

# Programme

## The European Digital Health Literacy Conference

17. nov.

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09:00 - 09:30 **Registration with coffee & Danish bread rolls**  
**Auditorium 14.01.007**

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09:30 - 09:40 **Welcome**  
**Auditorium 14.01.007.**

Diana Schack Thoft, PhD and Research Manager of the Research Centre for Health and Applied Technology, University College Northern Denmark

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09:40 - 10:25  **Keynote 1: Policy perspectives and challenges**  
**Auditorium 14.01.007.**

Dr Ana Luisa Neves is Director of the Global Digital Health Unit (GDHU), a research hub for innovation and entrepreneurship in health care, at Imperial College, UK. Ana is involved in developing innovative, evidence-based digital solutions for delivering healthcare and health promotion, and for supporting public health research to deliver safer, more effective, and patient-centred care.

Ana has also been involved in the academic support to the WHO Global Patient Safety Collaborative, a multi-national consortium designed to strengthen leadership, capacity building and research development in low and middle-income countries. Dr Ana Luisa Neves is currently Vice-Chair of the European General Practice Research Network and Chair of the Working Party on eHealth of the World Organisation of General Practice.

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10:25 - 10:35 **Questions in plenum**

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10:35 - 10:40 **Break**

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10:40 - 11:40 **Track A: Flash talks on Challenges in practice and from a citizen perspective regarding DHL**  
**Room 11.00.035.**

Chair: Lisa Korsbakke Emtækær Hæsum, Ph.D. from the Research Centre for Health and Applied Technology & Associate professor at the nursing programme, University College Northern Denmark.

As digital technologies become increasingly integrated into healthcare systems across Europe, both professionals and citizens face significant challenges in navigating digital health literacy. For healthcare providers, the rapid evolution of digital tools requires continuous adaptation, training, and the ability to critically assess the reliability and security of digital health solutions. Integrating these tools into existing workflows while ensuring equitable access and data privacy presents ongoing difficulties.

From a citizen perspective, disparities in digital health literacy can contribute to health inequalities. Many individuals struggle with accessing, understanding, and using digital health information effectively due to factors such as age, socioeconomic status, education, and digital access. Trust in digital platforms, concerns over data security, and the overwhelming volume of online health information further complicate the citizen experience.

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10:40 - 11:40 **Track B: Scientific presentations on Inequalities in DHL**  
**Auditorium 14.01.007.**

Chair: Anna Diop-Christensen, Ph.D. from the Research Centre for Health and Applied Technology, University College Northern Denmark.

Digital health literacy is a critical factor in ensuring equitable access to healthcare information and services in the digital age. However, significant inequalities persist across different populations, driven by factors such as age, education level, socioeconomic status, geographic location, and cultural or linguistic barriers. Individuals from underserved communities, older adults, and those with limited digital skills often face difficulties in accessing, understanding, and using digital health resources effectively.

These disparities can lead to unequal health outcomes, reduced engagement with healthcare systems, and increased vulnerability to misinformation. As healthcare continues to digitalize, addressing these inequalities is essential to prevent the widening of existing health gaps. Efforts must focus on promoting inclusive digital education, improving access to technology, and designing user-friendly, culturally sensitive digital health tools that cater to the diverse needs of all citizens.

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11:40 - 11:50 **Break**

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11:50 - 12:20 **Panel discussion: Bringing practice, citizen and research perspectives together.**  
**Auditorium 14.01.007.**

Facilitated by Lisa Korsbakke Emtækær Hæsum & Anna Diop-Christensen.

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12:20 - 13:05 **Lunch**

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13:05 - 13:50



**Keynote 2: Measurement of the levels of digital health literacy - what may the future perspectives be**

**Auditorium 14.01.007.**

Lars Kayser, Ph.D. and Professor from Section for Health Services Research, University of Copenhagen.

Research on individuals' and populations' levels of digital health literacy is often reported without addressing the potential impact of the underlying concept, which may result in difficulties in interpreting the relevance of the data. The keynote will address this problem and discuss future perspectives in relation to how to understand digital health literacy.

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13:50 - 14:00 **Questions in plenum**

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14:00 - 14:45 **Poster walk**

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14:45 - 15:30



**Track A: Mini-masterclass on How to assess DHL on a routine basis**

**Room 11.00.035.**

By Mika Uitto, Doctoral Researcher at Seinäjoki University of Applied Sciences, SeAMK, Finland.

