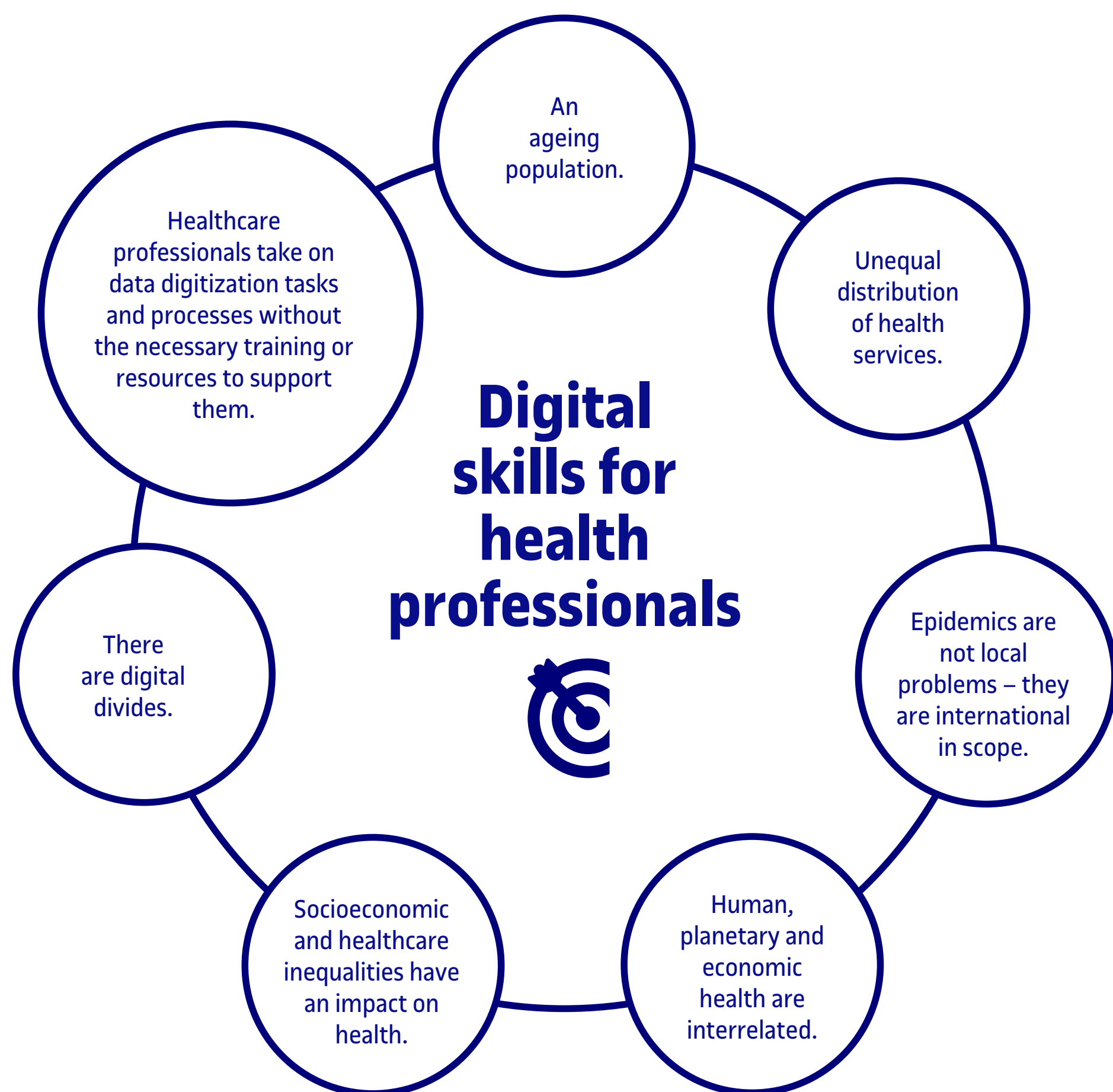


Digital skills for health professionals

The pandemic has had an impact on the mass deployment of digital tools in healthcare. However, with the return to face-to-face care, remote care using digital technologies has not cemented its position.



Digital health is an opportunity to address these challenges and ensure that health is a universal right, but...

The digital transformation of the healthcare sector is taking place slowly in comparison to other fields.

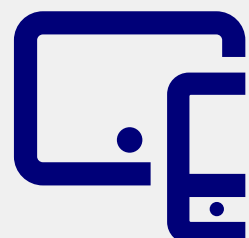
There are **many factors hindering the implementation** of digital health: technological, economic, legal, organizational and human.

The lack of skills and competencies in the use of digital solutions among professionals is one of the most important factors.

What skills do healthcare professionals need to successfully incorporate digital health into their professional practice?

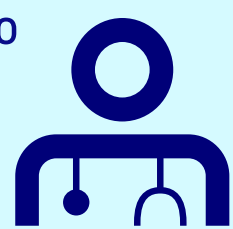
Data and information management

This involves collecting data in the appropriate format, critically evaluating them using digital health tools, and integrating them into clinical practice and decision-making.



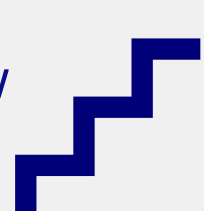
Clinical practice and applications

The ability to adapt clinical practice to technological disruptions, and to assess the patient holistically and determine when remote or face-to-face care is needed.



Professional development

This involves lifelong learning, and the ability to choose tools for the evaluation and telemonitoring of patients, and identify how they may affect their health and their relationship with professionals.



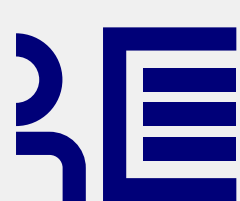
Evaluation and quality

Awareness of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and risks of digital health tools, including in professional practice, and determining the advantages and disadvantages of remote care compared to face-to-face care.



Patient education, literacy and empowerment

The ability to improve users' and other professionals' digital health literacy, and use e learning technologies for patients' and other professionals' teaching and learning



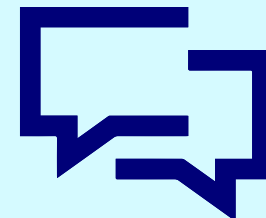
Professionalism

Being able to act according to the professional guidelines and policies of the organization and the system. Managing the digital footprint, and maintaining and achieving the shared health goal.



Communication, collaboration and participation

The ability to communicate and collaborate through digital channels, taking into account the needs of users and professionals, while maintaining the privacy and confidentiality of data.



Ethics, deontology and legislation

Command of the ethical use of digital health technologies in accordance with the organization's policies and the applicable legislation. Informed consent must be obtained from the patient.



Planning

Being able to choose the digital health solution that meets the patient's needs or professional goals, to lead digital health projects and to identify challenges, barriers and facilitators.



Safety

Using digital health technologies to improve patients' safety and managing the risk arising from this use. Anticipating risk depending on the patient's characteristics.



Technical skills

The ability to identify evidence on digital health interventions and tools being used or which are planned to be implemented, and being able to solve problems arising from the use of these technologies.



Health professionals must be trained in digital health so that they are aware of the most effective health applications, and how to apply data science in order to make clinical decisions. This knowledge will also help them to promote health and to create more empowered citizens with greater health literacy.

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