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October 2012

In this Issue: Project Management

This month's issue of *HIMSS Clinical Informatics Insights* focuses on Project Management. It features tips, tools and case studies to effectively manage and participate in the different phases of a health IT project.

State of the Industry

Three Techniques to Support Informatics Project Success

Lynn Finck, MAOM, SCPM, CPM

Every clinical informatics project is different. There are objectives, with unique timeline, complexity and groups of people that must come together to implement a new clinical informatics process. How has the healthcare industry been able to successfully track implementing these new processes? Do we have (E.Verzuh, p. 7) "a plan that shows an overall path and clear responsibility and will be used to measure progress during the project?" (*The Fast Forward MBA Project Management*; 1999) Absolutely! Our healthcare peers have adopted (E.Verzuh, p. 32) "the techniques traditionally applied to the manufacturing or aerospace industries are providing equally valuable in the services sector, particularly when applied to process redesign or improvement efforts." **Read more**

Meet an Informaticist

Five Things Every Clinician Should Know When Starting a Health IT Project

Barry L. Cannon, RN, MS, PMP

The most common role of an informatics professional is to collect data, design and manage clinical databases, creating quality surveys to illicit user feedback, bridge communications within clinical teams, and among different departments and designing forms. They focus on the work processes. And because they understand them, they are well equipped to lead projects aimed at improving those processes using technology and data

Tool Box Picks

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

Healthcare Project Management in the New Economy
OPM Experts CEO John Schlichter and the Goizueta Business School's Dominic Thomas propose a unified model for understanding healthcare stakeholder influence and relationships in new economy projects in this white paper.

HIMSS Project Management Toolkit
This website includes tools, tips and case studies with project management material for meeting effectiveness, Gantt chart, charter and more.

Challenges with Cross-functional Teams Video Lecture
This video lecture from Stanford Advanced Project Management Series showcases a study of 95 teams in 25 leading corporations, presenting some of the key challenges these programs face and their potential remedies.

Practical Advice on Managing IT Projects
In this blog post, John D. Halamka, MD, offers great advice and tips on managing IT projects.

Project versus Program – What is the Difference?
This article by Greg Githens, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives and Innovation, explains the key differences between programs and projects.

PMBOK Explained 12-part Video Series
This 12-part video series provides a high-level overview of the Project Management Body of Knowledge, a widely used project management methodology.

Execution
This book by Ram Charan and Lawrence Bossidy shows how to get the job done and deliver results whether you're running an entire company or in your first management job.

management tools. Another important aspect of the role involves education of clinicians in information system use. Another very important service delivered by an informatics professional is to educate the IT professional about clinical processes. **Read more**

The Role of Informatics in Project Management

By Trish Gallagher, RN, MSHS, CPHQ

My current project has emphasized the importance of the project being clinically driven, and IT enabled. The CMO along with the CNO are the executive sponsors and key members of the project sponsor team along with IT and financial representation. In order to support the clinically driven philosophy, my role as clinical transformation lead is partnered with a project manager for overall project leadership. In tandem, the goal is to have the informatics role drive the project direction with the project manager supporting the activities with reporting tools, issue management and overall coordination. This structure combines both the unique skills of an informaticist with project management skills needed for a successful project; however, clear role definition is required for each to feel successful. Let's look at informatics' role in each phase of a health IT project: initiation, planning, execution, monitoring and closing. **Read more**

Resource in Practice

Paving the Way to Health IT Success Through Project Management

By Shirley Woodhead, RN-BC, BSN, MA, PMP

With all the requirements of the ARRA/HITECH Acts, healthcare organizations must develop a strong and successful method of achieving these to obtain the incentives offered. Healthcare administrators must be committed to pursuing project managers dedicated to seeing projects through from start to finish. These project managers play an exceptional part in the implementation of systems, ensuring the successful delivery of the end product: a functional and effective system. **Read more**

Strategies for Success

Four Keys to Successful Project Management

By Karen Carroll, PhD, RN NEA-BC

Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago implemented an electronic health record and moved into a new hospital within the span of seven years. These major initiatives would not have been successfully accomplished without skillful use of project management techniques. Some of the important project management strategies utilized are listed below. **Read more**

The Project Manager's Guide to Health IT Implementation

Chapter by chapter, this HIMSS book breaks down the anatomy of an implementation project into easy-to-understand steps to help readers avoid common and costly pitfalls, identify and exploit resources, and keep your project on time and on budget.

