



February 2012

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In this Issue: mHealth—Opportunities Abound

This issue of the *Clinical Informatics Insights* is the second of a two-part series on mHealth. The January issue focused on empowering the consumer in mobile health trends. This month's issue focuses on empowering providers to improve the quality and safety of care, making care more accessible, and increasing the cost-effectiveness of care through the best use of mobile technology. Features explore the value of mHealth from the provider's perspective, the importance of the issue and discuss how mHealth is changing the face of healthcare.

State of the Industry

Show Me the Research - HIMSS Mobile Technology Survey

By Edna Boone, MA, CPHIMS and Jennifer Horowitz, CPHIMS, FHIMSS



In 2011, the World Health Organization conducted their [Mhealth: New Horizons for Health Through Mobile Technologies](#) study. This study indicates the "use of mobile and wireless technologies to support the achievement of health objectives has the potential to transform the face of health service delivery across the globe," driven by a combination of factors. These include rapid advances in the development of mobile technologies and applications, growth in cellular networks and new opportunities to integrate mobile health into currently delivered services. The expansion of mobile health (mHealth) technologies has expanded across a number of areas including the use of text messaging, apps and remote monitoring. [Read more](#)



Exploring the Value of Mobile Health

By Yael Harris, PhD, MHS



Mobile health has the potential to revolutionize healthcare by transforming the provider-patient relationship. A Pew Research Center study conducted in 2010 found that four out of five adults in the United States currently own a cell phone. Contrary to popular misconception, this technology knows no social or financial boundaries as more than half of all seniors

Tool Box Picks

[mHIMSS](#)

HIMSS launched its mobile counterpart, mHIMSS, to progress leadership on technology, policy, security and implementation surrounding mHealth. Check out the mHIMSS website's different topic areas to access the latest news, blogger perspectives, white papers, presentations and more.

[2011 mHealth Summit Education Sessions](#)

Access nearly 90 recorded education sessions from the 2011 mHealth Summit on demand. Conference sessions explored the ways mobile technology will transform healthcare delivery, research, business and policy.

[AHRO Healthcare Innovations Exchange](#)

This website contains 675 searchable innovations and 1,600 searchable quality tools to help users solve problems, improve healthcare quality and reduce disparities.



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currently use cell phones and this statistic is increasing as the population of older adults increases.¹ Cell phone usage expands across all ethnic and economic groups as evidenced by studies indicating African Americans and Latinos are more likely to take advantage of the non-voice features of their phone as compared with Caucasians, and, among those with health insurance, the use of text messaging is highest among those who receive Medicaid.² What makes mobile health truly transformative, however, is its ability to actively engage patients in their healthcare. [Read more](#)

Strategies for Success

Mobile Use by Clinicians on the Rise

By *Mary Beth Mitchell, MSN, RN-BC*



Texas Health Resources, one of the nation's largest faith-based, nonprofit health systems, is well-known as an innovator in use of technology. With 13 hospitals live on the electronic health record, the focus has shifted to find additional opportunities to meet the ever-expanding needs of patients and clinicians alike. Mobile use continues to receive increased attention in terms of access to information and efficiency in processes. Most notable is the growing use of tablets and smartphones. Physicians are encouraged to use personal devices, and are able to access clinical applications to provide immediate access to information, such as apps for reviewing lab and other patient information from the hospital setting. More than 500 physicians across Texas Health are accessing patient data from a mobile app for the EHR, as well as 198 using a specialized app for fetal monitoring, and another 500 review EKGs on their mobile device. [Read more](#)

Resource in Practice

FDA Regulation of Mobile Medical Apps

By *Marlowe Schaeffer-Polk, JD, DO*



In July of 2011, the FDA published for consideration their "Draft Guidance for Industry and Food and Drug Administration Staff on the Regulation of Mobile Medical Applications." This document, as well as the public hearings that followed, was a valiant attempt to anticipate and abrogate questions and concerns regarding the developing capability to transform any COTS (commercial off-the-shelf) mobile platform, i.e. iPhone, Blackberry, Android, tablet computers to a medical device. These concerns were multifactorial in nature: regulatory, financial, legal and patient safety. Legally, this is only a draft and as such, confers no rights or obligations. [Read more](#)

Healthcare Professionals & Mobile Health IT Buzz from mHIMSS



Engage in powerful mobile health and mobile technology discussions with other industry thought leaders in the [mHIMSS Group on LinkedIn](#).