Why, How and Whether to Assess Health Literacy

This workshop aims to explore why health literacy should be assessed, how it can be assessed, and to what extent it is relevant to do so. Participants will understand the relevance of assessing health literacy, learn about methods and tools for assessment and discuss the benefits and challenges. Some of the insights presented will be based on findings from the research project Improving Digital Empowerment for Active Healthy Living (IDEAHL), funded under the Horizon Europe Framework Programme.

See Mika's introduction of the mini-masterclass.

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14:45 - 15:30 **Track B: Scientific presentations on Assessing and monitoring DHL in practice**

**Auditorium 14.01.007.**

Chair: Robert Griebler, Ph.D. and Senior researcher at the Austrian National Public Health Institute, Vienna.

Understanding and tracking digital health literacy (DHL) is crucial for improving healthcare accessibility and outcomes. This session explores practical approaches to assessing and monitoring DHL in diverse settings, from clinical environments to community-based initiatives. Participants will learn about key assessment tools, data collection methods, and strategies for integrating DHL monitoring into routine practice.

By identifying literacy gaps and measuring progress over time, healthcare professionals, policymakers, and organizations can develop targeted interventions to enhance digital health engagement and reduce health inequalities.

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15:30 - 15:45 **Coffee break**

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15:45 - 16:15 **Panel discussion: Bringing practice and research together.**

**Auditorium 14.01.007.**

Facilitated by Robert Griebler & Mika Uitto.

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16:15 - 16:30



**Concluding remarks: Digital Health Literacy – A visionary Outlook**

**Auditorium 14.01.007.**

Henrik Bøggild, Ph.D., Associate Professor and research director of the Public Health and Epidemiology group, Department of Health Science and Technology (Aalborg University).

[Click here to see Henrik's introduction](#)

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16:45 - 17:45 **Social event**

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18:00 - 18:30

**Walk from the conference venue to the conference dinner venue**

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18:30 - 22:00

**Conference dinner**

**Location: the Atria by Food & Co., University College Northern Denmark, Selma Lagerløfs Vej 2, 9220 Aalborg.**  
Find your way to Selma Lagerløfs Vej 2 with Google Maps

Join for an evening with delicious food, music from young artists and networking.

09:00 - 09:10 **Welcome and introduction to the day**

**Auditorium 14.01.007.**

Henrik Bøggild, Ph.D., Associate Professor and research director of the Public Health and Epidemiology group, Department of Health Science and Technology (Aalborg University).

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09:10 - 09:55



**Keynote 3: Experience and organisational perspectives from developing a centralised eHealth system in Denmark**

**Auditorium 14.01.007.**

Klaus Larsen is the Program Director for the creation of Digital Healthcare Denmark, which is a part of the National Healthcare Reform. Former IT Director for Digitalization and IT in the North Denmark Region. He has worked with technology and the health system in Denmark for more than 25 years and has been an expert member of the Danish Resilience Commission, and currently expert member of the Danish taskforce for implementing artificial intelligence in the public sector.

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09:55 - 10:05

**Questions in plenum**

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10:05 - 10:20

**Break**

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10:20 - 11:20



**Track A: Mini-masterclass on How to use and develop digital literacy in health organisations**

**Room 11.00.035.**

By Jacob Østergaard Madsen, Ph.D. from the Research Centre for Health and Applied Technology and Associate lecturer at the occupational therapy programme, University College Northern Denmark.

Digital literacy is essential for modern healthcare organizations to effectively implement digital health solutions, improve patient engagement, and enhance service delivery. This mini-masterclass provides research-based insights into developing and fostering digital literacy within health organizations. Participants will explore strategies for training healthcare professionals and integrating digital skills into daily workflows, as a basis for continuous learning and technical innovation. Some of the insights presented will be based on findings from the research project Improving Digital Empowerment for Active Healthy Living (IDEAHL), funded under the Horizon Europe Framework Programme.

Join this session to gain actionable knowledge on building digital competence in health organizations, ensuring better adoption of digital health tools and improved healthcare outcomes.

