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HIMSS Clinical Informatics Insights

Advancing Patient Care through IT

June 2012

In this Issue: Exploring IT & Clinical Informatics Governance Models

This issue of *Clinical Informatics Insights* explores the crucial role of IT and Clinical Governance Models. From the fundamentals, the big don'ts, secret sauce to the future of IT and clinical informatics governance, this issue offers an abundance of practical takeaways to ensure impactful outcomes.

State of the Industry

Effective IT Governance Needed for Successful Clinical Informatics Implementations

By Roger Kropf, PhD, and Guy Scalzi, MBA

Not having an IT governance process, or having one that never seriously involves clinicians and other stakeholders, is a big mistake. Without a governance structure, IT at many hospitals and healthcare systems is a haphazard endeavor that typically results in late, over-budget projects and, ultimately, many disparate systems that do not function well together. **Read more**

Meet an Informaticist

What happens when there is a lack of health IT governance?

By Bob Kaye, MD

This month's topic concerning health IT governance is timely. Even the smallest entity in the health system, the solo physician's office, has a semblance of a governance structure, even though it consists of just the physician and office manager. In hospitals and larger healthcare systems, the necessary governance structures are much more complex so the importance of IT governance must not be underestimated. Although not rocket science, the

Tool Box Picks

Compiled by Cheryl D. Parker, RN, MSN, PhD, FHIMSS

Website: HIMSS Clinical Informatics Resources

HIMSS has an entire section devoted to clinical informatics which is not restricted to members.

Website: University of Alabama at Birmingham Impact

In 2008, UAB Hospital implemented Cerner Millennium for inpatient areas. This project was called IMPACT, which means Improved Methods of Patient Information Access of Core Clinical Tasks. This website shows their teams, tools, schedules etc.

Article: Rowing Together

Clinical informaticists and others interviewed for this *Healthcare Informatics* article urge CIOs to consider the collaborative nature of successful models for building clinical informaticist teams, as well as the broad range of skill sets and personal characteristics that will be needed to make individual clinical informaticists successful. But time is of the essence, and the shortages of qualified candidates can only be expected to intensify dramatically in the next few years.

Article: Building a Team of Informaticists

In this *Patient Safety & Quality Healthcare* article, R. Dirk Stanley, MD, MPH, discusses building an informatics team and the crucial role the CMIO plays in leading the team.

Article: Clinical Informaticists Trend

This *Healthcare Informatics* article shares how as hospitals move toward effective EMR adoption and use that many are finding clinical informaticists can bridge the gaps.

Book: IT Governance in Hospitals and Health Systems

This book published by HIMSS and by Roger Kropf, PhD, and Guy Scalzi, MBA, offers a practical "how to" in creating an information technology governance process that ensures the IT projects supporting a hospital or health systems' strategy are completed on-time and

processes involved are just as complex. An excellent introduction to the topic of IT Governance can be found in the HIMSS publication *IT Governance in Hospitals and Health Systems* by Kropf and Scalzi. Recently, I taught one of the final classes in a master's level clinical informatics pathway. Interestingly, when I asked the students a question about IT governance, they did not know what I was talking about. So what are the effects of lack of a functional health IT governance structure in a larger organization? **Read more**

Strategies for Success

Secrets of EMR Governance

By R. Dirk Stanley, MD, MPH

Implementing an Electronic Medical Record (EMR)? Then you'll want to know something about EMR governance. It's a subject that's not well-understood, but in this article I'll provide some background. EMR Governance is the process by which you standardize your clinical practices and set them up to work electronically. Without predictable clinical practices, you won't be able to get predictable clinical outcomes, and your EMR implementation will be challenging.

Bonus! This feature includes the top 10 Dos and Don'ts to remember with EMR and Health IT Governance.

Read more

Resource in Practice

Clinical Informatics Governance: The Future Rooted in the Structures of Today

By Mary Lawrence Staley-Sirois

The urgency to implement certified electronic health record (EHR) tools has taken on a new focus for the entire healthcare industry, providing opportunities not only for the realization of quality of care improvements by becoming "meaningful users" but also the receipt of significant federal incentive monies provided by the HITECH Act. The effort to implement evidence-based order sets, improve order communication and collect quality reporting data elements will require medical, nursing, clinical, IT and operational leadership and collaboration at all levels.

Bonus! This feature includes a great table of the of questions for today and suggestions for the future, in a manner that aligns operations with informatics and leverages the data collected during this industry-revolutionizing time.

Read more

HIMSS News

on-budget.

Cheryl D. Parker, RN, MSN, PhD, FHIMSS, is chief nursing informatics officer at Rubbermaid Medical Solutions.

Join the Discussion

Clinical IT governance: what works best?

In my experience, I have worked with hospitals that do not yet have a clear and well articulated governance structure which oversees the selection, procurement, planning, design, testing, implementation and support of their clinical systems. In short, the hospital IT strategy and governance may not be completely determined; or if it is determined, it may not have complete buy-in and support of the necessary stakeholders. Some have suggested that the hospital IT governance committee include representation from each group of clinician users and that all members of the committee have some form of risk-sharing, so that each member has "skin in the game." Does your hospital or other healthcare organization have an effective clinical IT governance committee? Would you share what makes it effective? Join the discussion.

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Government Health IT Conference & Exhibition
Washington, DC
June 11-12, 2012

Now Accepting Nominations for Board and Nominating Committee Positions
Nominations are now being accepted for the positions on the HIMSS Board of Directors and on the Nominating Committee. Nominees must be a Regular or Life Member or the senior executive representative of an Organizational Member who has achieved Senior or Fellow status. Please send all nominations to: H. Stephen Lieber, President/CEO, HIMSS, 33 W. Monroe, St. Suite 1733, Chicago, IL 60603 (or via e-mail at the link above). Nominations Must Be Received By August 1. To obtain further information on the advancement process and/or access the application please visit the advancement page.

mHealth Summit Call for Presentations Ends this Month—Registration Now Open
The mHealth Summit is the premier international forum connecting the mobile health ecosystem for mobile health research, education, thought leadership, exhibits and action-provoking panel discussions. Share your experience and expertise with more than 5,000 leaders in mobile health by submitting your proposal. Topic tracks include health and healthcare delivery, global health, technology, business, policy and research. The submission deadline is June 29. In other mHealth Summit news, registration is open for the mHealth Summit, Dec. 3-5, at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in the Washington, DC area.

Enhance and Advance Health Information Technology Education with HIMSS Academic HIT Directory
Recent government initiatives, policies and requirements are fueling a demand for health IT professionals who can support this reform, and work, in the American healthcare system. HIMSS State HIT Dashboard now offers the Academic Health IT Directory, a central resource for campus-based, online and blended health IT academic programs across the country for those seeking a career in the field. The Academic Health IT Directory lists 395 separate institutions that provide 499 programs. Users will find the URL for the school, accreditation (CAHIIM or AMIA 10x10), program name and type (associate, undergraduate, graduate, fellowship, certificate); delivery method (online-only; blended; brick and mortar); program contact name, department, address, email; and URL for the program.

National Health IT Week
Washington, DC
Sept. 10-14, 2012

HIMSS 11th Annual Policy Summit
Washington, DC
Sept. 12-13, 2012

2012 mHealth Summit
Washington, DC
Dec. 3-5, 2012

HIMSS Chapter Events

Webinars and Audio Conferences

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Clinical Informatics Insights is a monthly e-newsletter published by the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) that provides timely and comprehensive coverage on the effective integration of informatics across the continuum of care.

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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