

WHO – AHPSR

The Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research (AHPSR) - data governance through a Learning Health Systems lens

A critical challenge for health data governance is ensuring that the data does not just populate centralized reports and dashboards, but also that they contribute effectively to continuous learning at all levels of health systems. For this, health data needs to be better oriented to the needs of health systems and communities, presented in a form that is helpful for decisionmakers working at different levels of health system, and available when they need it. Such a learning focus has multiple advantages – including improved health system functions but also more adaptivity within the health system and potential for innovation.

The Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research is launching its flagship report on Learning Health Systems, which has several examples of good practices of how health data can contribute to learning goals. The report also provides a framework for actions that can be taken by different stakeholders to advance learning in health systems.

A key message in this report is that there are two ways to enhance the learning focus in health data governance:

- The first is to strengthen personnel capacities for the generation and use of relevant health data and evidence, and to find ways to deploy those capacities effectively through appropriate roles in the health system.
- The second is institutionalization - the generation and use of data and evidence needs to be routinized and coordinated throughout the health system. This requires the strengthening of systems for data aggregation and deployment across a range of policy and service delivery units / entities in the health system.

The flagship report will be launched in July 2021. Visit the Alliance's website <https://ahpsr.who.int/> for updates.