FIP IMPACT DATABASE: DIGITAL HEALTH IN PHARMACY EDUCATION & PRACTICE

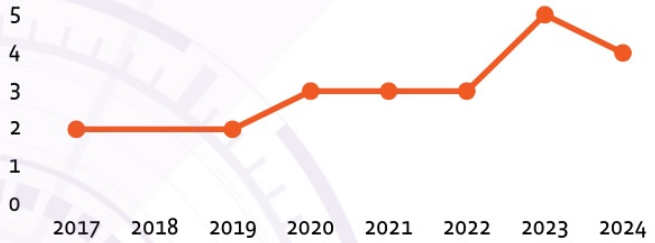
FIP has produced a wide range of publications and outputs advocating for the use of digital health to enhance pharmaceutical service delivery and to support the development of a digitally capable pharmacy workforce.[1]

In this evolving landscape, pharmacists are increasingly playing a more integrated role in digital health through technologies such as electronic prescriptions, digital health records, and telepharmacy.[2]

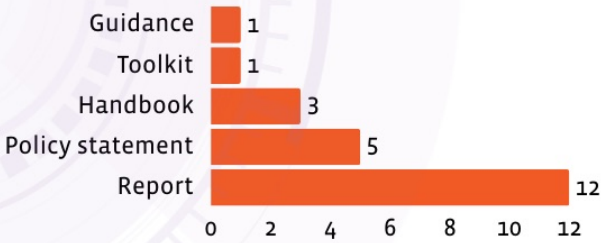
Key FIP publications related to digital health

FIP recognises digital health as a rapidly growing field. **Key publications** highlight the integration of digital competencies into education, telepharmacy services, AI for medication management and patient care, and the importance of interoperability and digital health standards.

Trends in FIP digital health outputs (2017 - 2024)



22 FIP outputs related to digital pharmacy issues were published between 2017 and 2024.



Reports on digital health represent the most frequently produced outputs, followed by policy statements, handbooks, and other resources.[1]

Digital health in pharmacy education

Digital health in pharmacy education is currently emerging, with limited structured programmes embedded in curricula. However, findings from the most recent FIP pharmacy education survey indicate a progressive improvement in digital literacy and practice behaviour with online modules and elective courses on digital health.[3]

The Nanjing Statements & the European Association of Faculties of Pharmacy position paper provide a framework for pharmacy educators to update curricula to include digital health knowledge.[3]

Key challenges related to digital health education and practice reported by faculties and schools, and practitioners include:[3]

- Absence of digital health education in pharmacy schools curricula and continuous education.
- Lack of experts, resources, and access to digital health tools.
- Gaps in knowledge, skillset, and application of emerging digital health tools.
- Lack of enabling policies.

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Digital health application in pharmacy practice

A global survey of FIP member organisations reveals a widespread and growing integration of mobile health (mHealth) technologies into pharmacy practice, empowering pharmacists to deliver more efficient, accessible, and personalised care.[4]

China

Mobile applications such as **Micromedex, UpToDate, Liverpool HEP iChart, Medscape, and the Sanford Guide Collection** support pharmacists in drug calculations, referencing, and accessing up-to-date medical research and guidelines.

Croatia

Mobile applications such as **eTerapija, Unigluko, LungManager, Lexicomp, Bellabeat, Little Dot, Alergo, and Diavitas** support pharmacists in enhancing patient care through reminders, data collection, medication recommendations and tailored guidance.

Denmark

'e-kvit' is designed to support smoking cessation. Key features include: Peer support with other ex-smokers and individualised nicotine weaning plans.

Ecuador

Pharmacists use the **'Vademecum'** mobile application to reference drug information for the drugs used by their patients.

Finland

Citizens can monitor their health and wellbeing through the **'My Kanta Pages Personal Health Record' (Kanta PHR)**, and access personal health data, including blood pressure and blood glucose levels.

