

HIMSS

Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society

Education and Thought Leadership Taxonomy

Updated for 2026–2027

For use across HIMSS conferences, events, webinars, continuing education, white papers, and media — applicable to HIMSS audiences worldwide.

Category Definitions

Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare

Advancing the responsible use of AI to deliver evidence-based value for patients, the workforce, and health system performance — transforming how care is delivered, decisions are made, and risks to health are proactively managed.

Digital Health Transformation

The intentional redesign of care models, workflows, and business processes to be natively built for a digital, data-driven environment — using interoperable technologies and analytics to continuously improve outcomes, equity, experience, and efficiency for patients and populations.

Cybersecurity

Protecting patient and health system data by strengthening resilience to cyber threats, advancing preparedness, and securing the integrity of health information infrastructure to enable the trusted, real-time flow of data across the care journey.

Business and Financial Management

Guiding health leaders toward financial sustainability and operational excellence through evidence-based approaches to digital transformation that strengthen system performance and build capacity for growing care demands.

Health Equity

Ensuring every human, everywhere, has a fair and equitable opportunity to achieve their full health potential — using digital tools, data, and AI to close gaps, address social determinants, and measure the impact of care across diverse patient populations.

Public Policy

Advancing evidence-based policy that enables and accelerates digital health transformation, supports improved health outcomes, and sustains health system performance across global, regional, and local contexts.

Workforce

Preparing people and organizations to lead what's next in health - building a comprehensive and strategic approach aimed at enhancing the skills, capabilities, and employability of individuals to strengthen care delivery and advance health system performance.

Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare

1 AI Strategy and Implementation at Scale

Organizational readiness, leadership strategy, and enterprise-wide deployment

2 AI Policy, Governance, and Responsible Use

Ethics, equity, audit, compliance, and implementation of trustworthy risk-based AI frameworks

3 Clinical AI: Care Delivery Workflows, Transformational Care Delivery Models, Quality, and Safety

Patient engagement in AI-enabled care, quality and safety outcomes of AI-enabled workflows, management of bias and risk mitigation, explainability, and evidence of clinical impact on care delivery

4 Impact and Value of Agentic and Generative AI in Healthcare

Measurable impact and outcomes of autonomous AI systems, GenAI decision-making, and applications of emerging AI solutions

5 Data Infrastructure and Digital Maturity for AI Readiness

Foundational data and architecture readiness, and digital maturity advances as foundational prerequisites to AI at scale

6 Measuring AI Value and Organizational Impact

ROI, patient experience, workforce capacity (trust, adoption), financial sustainability, and quality outcomes

Digital Health Transformation

1 Digital and Analytics Strategy and Transformation

Vision, leadership, organizational readiness, and governance for digital transformation

2 Alternative and Digitally-Enabled Care Delivery Models

New transformational models of care delivery, outcomes evidence, and health system performance

3 Interoperability, Access, Standards, and Health Information Exchange

B-directional cross-system data flow, open standards, FHIR, TEFCA, and AI-enabled interoperability

4 Data-Driven Decision Making and Predictive Analytics

Analytics maturity, AI-driven insight, and evidence of value in care and operations

5 Patient, Clinician, and User-Centered Experience

Engagement, UX design, digital literacy, trust, and connected care team experience

6 Digitally-Enabled Public Health Intelligence and Population Health Strategies
Scaling digital health across public health systems and emergency response, strengthening health outcomes and data-driven evidence of impact

7 Emerging Health Technologies: Evidence of Innovation and Impact
Smart hospitals, connected infrastructure, and evidence of impact of emerging technologies on care delivery

Cybersecurity

1 Governance and Strategy to Support Cyber Resilience
Policy, risk frameworks, leadership, and measurable security and resilience outcomes

2 Cybersecurity Risks in AI-Enabled Organizations
AI attack surfaces, shadow AI, agentic AI risk, preparedness strategies, and risk mitigation strategies

3 Business Continuity and Preparedness Strategies to Advance Resilience
Planning, action, recovery, and building organizational cyber resilience

4 Disaster Preparedness for Cyber Threats
Large-scale readiness, response protocols, and sustaining care delivery capacity under infrastructure failure

Workforce

1 Human-Centered Leadership & Professional Sustainability
Develop leaders and professionals who can navigate change, communicate with impact, and sustain purpose, well-being, and humanity in demanding environments.

2 Workforce Well-Being, Retention, and Resilience
Address the real drivers of attrition—burnout, violence, workload, and strain—using organizational, operational, and care model strategies

3 Strategic Workforce Planning, Roles, and the Future of Work
Equip leaders with data-driven, forward-looking approaches to staffing, role evolution, and workforce design

4 Education, Training, and Applied Learning Innovation
Showcase how modern, experiential education and onboarding models accelerate readiness, confidence, and retention

5 Career Pathways, Mentorship, and Talent Pipelines
Support entry, growth, and advancement across healthcare and HIT roles through intentional pipeline and development strategies

Business and Financial Management Impact of Digital Transformation

- 1 Health System Performance and Financial Sustainability Fueled by Digital Transformation**
ROI measurement, financial optimization, value-based care, and AI-enabled revenue outcomes
 - 2 Operational Automation and Workflow Optimization in AI-Enabled Organizations**
AI-led efficiency, productivity, administrative burden reduction, and process transformation
 - 3 Supply Chain Resilience and Clinical Integration**
Risk management of global supply disruptions, clinical impact of supply chain resilience
 - 4 Organizational Leadership and Achieving Impact and Value of Digital Transformation at Scale**
Strategy execution, data-driven decision making, governance, transformation readiness, impact and outcomes
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Health Equity

- 1 Equitable Outcomes of Digitally-Enabled Care**
Personalized models of care for vulnerable populations, digital inclusion, rural and remote populations
 - 2 Data Integration and Social Determinants of Health to Advance Population Health and Equity**
Digitally-enabled public health; data-driven decision making to advance population health, equity of population health outcomes, and addressing social drivers of health within unique populations
 - 3 Health Disparities and Inequities**
Closing gaps in care access, quality, and outcomes across diverse, vulnerable, and underserved communities
 - 4 Patient-Centered Care and Digital Literacy**
Connected care, engagement, trust, access to digitally-enabled care, the digital divide, and health literacy across diverse communities
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Public Policy

- 1 Global and Regional Policy for Digital Health Transformation**
Policy frameworks across Americas, EMEA, APAC, and LATAM that advance health system maturity
 - 2 AI and Cybersecurity Policy to Support Responsible Use Across Jurisdictions**
Safe, secure, and ethical AI regulation, cross-country best practices, and frameworks
 - 3 Legislative and Regulatory Frameworks to Advance Digital Transformation**
Policy for data infrastructure, standards advancement, interoperability legislation, and HIE
 - 4 Public-Private Collaboration to Advance Digital Health**
Government and industry roles, advocacy strategies, and partnership models for transformation and data systems modernization
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