

# TB INDABA, 11th SA AIDS Conference

## Breakaway session: TB Innovations



**Electronic Medical Record, a stepping stone  
towards an Electronic Health Record**

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**20 June 2023**

# Mandate for an electronic health record

*President Cyril Ramaphosa's reply to the Debate on the State of the Nation Address, Cape Town City Hall, 16 February 2023*

We are improving the quality of care in our clinics through the Ideal Clinic programme. Using the capabilities of the electronic vaccination record system we developed for COVID-19, the Department of Health will introduce an Electronic Health Record solution to improve management of health records.

*Address by President Cyril Ramaphosa on Human Rights Day, De Aar West Sports Ground, Northern Cape (21-Mar-2023)*

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*Budget Vote 2023/24 Speech by Minister of Health, Dr Joe Phaahla, Cape Town, 9 May 2023*

increase pace in outer years. To improve Patient Records management, the HPRS has been rolled out in 3211 Public Health facilities, out of which 267 HHCs and 2870 are clinics and 74 hospitals. Building on the learnings from the development and roll-out of the Electronic Vaccination Data System (EVDS) we will **this year introduce the first module of the Electronics Health Records focussing on HIV and TB**. Our team is working with all provinces to make sure that ICT support is given including connectivity in the remaining 256 clinics.

# Why we need an EMR & EHR

- Objective

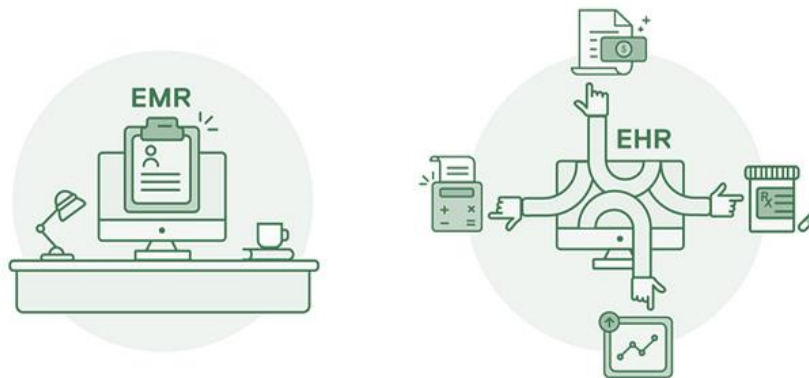
To support **portable patient-centered healthcare** by enabling access to the **correct information** for the **specific patient** available to the **appropriate authorised provider** at the **time** and **place** when it is **needed**

