In this Issue: Patient Engagement (Part 1)
This issue of the HIMSS Clinical Informatics Insights is the first of a two-part series on patient engagement. This month’s features focus on the current practices and technology used to engage consumers in their healthcare. From Blue Button to patient portals to mobile devices and applications, clinicians offer their perspectives and insights on patient/consumer engagement.

State of the Industry

A Look at Today’s Electronic Access to Health Data by Consumers
By Lygeia Ricciardi

The majority of Americans say they want electronic access to their health information; yet, only about 15% report having it. A poll by Deloitte found 66% would even consider switching healthcare providers in order to gain such access. Soon that shouldn't be necessary. Meaningful Use Stage 2 requirements mandate that by 2014, all patients of providers using certified electronic health record (EHR) systems will be able to view, download, and transmit their own health records. Critically, the requirements go beyond merely enabling these features for patients. They also call on providers to report the numbers of patients actually using this functionality, and to meet a minimum threshold of 5% of their patients. Read More

Meet an Informaticist

A Physician’s Perspective on Patient Portals
By Dale Glenn, MD

Tool Box Picks

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

Improving Quality Health Care: The Role of Consumer Engagement
Although published in 2007, this article from the Academy of Health provides interesting foundational material for today’s thinking.

Findings from the 2012 EBRI/MGA Consumer Engagement in Health Care Survey
The EBRI/MGA Consumer Engagement in Healthcare Survey is an online survey of privately insured adults ages 21-64. It is conducted to provide reliable national data on the growth of consumer-driven health plans and high-deductible health plans and their impact on the behavior and attitudes of health care consumers.

The Role of Technology in Healthcare Consumer Engagement
This research conducted by the Deloitte Center for Health Solutions reveals consumers, particularly the youngest ones, are increasingly receptive to high-tech, high-touch innovations that improve healthcare system performance.

HIMSS e-Connecting with Consumers Toolkit
This toolkit from HIMSS equips healthcare providers to eConnect with patients and families through engagement with personal health records, patient portal adoption, social media, mHealth and other emerging health related technologies.
Mrs. Smith presented me with a sack full of medications. I counted 24 bottles, including two diuretics, two laxatives and a prescription for antibiotics we had discontinued a year ago. The new pills for her diabetes were nowhere to be found. "I'm not sure what to do," her daughter Lisa said. "I can't keep track of her appointments, her medications or her test results."

Fortunately I had the answer for them. A few years ago Hawaii Pacific Health opened an internet portal to its comprehensive EHR, which connects six hospitals, 49 outpatient clinics, over 1,000 physicians and now some 30,000 patients who have signed up to book appointments online, review medications, ask health questions and receive test results. Read More
Spotlight on HIMSS13 Networking Activities for Clinicians

Don't miss any of these exclusive HIMSS13 Networking Events for clinicians. These are great opportunities to hear different industry perspectives, visit old friends, meet new industry colleagues and enjoy annual conference.

SNEAK PEEK! A Glimpse at HIMSS13 Online

In case you haven't heard, Bill Clinton will be delivering his keynote address to the health IT audience in attendance in New Orleans on Wednesday, March 6 at 1 pm CT. While this may be a bit of a letdown for those that can't attend, HIMSS13 Online can bring Bill and more to you live from wherever you are. HIMSS13 Online education program also includes 10 live simulcast sessions, four keynotes on-demand, nine on-demand education sessions, 12 e-sessions, and interviews with top speakers.

Join ePatient Dave at the Interoperability Showcase Tweetup

Join fellow Twitter users at the HIMSS Interoperability Showcase in the La Nouvelle Ballroom Level 2 for a Tweetup hosted by @interopshowcase, @motorcycle_guy, and @ePatientDave on Monday, March 4, 2013 at 4:00 pm-4:30 pm. Come see ePatient, Dave deBrokart, an evangelist for patient engagement through health IT present: "Gimmie my DaM Data" and join others in a live conversation during the event via twitter. For further information, contact Elizabeth Peters.

Clinical Engineering & IT Community Announces Virtual Education Lineup for 2013

The Clinical Engineering & IT Community will hold a series of five complimentary virtual Town Hall meetings this year as part of its continued effort to bring together healthcare technology management (HTM) professionals with their information technology colleagues.

Register today for the interactive 90-minute Virtual Town Hall series:

- February 25: The Role of Middleware Companies in Integration
- April 10: Clinician Concerns with Medical Device Integration
- June 12: What's Hot: Regulatory Agency Perspectives and Trends
- August 14: Calling all Techies: mHealth Trends
- October 9: EHR Certification and Testing: What YOU Need to Know
- December 11: Wireless in the 4 Walls of the Hospital & Beyond

The sessions are recorded and archived on the Clinical Engineering & IT website.

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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