

EDITORIAL

Digital Health: how much can it transform medicine in Brazil?

The Hospital das Clínicas of FMUSP has elected Digital Health as one of the post-Covid transformation processes. One important reason for that choice was the large utilization of telemedicine to treat patients that could not attend doctor's appointments during the pandemics.

Telemedicine faced corporative resistance to be spread in our country. However, the pandemics introduced it in a rapid and effective way. It was consolidated as an efficient and necessary assistance tool.

Our Digital Health program counts with the collaboration of the British government. Brazil's Unified Public Health System (SUS) was inspired by the NHS model, which regularly supports initiatives in countries that were based on this project. We had the opportunity to discuss and share experiences that could guide us into a secure way in such an action of great responsibility.

This collaboration aims to create scalable digital health solutions at the national level. Among the benefits of this initiative were the creation of efficient sources to replicate the gains of the public health system and the identification of opportunities to implement digital health in primary care.

The project includes tele-consultation in all specialties, including tele-rehabilitation and tele-psychiatry, for example. Consultations will be accompanied by technology that allows monitoring the patient from a distance, providing more security to the doctor-patient interaction. The technological resources will be developed in part by InovaHC, through calls from start-ups that may help to solve the system's needs. Another important component is tele-training, with two main objectives: the first is to reduce the existing inequality between regions in the country and the second is to train doctors and health professionals in the use of digital resources. One example is INCOR's tele-ICU project, disseminating the expertise of our professionals to ICUs across the country.

Digital Health must contribute to SUS through three large pillars: inequality reduction, improvement of access and cost reduction with efficiency gain.

The HCFMUSP has defined the ambitious vision of becoming a protagonist in innovation in Digital Health at all levels of care with excellence in assistance, teaching and research, in order to improve the quality, access and equity of the system, using InovaHC as a key part on the implementation of this necessary transformation for a leading institution like ours.

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