

## Introduction to Global Health IT Strategies Minitrack

Joseph Tan  
McMaster University  
tanjosep@mcmaster.ca

Christopher Califf  
Western Washington University  
christopher.califf@wwu.edu

Michael S. Dohan  
Lakehead University  
msdohan@lakeheadu.ca

The global advancements in information and communication technologies has provided opportunities to address issues important to global health, such as coordinating responses to emerging diseases, and addressing health issues that have an international interest throughout diverse regions of the world. These technologies assist in healthcare delivery, disease surveillance and response, global health education, applying traditional telemedicine applications, as well as other applications for all healthcare actors. These efforts are already impacting the rapid growth and further development of global healthcare solutions and approaches arising from the active collaboration among cross-disciplinary researchers, multi-national agencies and international clinical practitioners.

This minitrack will examine the multitude of issues related to using technology to address global health issues. Relevant topics include the use of technology to deliver and coordinate healthcare services internationally, comparing approaches taken by diverse regions to improve health conditions through technology, or emerging trends for applying innovative health IT solutions to improve general population and community health care globally. Also of interest are applications and evaluations of new and emerging technologies, such as Internet of Things (IOT), social media and other forms of communication, data analytics, visualizations, as well as remote and other low-cost devices, that are designed and implemented to serve global health purposes in innovative ways. The vision of this minitrack is to disseminate knowledge that is valuable to the ability of global health causes to apply technology and affect a positive impact on people everywhere. Topics and research areas include, but are not limited to:

- Reviews of global health IT development
- Similarities and differences in the impact of health IT on care providers in different national contexts

- Comparisons of regional strategies and applications
- Proposals for development, extensions and improvements of global health innovations and solutions
- New modalities for global healthcare delivery
- Examination of strategies and approaches of technology transfer among different countries (e.g. global health IT governance; multi-national health services networks and architectures, open source applications, etc.)
- Studies on the impact of the adoption of innovative (e.g., low-cost) technologies
- Specific applications, including epidemiological surveillance systems, emergency and disaster response systems, and chronic disease management systems
- Public health and environmental health monitoring and tracking systems
- Methodological issues pertaining to the evaluation of global health technologies and initiatives
- Socio-cultural-policy assessments of Health IT priorities
- Trans-jurisdictional issues surrounding the implementation of Health technologies and initiatives
- Impact of regional strategies and culture of nature and styles of Health IT implementation
- Design and development of national and regional e- health solutions
- Policy and regulatory issues that hinder or enable the adoption and diffusion of e-health solutions
- Impact of affordable care and meaningful use on the deployment of e-health solutions
- Digital transformation aspects in healthcare business processes and services delivery
- The use of emerging technologies, such as self-management, self-monitoring, internet of things (IOT), for global healthcare delivery