

Abstract

eHealth presents an excellent opportunity for the improvement of health of a nation, by making health services more efficient and improving access to care.

Successful integration of eHealth into health-care system will depend on long-term government commitment based on a strategic plan. Development of an eHealth policy with guidelines and Standards for implementation of eHealth solutions should be a key component of this strategic plan.

eHealth has Human rights, ethical and legal aspects. Among them privacy, confidentiality and information security are some of the key areas that should be addressed in the eHealth policy.

The objective of the study is to provide recommendations to address Privacy, Confidentiality and Security aspects in eHealth solutions.

A literature survey was done to identify the important legal and ethical aspects of privacy, confidentiality and information security in eHealth. The solutions suggested in global health agencies, country specific eHealth policies and international standards on eHealth and information management were reviewed.

A situational analysis of eHealth in Sri Lanka was done and privacy, confidentiality and information security aspects were identified.

A SWOT analysis on introducing guidelines and standards on privacy, confidentiality and information security to eHealth policy of Sri Lanka was done.

Privacy and confidentiality guidelines based on fair information practices are recommended. Information security guidelines and standards based on existing information security standards are recommended.

The recommendations are intended as a component of the standards and guidelines document of the National eHealth Policy.