

To the Manager of the Managing Digital Transformation in the Health Sector, and
correspondent Admissions Office,

Good afternoon,

I am writing this letter to introduce myself and to present my genuine and enthusiastic interest in the ManagiDiTH programme.

My name is Manuel Gonçalves Henriques, I am 31 years old and I am a Doctor, finishing my specialty in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. This is the first and most clear hint to why the urgent need to reform and transform the Portuguese National Health is so urgent to me, given that I daily experience all the limitations and opportunities to improve. Equally clear is that this transformation must have a digital basis, and I am very motivated to take part in this movement and work restlessly to see it happen.

But back to my experience, it does not resume to my hospital work, and there are other moments where I testified and experienced the Digital importance in the Health sector. I was the Webmaster of the European Network of Trainees in Obstetrics and Gynaecology for 3 years, on a volunteer basis. During this period, I had the opportunity to witness the management of hospitals across Europe, within my specialty, broadening my horizons concerning European health systems and how they work. Back in Portugal, as a member of the Paperless Hospital taskforce, at my residency Hospital, I actively seek and help to achieve a significant reduction in the use of paper, whenever possible. This is a big step towards a more economical and environmentally responsible management of such a big structure as a Public Hospital, of which I am very proud. I am currently also a clinic coder, a job I perform complementary to my activity at the hospital, where I daily process patient data into codes that help us manage the most relevant information related to our patients, and the Hospital's activity overall. This work is fundamental for the hospital's financing and for research purposes.

All this experience, allied to my interest in politics and management, are the key factors that lead me to apply to this programme. I truly believe that the Digital transformation of the health sector is at our reach, and that it will bring us countless possibilities to overcome our daily challenges and bring a safer and higher quality health care to our citizens. I also believe that working Doctors have a clearer perspective on how these transformations can be applied daily, as well as a clearer notion of the real needs, and thus our involvement in this transformation is crucial. I believe that I can be of added value to this programme, not only because of my professional and volunteer experience, but also because of my interpersonal skills, that have always helped thrive in teams and groups where I have taken part.

After its completion, I hope to play a more active role in transforming the healthcare sector – eventually joining or founding startups or even working for National and European organizations with the aim of transforming healthcare. I also hope to develop research projects in this field, always projecting their future applicability.

In the end, I hope you receive my application and consider me as a suitable candidate for this master, as I am sure that my working capacities and enthusiasm will help this class to make progress and reach outstanding results.

Thank you very much for your time, and I look forward to hear back from you soon.

Best regards,

Manuel Gonçalves Henriques