# DGDM
**Deutsche Gesellschaft für Digitale Medizin**

# DEFINITION: DIGITAL MEDICINE

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Digital and digitally supported healthcare is becoming increasingly important in Germany. However, unlike neighboring fields such as medical informatics, there is currently no generally valid definition for digital medicine that comprehensively describes this area of healthcare. Following extensive discussions, authors from the German Society for Digital Medicine (DGDM) therefore developed the first definition of "digital medicine".

An initial version of this definition was presented and discussed with both the members of the society and the DGDM's scientific advisory board in order to integrate various interdisciplinary and trans-sectoral perspectives. After extensive discussion, the definition was improved and expanded. The current expanded version was presented for discussion at the DGDM's first scientific roundtable in September 2024 in front of a specialist audience and an expert panel.

> **Digital Medicine** is the scientific field focused on the digital and digitally-supported care for individuals, which includes health preservation, diagnosis, monitoring, treatment, disease prevention and disability compensation.

In interdisciplinary and trans-sectoral care contexts, Digital Medicine employs digital concepts and technologies that assist and support patients, physicians, psychotherapists, nursing staff and allied healthcare professionals in their medical practice.

Digital Medicine is an interdisciplinary field that deals with the use of digital technologies and concepts for diagnostic, therapeutic, and scientific purposes, including telemedicine, Digital Health, Artificial Intelligence, Sensors, Internet of Things (IoT), Extended Reality (XR), Ambient Assisted Living (AAL). Digital Medicine tools can be used independently or in combination with medications, biologics, devices or other products to optimize healthcare delivery.

Digital Medicine requires broad expertise and the responsibility for evidence-based use of digital tools. Therefore, the generation of evidence to support the utilization of digital technologies and care is a primary focus of Digital Medicine as scientific discipline, rather than a focus on informatics in terms of data acquisition, management, storage, processing, and provision.