



Digital India Ask Our Experts Highlights India's Push for Standardised Electronic Health Records

Experts explain the role of NRCeS in building a unified, secure and citizen-centric digital health ecosystem

Benefits of EHRs, standardisation, data privacy and impact on doctors, rural healthcare and government schemes discussed

New Delhi: The 40th episode of Digital India—Ask Our Experts focused on the standardisation of Electronic Health Records (EHRs) in India and the pivotal role of the National Resource Centre for EHR Standards (NRCeS) in strengthening the country's digital health ecosystem.

The episode began by highlighting challenges associated with paper-based medical records, including missing reports, repeated tests, and delays in treatment, and contrasted it with the vision of instant access to a patient's medical history through digital platforms, enabling faster, cost-effective, and stress-free healthcare.

The experts—Shri Gaur Sunder, Head, NRCeS, and Ms. Manisha Mantri, Project Lead and Co-Investigator, NRCeS—explained that NRCeS, established at C-DAC Pune, supports nationwide adoption of EHR standards by providing training programmes, free software toolkits, technical assistance, and implementation guidance to healthcare providers and IT stakeholders. The centre plays a key role in supporting the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) and strengthening interoperability across health systems.

The discussion underlined how standardised EHRs improve continuity of care, enable personalised treatment, assist emergency services, and support community-level health planning through anonymised data analytics. Benefits for doctors include reduced paperwork, complete and structured patient data, and decision-support alerts such as drug allergy warnings.

The episode also addressed data privacy and security, explaining built-in safeguards such as access controls, anonymisation, deduplication and emergency access protocols. Citizens were encouraged to adopt digital health records to support better healthcare delivery and long-term national health planning.

Digital India Ask Our Experts continues to demystify complex digital initiatives and bring citizens closer to India's vision of inclusive, secure and future-ready digital initiatives. The live session witnessed active engagement from viewers across the country, who appreciated the clear and accessible explanations shared by the experts. The full recording of Episode 40 is available at: https://youtube.com/live/4d_VgrEw1bY?feature=share. The series is streamed live on the Digital India YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@DigitalIndiaofficial>. For updates on upcoming episodes and Digital India initiatives, visit www.digitalindia.gov.in and www.negd.gov.in.

