

Digital Technologies in the Humanitarian Context

DPH Plenary Session

Paul Lalvani

Empower School of Health
Haryana, India
paul.lalvani@empowerschoolofhealth.org

Francis D'Silva

Smart Care - CGI Healthcare and
Life Sciences Oslo, Norway
francis.dsilva@cgi.com

Bernadette Kumar

EUPHA Section on Migration and
Ethnic Minority Health
Oslo, Norway
Bernadette.kumar65@gmail.com

Javier Teran Castro

UN Office for the Coordination of
Humanitarian Affairs Geneva,
Switzerland teran1@un.org

Raphael Brechard

Medicin Sans Frontiers
London, United Kingdom
Raphael.brechard@london.msf.org

Caroline Wood

UCL IRDR Centre for Digital Public
Health in Emergencies
London, United Kingdom
Caroline.wood@ucl.ac.uk

Patty Kostkova

UCL IRDR Centre for Digital Public
Health in Emergencies
London, United Kingdom
P.kostkova@ucl.ac.uk

ABSTRACT

The panel will address the potential benefits and challenges in applying digital technologies to humanitarian scenarios.

Key themes are (1) empowering the individual (or the beneficiary) and informal care-givers with knowledge tools to participate in decision-making related to one's own health (2) building capacity of healthcare professionals, at the point of care and across the continuum and levels of care (3) capturing, securing and sharing data from the field and institutions in order to better inform public health policy and the design of practices for the delivery of care and (4) aggregating data and new knowledge from the sector to accelerate the development of health technology.

Some of the barriers to experiencing the benefits from digital technologies include ability to effectively reach the target groups; public perception: show them the benefits and allay fears arising from uncertainty and hence the need for empowerment, financing: funding for efforts to transition to digitally-enabled practices, incentives: mechanisms to encourage sharing resources that ensure use and hence the longevity of digital resources and governance: structures, regulatory practices and ethical guidelines to secure responsible use of digital resources and conserving privacy and common good.

KEYWORDS

Digital Technologies, People-centered care, Humanitarian, Digital Health, Public Health, Capacity, Healthcare

Permission to make digital or hard copies of part or all of this work for personal or classroom use is granted without fee provided that copies are not made or distributed for profit or commercial advantage and that copies bear this notice and the full citation on the first page. Copyrights for third-party components of this work must be honored. For all other uses, contact the Owner/Author.

DPH' 19, November 20–23, 2019, Marseille, France

© 2019 Copyright is held by the owner/author(s).

ACM ISBN 978-1-4503-7208-4/19/11.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3357729.3365105>