

HW 4 - Patient Registration Form Synopsis:

For this assignment, I created a fully functional Patient Registration Form using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. The goal of the project was to simulate a real-world registration experience like you would find in a hospital or doctor's office, collecting important personal and medical information from a patient. This project required the integration of frontend development skills and client-side scripting to make a form that is interactive, validated, and user-friendly.

The form collects data such as first name, last name, date of birth, SSN, contact details (phone and email), insurance type, vaccination status, account username and password, and even a self-rated health score using a slider. I also built out a flow that includes reviewing the entered data and confirming the submission, and then sending the user to a custom-made "Thank You" page after the form is submitted successfully.

What I'm Happy With:

One of the parts I'm most proud of is how much of the JavaScript-based form validation I was able to get working. For instance:

- The form successfully validates the first name, last name, phone number, email, and password fields.
- Incorrect input triggers immediate feedback to help users correct errors.
- Password match check prevents form submission if passwords don't match
- Dynamic slider input for self-rated health works and updates live with user interaction.
- A Review section summarizes user input before submission and allows returning to edit mode.
- Cookie storage works for the first name when 'Remember Me' is checked, using 48-hour expiry.
- A `thankyou.html` page confirms successful submission, finalizing the user flow.

More: I also successfully implemented a "Review" section. Once a user fills out the form, they can hit a "Review" button and the entire form hides while a summary of their entered information is displayed in a clean format. Then, if they notice a mistake, they can click "Edit" and go back to the original form without losing their data. This required me to work with DOM manipulation, visibility toggling using `style.display`, and assigning data values across different sections of the page, which I had never done before in a full project.

A feature I'm really happy I figured out was cookie storage for the "Remember Me" checkbox. When selected, the site stores the user's first name using cookies for 48 hours. This was my first time writing and reading cookies using JavaScript, so learning how to use `document.cookie` and how to manage expiration logic made me feel more confident in working with stateful data on the frontend.

Lastly, I created a custom `thankyou.html` page which users are redirected to once they submit the form successfully. It helps finalize the process and gives the experience of a real web form you'd see in a clinic or portal

Not Worked On Yet:

Even though I made a lot of progress, there are a few parts that I didn't get fully working or finished. The biggest issue I had was that some of the validation functions are still missing or incomplete. For example, while I referenced functions like `validateGender()`, `validateInsurance()`, and `validateVaccinated()` in the JavaScript code, I ran out of time before I could define and code them. Because of this, some form fields don't go through proper validation, and the `onsubmit` function may fail if it expects those values to be validated. Another limitation is that I realized some IDs and HTML elements that my JavaScript is referencing don't exist in my actual HTML file, or I forgot to link them correctly. For example, I call `document.getElementById('genderError')` in my JavaScript, but I didn't actually include that `span` element in the HTML. That means when validation tries to display an error message there, it doesn't show up or throws an error in the console. I also ran into a small bug where the form occasionally doesn't switch back and forth smoothly between the Review and Edit view. Sometimes, the review section doesn't populate with all the fields correctly, and I have to refresh and try again. I suspect this is because I didn't write all the `innerHTML` assignments for every field, and I'm only populating some of them. Lastly, while I implemented cookies successfully for first name, I haven't extended that functionality to other fields, and I'd really like to expand cookie usage or look into local storage in the future for longer-term data saving. I also recognize that I don't have backend integration. This form currently operates only on the client side, which is okay for the scope of this project, but in a real application, this form would need to send data to a server or database, and I'd like to learn how to do that next.