WHO-SEARO and KCDH-A Responsible AI in Healthcare Webinar Series

Healthcare systems are complex and challenging; however, artificial intelligence (AI) is reshaping understanding across many fields, including health care, with the opportunity to enhance patient care and quality of life. But, without appropriate safeguards, the possibility exists that its consequences may deepen inequities. In response to these challenges, Koita Centre for Digital Health at Ashoka University, in collaboration with the WHO South-East Asia Regional Office (WHO-SEARO), has launched a year-long webinar series on responsible AI in healthcare.

This series will run from 6th August 2025 until July 2026. Following this, we will schedule monthly sessions on the first Wednesday of each month, with experts from across South-East Asia and similar settings sharing insights on a variety of topics, such as Federated Learning, Privacy-Preserving Methods, Large Language Models in Healthcare, AI in Last-Mile Healthcare Delivery and various other AI technology uses, with a view to help countries exploit AI technology in accordance with WHO's Global Strategy on Digital Health to support ongoing efforts toward universal health coverage.

A big part of making the largest impact with AI in healthcare practice will be building trust and helping understand the level of care provided by an AI system. Therefore, it is in this spirit that this webinar series will invite expert speakers, who will share insights and have discussions on encouraging systems that promote trust, ethics, and a thorough understanding of the potential of AI in health care.

The webinar series has already completed two successful sessions. The first session, on August 6, featured prominent speakers such as **Dr Karthik Adapa** (Regional Adviser, Digital Health, WHO-SEARO), **Dr Alain Labrique** (Director, Digital Health & Innovation, WHO), **Dr Anurag Agrawal** (Dean, Trivedi School of Biosciences, Ashoka University), **Dr Chaminda Weerabaddana** (Specialist in Health Informatics, Ministry of Health and Mass Media, Sri Lanka), **Dr Vinay Bortha** (Health Policy Advisor, WHO Timor-Leste), **Ms Sonam Yangchen** (Health Policy Support Officer, WHO Bhutan), and **Dr Mona Duggal** (Director, ICMR-National Institute for Research in Digital Health & Data Science). The second session featured **Dr Balaraman Ravindran** (Head, Centre for Responsible AI, IIT Madras), **Dr Vikas Dwivedi** (Digital Health Analyst, UNICEF, Regional Office of South Asia), **Dr Shyam Singhal** (Health Coordinator - IHIP, WHO Country Office, India), **Dr Kshitij Jadhav** (Assistant Professor, Koita Centre for Digital Health, IIT Bombay), and **Mr Kinley Dorji** (Program Officer, Ministry of Health, Bhutan).

Each session will have a registration link made available through social media and the webinar website, and recordings will be available through KCDH-A's YouTube channel. In addition, this series will also provide regional policy briefs, open-access resources, and case studies on the ethical and responsible use of AI in healthcare across Regions.

This collaboration is a huge step forward in realising the potential of AI in health systems in a way that is values-based and human rights centric, which is a shared vision to promote digital health innovation and tackle global health issues through interdisciplinary research and knowledge exchange.

Webinar Website: resai.kcdh.ashoka.edu.in
KCDH-A YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/@kcdh-a