

# TOWARDS A BETTER TOMORROW

## E-Hospitals, Paperless Health Management System



The advancements in the healthcare industry are not just confined to quality medical care but also to change the delivery system as a whole. Now, it's time for the healthcare sector transformation, in the light of emerging digitalisation of the hospital management system.

As a sector that strives to establish a healthy world, digitalization or the paperless operation system in healthcare industry is more of a necessity than a need. It is the first step to pave the pathway to the greener world for the upcoming generation. Still there is a lot of work that needs to be done to make the world a paperless place.



### Steps to Establish a Paperless Hospital

- 1 → Leveraging the Healthcare Information Technology: Establishing and bringing one into practice requires lot of training and understanding by the health care professionals.
- 2 → Creating the Digitalized SOP: The patient trajectory needs to be understood at each point and the staff at various patient touch points should be familiar with the same.
- 3 → Implementation of the network & software System: The availability of advanced software eases involved in generating the patient information and safeguarding it.
- 4 → Migration of Data: The transferring process requires an integrated approach that is beyond just scanning the existing records.
- 5 → Securing the Patient Information: Various check points needs to be ticked to retain the patient information as per the healthcare ethical practices and to protect it. Even though digital records are almost non-perishable, they could become easy prey for the unauthorized sources.

### Advantages of Paperless Hospital Management System

- 1 → Access Medical Documents Remotely: In this generation that is enabled by Cloud Computing, the healthcare providers will have access to medical documents from almost anywhere with just an Internet connection.
- 2 → The electronic communications in a healthcare system puts the patients at the forefront of knowledge with the ease of access to their medical records at their fingertips.
- 3 → Storage and Security: The most important functions in a hospital operational setup are storing the medical records and securing them. Storing the medical records in paper forms would be the most strenuous task as it is space and time consuming.
- 4 → Time Saving and Efficient: The hospital is a fast-paced environment and demands access to the medical files as quickly as possible.
- 5 → The paperless appointments, doctor notes and prescriptions save up on the time.
- 6 → Cleans Up the heap: As medical records tend to pile up day by day, space allocation for these files would be a real challenge. Instead, digital files will take less space and the setting up the IT infrastructure is simple, thanks to the advanced cloud computing facilities.



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### Statistical Speaks:

There are about 1360 registered hospitals in Odisha.  
In one day on an average 150 prescriptions used in one hospital.  
Therefore, in one day total prescription used in Odisha = 204000 nos  
On average 400 prescription pages equals to 1 kg  
Hence, 204000 prescription pages = 510 kg = 0.51 ton  
So, in a year about = 186.15 ton of paper is used  
As per studies, 1 ton of paper is equivalent to felling of 7 fully grown trees.  
So, 186.15 ton of paper = 1303 trees can be saved in a year  
1 ton of paper, carbon dioxide emission is about 950 kg  
So, 186.15 ton of paper, CO2 emission is 177 ton per year which can be prevented

By going paperless, indeed, a significant difference can be made. With access to information just a click away, potential patients can easily see if a medical practice has initiatives to reduce their carbon footprint.  
Even though the idea of paperless offices and hospitals seem easy to adopt, the integration process is time consuming and demands great attention to detail. Their pain points in digitalization of hospitals but they should not be seen as obstacles to take a leap towards the world of digitalization & a greener environment for a better tomorrow.



(This factsheet content is developed by Youth4Water youth team C3 during the climate change managers campaign organised at new Delhi October 17,18,19, 2022; the team comprising of Dr. Yannam Deepak, Medical officer in charge at UPHC Ghatikia, Bhubaneswar, Odisha along with Puranjay Sahu, Satya Suman Routray, Subhashree Subhasmita, Basanta Durga, Siddhant Das & Yannam Kanthi)

Youth4Water Campaign is a UNICEF-led exciting and ambitious campaign which has reached out to more than 4,35,000 youths with awareness and action programmes around Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH). The campaign aims at enabling youth actions so as they can contribute towards achieving water security and sustainability and thus meet the local, national as well as global goals on WASH including those of the SDGs. The Campaign partners include reputed government and non-government organizations such as Department of Water Resources (Govt. of Odisha), Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), TATA STRIVE, PANTISS, WaterAid India, BGVS and FORCE.