STUDY NOTES · BASIC CONCEPT

What are the features of Newly launched Aarogya Setu App 2.0?

Current Affairs

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What?

The Aarogya Setu app, which originally gained fame as India's premier contact-tracing tool during the COVID-19 pandemic, has officially been completely reimagined and relaunched as Aarogya Setu 2.0.

The Union Health Ministry revamped it into a comprehensive, citizen-centric Personal Health Record (PHR) application, completely shifting its focus from pandemic management to long-term digital healthcare.

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Key Features of Aarogya Setu 2.0

Instead of tracking Bluetooth connections and proximity data, the new app acts as your personal digital health locker and gateway to the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) ecosystem.

ABHA Integration: You can seamlessly create and manage your Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) using Aadhaar-based face authentication. This acts as your unique digital health identity across India.

Personal Health Locker: The app securely integrates with DigiLocker and ABDM-enabled hospitals. You can digitally pull, store, and consent to share your prescriptions, lab reports, and medical history.

Scan & Register (OPD QR): No more waiting in long lines at hospital counters. You can simply scan a hospital’s ABDM QR code to instantly share your basic details and register for outpatient department (OPD) consultations.

Scan & Pay: This feature allows citizens to handle hospital bills and payments digitally directly through the platform.

AI Insights & Wearable Integration: Version 2.0 brings AI-powered smart health reports, custom health insights, and the ability to link with advanced wearable smart devices to track daily wellness data.

Health Services Discovery: You can use the app to locate nearby empanelled doctors, hospitals, ambulance services, Jan Aushadhi Kendras (generic medicine pharmacies), and blood banks with real-time blood unit availability.

PM-JAY Support & Wallet: Eligible beneficiaries can check their treatment histories, locate empanelled hospitals, and manage family wallet balances under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana.

The Bigger Picture: Ecosystem Upgrades

The launch of Aarogya Setu 2.0 comes alongside a broader push by the National Health Authority (NHA) to digitize public health. This includes:

National Health Claims Exchange (NHCX): Beyond Aarogya Setu 2.0, the government is also scheduled to launch the National Health Claims Exchange (NHCX), which aims to standardise health insurance claims between hospitals and insurers, as well as new health data standards and digital tools for healthcare providers.A back-end system to fast-track and standardize health insurance claims processing between private/public insurers and hospitals.

Ayushman Sarathi: A companion WhatsApp chatbot designed to help people easily check their PM-JAY medical eligibility through a simple conversational chat interface.

eSushrut@Clinic: A cloud-based platform allowing standalone and primary health clinics to easily digitize their patient records and sync into the ecosystem.

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Where to get it?

The application is available for upgrade and download across the Google Play Store and Apple App Store, operating under the National Health Authority. If you already have the older COVID-era app on your phone, updating it will transition your application into the 2.0 interface.