

Centre working on digital vaccination certificate to be valid globally

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Currently, people who get the first dose of vaccine are given a provisional certificate, while after the second dose, the person gets a final vaccination certificate in India

Neetu Chandra Sharma

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New Delhi: The government is working towards issuing digital covid-19 vaccination certificates that will be valid globally.

However, the World Health Organization (WHO) earlier this week cautioned that being vaccinated against covid-19 may not prevent transmission and 'vaccination passports' may not be an "effective strategy" for restarting travel. Some countries in the European Union have indicated that they are attempting to create a 'vaccine passport' for citizens that can be used for travelling, the WHO has not supported the idea.

India's plans are aligned with WHO's standard, Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR), which is in the works, and the country would follow the norms when in place, the government has said.

"They (WHO) are designing and working on the format of the digital certificate including various aspects that a digital certificate should contain and digital verifiability of same. As soon as they come up with the standard, we will be in full compliance with FHIR standard. So, the digital certificate issued by India will be valid everywhere," Ram Sewak Sharma, chairman of Empowered Group on Technology and Data Management to combat covid-19 and member, National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration (NEGVAC) of covid-19 said during a dialogue in Public Affairs Forum of India (PAFI).