

Titulo: Scaling Across Functional Domains: A Case of Implementing an Electronic HIV Patient Information System in Sierra Leone

Autores:

1. [Eric Adu-Gyamfi](#)
2. [Petter Nielsen](#)
3. Johan Ivar Sæbø
4. [Zeferino Saugene](#)

Resumo

With adherence to treatment, HIV positives can live a normal life. Accordingly, investments are made and health systems are expanded to reach those at risk in developing countries, where HIV is reported to be most endemic. At the same time, many developing countries still rely heavily on paper-based tools which are found to be inefficient when large numbers of patients are involved and of limited use to support follow ups and assure adherence to treatment. In this paper, as we move from an existing paper base and to a digital and online information management system, we focus on improving our understanding of how to use an existing system made for collecting, aggregating and presenting population based routine data to support individual follow-up of HIV positives and their adherence to treatment. We approach this through an action research project in Sierra Leone where we have piloted a HIV patient information management system. We contribute insights on health information system scaling with emphasis on building on existing systems in developing new functionalities rather than introducing entirely new systems. Within this approach we observe the need for technological flexibility and organizational collaboration in utilizing existing resources for efficiency gains