Transform healthcare outcomes with the simplicity of IBM Blockchain

Change the way your ecosystem ensures trust, data provenance and efficiency to improve patient care and profitability

Blockchain will transform healthcare enterprises and increase quality of care by enabling new ecosystems and new business models to evolve. Healthcare information stored on a blockchain can change the way you store clinical information as well as how you share information within your organization, with healthcare partners, payers — and most importantly — with patients.

Blockchain decentralizes healthcare information, increasing data availability, efficiency, transparency and trust — but it also requires careful planning to make the most of the advantages it brings. The blockchain infrastructure IBM is helping to build provides enterprises with a solid platform for immediate and long-term business solutions.

**Current challenges in healthcare — and how IBM Blockchain can help.**

**Patient consent and health data exchange**

**Challenges**

Disparate record-keeping systems can result in patient consent forms and medical histories that are incomplete, conflicting or ambiguous.

**Opportunities**

Blockchain-stored records can be used to provide complete longitudinal health records for individuals, giving all patients more control over their own information through verifiable consent. With blockchain, every patient record reflects the best-known medical facts — from genomics data to diagnostic medical imaging — and can be reliably transferred when needed, with no need for a central gatekeeper.

**Clinical trial management**

**Challenges**

Clinical trial management generates mountains of data, requiring healthcare administrators to keep reliable, consistent records for peer review and to meet regulatory requirements.

**Opportunities**

Blockchain tools, in concert with electronic data capture (EDC), can allow clinical data to be automatically aggregated, replicated and distributed among researchers and practitioners with greater auditability, provenance tracking and control compared to complicated, conventional systems.

**Outlet-based contracts**

**Challenges**

Quantifying the worth of medical care is difficult. Accounting for the real costs of all aspects of healthcare can frustrate providers and patients alike.

**Opportunities**

Blockchain-backed, outcome-based contracts tie clinical outcomes to costs. Providers ranging from pharmacies to hospitals can offer healthcare to consumers with a fee-for-value model instead of fee-for-services, and reduce the complexity of records.

**Are you ready for blockchain healthcare transformation?**

Blockchain isn’t a magic wand. As new business applications for blockchain emerge, your enterprise needs to ask challenging questions about reaping potential benefits.

1. Should we join in an existing blockchain network or create our own?
2. What current business processes could most benefit from blockchain?
3. What existing technical approaches to moving and integrating data into or out of a blockchain will be relevant to our use cases?
4. Can we employ standards-based application programming interfaces (APIs) to simplify data transfer, application and network integration?
5. Who are our technology and business partners, and how can we convince them to support a blockchain initiative to transform or even eliminate a given process?

Visit ibm.com/blockchain/services to learn more about how blockchain can help protect patient information, increase efficiency and deepen trust in your organization.