- Why should we re-imagine health regulation?

- Three pillars of the re-imagined regulation

  - Adaptability

  - Compassion

  - Data-Driven

- Regulation in the EAC reciprocal recognition model

- Call to Action

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Why should we re-imagine health regulation?

Re-Imagining Health regulation

- **Rapid Innovation** – Technology like AI and telemedicine is outpacing outdated regulatory models.

- **Health Workforce Crisis** – Migration, burnout, and shortages demand flexible, supportive regulation.

- **Patient Expectations** – People want dignified, transparent, and responsive care systems.

- **System Resilience** – Adaptive regulation helps systems respond to shocks like pandemics.

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Re-Imagining Health regulation

- **Reduced Harm** – Compassionate oversight lowers fear, improves practitioner behavior, and promotes healing.

- **Evidence-Based Oversight** – Data enables smarter decisions, risk targeting, and policy reform.

- **Regional Integration** – In the EAC, harmonized data and mutual recognition need adaptive governance.

- **Trust & Accountability** – Compassion and transparency build public and practitioner trust in regulators.

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Pillar 1 of Reimagined Health Regulation: **ADAPTABILITY**

PROUDLY HOSTED BY

THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

UGANDA MEDICAL AND DENTAL PRACTITIONERS' COUNCIL

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ADAPTIVITY

- Risk-based regulation – Prioritize high risk regulation areas

- Future-proof laws that anticipate

- Pace of innovation & technology advancement

- Knowledgeable citizenry

- Crisis readiness

- Generational changes & Human Resource for Health Management

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Pillar 2 of Reimagined Health Regulation: COMPASSION

COMPASSION

- Shift from punitive to supportive culture

- Support for distressed practitioners

- Respect for patient dignity

- Empathy vs Authority

- Hand holding style of regulation

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Pillar 3 of Reimagined Health Regulation: DATA-DRIVEN

DATA DRIVEN

- Real-time workforce data

- E-licensing and biometric systems

- Regional data interoperability

- Outcome-based monitoring

- Data informing adaptability and compassion regulation modalities

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ADAPTABILITY

- **Flexible Licensing for Cross-Border Practice**
  - Regulators must adapt licensing systems to allow real-time recognition and mobility of qualified health professionals across EAC states.

- **Agile Laws to Support Innovation**
  - National legal frameworks should permit task-shifting, digital health, and evolving scopes of practice while aligning with EAC protocols.

- **Emergency Response Mechanisms**
  - Adaptive regulation allows rapid deployment of practitioners across borders during crises (e.g., epidemics), under temporary reciprocal licensing.

COMPASSION

- **Practitioner-Centric Complaint Systems**
  - A re-imagined framework should support peer review, mediation, and rehabilitative approaches rather than punitive-only models.

- **Protection of Patient Dignity Across Borders**
  - Uniform ethical standards across EAC ensure patients are treated with respect and care, regardless of jurisdiction.

- **Support Systems for Migrant Practitioners**
  - Compassionate regulation ensures fair treatment, psychosocial support, and inclusion for health workers relocating within the region.

DATA-DRIVEN

- **Regional Workforce Intelligence**
  - A harmonized, real-time health workforce registry across EAC enables efficient verification, deployment, and planning.

- **Evidence-Based Policy Reform**
  - Regulatory decisions (e.g., disciplinary trends, shortages, licensing gaps) should be informed by shared cross-country data analytics.

- **Development of a online database**
  - EAC Medical and Dental Councils are in the process of developing a platform where the EAC registrars can easily share and access practitioners' data

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DATA-DRIVEN

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CALL TO ACTION

- Review legislation to allow for adaptability

- Compassionate complaints handling – but firm

- Invest in data systems to inform regulatory decision making

- Consistently engage practitioners and patients as stakeholders

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EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITYY

"A health system is only as strong as its regulators—and only as trusted as its compassion."