

2026 EMPOWERING HEALTH CONFERENCE

BRIDGING THE FUTURE OF HEALTH: EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH TECHNOLOGICAL PREPAREDNESS, INNOVATION, & ACCESSIBILITY

PROGRAM AGENDA | MAY 7, 2026

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

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**Register for the
Conference**

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9:00am - 9:15am **Conference Welcome and Opening remarks**

- Overview of conference
- Discussion of conference format

9:15am - 10:00am **Securing the Future of Health: AI Governance, Cyber Readiness, and Institutional Accountability**

Learning Objectives

- **Establish Governance and Compliance:** Develop clear organizational structures to manage legal responsibilities and regulatory requirements for AI integration.
- **Strengthen Cyber Readiness:** Implement practical frameworks to protect sensitive health data and mitigate risks from increasing cybersecurity threats.
- **Embed Ethical Safeguards:** Apply strategies for responsible AI use, focusing on privacy, informed consent, bias mitigation, and transparency to maintain public trust.

10:00am - 10:15am **Morning Break 1**

10:15am - 11:00am **Bridging Innovation to Infrastructure: Building the Digital Backbone of Future Health**

Learning Objectives

- **Evaluate Infrastructure Requirements:** Identify the technical "backbone"—including interoperable data systems and scalable platforms—necessary to transition health innovations into home and community settings.
- **Assess Institutional Readiness:** Determine the organizational capacity and strategic shifts required to implement and sustain emerging technologies like AI-diagnostics and remote monitoring.
- **Analyze Implementation Outcomes:** Critique real-world case studies to identify the specific infrastructure factors that lead to the success or failure of resilient health ecosystems.

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11:00am - 11:15am **Morning Break 2**

11:15am - 12:00pm **Universal Innovation: Advancing AI Without Leaving Communities Behind**

Learning Objectives

- Implement "Parity by Design": Apply practical methods to prioritize accessibility and inclusion from the initial development phase of AI and emerging tools.
- Modernize Inclusive Program Delivery: Develop strategies to ensure digital health and social services are responsive to the specific needs of older adults, caregivers, and those in low-connectivity areas.
- Bridge Digital Divides: Utilize AI as a tool for empowerment by identifying and removing barriers for individuals with disabilities or limited technical access.

12:00pm - 1:00pm **Lunch**

1:00pm - 1:45pm **Practical AI Integration for Health Education: Enhancing Learning with Human-Centered Technology**

Learning Objectives

- Automate Administrative and Clinical Workflows: Apply practical AI methods to reduce administrative burdens and develop synthetic patient simulations that sharpen clinical reasoning.
- Design Human-in-the-Loop Systems: Create educational frameworks where AI acts as a "force multiplier," supporting mentors and educators while maintaining essential human oversight.
- Translate AI Tools to Patient Outcomes: Implement AI-driven mentorship and feedback loops that directly improve the quality of future patient-provider interactions.

1:45pm - 2:00pm **Afternoon Break 1**

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2:00pm - 2:45pm The Future of Work in Health: Human + AI Collaboration in Workforce Development

Learning Objectives

- Analyze the "Human + AI" Care Model: Evaluate the transition from traditional healthcare roles to collaborative models where technology augments clinical and administrative workflows.
- Identify Emerging Career Pathways: Recognize new and shifting professional roles within the healthcare workforce created by the integration of AI and automation.
- Develop Strategic Training Frameworks: Formulate workforce development and leadership strategies to effectively train staff and foster cross-disciplinary collaboration during technological transitions.

2:45pm - 3:00pm Afternoon Break 2

3:00pm - 3:50pm KEYNOTE Presentation: Global Digital Health in Action: UMD SPH Capstone Innovations

Learning Objectives

- Connect Local Insights to Global Policy: Analyze how community-level health data is integrated into global networks to inform modern health policy and precision medicine.
- Evaluate Data-to-Action Systems: Identify the technical and strategic frameworks that transform raw digital health data into actionable outcomes for improved patient care.
- Analyze Capstone Innovations: Critique real-world research from UMD SPH to understand how next-generation digital tools are solving complex, large-scale global health challenges.

3:50pm - 4:00pm Closing Remarks

About UME Marylanders Online

Marylanders Online is an initiative through the University of Maryland Extension (UME) and the College of Information (INFO) with support from state funding. The Marylanders Online program serves as an accessible digital literacy resource that is working to close the digital divide experienced by the millions of Maryland residents who lack access to the internet, a digital device, or the skills to utilize either. Through the provision of quality resources - from education and training to curricula and tech support - the mission of Marylanders Online is to promote digital literacy, equity, and inclusion throughout the state of Maryland.

TECH SUPPORT HELPLINE



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