

## FAIR Antenatal Care (Anc) data for disease surveillance: use case

Ensuring that patient data is properly managed in a way that it is machine-readable and actionable, whilst ensuring data privacy, opens up the possibilities to a variety of developments and applications. One of these is the better monitoring of patients and diseases. To this end, we created a monitoring dashboard to be

**FAIR** stands for **F**indable, **A**ccessible, **I**nteroperable and **R**eusable. By making data FAIR, data reuse is improved, by ensuring that one can easily find and access data, and that the data is interoperable so that it is usable in different places and systems.

used by regional health ministries on the effectiveness of ANC across federated patient data residing in health facility pods, obtained through data visiting. Because the data stays in the health facility pods, where it is created, and is only (partially) accessed through data visiting, the ownerships and privacy of the data is ensured.

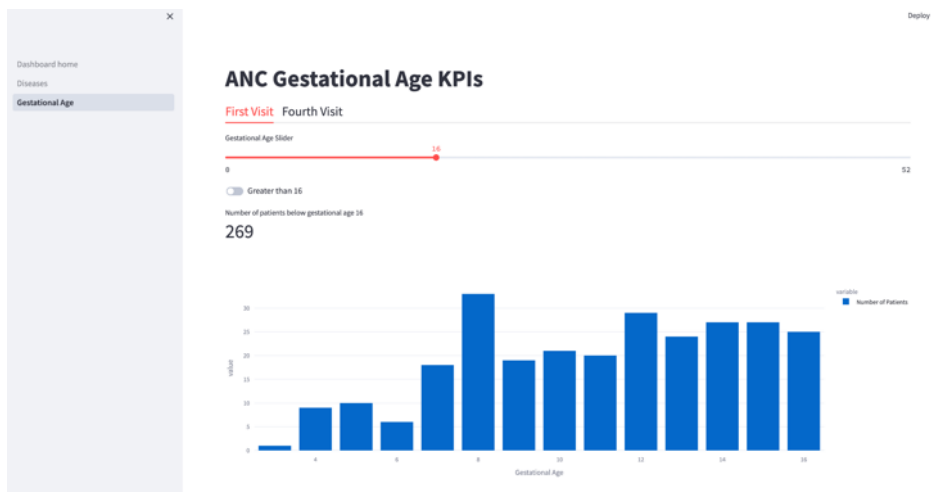


Figure 1. A screenshot of the dashboard showing ANC statistics.

The creation of a such a dashboard for different types of patient data to facilitate monitoring of diseases by regional administrations creates a lot of opportunities in improving care and tackling the spread of diseases. However, it is severely limited by issues regarding data accessibility and quality. It is therefore crucial that patient data is collected and stored following FAIR standards.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Establish and enforce standardized protocols for interoperability across health facility data systems to ensure seamless and accurate data visiting. Standards should address both the structure of the data and the technology used for data exchange.
2. Develop policies that incentivize health facilities to update and maintain their local data systems regularly. Incentives could include funding or technical support based on data completeness and timeliness.
3. Provide training and technical assistance to health facility staff on data management best practices, focusing on how to efficiently maintain, update, and share data while ensuring privacy.
4. Develop monitoring and accountability mechanisms for the use of the dashboard. Health facilities should report periodically on data quality, availability, and accessibility issues, with action plans for improvement.
5. Encourage collaboration between the regional health ministry and private organizations, NGOs, or tech companies to enhance the technology and infrastructure needed for secure data sharing and visiting.