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## Clinical Informatics Insights

Advancing Patient Care through IT



August 2012

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### In this Issue: Patient Safety

This issue of *Clinical Informatics Insights* focuses on Patient Safety. This month's features explore the progress toward safer care through the implementation and meaningful use of health IT, as well as the potential benefits health information exchange and clinical decision support will have on increased patient safety.

### State of the Industry

#### Progress Towards Patient Safety

By Willa Fields, DNSc, RN, FHIMSS



It's been more than a decade since the Institute of Medicine (IOM) published *To Err is Human* and *Crossing the Quality Chasm*. There's been progress toward safer care, but on most accounts, more needs to be done. Not only does patient safety and quality need to be improved, but so does the state of health IT. [Read more](#)

### Meet an Informaticist

#### Moving Patient Safety to the Community Using Health Information Exchange

By David E Trachtenberg, MD



Health information exchanges (HIEs) offer great opportunity and great challenges. Central Illinois Health Exchange is working to expand the use of health information exchange for the benefit of patient safety, clinicians and our community. [Read more](#)

### Strategies for Success

#### Unlocking Safer Care with Clinical Decision Support

By Brett Stauffer, MD, MHS, FSHM, and Lynn Finck, MAOM, SCPM, CPM

### Tool Box Picks

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



#### [HIMSS Patient Safety and Quality Outcomes Website](#)

This webpage has a bit of everything. From a primer on quality to case studies to archived webinars to resources on medical device safety, this is one of the best places to search for information/education on patient safety.

#### [National Quality Forum \(NQF\) Website](#)

NQF is a nonprofit organization that operates under a three-part mission to improve the quality of American healthcare by building consensus on national priorities and goals for performance improvement and working in partnership to achieve them; endorsing national consensus standards for measuring and publicly reporting on performance; and promoting the attainment of national goals through education and outreach programs. Find education, NQF endorsed standards, educational opportunities and measurement standards.

#### [VA National Center for Patient Safety \(NCPS\) Website](#)

The NCPS was established in 1999 to develop and nurture a culture of safety throughout the Veterans Health Administration. Its goal is to reduce and prevent inadvertent harm to patients nationwide as a result of its care. Patient safety managers at 153 VA hospitals and patient safety officers at 21 VA regional headquarters participate in the program. This website includes excellent toolkits and educational materials around patient safety that can be used with all patients.

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



A well-articulated, national specification and deployment plan for clinical decision support (CDS) still needs to be defined. Therefore, the exact role CDS will play for patient safety in the future and how it will alter the workflows in the hospital setting are still to be written. We are in the early phases of CDS development but the potential exists for it to positively shape the future of healthcare delivery and augment patient safety in the hospital. [Read more](#)

## Resource in Practice

### The Journey to Health IT Safety

By Patricia Sengstack DNP, RN-BC, CPHIMS, and Marcy Stoots, MS, RN-BC



Health IT's impact on patient safety continues to be under the microscope and a focus for healthcare organizations. The government has studied and reported on it, professional organizations have acknowledged and weighed in on it, private sector institutions have implemented various levels of it, but a standard approach that is evidence based remains elusive. [Read more](#)

## HIMSS News

### Call for Proposals for NCPDP 2013 Annual Conference Open

The NCPDP (National Council for Prescription Drug Programs) Annual Conference brings together representatives from more than 350 companies focused on improving healthcare delivery. Attendees represent segments including retail pharmacies, pharmacy benefit management companies, government agencies, pharmaceutical manufacturers, long-term care vendors and providers, database management organizations, healthcare consultants, wholesale drug distributors and many more. Proposal submissions around the following key topic areas are due August 31.

2013 conference topics:

- Electronic Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs)
- ICD-10 Implementation Strategies
- Opportunities for Pharmacies in Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs)
- Pharmacy Legislation and Regulatory update including state (Healthcare laws, Medicaid) and federal (DEA, FDA, Medicare)
- Pharmacy Reimbursement and Pharmacy Credentialing Requirements
- Pricing Benchmarks
- Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies (REMS)
- Short Cycle Dispensing
- State Health Exchanges
- Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine (SNOMED)

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[What is your strategy for selecting projects that will have the most impact on patient safety?](#)

Looking at PERT/CPM in clinical pathways? Ways to improve patient flow?

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## Upcoming Events

[IHE International Academy for Interoperability: A Health IT Virtual Learning Network](#)

Aug. 22, 2012  
11 am CT

[Transitioning to ICD-10: Is Your Healthcare Organization Positioned for Success](#)

Aug. 29, 2012  
10 am CT

[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](#)

- Updates on Healthcare reform and regulations

#### [CMS Selects Hospitals for ACA Advance Practice Nursing Project](#)

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has selected five hospitals to participate in the Medicare Graduate Nurse Education Demonstration, the agency announced. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act provides up to \$200 million for the Medicare demonstration to expand the primary care workforce. Under the four-year project, the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia; Duke University Hospital in Durham, NC; Scottsdale Healthcare Medical Center in Arizona; Rush University Medical Center in Chicago; and Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center Hospital in Houston will receive reasonable cost reimbursement to provide qualified clinical training to clinical nurse specialists, nurse practitioners, certified registered nurse anesthetists and certified nurse-midwives.

#### [IHE International Hosts Interoperability Virtual Event on Aug. 22](#)

This month, IHE International will host a series of 4 virtual education sessions on Wednesday, Aug. 22, to equip the industry with foundational know-how on how IHE profiles enhance the clinical diagnostic specialties and health information exchanges. The mission of IHE International is to advance the effective and safe delivery of healthcare for individuals and communities by enabling the healthcare sector to achieve the widespread adoption and implementation of standards-based interoperable IT systems. [Learn more and register.](#)

#### [Share Your Expertise! Call for HIMSS13 Nursing Informatics Poster Submissions](#)

HIMSS announce the call for the HIMSS13 posters for the HIMSS13 Nursing Informatics Symposium. Submissions should focus on topics that increase awareness and demonstrate the impact of informatics for peer-to-peer knowledge sharing. Topics should focus on practical implications, innovations and current industry trends. Note HIMSS13 Physician Informatics Symposium Poster Call will open Sept. 1.

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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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Contact *HIMSS Clinical Informatics Insights* at [cmclean@himss.org](mailto:cmclean@himss.org).

#### Members of HIMSS Informatics Team

[Joyce Sensmeier](#), RN-BC, MS, CPHIMS, FAAN, FHIMSS, Vice President, Informatics

[Christel Anderson](#), Director, Clinical Informatics

[Jennifer Roniger](#), Program Manager, Informatics

#### Advertising inquiries:

Randy Knotts, [randy.knotts@medtechmedia.com](mailto:randy.knotts@medtechmedia.com)

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33 W. Monroe Street, Suite 1700, Chicago, IL, 60603