- Ultimate goal

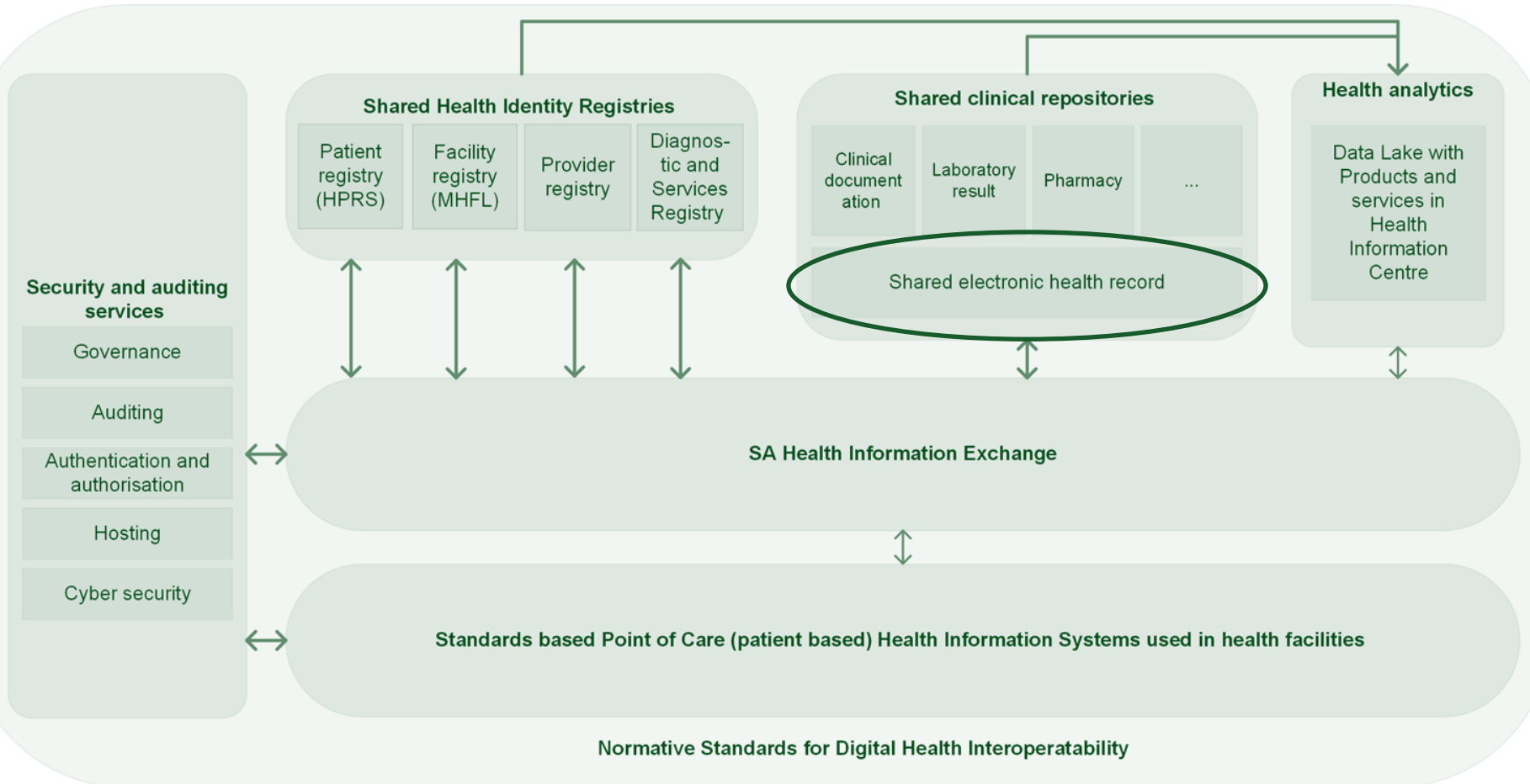
a **personal** and **secure lifetime record** of an individual's **health history and care** within the **health system**

# Difference between Electronic Medical Record (EMR) and Electronic Health Record (EHR)

EMRs	EHRs
A digital version of a paper chart from one provider only	A digital record of a patient's overall health from various healthcare providers
Cannot be shared with another healthcare provider	Designed to easily share health information across various healthcare settings
Patient information does not move outside one healthcare setting	Allows medical information to move with the patient to various healthcare settings
Used for diagnosis and treatment only	Designed to support medical decision making with various built-in tools

