., novel digital solutions), organisational (e.g., service, functions), and social (e.g., cultural/behavioural changes) to enable transformation.[/glossary\_exclude]



[glossary\_exclude] Figure 2: Different forms of required innovations for digital health transformation [2].[/glossary\_exclude]

### Key Challenges in Shaping the Digital Health Future

[glossary\_exclude]Healthcare is a complex sector and in order to enter this market, all products and services must prove their safety, benefits, and values before being adopted.

### 1. Data quality

Health data is the cornerstone of health care systems, and its quality has always been a key concern because of its importance in shaping health policies. Standardisation is a fundamental step in creating high-quality data. The lack of such standards results in discrepancy among the digital platforms, making access and interoperability challenging.

### 2. Trustworthiness

One of the significant challenges of any transformation, particularly in the health systems, is trust at different levels. Trust and trustworthiness can be made possible via training, informing, or privacy and security assurance. Training and educating the users can increase their knowledge about the value of digital technologies and the users' trust in using them [3] [4].

### 3. System interoperability

The pace of creating patients' health data is increasing every day because of the popularity of digital health devices and mobile applications. However, this data is often collected under different standards, which cannot be merged meaningfully, resulting in fragmented information systems. Additionally, lack of awareness is considered a serious challenge. Some stakeholders (health decision-makers, digital health solution developers, etc.) do not fully understand the importance of interoperability for digital health solutions. Furthermore, there is a paucity of incentives or pressure on healthcare organisations or healthcare providers to adopt interoperability [5].

### 4. Cybersecurity

Security in the healthcare system is of critical importance. This is particularly so in the phase of digital transition of

health systems where privacy and security of sensitive patient information is concerned. As such, threats to cybersecurity are one of the biggest challenges health systems have to face [6].[/glossary\_exclude]

### Learning Resources

Take your skills to new heights by earning certification in emerging fields like Digital Health! Explore the EUPATI Open Classroom and delve into the module Digital Health Transformation and challenges to deepen your understanding of the Digital Health landscape. Strengthen your expertise, empowering you to advocate for, engage in discussions, and play a pivotal role in implementing key elements that align with your vision for the healthcare system.

### References

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  the

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