

Biomedical and Health Informatics Series

Tuesday, November 14th, Room RR 134

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"Physician Documentation Using Electronic Medical Record Systems"

Physicians are increasingly moving from paper to electronic means for documenting care, using electronic medical record (EMR) systems. Though there are clear advantages to having a comprehensive, secure, electronic record available to care providers, there are significant challenges in the transition to electronic documentation. These include the time required to document; acceptability of methods used to enter notes (including keyboard entry, dictation, voice recognition, and selection of coded entries); electronic note quality; copying, pasting, and note accuracy; compliance with payor and regulatory requirements; and maintaining patterns of review, cosignature, and note distribution appropriate for medical record documents. Since physicians spend considerable time in documentation tasks, this is an important topic for those designing, implementing and supporting EMR systems to understand. We will review the advantages, challenges, current state, and promising future to use of EMRs for documentation of clinical care in UW Medicine and elsewhere.

Dr. Payne attended Stanford University, the University of Washington School of Medicine, completed his internal medicine residency at the University of Colorado, and spent two years at Massachusetts General Hospital in the Harvard Medical Informatics Fellowship program. He led the installation of the Veterans Administration CPRS electronic medical record at VA Puget Sound in Seattle between 1997 and 2000, for which VA Puget Sound was awarded the 2000 Nicholas E. Davies CPR Recognition Award of Excellence from CPRI-HOST. He is currently a member of the team implementing an electronic medical record at UW Medicine, serving University of Washington Medical Center, Harborview Medical Center, and the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. He has served as a member of the Advisory Group to the Leapfrog Group/First Consulting Group project on Computer-based Physician Order Entry, is on the Editorial Board for Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association, and was elected to fellowship in the American College of Medical Informatics and the American College of Physicians. He is a board member of the Washington HIMSS chapter, and Attending Physician in Medicine at the University of Washington Medical Center and Harborview Medical Center.

Selected references

- Hammond KW, Helbig ST, Benson CC, Brathwaite-Sketoe BM. Are electronic medical records trustworthy? Observations on copying, pasting and duplication. AMIA Annu Symp Proc. 2003;:269-73.
- Payne TH, Hirschmann JV, Helbig S. The elements of electronic note style. J AHIMA. 2003;74:68, 70.

The Biomedical and Health Informatics lecture series covers current topics and developments in Biomedical and Health Informatics. Presenters include faculty, students, researchers and developers from the University of Washington, other academic institutions, government, and industry (locally and nationally). The intended audience is the broader University of Washington and Seattle area community with an interest in BHI as well as BHI faculty and students.

Series Website: <http://courses.washington.edu/mebi590/>