

AMCOA

ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL COUNCILS OF AFRICA



RESPONSIVE REGULATION
FOR SAFER COMMUNITIES
TOWARDS UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE

28TH
**ANNUAL
CONFERENCE**

ACCRA, GHANA

23 – 27 AUGUST 2026

DEDICATED TO PROTECTING THE PUBLIC AND ADVANCING PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN AFRICA

Africa Healthcare Regulatory Authorities Data Exchange Infrastructure

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Digital Registers

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Digital registers: from national systems to regional intelligence

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DATA REGISTER DEFINED

A **data registry** is a centralized index of data assets, records, or entities that helps an organization find, manage, and trust information. It usually stores metadata, identifiers, and governance details rather than the raw data itself. For healthcare regulators, a well-run registry reduces duplicates, improves interoperability, and supports compliance

DIFFERENCE WITH DATA

A registry is not the same thing as the **data** itself; it is the organized layer that tells you what the data is, where it came from, who owns it, and whether it can be trusted. In practice, that makes a registry useful for governance, search, validation, and controlled sharing.

Database-stores operational records for transactions and applications, while a registry is usually designed to index, classify, and govern those records

Data Registry in Kenya

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The platform retrieves and exchanges authoritative information —

INFORMATION PROVIDED ON THE PLATFORM

- Medical practitioner's registration
- Dental practitioner's registration
- Medical practitioners licensing status
- Dental practitioners licensing status
- Oral health officers registration status
- Oral health officers licensing status
- Health facilities registration
- Health facilities licensing status
- Health facilities operating status (Closed, suspended, active)

APIs allow KMPDC to integrate systems with other relevant agencies such as the Digital Health Agency, Health Insurers, without exchanging Excel files, emails or letters.

Digital registers: from national systems to regional intelligence

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The opportunity is a trusted federated regulatory ecosystem — not one giant EAC register.

National Digital Registers → Interoperable National Registers → EAC Regulatory Data Exchange → Regional Regulatory Intelligence

NATIONAL REGISTERS TYPICALLY COVER

- Medical and dental practitioners
- Specialists and other regulated professionals
- Health facilities and training institutions

FEDERATED OPERATING PRINCIPLE

Each regulator remains the authoritative source of national data; the EAC infrastructure enables trusted, controlled exchange.

Each national regulator remains the single source of truth

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The regional platform should retrieve and exchange authoritative information — not create competing records.

- **KMPDC** → Kenyan practitioners
- **UMDPC** → Ugandan practitioners
- **RMDC** → Rwandese practitioners

REGIONAL PLATFORM ROLE

- Query the responsible regulator
- Return authoritative status information
- Preserve national legal responsibility for records

Minimum Common Data Set: identity and registration

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Data element	Example
Unique practitioner identifier	EAC / Member State ID
Full name	Practitioner name
Country of registration	Kenya
Profession	Medical practitioner
Qualification	MBChB / BDS
Specialty	Surgery, OB/Gyn, I.Med, Paeds etc
Registration status	Registered

Minimum Common Data Set: licence, status and provenance

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Data element	Example
Licence status	Current / Expired
Registration date	Date
Licence expiry	Date
Restrictions	Yes / No
Disciplinary status	Where legally shareable
Source regulator	National regulator
Last verification date	Date

Not every field needs to be publicly visible; access must follow purpose and authorisation.

Prioritise verification over unrestricted data sharing

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Real-time verification can answer a regulatory question without exposing the full record. For example:

RMDC REQUESTS

- Name
- Registration number
- Country

KMPDC RESPONDS

- Verified / Not Verified
- Authorised additional information, where appropriate

This request-response model is faster, targeted and more privacy-conscious.

An EAC regulatory “passport” could represent trusted status

The passport would not replace national registration; it would provide a controlled digital representation across the EAC.

Identity → Qualification → Registration → Licence → Specialty → CPD → Good Standing → Restrictions

A trusted status chain could support controlled cross-border professional mobility while national regulators retain authority.

Modern digital registers should be API-enabled

A register must offer secure, standardised services — not only a public search page.

- Practitioner verification API
- Qualification verification API
- Licence verification API
- Good-standing verification API
- Facility verification API
- Registration-status API

APIs allow regulators to integrate systems without exchanging Excel files, emails or letters.