Lebanon

The **'Lebanese Advanced Patient Profile (LAPP)'** provides pharmacists with patient data, enables follow up and delivery of pharmacotherapy. The **'Med Safety Application'** is a smart tool is used for reporting Adverse Drug Reactions.[5]

Portugal

'Farmacias Portuguesas' (Portuguese Pharmacies) offers pharmacy-related services and features such as dosage schedule, reminders, medicine information, data records.

Rwanda

'Babyl' integrates technology with clinical expertise. Its services include appointment scheduling, prescription management, and access to medical records.

Uganda

'Matibabu' is an innovative mobile application developed for healthcare professionals to enable non-invasive malaria diagnosis without requiring a blood sample.

USA

'PharmacistLibrary, Lexicomp, Epocrates, iPharmacy, Pocket Pharmacist, Medscape assist pharmacists with drug indexing, calculations, referencing, medication compatibility checks, pill identification.

FIP IMPACT DATABASE: DIGITAL HEALTH IN PHARMACY EDUCATION & PRACTICE

FIP's role and commitment to advancing digital health

In line with the FIP Development Goal 20 (Digital health), FIP:[6]

- Supports member organisations with tools, education, resources, and strategies to enhance digital pharmaceutical care.
- Promotes and advocates for innovative pharmacy practices to ensure safe access and the optimal use of medicines.

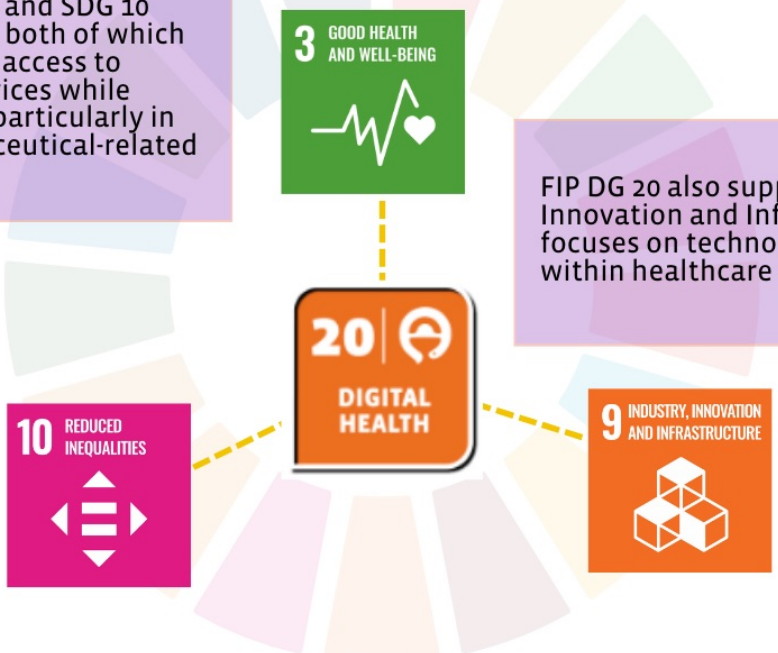
As part of its commitment to advancing a digitally competent pharmacy workforce, FIP plays a strategic role in strengthening education and professional development through the following initiatives:[6]

- Developing courses, training material, and experiential learning opportunities in initial education and early career training.
- Developing digital health education & training for the pharmaceutical workforce through CPD programmes and continuous education.
- Designing and implementing digital literacy competencies in FIP Global Competency Frameworks through a global curriculum & training resources for digital health in pharmacy education.

Alignment with WHO priorities and UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The FIP Development Goal 20 (Digital Health) aligns closely with the World Health Organization's Global Strategy on Digital Health 2020–2025, which aims to improve health for all by accelerating the development and adoption of appropriate digital health solutions to achieve the health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).[1]

FIP DG 20 is aligned with SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), both of which seek to improve global access to quality healthcare services while reducing inequalities, particularly in the context of pharmaceutical-related services.[1]



FIP DG 20 also supports SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), which focuses on technological advancement within healthcare systems.[1]

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This infographic was developed by the FIP Global Pharmaceutical Observatory.
For any questions or further information, please contact us at: observatory@fip.org

To explore the Impact Database, visit: https://gpo.fip.org/fip-impactdatabase/