



How to Prepare for Digital Transformation in Healthcare and Life Sciences

Your checklist to digital-transformation readiness

Digital transformation in healthcare and life sciences is no longer optional – it’s essential for addressing challenges such as staff shortages, regulatory pressures and rising research and development costs. However, [our report with IDC](#) last year found that 59% of organisations believed their investment in digital transformation projects had been wasted.

To avoid this waste and ensure success in the next wave of transformation towards AI, organisations must be well prepared. We’ve put together this guide to provide a high-level view of eight steps to transformation-readiness.

These steps will help you build a strong foundation, prioritise next actions and position your organisation to unlock the full potential of AI and other transformative technologies.

Evaluate existing systems

For any successful transformation project, you’ll need modern, robust and flexible systems that can support emerging technologies. Identify which ageing clinical, operational and supply chain systems need modernising with cloud-based solutions to enable seamless integration of AI, Internet of Things (IoT) and data analytics.

Embed compliance in every decision

In a highly regulated industry, maintaining compliance with regulations such as GDPR, HIPAA and GxP is key. Map out how compliance will be maintained throughout the project to avoid costly setbacks.

Assess your organisation’s digital maturity

Gaps in skills, infrastructure and workflows could all hinder transformation efforts. Ensure that your organisation’s existing processes, technologies and culture all align with your digital transformation goals.

Build a strong data foundation

Siloed data across clinical, operational and research departments create barriers to transformation. Ensure that systems and stakeholders can access consistent, reliable data to enable real-time insights for patient care and efficient research and development.

Commit to patient-centric innovation

Our recent report found that a people-centric approach to innovation makes a significant impact, with 74% of businesses claiming it frequently or very frequently provides positive business benefits. Ensure your organisation prioritises patient-centric approaches to drive patient empowerment and better healthcare outcomes.

Standardise data and integration frameworks

Agree upon and adopt key frameworks for your digital transformation project. Whether this is ensuring FAIR data principles or adopting frameworks like FHIR and HL7 to ensure seamless integration, early agreement can ensure smoother integration.

Set out change management and engagement strategies

Digital transformation can cause disruption and significant change to any organisation. Ensure your teams are prepared with frameworks such as ADKAR and Kotter’s 8-Step Model to support alignment across stakeholders. By making sure communication and feedback tools are in place, transformation can be simplified and embraced.

Collaborate with experts

Lean on experts who have led digital transformation projects successfully in your industry. Look for technology leaders who understand the nuances, regulations and opportunities across healthcare, pharma and biotech to ensure your transformation delivers measurable outcomes.

Ready to kickstart your digital transformation?

Download our tailored whitepapers for practical strategies to support your projects.

Accelerate transformation in healthcare

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Enable transformation in life sciences

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