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Al and Healthcare in Greece: Country Assessment Report

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AI and Healthcare in Greece: Country Assessment Report

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Executive Summary

Greece is transitioning from a late digital adopter to a fast reformer in the field of digital health and artificial intelligence (AI). This transformation is anchored in two major strategic frameworks. The first is the *Digital Transformation Bible 2020–2025*, the country's foundational digital policy document, which describes hundreds of projects across the public sector and explicitly prioritises the digital modernisation of health services. The second is the 2024 national AI strategy, A Blueprint for Greece's AI Transformation, developed by the High-Level Advisory Committee on Artificial Intelligence under the Prime Minister and coordinated by the Special Secretariat of Foresight. This blueprint sets out a comprehensive vision for AI in Greece, including a clear emphasis on applications in healthcare and public administration.

At the infrastructure level, Greece has built very strong national "digital rails" for health. The national e-Prescription and e-Dispensation system, the MyHealth mobile application, and the National Electronic Health Record (EHR) operated by IDIKA S.A. provide, as of 2025, near-universal coverage for prescriptions and an increasingly rich longitudinal record of patient data. In contrast, hospital information systems remain heterogeneous, fragmented and often poorly interoperable. A Q2 2025 Black Book Research survey of 122 Greek hospital and physician-practice administrators found that only fourteen percent of

providers reported having integrated, fully functional digital health records in routine care, while ninety-eight percent expressed dissatisfaction with their current EHR environment.^d Despite these challenges, Greece has begun to introduce AI directly into the National Health System (NHS). In October 2025, the Ministry of Health launched the *Digital Doctor Assistant*, an AI-based tool that allows physicians to query the national EHR through the myHealthDoc platform using natural language and voice commands. It is widely described by national authorities and media as the first operational AI application embedded in the Greek NHS.^e

Overall, Greece combines advanced national digital infrastructure with uneven clinical digitisation and limited interoperability. The country is well positioned to leverage EU funding, national AI strategy and high-performance computing resources to become a regional hub for AI in health, provided it can close the gap between national platforms and hospital-level systems and invest systematically in workforce skills and data governance.

1 Policy and Governance

Greece's digital and AI governance framework is built around a combination of horizontal and sector-specific strategies. The *Digital Transformation Bible 2020–2025* provides the overarching roadmap for public-sector digitisation. It is implemented within the legal framework established by Law 4727/2020 and coordinated by the Ministry of Digital Governance, which holds central responsibility for government ICT systems and digital services. Within this framework, health is treated as a priority domain, with flagship projects that include the Personal Electronic Health Record, hospital information system upgrades, and telemedicine.¹

The 2024 strategy A Blueprint for Greece's AI Transformation adds a dedicated layer focused specifically on artificial intelligence. Developed by a High-Level Advisory Committee on AI and the Special Secretariat of Foresight, the blueprint articulates a vision in which AI supports innovation, economic competitiveness, social cohesion and democratic resilience. The document highlights a set of priority domains in which AI is expected to have significant impact, including healthcare, public administration, justice, and education.² In health, the blueprint emphasises the potential of AI for diagnostic support, personalised medicine, predictive analytics, and resource optimisation.

Ethical and legal oversight of AI in health is provided by a combination of institutions. The National Commission for Bioethics and Technoethics has developed a dedicated *Opinion on Artificial Intelligence in Health*, which discusses risks and opportunities of AI technologies, and

^aMinistry of Digital Governance, *Digital Transformation Bible 2020–2025*.

^bSpecial Secretariat of Foresight, A Blueprint for Greece's AI Transformation, 2024.

^cIDIKA S.A., "eHealth Leaflet"; MyHealth.gov.gr service pages, accessed 2025.

^dBlack Book Research, Greece's Digital Health Reset, Q2 2025.

 $[^]e\mathrm{Greek}$ Ministry of Health, press release on the Digital Doctor Assistant, 30 October 2025; To Vima, 2025.

¹Ministry of Digital Governance, Government Gazette 2894/B/5-7-2021.

²Special Secretariat of Foresight, A Blueprint for Greece's AI Transformation, 2024.

recommends respect for human dignity, patient autonomy, transparency, accountability, and careful governance of algorithmic decision-making in clinical contexts.³ The Hellenic Data Protection Authority (HDPA) enforces the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) with respect to health data, ensuring lawful processing, data minimisation, and robust protection of sensitive information. In parallel, Greece is preparing to implement the new EU Artificial Intelligence Act and the European Health Data Space (EHDS), which will impose additional obligations for high-risk AI systems in areas such as risk management, transparency and, where required, fundamental rights impact assessments.

