Costa Rica



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Population (000s)	4,872	Life expectancy at birth (years)	79
GNI per capita (PPP Int \$)	13,570	Total health expenditure (% GDP)	9.9
Physician density (per 10 000 population)	1.11	ICT Development Index rank	60
Nurse & midwife density (per 10 000 population)	0.77	Mobile-cellular subscriptions (% population)	111.92
Hospital bed density (per 10 000 population)	12	Internet users (% population)	47.5

1. eHealth foundations

National policies or strategies				
	Country response	Global "yes" response§	Year adopted	
National universal health coverage policy or strategy	Yes	75%	1973	
National eHealth policy or strategy	Yes	58%	2012	
National health information system (HIS) policy or strategy	Yes	66%	2012	
National telehealth policy or strategy	Yes	22%	1996	
Funding sources for eHealth				
	Country response	Global "yes" response§	Funding source %**	
Public funding	Yes	77%	>75%	
Private or commercial funding	No	40%	Zero	
Donor/non-public funding	Yes	63%	<25%	
Public-private partnerships	No	42%	Zero	
Multilingualism in eHealth				
	Country response	Global "yes" response§	Year adopted	
Policy or strategy on multilingualism	No	28%	N/A	
Government-supported Internet sites in multiple languages	No	48%		
eHealth capacity building				
	Country response	Global "yes" response§	Proportion**	
Health sciences students – Pre-service training in eHealth	Yes	74%	25-50%	
Health professionals – In-service training in eHealth	Yes	77%	25-50%	

2. Legal frameworks for eHealth

Policy or logiclation in purpose	Country response	Global "yes" response
Policy or legislation – purpose	Country response	Global yes lesponse
Defines medical jurisdiction , liability or reimbursement of eHealth services such as telehealth	Yes	31%
Addresses patient safety and quality of care based on data quality, data transmission standards or clinical competency criteria	Yes	46%
Protects the privacy of personally identifiable data of individuals irrespective of whether it is in paper or digital format	Yes	78%
Protects the privacy of individuals' health-related data held in electronic format in an EHR	Yes	54%
Governs the sharing of digital data between health professionals in other health services in the same country through the use of an EHR	Yes	34%
Governs the sharing of digital data between health professionals in health services in other countries through the use of an EHR	No	22%
Governs the sharing of personal and health data between research entities	No	39%
Allows individuals electronic access to their own health-related data when held in an EHR	No	29%
Allows individuals to demand their own health-related data be corrected when held in an EHR if it is known to be inaccurate	No	32%
Allows individuals to demand the deletion of health-related data from their EHR	No	18%
Allows individuals to specify which health-related data from their EHR can be shared with health professionals of their choice	Yes	28%
Governs civil registration and vital statistics	Yes	76%
Governs national identification management systems	Yes	65%



3. Telehealth

Telehealth programmes country overview			
	Health system level**	Programme type**	
Teleradiology	Intermediate	Established	
Teledermatology	Intermediate	Established	
Telepathology	‡	‡	
Telepsychiatry	Intermediate	Established	
Remote patient monitoring	‡	‡	

4. Electronic Health Records (EHRs)

EHR country overview		
	Country response	Year introduced
National EHR system	Yes	2011
Legislation governing the use of the national EHR system	Yes	
Health facilities with EHR	Use EHR	Facilities with EHR %**
Primary care facilities (e.g. clinics and health care centres)	Yes	25-50%
Secondary care facilities (e.g. hospitals, emergency care)	Yes	<25%
Tertiary care facilities (e.g. specialized care, referral from primary/secondary care)	Yes	<25%
Other electronic systems	Country response	Global "yes" response§
Laboratory information systems	Yes	35%
Pathology information systems	No	18%
Pharmacy information systems	Yes	33%
D A C C	Yes	26%
PACS	100	
Automatic vaccination alerting system	No	10%
		10% Global "yes" response§
Automatic vaccination alerting system	No	
Automatic vaccination alerting system ICT-assisted functions	No Country response	Global "yes" response§

5. Use of eLearning in health sciences

eLearning programmes country overview			
Health sciences students – Pre-service	Country response	Global "yes" response§	
Medicine	Yes	58%	
Dentistry	Yes	39%	
Public health	Yes	50%	
Nursing & midwifery	Yes	47%	
Pharmacy	Yes	38%	
Biomedical/Life sciences	Yes	42%	
Health professionals – In-service	Country response	Global "yes" response§	
Medicine	Yes	58%	
Dentistry	Yes	30%	
Public health	Yes	47%	
Nursing & midwifery	Yes	46%	
Pharmacy	Yes	31%	
Biomedical/Life sciences	Yes	34%	

6. mHealth



mHealth programmes country overview		
Accessing/providing health services	Health system level**	Programme type**
Toll-free emergency	National	Established
Health call centres	National	Pilot
Appointment reminders	National	Established
Mobile telehealth	Intermediate	Informal
Management of disasters and emergencies	National	Established
Treatment adherence	Intermediate	Pilot
Accessing/providing health information	Health system level**	Programme type**
Community mobilization	National	Established
Access to information, databases and tools	National	Pilot
Patient records	Intermediate	Pilot
mLearning	National	Established
Decision support systems	Intermediate	Informal
Collecting health information	Health system level**	Programme type**
Patient monitoring	‡	‡
Health surveys	National	Pilot
Disease surveillance	‡	‡

7. Social media

Social media and health	Country response	Global "yes" response§	Year adopted
National policy or strategy on the use of social media by government organizations	No	18%	N/A
Policy or strategy makes specific reference to its use in the health domain	‡	5%	
Health care organizations – use of social media		Country response	Global "yes" response§
Promote health messages as a part of health promotion campaigns		Yes	78%
Help manage patient appointments		Yes	24%
Seek feedback on services		Yes	56%
Make general health announcements		Yes	72%
Make emergency announcements		Yes	59%
Individuals and communities – use of social media		Country response	Global "yes" response§
Learn about health issues	Learn about health issues		79%
Help decide what health services to use		Yes	56%
Provide feedback to health facilities or health professionals		Yes	62%
Run community-based health campaigns		Yes	62%
Participate in community-based health forums		Yes	59%

8. Big data

Policy or strategy – purpose	Country response	Global "yes" response§	Year adopted
Governing the use of big data in the health sector	Yes	17%	1988
Governing the use of big data by private companies	Yes	8%	1988

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* Country context indicators

ICT Development Index Rank. 2015 - https://www.itu.int/net4/ITU-D/idi/2015/All other country indicators, Global Health Observatory. 2012-2014 - http://www.who.int/gho

** Glossary

Indicates the percentage of participating Member States responding "Yes"
 Don't know

N/A Not applicable

Question not asked **Zero** No funding

‡ Indicates question was unanswered

processes and policies

Pilot: Testing and evaluating a programme

Regional level:

National level:

Informal:

Established: An ongoing programme that has been conducted for a

Intermediate level: District or provincial facilities: public and private hospitals

Local or peripheral level: Health posts, health centres providing basic level of care

International level: Health entities in different geographic regions

public, but also private)

and health centres

minimum of 2 years and is planned to continue

Health entities in countries in the same geographic region

Referral hospitals, laboratories and health institutes (mainly

Use of ICT for health purposes in the absence of formal