[Do the benefits of clinician mobile use at the point of care outweigh the risks?](#)

While any distraction to a clinician treating patients can add to the risk of medical errors, do the benefits of access to mobile clinical tools outweigh the hazards of having mobile devices at the point of care? I say: yes - without a doubt. In a mobile usage survey conducted by Skyscape, 78 percent of pediatricians and 71 percent of oncologists credited their use of mobile clinical resources with reducing the risk of medical errors. So, physicians at least feel that having clinical decision support such as mobile apps at the point of care helps them make more confident decisions.



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Upcoming Events

[HIMSS12 Preconference Symposia](#)

Feb. 20, 2012
Las Vegas

[HIMSS12 Pre-conference Workshops](#)

Feb. 20, 2012
Las Vegas

[HIMSS12](#)

Feb. 20-24, 2012
Las Vegas

[HIT X.0: Beyond the Edge](#)

Feb. 21-23, 2012
Las Vegas

[Leading from the Future: A HIMSS Thought Leadership Event on Connecting Consumers with their Healthcare](#)

Feb. 23-24, 2012
Las Vegas

[eCollaboration Forum](#)

Feb. 23, 2012
Las Vegas



[University challenge targets NCDs with mHealth and social media](#)

A global competition sponsored by IBM and Novartis has yielded social media and mobile technology tools that could help tackle non-communicable diseases such as asthma, diabetes, stroke and cancer. [Read more](#)

[Ministry St. Clare, Advanced ICU mark six years of telehealth service](#)

Ministry St. Clare's Hospital might be tucked into a remote corner of Wisconsin, far away from the hustle and bustle - and resources - of an urban center like Madison or Chicago. But that doesn't mean its patients shouldn't have access to 24-hour-a-day intensive care. [Read more](#)

[Ottawa Hospital's CIO explains his iPad program](#)

In December of 2009, 16 months into my CIO posting at The Ottawa Hospital, I was wrestling with a key decision: Should I stay or should I go? [Read more](#)

HIMSS News

[HIMSS Honors Three Clinicians with 2011 IT Leadership Awards](#)

HIMSS announces the recipients of its clinician IT leadership awards: Carol Bickford, PhD, RN-BC, CPHIMS, and Kathleen Smith, MScEd, RN-BC, FHIMSS, with the HIMSS Nursing Informatics Leadership Award and Russell Leftwich, MD, FAAAAI, FCCP, with the HIMSS Physician IT Leadership Award.

[Earn Continuing Education Credits at HIMSS12](#)

HIMSS12's 300-plus education sessions give attendees countless opportunities to earn continuing education credit toward annual licensure and certification for physicians, nurses, pharmacists, project managers, and HIMSS and ACHE members. Additionally, HIMSS12 education sessions have been approved for continuing education contact hours for CPHIMS and CHCIO (new for HIMSS12). The education component of the Annual HIMSS Conference & Exhibition includes individual sessions, workshops, symposia, roundtables and e-sessions.

[Social Media @ HIMSS12](#)

The social media landscape is booming. Individuals, corporations, and hospitals and health systems alike are going online every day to connect, express opinions, and share ideas and content for mass consumption. HIMSS12 is leveraging social media more than ever to drive engagement, build community and share valuable content. As one of the most visited areas at last year's conference, the Social Media Center is the place to learn about the intersection of social technology in healthcare and to maximize networking activities at HIMSS12. Be sure to stop by during conference hours Tuesday, Feb. 21 to Friday, Feb. 24, to connect with leading health IT bloggers, social media specialists and the faces behind HIMSS social networks through educational sessions, panel discussions and meetups. The HIMSS Social Media Center is located in Halls C Lobby and open Tuesday, Feb. 21, to Friday, Feb. 24.

[HIMSS Chapter Events](#)

[Webinars and Audio Conferences](#)

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Ensure the continuation of your HIMSS member benefits, login to the [Member Center](#) to renew your membership today. If you need a paper invoice, request one via e-mail to the Member Services department. You can also renew by phone at 312-664-4467 (option 8, then 2).

Editor's Note: The inclusion of an organization name, product, resource or service in this e-newsletter should not be construed as a HIMSS endorsement of such organization, product or service, nor is the failure to include an organization name, product or service to be construed as disapproval.

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