2 Digital Health Infrastructure

The core of Greece's digital health infrastructure is operated by IDIKA S.A., the E-Government Center for Social Security Services. Since the early 2010s IDIKA has designed and run the national e-Prescription and e-Dispensation system, which, as of 2025, covers almost all doctors and pharmacies in the country and processes hundreds of thousands of prescriptions daily.⁴ This system not only supports efficient reimbursement and fraud control, but also produces a rich, structured dataset on pharmaceutical use across the population.

On top of this foundation, Greece has developed the MyHealth mobile application and the National Electronic Health Record. Through MyHealth and gov.gr citizens can access information such as current and past prescriptions, referrals, medical certificates, selected examination results and, increasingly, hospitalisation data. The government describes this as the "Personal Electronic Health Record", which gradually aggregates key health information for each insured citizen and is designed to support continuity of care across providers.⁵ The system is also integrated with cross-border ePrescription services within the EU, reflecting alignment with broader European eHealth frameworks.

In contrast to these advanced national platforms, the digital maturity of individual hospitals is considerably lower. A presentation by the Ministry of Health, in cooperation with IHE-Europe, on the digital transformation of the healthcare sector in Greece documents highly heterogeneous hospital information systems, limited use of structured electronic medical records, and insufficient conformance to interoperability standards such as HL7 and FHIR.⁶ Many hospitals rely on legacy systems that are poorly integrated, leading to data silos between clinical departments.

Independent research confirms this picture. The 2025 Black Book Research report on Greece's EHR landscape found that only about one in seven providers surveyed reported having an integrated, fully functional digital health record environment, and nearly all respondents expressed dissatisfaction with their current systems, citing fragmentation, poor usability and workflow disruption. This "two-speed" architecture—advanced national infrastructure versus weak inhospital systems—is currently the main technical barrier to large-scale deployment of AI in

³National Commission for Bioethics and Technoethics. Opinion on AI in Health. 2024.

⁴IDIKA S.A., "eHealth Leaflet"; National Centre for Public Administration and Local Government, 2023.

⁵Gov.gr service description, "Personal Electronic Health Record for Citizens".

⁶Kotsiopoulos, M., "Digital Transformation of Healthcare in Greece", IHE-Europe ExP Day, 2022.

⁷Black Book Research, Greece's Digital Health Reset, 2025.

clinical care.

3 Workforce and Education

From a workforce perspective, Greece still suffers from a general digital skills gap. European Commission indices such as DESI and the subsequent Digital Decade monitoring show that Greece ranks below the EU average in indicators for digital skills and business digitisation. National analyses estimate that ICT specialists make up a significantly smaller share of total employment in Greece than the EU average, indicating structural shortages of digital professionals.⁸

Within healthcare, attitudes toward AI and digital technologies vary across professional groups. International studies indicate that physicians often view AI as a potentially useful assistive tool for diagnostics and decision-making, while nursing staff may express greater concern about ethical issues, potential job displacement, and the impact of automation on patient care relationships. These patterns underscore the importance of targeted AI literacy and change-management programmes, rather than assuming uniform acceptance of new technologies across the healthcare workforce.

At the same time, Greece has a relatively strong academic base in fields such as medical informatics, data science and AI for health. Universities including Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, and research centres such as NCSR Demokritos offer specialised programmes and participate in European research projects under Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe. However, many graduates work in the private sector or abroad, which means that the public health system often struggles to recruit and retain staff with advanced AI and data skills.

4 AI Adoption and Use Cases

The most visible milestone in the use of AI in the Greek public health system is the launch of the Digital Doctor Assistant in October 2025. According to the official press release of the Ministry of Health and coverage in major newspapers, this tool is integrated with the National Electronic Health Record and accessed through the myHealthDoc platform. It allows physicians to interact with the patient's digital record using natural language queries, either typed or spoken. Example queries include questions about recent medication history or a summary of the patient's key medical events. The assistant uses AI techniques to interpret queries and retrieve relevant data segments from the EHR.¹⁰

The Digital Doctor Assistant is widely described as the first practical AI application to be deployed at scale within the Greek NHS. Authorities have also announced that a citizen-facing

 $^{^8\}mathrm{Alpha}$ Bank, "ICT & Digitalisation: Sectors in Focus", 2022; European Commission, DESI 2022 Greece Country Profile.

⁹See, for example, Horizon Europe project profiles on CORDIS involving Greek partners in AI-enabled cancer imaging and hospital decision support.