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

Join the Discussion

What are the unintended consequences of health IT?

Over the last week, mainstream media outlets have published some articles investigating the unintended outcomes of IT use in healthcare. HIMSS Executive Vice President Carla Smith addressed the New York Times article at http://ow.ly/eh5xs and HIMSS Senior Vice President of Business-centered Systems John Casillas addressed the Washington Post article at http://ow.ly/eh5y5. Certainly, clinical and business intelligence tools, when used effectively, will help organizations uncover fraud and abuse. However, what other solutions can mitigate these consequences?

Connect with HIMSS

Expand your network by connecting to HIMSS on these social media sites:

Upcoming Events

Nursing Informatics Institute, Hosted by Partners HealthCare

HIMSS News

mHealth Summit 2012 update: Christmas comes early for mHealth enthusiasts

New influences in the mHealth landscape are making themselves apparent as the clock ticks down to this year's mHealth Summit. The summit, scheduled for Dec. 3-5 at the Gaylord Resort in Washington D.C., promises to be bigger and more diverse this year, according to Richard Scarfo, who has organized the event since its conception five years ago (he was hired by HIMSS shortly before HIMSS acquired rights to the summit this past January). It's a bit longer this year, topping out at three full days, and the Exhibit Hall looks to be larger, with more pavilions and special events.

President Clinton Joins HIMSS13 Keynote Lineup

President Bill Clinton, Founder of the William J. Clinton Foundation and 42nd President of the United States, will take the podium on **Wednesday, March 6, 2013**, to make a keynote address to attendees of the 2013 Annual HIMSS Conference & Exhibition. "The timing is right to have President Clinton join us, because the election will be over, and its effects will just be taking hold in Washington and across the nation. With a continued bipartisan focus on the best use of health IT to improve healthcare delivery, attendees at the conference will want to hear what President Clinton has to say," says H. Stephen Lieber, CAE, HIMSS President and CEO.

Commentary: Five Obvious Cases against Suspending Meaningful Use Payments

Timing being everything and all, the four Republican congressmen who today sent a letter asking HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius to stop distributing meaningful use incentives probably should have attended yesterday's Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC) event**,** instead. The day was packed with doctors, politicians, and healthcare industry heavyweights, state and local health officials, who were all essentially agreeing that health information exchange and interoperability are gaining purchase in the industry.

HIMSS Member Dr. Salvatore Volpe's Achieves Level 3 PCMH recognition

HIMSS Member Salvatore Volpe, MD, started his journey seven years ago when he implemented an EMR into his solo primary care practice. He embraced the "meaningful use" of health IT long before the HITECH Act and has committed considerable time and resources to advancing the quality of healthcare through the use of IT. Dr. Volpe achieved Level 3 National Committee for Quality Assurance Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) recognition this year. "We were the first solo physician practice in New York State to receive Level 3 PCMH recognition, based on the 2008 criteria and are excited to have the distinction this time as well," said Dr. Volpe. "We care for our patients in the context of their family and community, and have built strong alliances with care givers outside of the practice to support this. Being a PCMH also helped us meet the criteria for Stage I Meaningful Use."

Oct. 15, 2012
Waltham, Mass.

HIMSS Virtual Conference & Expo
Nov. 7-8, 2012

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

Privacy & Security Forum
Dec. 12-13, 2012
Boston

2013 North America Connectathon
Jan. 28, 2013-Feb. 2, 2013
Chicago

2013 Annual HIMSS Conference & Exhibition
March 4-7, 2013
New Orleans

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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Contact *HIMSS Clinical Informatics Insights* at 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

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