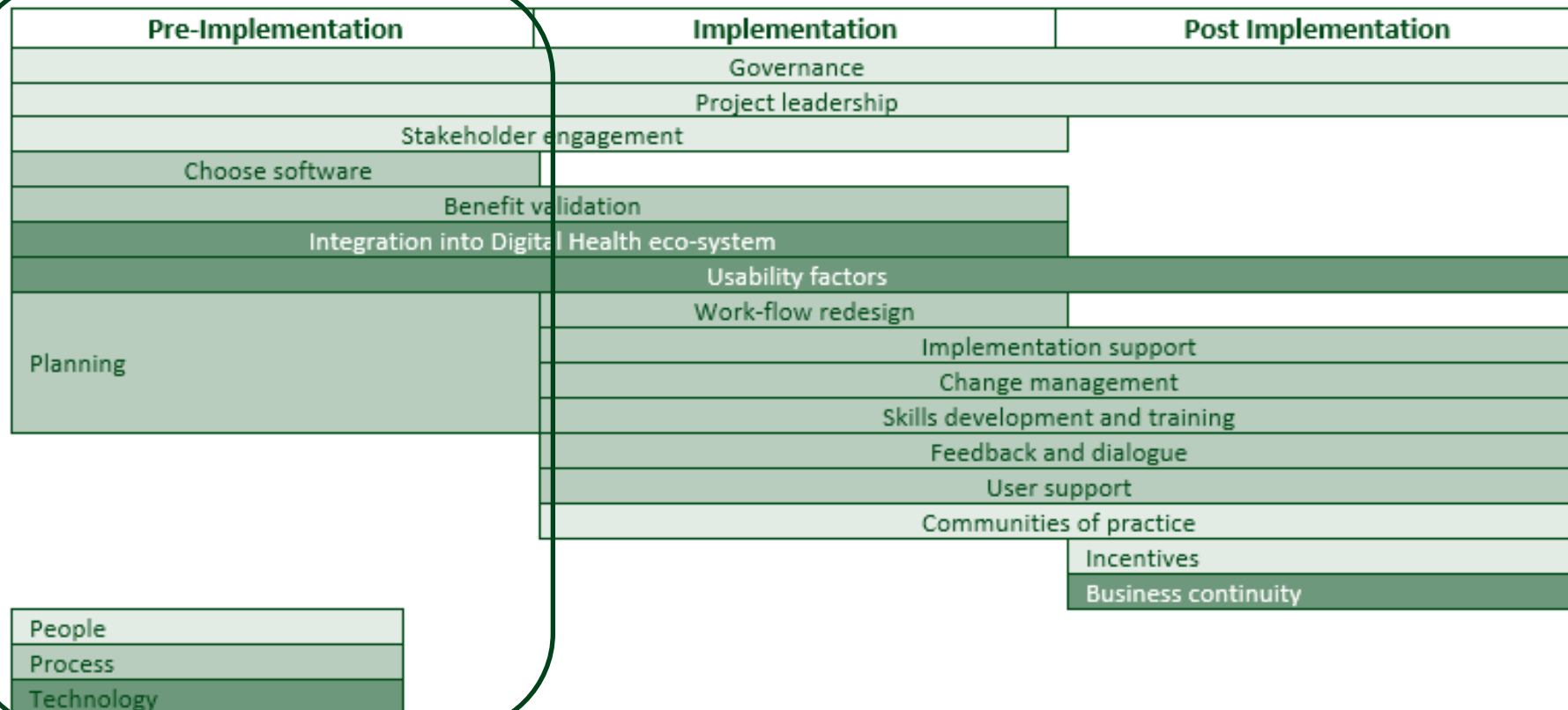


# South African health system



## Digital Health Architecture

# Roadmap for implementation



We are currently in the Pre-implementation phase

# Evidence required to take innovation to policy and practice

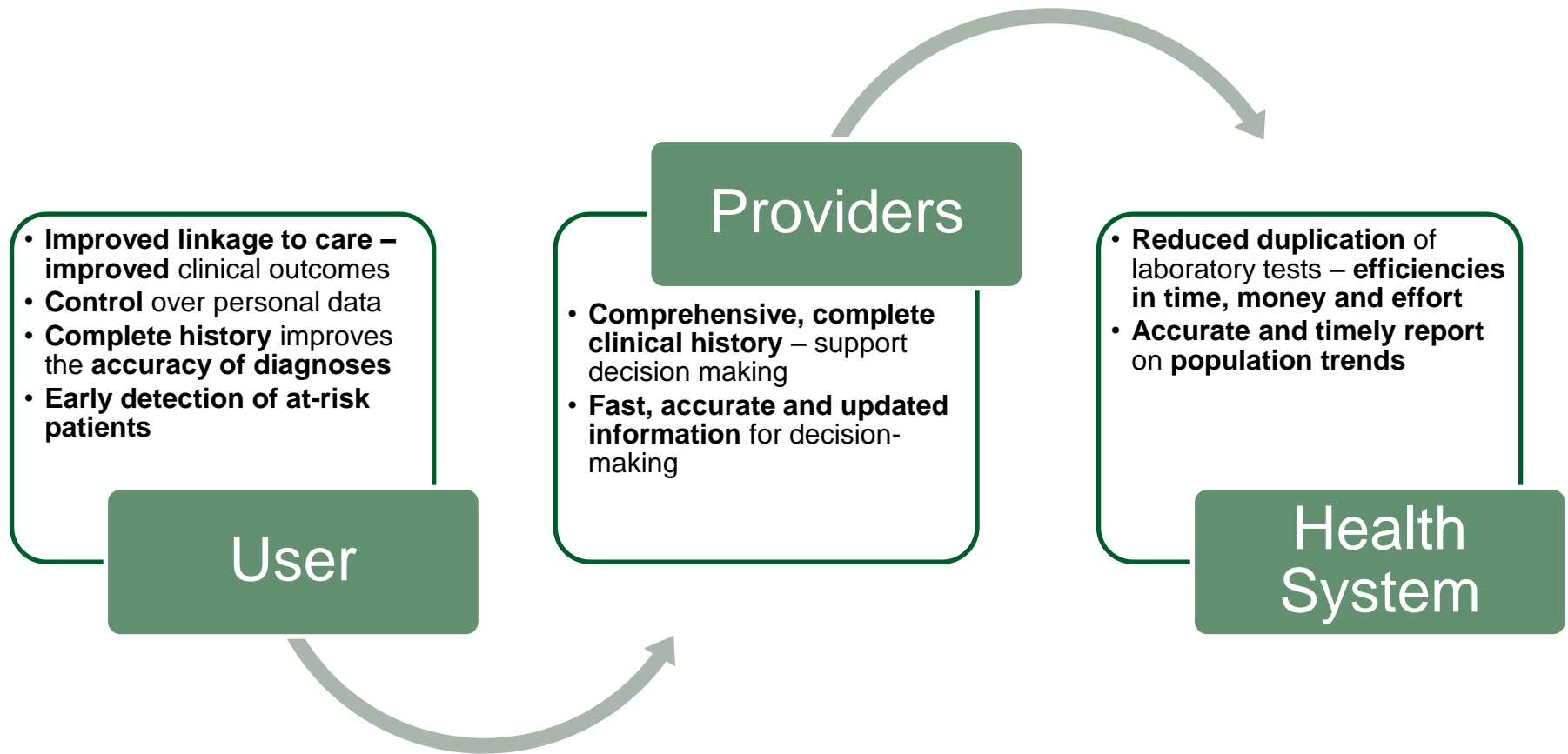
- **Process mapping that documents the patient journey** during the **implementation** of TB related policies and guidelines
- **Impact of the standardisation and use of unique identifiers** in the clinical records on patient outcomes
- What are the **unintended consequences of digitization** on clinical outcomes, user and provider experiences

# Recommendations for better implementation of EMR as an innovation

- Facilitate interoperability of all patient information systems in the digital health eco-system
  - Compliance with Health Normative Standards Framework (HNSF) gazetted in 2022
  - Use of the identity registers are critical for success
- Plan for uninterrupted electricity and connectivity at point of service delivery
- Change management and stakeholder engagement/participation during the planning phase already initiated



# How will EMR contribute to improved patient care and programme management



**Important note:** These potential benefits can only be realised when actual information sharing and data exchange materialise

## Contact details

For any further engagements or to be included on our database as a stakeholder in the Digital Health Space kindly send an e-mail to

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