[Click here to see Jacob's introduction of the mini-masterclass](#)

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10:20 - 11:20

**Track B: Scientific presentations on Advancing organizational health literacy in the public and private sectors**

**Auditorium 14.01.007.**

Chair: Kristine Sørensen, Ph.D. and Director at Global Health Literacy Academy.

Organizational health literacy plays a key role in ensuring that healthcare institutions, businesses, and policymakers create environments where individuals can easily access, understand, and use health information. Both public and private sector organizations must work towards integrating clear communication, user-friendly digital tools, and inclusive policies to support diverse populations.

This session explores strategies for embedding health literacy into organizational practices, fostering cross-sector collaboration, and leveraging digital solutions to improve health outcomes. Join us to discover how advancing organizational health literacy can lead to more effective, equitable, and person-centered healthcare systems.

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11:20 - 11:35

**Break**

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11:35 - 12:05

**Panel discussion: Bringing practice and research together**

**Auditorium 14.01.007.**

Facilitated by Jacob Østergaard Madsen & Kristine Sørensen.

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12:05 - 12:50

**Lunch**

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12:50 - 13:35



## **Keynote 4: Developing and evaluating measures/strategies of Digital Health Literacy – from research to practice and policy**

**Auditorium 14.01.007.**

Diane Levin-Zamir, Ph.D. and Director of the National Department of Health Education and Promotion of Clalit, and Professor of Health Promotion in the School of Public Health in University of Haifa.

The use of digital resources (such as mobile devices, wearable sensors, electronic health records, social media) to provide information, promote health behavior, monitor health, diagnose illness and manage chronic conditions is intended to improve health outcomes, increase quality and access to care and even to help manage healthcare costs. Digital health literacy of citizens and the healthcare professionals is an essential asset for achieving these goals and overcoming hurdles especially among target groups. Promising examples of practice, measuring progress, and recommendations for health promoting policy will be presented.

13:35 - 13:45

### **Questions in plenum**

13:45 - 13:50

### **Break**

13:50 - 14:50



## **Track A: Workshop on “The Global Atlas of Literacies for Health (GALH)” for identifying existing DHL and HL in practice and for policy making in health care**

**Room 11.00.035.**

By Gabriela Irrazabal, Ph.D. and Research Fellow at the RMIT University (Australia) located in Barcelona.

The Global Atlas of Literacies for Health (GALH) is a powerful tool designed to map and analyse existing levels of digital health literacy (DHL) and health literacy (HL) across different populations. This workshop will introduce participants to the GALH framework and co-design methodology, demonstrating how it can be used to assess literacy levels, identify gaps, and inform policy-making and practical interventions in healthcare. Some of the insights presented will be based on findings from the research project Improving Digital Empowerment for Active Healthy Living (IDEAHL), funded under the Horizon Europe Framework Programme.

Join this session to explore how GALH can support evidence-based decision-making, promote health equity, and drive the development of targeted strategies to enhance digital and health literacy at local, national, and global levels.

[Click here to see Gabriela's introduction of the workshop](#)

13:50 - 14:50

## **Track B: Scientific presentations on Developing and evaluating strategies and interventions to address insufficient DHL**

**Auditorium 14.01.007.**

Chair: Sarah Wamala Andersson, Ph.D. and Professor of Health and Welfare Technology, Mälardalen University.

Insufficient digital health literacy (DHL) can create barriers to accessing healthcare, making it essential to develop and evaluate effective strategies and interventions. This session will explore innovative approaches to improving DHL, including education programs, user-friendly digital tools, and community-based initiatives.

Participants will gain insights into best practices for designing, implementing, and assessing interventions that enhance digital health skills among diverse populations. Join us to discuss how evidence-based strategies can bridge digital health literacy gaps and promote equitable access to digital health resources.

14:50 - 15:05

### **Coffee break**

15:05 - 15:50

## **Panel discussion and founding meeting for the Digital Health Equity Network: Continuing the work of bringing practice and research together**

**Auditorium 14.01.007.**

Facilitated by Gabriela Irrazabal & Sarah Wamala Andersson.

15:50 - 16:30

## **Closing session on Avenues for collaborative research and practice on digital health literacy, and announcement of awards**

**Auditorium 14.01.007.**

Kristine Sørensen, Ph.D. and Director at Global Health Literacy Academy & Diana Schack Thoft, PhD and Research Manager of the Research Centre for Health and Applied Technology, University College Northern Denmark