

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: **IJAR-52970**

Date: 26-07-2025

Title: Digital Health Transformation through ABHA Scan and Share in Punjab: A Field-Level Implementation Review

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓		
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity	✓			
Significance		✓		

Reviewer Name: Dr Aamina

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

Title Evaluation

The title precisely communicates the focus of the study—namely the digital health transformation through the ABHA "Scan and Share" feature under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission in Punjab. It clearly establishes the scope, location, and operational focus of the review.

Abstract Evaluation

The abstract provides a concise overview of the study, outlining its purpose, methodology, and scope. It specifies the use of field-level data and identifies the implementation period from April 2024 to July 2025. The emphasis on OPD registration via ABHA QR codes highlights a specific intervention within the broader ABDM framework. The keywords included are appropriate and relevant to the subject matter, improving discoverability and indexing.

Introduction Evaluation

The introduction effectively sets the context by referencing the broader Digital India initiative. It draws a relatable comparison with digital payments to underscore the digital transformation trajectory in India. The narrative naturally transitions into the relevance of digitizing healthcare, particularly pointing out the discrepancy between private and public healthcare facilities in terms of digital infrastructure. This creates a strong justification for the study's focus.

Content and Scope

The scope of the review appears appropriately defined, centering on district-level public hospitals in Punjab. By narrowing the investigation to the "Scan and Share" feature of OPD registration, the study maintains clarity and direction. The use of field observations and facility-level data enhances the authenticity and credibility of the review. The time frame of over a year also supports a thorough analysis of trends and outcomes.

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Methodological Framing

Although the methodology is not elaborated upon in the excerpt provided, the mention of direct observations and data collection from public facilities indicates a qualitative, possibly mixed-method approach. This is suitable for implementation reviews in real-world healthcare settings, where both quantitative data and contextual insights are important.

Relevance and Contribution

The study holds significant relevance in the ongoing evolution of India's public healthcare delivery, especially under the ABDM. By documenting on-ground experiences, the study adds valuable insights into digital public health initiatives and their practical viability at the district level. It also potentially contributes to policy-level discourse, particularly in streamlining OPD processes and increasing digital health adoption.

Language and Tone

The language used in the introduction is accessible and informal, which could aid in wider comprehension across administrative and clinical readers. The comparison with everyday digital tools like UPI creates an immediate connection with the audience, though it slightly departs from traditional academic tone.

Conclusion

Overall, the introductory section and abstract indicate a study of practical importance, embedded in real-time healthcare challenges and opportunities. The focus on public sector digitization aligns with national health priorities and the review seems well-positioned to inform both policy and implementation strategies in digital health infrastructure across Indian states.