Digital Square on FHIR®

[FHIR](#) is a global health standard that defines how health care information can be exchanged between different computer systems, regardless of how it is stored in those systems. FHIR, a standard that is vital for exchanging health care information electronically, has seen unprecedented success around the globe. Its applications range from small development groups to large technology companies and governmental organizations. The FHIR standard is particularly adequate for use in low-resource settings to achieve more equitable health outcomes.

As part of our engagement with countries and the broader global goods community, we support the development of and adherence to standards like FHIR. To this end, Digital Square hosts a series of webinars for knowledge sharing and continued learning to support implementation teams' widespread development and understanding of FHIR and other industry standards and best practices. Navigating the FHIR ecosystem can seem challenging, and with these webinars, Digital Square's goal is to support those implementing the standard by offering tutorials, a space to engage with each other, and share insight and support. Through this series, we are also learning about what organizations – and countries – need to realize the full potential of standards to improve how digital systems can more broadly support health services. This adds value to the community and helps us contribute back to the standards.

The FHIR webinar series kicked off in April 2021 to unpack the basics of the FHIR standard, and has continued on to cover the more complex aspects of FHIR. Our FHIR webinars attract an average of 76 registrants and 38 live attendees, and the recorded webinars have been watched, on average, 131 times. As a result, Digital Square has increased both awareness and literacy for the FHIR standard within the digital health community, including the 50% of Digital Square global goods that are using HL7 FHIR as an interoperability standard.

Today, Digital Square is continuing this series and expanding our engagement with the digital health community to respond to needs from across the ecosystem. Our FHIR standard series includes:

- [FHIR Foundational Series](#): These sessions provide a comprehensive review of the fundamentals of FHIR, how it works, and supports interoperability in healthcare. These sessions are helpful for beginners who want to become familiar with FHIR.
- [FHIR webinar series](#): These next-level webinars take a deep dive into the more complex facets of FHIR. These webinars cover various implementation aspects and showcase some exciting work that the Digital Square global goods innovators have already done. These sessions are helpful to those with prior experience in implementing FHIR.
- [FHIR-side chats](#): These series are accompanied by monthly, audience-led discussions, which allow partners to engage more deeply on the topic, pose questions to experts, and establish connections to the broader FHIR community.
- [French FHIR Foundational Series](#)**:** Our current series of FHIR webinars will feature the Foundational Series in French. These webinars will provide an introduction to the FHIR standard. This series started in March 2023 and will continue through June 2023, accompanied by FHIR-side chats also in French.

- **Coming up**: This next series will focus on the FHIR Foundational series accompanied by FHIR-side chats hosted in Spanish.

These sessions are all recorded and can be found on both our Wiki and YouTube channel. Sign up here to receive updates about upcoming webinars.

Digital Square aims to significantly impact the uptake and efficacy of FHIR in countries where digital health ecosystems are ready for this type of standardization. With these webinars, Digital Square creates opportunities for partners to deeply engage in the subject matter and feel equipped to begin transforming their own digital health systems. The initiative will actively engage government representatives, digital health entrepreneurs, and implementers in low- and middle-income countries to provide a tailored approach for capacity strengthening.

About Digital Square

Digital Square is a thriving digital health marketplace—or 'square'—where supply and demand come together to accelerate health equity through the development, adoption, scale, and delivery of digital health innovations. The initiative does this by aligning investors and government bodies around a shared digital health vision based on country needs and priorities, working with regional and country bodies to strengthen national-level digital health governance to support country digital transformation as well as promoting the development, adoption, and reuse of digital global goods for health.

Digital Square partners with innovators to increase the availability, adaptability, and maturity of high-quality software, service, and content options for countries. Digital Square supports the global digital health community, including country governments, in understanding, aligning, and applying standards for health information exchange, such as FHIR.