¹⁰Greek Ministry of Health, press release, 30 October 2025; To Vima, 2025.

AI assistant, integrated with the MyHealth ecosystem, is planned as a next step. The success or failure of these initiatives is likely to have a strong signalling effect on subsequent AI projects in the health sector.

Beyond this flagship deployment, AI-related activity is visible in the research and startup ecosystem. Greek universities and research institutes participate in EU-funded projects on AI in medical imaging, decision support and federated health data infrastructures. In parallel, the Elevate Greece startup registry and analyses by organisations such as EIT Health highlight a growing cluster of digital health and medtech startups in Greece, many of which employ AI techniques in areas such as diagnostic imaging, natural language processing of clinical text, and remote monitoring.¹¹ While specific numbers change rapidly, these developments indicate that Greece is not only a consumer but also an emerging producer of AI-based health innovations.

At the infrastructural level, the PHAROS AI Factory, built on the DAEDALUS supercomputer and supported through EuroHPC, is expected to provide national high-performance computing capacity for AI and data-intensive applications, including those in healthcare. This can help domestic researchers and startups overcome computational barriers that often limit AI experimentation in smaller markets.

5 Challenges and Opportunities

Greece faces a distinctive mix of strengths and weaknesses in AI and healthcare. On the positive side, the country has world-class national digital health platforms, a clear AI strategy with strong political backing, and an ethics and data-protection framework that is increasingly aligned with European best practice. It also benefits from EU funding instruments, such as the Recovery and Resilience Facility and Horizon Europe, and from emerging computational infrastructure through PHAROS.

On the negative side, hospital information systems remain fragmented, under-resourced and poorly interoperable. Most providers still lack fully integrated EHR systems, and clinicians frequently encounter usability issues and workarounds. Digital skills gaps in the broader workforce and varied attitudes towards AI among healthcare personnel further complicate adoption. Governance of secondary use of health data for research and AI training is viewed as bureaucratic and slow, even though the legal basis is in place.

If Greece can align investments in hospital IT with its national AI strategy and digital health platforms, it has a credible opportunity to position itself as a regional leader in AI-enabled healthcare in Southeast Europe. Doing so will require sustained political commitment, careful attention to ethics and trust, and a deliberate strategy to upskill the health workforce and streamline data governance.

¹¹EIT Health, "Greek HealthTech Ecosystem Mapping", 2023; Elevate Greece registry.

¹²GRNET, "AI Factories: PHAROS AI Factory Announcement", 2024.

Source Validation Log

Overview

This table summarises the main sources used in the report, indicating their type, publication year, access channel and an indicative confidence level (High / Medium / Exploratory).

#	Type	Title / Description	Year	URL / Access	Confidence
1	Gov		2020	Ministry of Digital Governance; Government Gazette	High
2	Gov	A Blueprint for Greece's AI Transformation	2024	Special Secretariat of Foresight (https://foresight.gov.gr)	High
3	Gov	IDIKA eHealth Leaflet (e- Prescription, EHR, ERP)	2023	IDIKA S.A. / NCPE- Health PDF	High
4	Gov	MyHealth and Personal Electronic Health Record service descriptions	2023– 25	https://myhealth. gov.gr, https: //www.gov.gr	High
5	Gov	Digital Doctor Assistant launch press release	2025	Ministry of Health (https://www.moh.gov.gr)	High
6	Media	"Greece Launches AI Assistant for Doctors"	2025	To Vima; national press reports	High
7	Gov	Opinion on AI in Health	2024	National Commission for Bioethics and Tech- noethics	Medium
8	Int'l Org	DESI 2022 / Digital Decade reports – Greece	2022– 24	European Commission reports	High
9	Bank / Analysis	ICT & Digitalisation: Sectors in Focus	2022	Alpha Bank sector report	High
10	Gov / Stan- dards	"Digital Transformation of Healthcare in Greece" (IHE- Europe presentation)	2022	IHE-Europe / Ministry of Health slides	Medium
11	Industry	Greece's Digital Health Reset: Black Book EHR survey (122 providers)	2025	Black Book Research, Q2 2025	High
12	Gov / HPC	PHAROS AI Factory announcement	2024	GRNET and EuroHPC communications	High
13	EU / Research	Horizon Europe AI-in-health projects with Greek partners (e.g. INCISIVE)	2021– 25	CORDIS project database	High
14	EU / Mapping	Greek HealthTech ecosystem mapping	2023	EIT Health; Elevate Greece registry	Medium

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